



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 11th January 2026

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield

Sunday 18th January 2026

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Great Houghton

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Darfield

The Baptism of Jesus

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh
1837: Charles Coffin 1676-1749 MP 538

It was only a few weeks ago that, during Advent, we met John the Baptist who had been put in prison by King Herod. In today's Gospel reading, John is at the start of his ministry and preaching "*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.*" [Matthew 3: 2] fulfilling one of Isaiah's prophecies "*A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'*" [Isaiah 40: 3]. John's birth had been announced to his father Zechariah by the Angel Gabriel. [Luke 1: 5-25; 57-79] and as John grew up he became strong in spirit and lived in the wilderness. [Luke 1: 80] At the due time, John emerged and began baptising the many people who confessed their sins. At Christmas we heard about the revelation of Jesus to the shepherds who were among the lowest in Jewish Society. We then read of Simeon who recognised the infant Jesus as "*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel*". [Luke 2: 25-35]. The prophet Anna who spent most of the time in the Temple and "*spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem*". [Luke 2: 38]. The Gentile Wise Men were attracted by a star to come and worship the new King of the Jews. We glimpse Jesus in the Temple, aged twelve, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions [Luke 2: 41-51]. All these contributed to Jesus growing in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. [Luke 2: 52]

And now, in today's Gospel reading, Jesus arrives at the River Jordan to be baptised by John. John recognised the divinity and sinlessness of Jesus and was hesitant to perform the Baptism. Jesus over-ruled him saying that it is "*proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.*" This would fulfil God's will and set an example of obedience and humility. Following the Baptism, the Spirit of God alighted as a dove on Jesus and God's voice from Heaven said "*This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.*" [Matthew 3: 16-17]

1st Sunday of Epiphany

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Readings

Isaiah 35: 1-10
Psalm 146: 4-10
James 5: 7-10
Matthew 11: 2-11

Readings for this week

December

11th Proverbs 30: 1-9
12th Proverbs 30: 10-19
13th Proverbs 30: 20-33
14th Proverbs 31: 1-9
15th Colossians 1: 1-8
16th Colossians 1: 9-14
17th Colossians 1: 15-23
18th Colossians 1: 24-29

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through
Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Prayer Square
This week we are
praying for the residents
of Darfield

Cortina Rise;
Modena Court
Ferrara Close
Salerno Way
Catania Rise
Siena Close

Boardgames Club

Saturday 17th January
6:30 p.m. for 7:00 p.m.

Community Shop on the Go

22nd January

Warm Welcome Space

15th & 22nd January

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Psalm 146

1 *Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul.*
2 *I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.*

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden	Peter Robinson	01226 753 572
PCC Secretary	Karen Walton	
Parish Safeguarding	Peter Robinson	07910 728 581
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Our Web Site	http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/	
Facebook		@darfieldallsaints

All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).