



## **Pew Sheet for 11 January 2026**

*A warm welcome to everyone attending today's services*

### **The Baptism of Christ - The First Sunday of Epiphany**

*Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.*

#### **Collect:**

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

#### **Hymns:**

<b>CP34</b>	On Jordan's bank the Baptist Cry
<b>CP175</b>	Come Down O Love Divine
<b>EWS41</b>	Give me oil in my lamp
<b>CP74</b>	What Child is this
<b>CP87</b>	Hail to the Lord Anointed

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

## **Readings:**

### **Acts 10; 34-43**

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

### **Matthew 3 13-end**

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented. And

when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved,<sup>[e]</sup> with whom I am well pleased."

**Post-communion prayer:**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Dates for your diary**

**11TH JANUARY 2026 - PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL ALSO BE AN 8AM SERVICE.**

**SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY 2026 - BAPTISM OF CHRIST** - On this day, we celebrate the Baptism of Christ. All those who have been baptised at St Mary's are warmly invited to bring their baptismal candle and take part in a prayer of baptismal renewal, using the Collect for the day, during the 9.30 am service.

**SATURDAY 17TH JANUARY 2026 - The Women's Group** meets when Rod Clarke will be showing slides of the Van Gogh Exhibition that was held at the National Gallery a year ago. Do come along and enjoy the colourful paintings and learn a little about Van Gogh's life. All are welcome; we start at 10am and finish by 12.

**SUNDAY 18TH JANUARY 2026 - The Listening Group of St Mary's** will be introduced during the 9.30am service.

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026** - We will welcome a **special guest speaker from the Prison Ministry** at the 9.30am service.

**Mrs Mildred Schutz** has passed away at the age of 102. A thanksgiving service for her life will be held at St Mary's on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2 pm and a refreshment after the service at the church hall.

If anyone has unwanted gifts or other useful items they would like to donate to charity, Revd Joshva would be happy to collect them at church and take them to the **Cancer Research Charity Shop**. Please contact him directly. This will be a one-off support for the Cancer Research Shop during January 2026.