



Ordinariate and Parish Church

MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

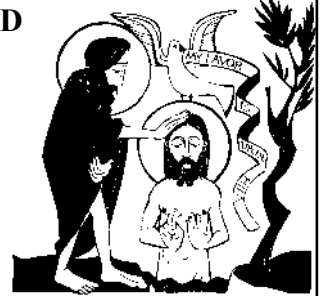
*a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham*



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

12th January 2025

In the gospel reading today, we hear the Father say “You are my beloved Son”. The Holy Spirit of God came down upon Jesus the beloved Son of God at his baptism in the Jordan. The Spirit comes down on each one of us and helps us to live our Christian lives so that we are faithful to our Baptism.



The Baptism of the Lord is celebrated today and sees the end of Christmastide.

Do you know the date of your baptism? Find out when it was and celebrate it: it’s more important day than your birth!

Help needed after Mass today with the removal of the Christmas decorations, Help appreciated. Don’t be fooled by those who go on about the twelve days of Christmas (that’s a song!).

Epiphany Chalk for your home is still available if you didn’t get any last week.

Candles for the Year will be blessed the on 2nd February, which is Candlemass, the fortieth day since Christmas; coincidentally a Sunday this year. Sign up if you’d like to give particular candles for the year with a special intention.

Have you visited the Epiphany House? (transformed from the Christmas Crib) It’s very beautiful this year, come ponder and pray, and above all, thank God for coming to us in Jesus.



The Holy Father opened the Jubilee Door in Rome on Christmas Day and so the Jubilee Year of Hope begun. What shall we do this Jubilee year? Rome? Fatima? Lourdes?

The Archbishop’s Christmas letter and video message are still available. Last chance today. tinyurl.com/Christmasmessage2024

Mass times are all back to normal this week.

Christmas Offering can be made using the envelopes at the back; or the paystation, or on-line. Thank you for your generosity.

Catholic History Walks 2025

Sunday 12th Jan 14.30

Wednesday 15th Jan 14.30

Start at MPB. Dress warmly!

A walk along the river, cross at Tower Bridge and see the Tower, and finish at the birthplace of St John Henry Newman.

No need to book - just turn up.

www.catholichistorywalks.com

The Readers’ Rota comes to an end soon. Would you like to go on? (or come off?). See May or Lesley today. The annual commissioning is *Word of God Sunday*, this year 26th January.

Holy Water is available by the Sacristy to put by your bed, or by the front door, so you can make the sign of the Cross. It’s a reminder of your baptism.

Keep the Eucharistic Fast! The Church asks us to not eat or drink anything for one hour before receiving Holy Communion. It is the simplest way of preparing to receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament— an hour!



The Baptism of the Lord.

When we celebrate Christ's baptism in the Jordan, we naturally think about baptism in general. How much do you know about your own baptism? It was the most important day of your life. Do you have a baptismal certificate kept somewhere? You may also have photographs, or family memories of the day.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1214) tells us that the word "baptism" comes from the Greek word for "to plunge" or to immerse. We are "plunged" into water, symbolising dying with Christ, from which we arise with new life. The Catechism reminds us that "*The essential rite of Baptism consists in immersing the candidate in water or pouring water on his head, while pronouncing the invocation of the Most Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*" (1278)

Every Catholic parish keeps a record of baptisms - when your name is entered into the baptismal register, it is a record of something infinitely precious - your name being entered in the Book of Life.

The Holy Father said we might ask, "Is Baptism truly necessary for us to live as Christians and to follow Jesus? Is it not fundamentally a simple rite, a formal act of the Church, for naming a child?" In answer, he repeated the words of the Apostle Paul: "Don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life'."

"Therefore, it is not a mere formality! A baptised child is not the same as a child who is not baptised; a baptised person is not the same as one who has not received baptism. It is an act that touches the depth of our existence. We are immersed in that inexhaustible font of life that is the death of Jesus, the greatest act of love of all history; and thanks to this love we are able to live a new life, no longer at the mercy of evil, sin and death, but rather in communion with God and with our brothers."

The Pope again commented that many of us do not know the date when we were baptised and, as he has done before, asked, those present in St. Peter's Square to find out the date of their baptism, as "it is a happy date."

Another characteristic of Baptism, concluded Pope Francis, is that "no-one can baptise himself; we can ask for baptism, wish for it, but we always need someone to confer this Sacrament in the name of the Lord. This is because baptism is a gift that is given in a context of care and fraternal sharing.

Throughout history, one person baptises another, who baptises another, and another ... it is a chain. A chain of grace. But I cannot baptise myself; I have to ask another person to baptise me. It is an act of brotherhood, an act of affiliation to the Church.

We all celebrate our birthdays, as Pope Francis recently reminded us that we should also celebrate our baptismal day. Find out about yours, and mark the date in your diary, and celebrate it! Keep the light of faith burning in your life!

Candlemass (2nd Feb) is the when we celebrate the Presentation of Christ in the Temple which closes the Nativity Season. Traditionally it's the day when all candles to be used during the year in Church are blessed.



There is a list at the back of all the candles which need to be bought for use this year at Most Precious Blood and will be blessed on Sunday 2nd Feb.

The fortieth day. Would you like to offer some in memory of a loved one?
preciousblood.org.uk/candles

St Joseph

So Joseph settled Mary on the donkey for the ride
And handed her the Christ-child, swaddled safely by her side
A flask of water, and some bread and oil were in a pack
Which Joseph swung behind him in a bundle on his back.

He grasped his sturdy staff and, kneeling, sent up a quick prayer:
"Lord, your servant is a simple man, and trusts your love and care
Which is the way to Egypt?
I do not have a map"
And in the silence came a tiny sound from Mary's lap.

A tiny finger pointed firmly to the way ahead.
The Christ-child smiled then snuggled back and turned his tiny head
And swiftly went to sleep again.
The journey had begun.
The Virgin, and St Joseph, and God's own begotten Son.



A Christmas message from the Archbishop
Click link here

Christmas Gift

www.mostpreciousblood.org.uk



Fill in other side

Most Precious Blood, Borough SE1
preciousblood.org.uk



This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday BAPTISM OF TE LORD	09.30 11.00	PEB-G ✕ <i>birthday</i> Parishioners
<i>Mon 13th (St Hilary)</i>		
<i>Tue 14th feria</i>	13.05	Doreen Doran ✕ <i>recently</i>
<i>Wed 15th feria</i>	13.05	Beryl Riley ✕ <i>recently</i>
<i>Thurs 16th feria</i>	13.05	Chris Oputah <i>poorly</i>
<i>Fri 17th St Antony, Abbot</i>	13.05	Holy Souls ✕
<i>Sat 18th of Our Lady</i>	10.30†	David Ward ✕ <i>recently</i>
Next Sunday 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09.30 11.00	Fr Michael Carey <i>foundation</i> Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Isaiah 62:1-5 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 John 2:1-12

Sacrament of Confession. Tue-Fri 12.30-12.55 Sat 10.00-10.25 *and at request*

† **Mass in the Ordinarate Use** of the Roman Rite

Last week: **£tbc** (*cash £tbc; card £tbc; standing orders £720*)

Christmas Off **£1,559.50** (*cash £545.50; card £834.50; standing orders £180*) *in total*

Crib offering **£65.00** (*cash £000.00; card £65.00*) *in total* **Thank you!**

Safeguarding. The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 03330 509296

Holy Father's Intention for January 2025: *For the right to an education*

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Live-streaming is done regularly for the Solemn Mass. The earlier Mass on Sunday and weekdays are not live-streamed.

For your prayers:

In priestly formation: Br Philip Gerlomes OP

Becoming Christian: N'Goran Lael-Jireh

Peace: In Ukraine, in the Holy Land, Syria

Those who are Sick: Mary, Chi Chi, Anne Marie, Rita, Hermon, Amaogechi,

Recently Departed: Giuseppina Torri, Joseph Forbes, David Barnes *priest*

Find us on: *Facebook:* "preciousbloodSE1"

YouTube: [youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge](https://www.youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge)

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW Parish Priest

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Donation
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