

Time to Reflect

Remember your baptism? No, me neither. What I do recall, though, is growing up in a wider culture (TV, film, shop opening hours) which reinforced the basic Christian message. One of the arguments for Infant Baptism is that the child grows up in an environment where the things of God, of faith, of Church, are simply there. These patterns have almost entirely leaked away over the recent decades. The ideas and beliefs and practices that baptism points to seem distant from our current daily lives. Our one hour in church has to work hard against the 167 hours in the week not in church to keep our lives focussed on the things of God.

Every year the Church readings point us to the Baptism of Jesus. Today is that day this year. And when we hear this reading (see over the page) we discover a couple of things.

Firstly, we discover that God revels in our very existence. *'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased'*. Parents will get this immediately. We love our children, not because of what they have achieved, not because of effort they have invested but simply because they are our children. And God loves us because, through baptism, we became part of his family.

Secondly, that baptism is God's initiative. It is his Spirit who baptises us. Which means whatever we do, however God-fearing or God-forgetful we are, he is faithful to his commitment to us. There isn't a hierarchy of "real" Christians and the rest. Our response to this? Perhaps, this 2019, we might take bit of time to learn again about our Father's love.

Worship and Activities this week

Today	8.40am	Parish Breakfast
	12.30pm	Baptism
	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Evensong
Mon	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	1.00pm	"In-house" @ House on t'Rock
	7.30pm	Youth Central @ Church Hall
Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Study Group@ Ashton Room
Thurs	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Tiddlers @ Church House
	12.45pm	Holy Communion
Fri	8.00am	Dust Busters
	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	12.30pm	Lunchtime Concert with Flora Fangbin Xia (Piano)
	4.00pm	Choir School
	7.00pm	Full Choir Practice
Sat	9.30am	Morning Prayer

Next Week: Epiphany 3 20th January 2019

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
8.40am	Adult Sunday School @ Robert Peel
10.00am	Parish Eucharist and Sunday School
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	Evensong

Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. They will be at the back of church. Spot the dog collar! Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by Wednesday.

Baptism of Christ

13th January 2019

www.buryparishchurch.com



We welcome you and hope you enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we're on.

We also welcome children in church. If your child gets restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church. There is a children's area at the back of Church.

8.00am Said Holy Communion
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching : Julian Heaton, Rector

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Parade
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching : Julian Heaton, Rector
Hymns: in service book
Motet : Malcolm Archer :
Grow in grace

6.30pm Evensong
Minister : Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Preaching : Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Hymns: 93; 150; 338
Psalm 46, 47 (pg. 403-405)
Isaiah 55.1-11 (pg. 589—590)
Romans 6.1-11 (pg. 946)
Anthem: Herbert Howells :
Here is the little door

Cornerstone

Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Today's Readings

The Collect

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, **Amen**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 43.1-7)

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (Luke 3.15-17,21-22)

Glory to you, O Lord

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to

untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."



This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Collects from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England; Common Worship: Pastoral Services; The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000 The New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised Edition), copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Camino de Santiago

Saturday, 26 January at 3.00pm in the Kay Room
Talk by Julian and Jackie followed by a Pilgrim Meal.
Pilgrim Meal with wine at £3.00.
Please speak (or preferably email) to Julian to confirm your attendance.

Volunteering for 10.00am

Would you like to join a team of Crucifers for the 10.00am service. Duties are carrying the cross in and out of the service and the gospel procession. Please speak to the Rector if you can assist on some Sundays during the year.

Choir Recruitment

We are recruiting children and adults to join our parish choir. Choir School takes place from 4.00pm on Fridays for those in school Year 3 or 4 (although some do join later) and remain until they finish school or they can remain to sing with the adults on the back row. We are looking for adults too. Speak to Marc, Elin or one of the Clergy.

Food Bank Donations

If you could bring just one item (tinned food/toiletry), weekly, to church for the food bank and put it in the "Bin" in the entrance that would be amazing, holy and an act of true faith.

Parish Magazine



Marc is the new editor of our Parish Magazine. Please email your contributions to: marcm1969@gmail.com today

Please note that the Magazine material will need to be in by the **second Sunday** of each month. This is different! We will need to be organised!