

Our Parish Liturgy

This Week (Baptism of the Lord A)

DIVINE OFFICE	WEEK 1
ENTRANCE HYMN	18.00 472 09.00 472 11.00 Musicians
PENITENTIAL ACT	18.00 692 09.00 692 11.00 692
GLORIA	18.00 New Celtic Liturgy 09.00 New Celtic Liturgy 11.00 Musicians
FIRST READING	Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 'Behold my servant, in whom my soul delights.'
PSALM RESPONSE	<i>The Lord will bless his people with peace.</i>
SECOND READING	Acts 10:34-38 'God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit.'
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	<i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered: 'This is my beloved Son; listen to him.'
GOSPEL READING	Matthew 3:13-17 'When Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming to rest on him.'
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS	18.00 171 09.00 171 11.00 Musicians
SANCTUS	18.00 New Celtic Liturgy 09.00 New Celtic Liturgy 11.00 Musicians
MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION	18.00 New Celtic Liturgy 09.00 New Celtic Liturgy 11.00 Musicians
GREAT AMEN	18.00 New Celtic Liturgy 09.00 New Celtic Liturgy 11.00 Spoken
OUR FATHER	18.00 Spoken 09.00 Spoken 11.00 Musicians
AGNUS DEI	18.00 Spoken 09.00 Spoken 11.00 Musicians
COMMUNION ANTIOPHON	<i>Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.</i>
THANKSGIVING	18.00 747 09.00 747 11.00 Musicians

RECESSION 18.00 984
09.00 984
11.00 Musicians

Next Week (2 Ordinary A)

DIVINE OFFICE	WEEK 2
FIRST READING	Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 'I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'
PSALM RESPONSE	<i>Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.</i>
SECOND READING	1 Corinthians 1:1-3 'Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'
GOSPEL READING	John 1:29-34 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.'

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MARRIAGE MATTERS

In his Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis offers a profound insight into the joy of Christian marriage and reminds us of its place at the very heart of the Church's life. Christian marriage, he observes, 'is a sign of how much Christ loved his Church in the covenant sealed on the cross, yet it also makes that love present in the communion of the spouses. By becoming one flesh, they embody the espousal of our human nature by the Son of God.'

As we know, the Holy Scriptures feed and nourish our faith and help us to grow in our relationship with God and one another. It is for this reason that these scriptural reflections are offered. They should help enable married couples to focus on the richness of God's Word that we hear proclaimed each Sunday of the Year and to experience the deep joy of God's love expressed in the great Sacrament of Marriage.

YOU ARE MY CHOSEN ONE



Today, Isaiah and Matthew talk of Jesus being 'the Chosen One' and 'the Beloved'. So often, we are aware of the times when our partner annoys us. We need to develop a sensitivity so that, when we are tempted to be critical, we remember that this is my 'chosen one' and look for ways to affirm our partner, our 'beloved'.

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Sacred Heart Parish Newsletter

for the Roman Catholic community of Cobham, Oxshott, & Stoke D'Abernon



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Volume 07 Issue 07

11th January 2026 : Baptism of the Lord

With all the rest

BIBLE READING PLAN

Mo Job 29-34

Tu Job 35-39

We Job 40-42

Th Genesis 12-15

Fr Genesis 16-18

Financial News . . .

Weekend of 04/01/26

Plate £ 420:35

Standing Orders £ 755:00

Contactless £ 60:00

1st Total £ 1,235:35

2nd None

Thankyou for your continuing generosity to your Parish.

2nd Collection . . .

This Weekend 11/01/26

SPUC (White Flower Appeal)

Gift Aid Members are not able to make this collection tax efficient.

Next Weekend 18/01/26

PAX Christi (Peace Sunday)

Gift Aid Members are not able to make this collection tax efficient.

Bite Size . . .

Jesus comes from humble beginnings and begins his public career showing humility. Jesus was born to humble parents, a peasant carpenter and a young mother of no particular standing. He was born in the relatively unknown town of Bethlehem, nothing like the centres of power and prestige in Jerusalem and Rome of his day. He was visited by the esteemed magi and given lavish gifts, but immediately after, his family became refugees, fleeing their home country for their lives. When they returned, they had to begin building their life again in the simple, small town of Nazareth. It's no surprise then that Jesus grows to adulthood without an inflated ego.

Right from the beginning of Jesus' adult life, we see how his humility plays out at his baptism. John was the famous one at that point, with huge crowds of people leaving their homes and workplaces to go out into the desert to hear him preach and teach. Humble, poor people were going to him to be baptized, as well as the



"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."

Sheepish Question:

Although we are baptized in water—not birdseed—how does my baptism with Christ empower me to live in a way that pleases God?

Before Mass - Talk to God During Mass - Listen to God After Mass - Talk to your friends

well-educated and well-off religious leaders of the day. Jesus thought it was only right that he began his public ministry by being baptized "with all the rest." In his solidarity with all humans, Jesus doesn't ask for special treatment because he is the Son of God. At his baptism, he signals how he will live the rest of his life, accepting what comes at him as any other human has to. In case there was any doubt, the voice from heaven makes it clear that Jesus is God's Son, the Beloved. But even those words don't go to Jesus' head. He simply does what is his to do next: going into the wilderness for forty days and then beginning to teach and heal. He is a perfect example of one who accepts his belovedness and retains his humility.



Questions of the week

1 Whom do you know from humble beginnings who have earned your respect because they have shown themselves to be people of great integrity?

2 Often people feel the need to show off, puff themselves up, or otherwise prove their worthiness to feel good about themselves. If everyone were able to believe that they are beloved and that God is pleased with them, how might that change things?

Richard Bach

Parish Office



Normal Office Hours : Monday to Friday 09.30 - 12.30.

Parish Secretary : Sarah Cox (01932) 860244
cobham@abdiocese.org.uk

Newsletter Editorial : Items for possible inclusion in the Parish Newsletter (if there is room) need to be received (in writing please) at the Parish Office by midday on Wednesday.

Gift Aid Organiser : Dan Meehan (01372) 456416
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Safeguarding Rep. : Mark Hillas 07436 571060
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Church Mouse (cub reporter) . . .



The musings of one of God's smallest creatures on events in and around the Parish over the past seven days

This week things have started getting back to some sense of normality as the schools went back for the Spring Term (certainly the roads became bedlam again!

Unusually Fr D was 'on duty' on Monday (normally his day off) when he celebrated Mass for the staff at Notre Dame School as they returned for the Spring Term. In the evening Fr D had a meeting of the (new) shadow Parish Leadership Team, at St Anne's, Banstead where he was able to explain the slight hiatus that now takes place regarding the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. A notice for all parish newsletters for this weekend was agreed to announce the situation as it affects us.

Tuesday, of course, was the Holy Day of the Epiphany of the Lord with the usual two Masses celebrated in the Sacred Heart - brain addled in the middle of his cold - convinced himself that the morning Mass was 09.00 (not 09.30) and began half an hour early, Sorry!

Having celebrated Mass on Wednesday morning Fr D was working through his diary to get dates for this year's Confirmation Programme. The date of Confirmation took so long to be finalised this year that he has been having immense trouble trying to keep the catechetical sessions to one day of the week (he thinks that he has managed to achieve this now). Those prospective candidates who wrote and sent their letters in to Fr D during November and December can expect an email this week with the timetable of dates.

After celebrating Mass on Thursday, Fr D was off down to the diocesan offices in Crawley for the first time since Christmas. His 'in tray' was not nearly so full as it normally becomes over the holiday period and he was able to clear it quite quickly and continue to get on with writing the judgement for his next marriage case. In his diary he had an entry in the evening for the first session with parents on the Parish Infant Baptism Course, but no families had signed up for this one and he ended up with an evening he was not expecting.

Following Mass on Friday morning, Fr D finished work on this week's newsletter before handing it over for Sarah to complete and print off. He then was able to compose the Prayer of the Faithful and Notices for Masses this weekend



CHILDREN'S WORD SEARCH BAPTISM OF THE LORD YEAR A

T	Y	Y	J	K	E	W	N	U	P	D	N	O	I	D
D	Z	J	J	V	S	E	U	G	J	Z	X	F	X	G
V	Q	V	O	C	X	P	Y	I	A	E	R	J	M	I
O	A	L	I	H	W	F	I	M	S	L	S	D	W	F
I	O	M	K	F	N	U	A	R	Z	H	I	U	P	X
C	M	X	X	B	F	L	E	T	I	U	P	L	S	X
E	H	S	O	N	Z	F	T	J	N	T	Z	W	E	U
A	I	K	R	Z	X	I	J	S	Y	B	E	L	R	E
K	U	A	D	P	S	L	O	B	Y	A	T	T	K	P
C	O	W	S	D	K	L	R	K	C	P	W	H	F	Q
Y	P	D	E	G	A	G	D	W	I	T	A	E	L	M
E	E	S	O	R	P	M	A	E	M	I	T	A	B	S
B	N	K	U	V	H	D	N	B	M	Z	E	V	P	G
S	E	W	R	L	E	Z	O	A	H	E	R	E	A	Z
T	D	P	L	E	A	S	E	D	O	L	N	N	Z	DOVE



GALILEE	WATER	PLEASED
OPENED	VOICE	BAPTIZED
JORDAN	JOHN	JESUS
FULFIL	SON	LOVE
DOVE	SPIRIT	

Parish Car Park : All Parishioners attending Mass and using our Car Park need to make sure that they have fully completed our 'Parishioner Registration/Census Form' (available from the Parish Office) before using the Car Park; this ensures that your current vehicle registration is lodged in the system. Registering only needs to be done once (unless you change your car or if you use another car in the family that is not registered on the system).
Important : if you are not registered on the system and you use the car park you will receive a parking notice. Registered Parishioners and pre-registered visitors are able to park whilst they attend our Masses/liturgies without fear of a charge notice. (Car Park queries - parking@shpcobham.com)
NOTE : the Car Park does not use QR codes any found are **scams!**

Lectio Divina Prayer This Week . . .

ANOINTED FOR MINISTRY

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³At that time Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "and yet you have come to me!" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so for now. For in this way we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.

¹⁶As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased."

Other Readings: *Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29:1-4, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38*

LECTIO:

Based on what we read in the Gospels, Jesus' ministry begins with his baptism by John in the river Jordan. John had been baptising the crowds for some time as a sign of repentance for their sins and turning back to God. From the preceding verses, (Matthew 3: 10-12, which we looked at on the Second Sunday in Advent) John clearly believed the Messiah would bring in the Kingdom of heaven, and judgement with it. So there was an urgent need for repentance. The Messiah would bring a different baptism, not with water but with the Holy Spirit and fire. So when Jesus comes humbly for water baptism John initially protests. He recognises Jesus' Messianic ministry. John is 'not good enough even to carry his sandals' (Matthew 3:11). Yet Jesus, instead of acting in power and judgement, identifies himself with everyone else who is stepping forward in repentance. Jesus acknowledges John's objection but insists this fulfils 'all that God requires'. Through this act of obedience, Jesus demonstrates his priorities for the rest of his ministry - doing things God's way rather than his own. After Jesus comes up out of the water he sees the Holy Spirit come down on him like a dove and stay with him. God the Father confirms that Jesus is his 'own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased'. Here we see the Holy Trinity working together in unity. It isn't clear from Matthew's account whether others saw the vision of the dove and heard God's voice too. However, in John's Gospel it is clear that John the Baptist also saw the Spirit come down on Jesus and that God told him this meant that Jesus was the Messiah (John 1:29-34 which we will read next Sunday).



MEDITATIO:

- Jesus didn't need to repent of any sins. So consider why God wanted Jesus to be baptised by John publicly along with everyone else.
- Jesus and John show us clearly that we need to obey God even when others may misunderstand our actions. Are the opinions of others hindering you from obeying God in any way? Take a few moments to reflect on this.
- Few people hear God speak to them with an audible voice or see a sign from heaven like a dove. How does God speak to you?

ORATIO:

Think about how much God loves Jesus. Now think about how much God loves you - sending Jesus to die in your place so you could be adopted into his family. Take some time to give thanks to your heavenly Father. Ask God if there is anything he wants you to do for him. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you.

CONTEMPLATIO:

Jesus was empowered for his ministry by the Holy Spirit. How significant is the Holy Spirit in your relationship with God? Among other things the Holy Spirit reveals Jesus to us and equips us to serve God. Consider the work of the Holy Spirit and invite him to help and guide you.

Services For The Coming Week . . .

Day	Date	Time	Service / Intention	Donor
Sat.	10 th January	Christmas Weekday 17.00 - 17.30	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 18.00	Tom Asbury	J. & E. Yates
Sun.	11 th January	BAPTISM OF THE LORD, YEAR A		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 09.00	Maria's Intention	M. Redmond
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 11.00	For the Parishioners	
Mon.	12 th January	Ferial Weekday	No Service Today	Mass 10.00 at Leatherhead
Tue.	13 th January	Ferial Weekday 09.15	Morning Prayer of the Church	[p.p. 41-493]
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 09.30	Private Intention	J. & E. Yates
		10.00 - 11.00 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament for Private Prayer		
Wed.	14 th January	Ferial Weekday 09.15	Morning Prayer of the Church	[p.p. 51-493]
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 09.30	In honour of St Joseph	
Thu.	15 th January	Ferial Weekday 09.15	Morning Prayer of the Church	[p.p. 60-493]
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 09.30	Michael Crawford †	J. Fox
Fri.	16 th January	Ferial Weekday (Day of Abstinence) 09.15	Morning Prayer of the Church	[p.p. 71-493]
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 09.30	Karl & Dora Lavrencic †	A. Heyer
Sat.	17 th January	St Antony, Abbot 17.00 - 17.30	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 18.00	Pat Stuttle †	J. & N. Begley
Sun.	18 th January	2ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 09.00	Timothy Flanagan's Intention	M. Redmond
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 11.00	For the Parishioners	
		18.00 CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK - UNITED SERVICE		Cobham United Church

Mass may be offered for both the living and the dead and also for most other intentions. We do our best to try and accommodate specific dates but this can be especially difficult on weekends and at less than three months notice.

St Antony . . .

St Antony's life was marked by solitude, fasting and work. Orphaned at 20, as a young man he gave all his goods to the poor and retired to the desert, where he also fought against the temptations of the devil, choosing the path of asceticism and prayer. He was responsible for the establishment of families of monks under the guidance of a spiritual father, consecrated themselves to the service of God. In the biography *Vita Antonii*, St Athanasius wrote these

words referring to him: "That he was everywhere known, admired and desired by everyone, even those who had not seen him, is a sign of his virtue and God-friendly soul. In fact, neither for writings nor for a profane wisdom nor for any capacity is Anthony known, but only for his piety towards God - and no one could deny that this is a gift from God. As indeed we would not have heard in Spain and in Gaul, in Rome and in Africa of this man, who lived withdrawn in

the mountains, if God Himself had not made him known to all, as He does with those who belong to Him, and as He had announced to Anthony since the beginning? Even if Anthony acted in secret and desired to remain hidden, the Lord shows him and those like him to everyone, as a lamp, that those who hear about them know that it is possible to follow the commandments and take courage following the path of virtue."



Parish Ministries For Next Weekend

DATE / MASS	WELCOME MINISTERS	READERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	REPOSITORY AFTER MASS
SATURDAY 2 Ordinary A 17/01/26 18.00	Still Required; please offer	G. Di Gerardo	N/A at present	P. Hunt A. Essien
SUNDAY 2 Ordinary A 18/01/26 09.00	Still Required; please offer	R. Lake	D. Meehan G. Fisher	D. Westsmith M. Smyth
SUNDAY 2 Ordinary A 18/01/26 11.00	Still Required; please offer	C. Hourquebie	J. Vizzini E. Twist	L. Farris V. Rose

PLEASE REMEMBER : If you are unable to complete your particular ministry then it is **your responsibility** to arrange cover with another minister. In this way our Sunday Liturgies will run in a smooth and prayerful way.

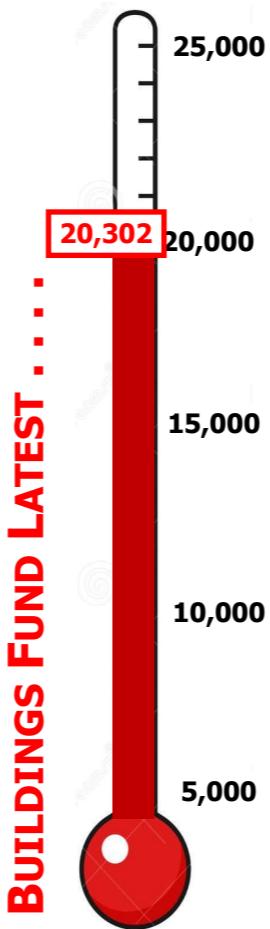


OUR PARISH SUPPORTS THE COBHAM AREA FOODBANK UPDATED LIST OF WANTED ITEMS



Please can you help local people in crisis by purchasing items on the list below and placing them in the Foodbank's collection point in the narthex when you come to Mass at the weekend? Thank You!

- UHT Semi Skimmed Milk
- Sanitary Pads
- UHT 1l Fruit Juice
- Sugar (500g pack)
- Pasta Sauce
- Savoury Snacks
- Fruit Squash
- Laundry Powder
- Hot Chocolate
- Male Deodorant
- Sponge Puddings
- Laundry Capsules
- Tinned Spaghetti Hoops
- Shaving Foam + Razors
- Tinned Meat
- Shampoo
- Tinned Custard
- Conditioner



Prayers Please

FOR THOSE UNWELL AT THIS TIME:

Jay Adams, Sr Anne Bayley, Jim Begley, Maggie Dongray, Tom Delbridge, Fiona Frank, Maureen Garner, baby Naomi Hunt, Michael Nutcher, Fr Sebastian Paul, Pascal Smyth and Anne Sproul.

THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

None

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:

Fr Oswald Bussey †
Fr Thomas Ruane †
Fr Oswald Charlton †
Fr John Stone †
Fr Stephen Hinde †

HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION:

" . . . that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church. . . . "

*For those who are unwell.....
those who have died recently....
those whose anniversaries occur.....
the Holy Father's Prayer Intention....*

Parish Roundup

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH - Please note that the celebration of Morning Prayer of the Church before our weekday Masses begins again on Tuesday 13th January.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AFTER TUESDAY WEEKDAY MASSES - Please note that Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Private Prayer begins once more on Tuesday 13th January.

2026 DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES AND PARISH DIARIES - Diocesan Directories (£5) and Parish Diaries (£1) are available from the Repository after our weekend Masses.

CHRISTMASTIDE ENDS - The Season of Christmas this year ends with the celebration of the last Mass on the Baptism of the Lord (today).

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR BISHOP RICHARD'S MINISTRY - Friday 30th January, 18.30, Arundel Cathedral. People across our diocesan family are invited to join in the celebration of a special Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Bishop Richard, followed by a reception in the Baron's Hall, Arundel Castle, by kind permission of His Grace, the Duke of Norfolk. All are welcome.

DAY OF REFLECTION FOR MINISTERS OF THE WORD - 24 January, 11.00-16.00 at St Michael's Church, Worthing BN13 3AL. Led by Bishop Richard and Catherine Christmas, diocesan Liturgy & Music Adviser, this day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader.

Register for your free place: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/c5a7autu>

OUR DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN

Bishop Richard's appointment as the next Archbishop of Westminster means there are some immediate consequences for us regarding the implementation of the Pastoral Plan in the Epsom Deanery. Whilst some things, by Church Law, are put on hold until a new Bishop arrives - including any decision to combine the existing nine parishes into one new parish - however, other key elements of the Plan remain as important for us as ever; **prayer, formation** and **mission** continue to be the priorities that shape our pastoral life. Whilst the parishioner meetings around the nine parishes will not now go ahead as planned (as a significant factor in the planning for these - particularly the timetable - was the proposed changes to structure), the Parish Leadership Team will be working on proposals to enable us to continue our reflections on mission, to celebrate and develop co-operation between our parish communities, and continue to invite all parishioners to get involved. You'll be able to hear more about this in the next Deanery newsletter which will be available next weekend, 17th/18th January.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

As soon as Bishop Richard's transfer to the Diocese of Westminster was announced, the power of the Vicar General, Canon Jonathan Martin, and Episcopal Vicars, Mgr Tony Barry, Canon Kieron O'Brien, Fr David Osborne and Fr Luke Jolly to assist in governing the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton ceased.

Bishop Richard, in his temporary capacity as Diocesan Administrator, may not take any action that would bind or limit his successor.

The See of Arundel & Brighton will become "vacant" (known in Latin as "Sede Vacante") as soon as Bishop Richard takes canonical possession of the See of Westminster on 14 February 2026.

At that moment, governance of the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton will devolve upon the College of Consultors, which is comprised of Canon Jonathan Martin, Mgr Tony Barry, Fr David Osborne, Canon Kieron O'Brien, Canon David Parmiter, and Fr Tony Bridson.

The College, which is presently constituted for five years, will then meet to elect a new Diocesan Administrator to govern the Diocese until a new Bishop takes possession of the See of Arundel and Brighton.

No major decisions or changes can be made by the elected Diocesan Administrator while the See of Arundel and Brighton is vacant, since Church Law forbids him from doing anything which could in any way prejudice the Diocese, or the rights of the new Bishop.