



8 January 2023

## Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Year A)

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you. (Isaiah 42:6)

Faith in Focus

### Water level

Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan by his cousin, and a voice from heaven pointed him out as the Son of God. Listen to him, it said.

There's a River Jordan that runs past each of our doors. We know it's there and we can choose whether to step into it whenever we go out, or else side-step around it. For to step into the river means to immerse ourselves in the business of baptism. That's not babies and christening shawls, but the nuts and bolts of what makes us tick, how we relate to each other. Baptism commits us to a way of living and breathing.

We say that Jesus's baptism marked him out in three ways. He was shown to be a priest, a prophet and a king. And each time we baptise a new Christian we tell them that they too are to live as priests, prophets and kings.

To be baptised as priests, as we all are, means to offer God a life that is pleasing. It means to present God with a sacrifice of praise. We are called to make the most of all we do, to use our skills, to bring our needs and those of others to God in prayer, to make our lives acceptable to God. Some deep water here.

Perhaps we would not normally think of ourselves as prophets, but that's what the baptism rite tells us we are. It's easy to

see how Jesus was a prophet, for prophets tell people what God wishes them to know and act on. By baptism we have become prophets of the Good News whose job it is to proclaim our faith to the world, to say what God has told us whether it's welcome or not. The temptation, of course, is to stay out of the wet and leave it to those who seem keener than us.

To be thought of as kings (or queens) sounds strange these days. In the days of Christ a king had a kingdom and was responsible for the citizens of that kingdom. As members of the kingdom of God we are called to rule by protecting the weak and vulnerable, serving the cause of right and creating an environment where all can prosper and grow. It means getting involved at the deep end.

To be a priest, prophet and king means to get into that River Jordan each day. Next time you go out, ask yourself how wet your feet are.



Archdiocese of Liverpool  
Parishes of Holy Name and  
Our Lady & Saint Philomena

**Clergy:** Father John Hindley  
Based at: Holy Name Presbytery, Moss Pits  
Lane, Fazakerley, L10 9LG  
Telephone: 0151 476 0289  
Email: [holyname@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:holyname@rcaol.org.uk)  
[www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com](http://www.holynamestphilomenas.wordpress.com)

*Serving the Churches of:*

**Holy Name**, Moss Pits Lane, Fazakerley,  
L10 9LG

**Our Lady & Saint Philomena**, Sparrow Hall  
Road, L9 6BU

**Parish Office at Holy Name:** Open Monday,  
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.00 am  
to 12.30 pm, and 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm.

**Baptisms:** By prior arrangement. Baptisms  
take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at  
11.00 am at St Philomena's, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
of the month at 12 noon at Holy Name. Please  
see Fr John at a weekend Mass.

**Confessions:** Holy Name on Saturday from  
5.30 pm, Our Lady & St Philomena on  
Wednesday from 6.30 pm or by request.

**Funerals and Marriages:** By arrangement.

**Visits to sick and housebound:** Please  
contact the parish office.

**Hospital Visits:** If you wish to see a priest  
please let the hospital staff know.

**Mass Requests:** Please complete the pre-  
printed envelopes and place in the weekly  
collection. Please also specify the reason for  
the intention, i.e. lately dead, anniversary etc.  
For a particular day, please request early. To  
enable more Mass intentions to be said in the  
parish and not sent away, the Mass will be  
shared unless you request otherwise.

**Newsletter Notices:** Please e-mail to  
[holyname@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:holyname@rcaol.org.uk) or hand in to the  
Parish Office by Thursday morning.

**Repository:** Open before and after Mass.

**Covid19:** Face coverings are optional.



Archdiocese of Liverpool  
Registered Charity Number 1199714

## Parish Social Media

Facebook: [HolyNameandStPhilomena](https://www.facebook.com/HolyNameandStPhilomena)

Twitter: [@holyphilomena](https://twitter.com/holyphilomena)

YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/yyto5d26>

## QR code



Scan this QR code for access  
to the Mass readings. If the QR  
code does not work, download  
a QR code reader from App Store or  
Google Play store.

## Readings at Mass

1st reading: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

2nd reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Psalm Response: The Lord will bless his  
people with peace.

## Thank you from Fr John

Thank you to all parishioners of Our  
Lady & St Philomena and Holy Name for  
your gifts, cards and greetings over the  
Christmas period. In particular, thank you  
for your attendance and prayerful worship  
at our Christmas Masses.

## Thank you

Your offerings for the last two weeks  
total £1,919.24 and £750.67

## Baptism

Congratulations to Karis Elizabeth  
M<sup>c</sup>Culloch, Finn David M<sup>c</sup>Culloch, Larna  
Ellis, Isabelle Grace Catherine Cane and  
Maddison Beatrice Cane who receive the  
sacrament of Baptism at Our Lady & St  
Philomena on Saturday 7 January.

## Mass for Pope Emeritus

## Benedict

Archbishop Malcolm will celebrate Mass  
for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus  
Benedict at the Cathedral on Tuesday 10  
January at 7 pm. All welcome.

## House Blessing

Some information on the House Blessing stickers distributed at Mass last weekend.

The blessing of homes on Epiphany enjoys a long history. The inscription below is written or affixed to the front door:

20 \* C + M + B + 23

The numerals stand for the New Year 2023, the Star led the wisemen to the Christ Child, the Crosses are a sign of a blessing made in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The capital letters are the initials of the Latin phrase: *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* (May Christ bless this house).

## Pope's prayer intentions

The Pope's prayer intention for January.

### For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

## Fazakerley library

Each Friday from 10.30 am to 2.30 pm you are invited to a warm welcome at Fazakerley library.

There are free hot and cold drinks, refreshments, activities, time for a chat and dancing, an opportunity to make new friends and keep warm. Everybody welcome.

## Catholic Pic – Job opportunity

CPMM, publishers of the Catholic Pic and other publications have vacancies for self-employed drivers to deliver across the Liverpool Archdiocese.

The job takes a few days each month and is paid work. Own van required. Would suit self-employed driver looking for extra work or retired person looking for an interest. Call 077148 14662 if interested.

## Pax Christi

A retiring collection for Pax Christi, the International Catholic movement for peace, will be taken next weekend.

## Pax Christi and Peace Sunday

Sunday 15 January is Peace Sunday and this year the message from Pope Francis tells us: 'No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace'.

He asks us: 'What did we learn from the pandemic? What new paths should we follow to cast off the shackles of our old habits, to be better prepared, to dare new things? What signs of life and hope can we see, to help us move forward and try to make our world a better place?'

A vaccine has been found for Covid-19, says the Holy Father, but we still need to tackle the virus of war, and of inequality, and this can only be done together.

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, promoting peace through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website has the Pope's message in full and suggests ways we can all become better peacemakers.

<https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2023>

## Parish consultative group

The next meeting is Tuesday 10 January at 7.30 pm in the Russell Room at Our Lady & St Philomena. All welcome.

## Numbers galore

For 25 December - Numbers are 4 and 28. One winner.

For 1 January - Numbers are 6 and 39. One winner.

## Catholic Pic

The latest edition of the Catholic Pic is available in church.

Day	Time	Church	Intention
<b>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</b>			
Saturday 7th	5.30 pm	<i>Holy Name</i>	<i>Confessions until 5.50 pm</i>
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Mrs Gwen Evans, lately dead
Sunday 8th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Claire Smith Benson, 12 <sup>th</sup> anniversary
	11.00 am	Holy Name	Stacey Roden, lately dead
Monday 9th			No service
Tuesday 10th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Peter Alex, anniversary of death, RIP Brian Harvey, sick
	1.30 pm	HMP Altcourse	Matthew Hamilton, anniversary
Wednesday 11th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Joan Bradley, lately dead
	<b>12.45 pm</b>	<b>St Philomena</b>	<b>Requiem Mass: Linda Smedley, RIP</b>
	6.30 pm	<i>St Philomena</i>	<i>Confessions until 6.50 pm</i>
	7.00 pm	St Philomena	Don, lately dead John Ellis, birthday remembrance (Followed by Novena)
Thursday 12th	10.00 am	Holy Name	Bea Ellis, 99 <sup>th</sup> birthday Paul Dwyer, lately dead
Friday 13th	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Name</b>	<b>Requiem Mass: Margaret Milne, RIP</b>
<b>Second Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>			
Saturday 14th	5.30 pm	<i>Holy Name</i>	<i>Confessions until 5.50 pm</i>
	6.00 pm	Holy Name	Monica Theresa Matthews, 2 <sup>nd</sup> anniversary Veronica Jones, lately dead
Sunday 15th	9.30 am	St Philomena	Cathy Freclتون, 5 <sup>th</sup> anniversary 80 <sup>th</sup> birthdays
	11.00 am	Holy Name	People of our Parishes Cristeena Rose Sebastian (Boy baby)
<p>We remember in our prayers those who have died recently William John Quinn, Angela Dempsey, Ann Davies, Linda Smedley, Margaret Milne May they rest in peace</p>			

**Name of parish** Holy Name 148

**Name and address of your own bank** **To** The Manager  
**Address** .....

.....

.....

.....

**Please pay to**

**Bank name** HSBC plc  
**Address** 99-101 Lord Street  
LIVERPOOL  
L2 6PG

**Sort code** 40-29-12

**Parish bank account number** **for the credit of**  
**Account name** 148 Holy Name Presbytery  
**Account number** 91543830

**the sum of**  
**(in words)** .....

**(in figures)** £.....

**commencing** .....

**Delete as applicable** **and thereafter** monthly/annually

**until you receive further notice from me/us in writing**

**Please insert the title and number of**  
**your own bank account** **and debit my account accordingly**

**Account name** .....

**Account number** .....

**Signature** .....

**Date** .....



**LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE**

Croxteth Drive | Liverpool | L17 1AA | [www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated Registered Charity No. 232709

**Name of parish**

Our Lady and St Philomena 168

**Name and address of your own bank**

**To** The Manager  
**Address** .....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Please pay to**

**Bank name** HSBC plc  
**Address** 99-101 Lord Street  
LIVERPOOL  
L2 6PG

**Sort code** 40-29-12

**Parish bank account number**

**for the credit of**  
**Account name** 168 Archdiocese of Liverpool  
St Philomena V M Presbytery  
**Account number** 61544446

**the sum of**  
**(in words)** .....  
**(in figures)** £.....  
**commencing** .....  
**and thereafter** monthly/annually

**Delete as applicable**

**until you receive further notice from me/us in writing**

**Please insert the title and number of  
your own bank account**

**and debit my account accordingly**  
**Account name** .....  
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**Date** .....



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