

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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The Baptism of the Lord

(Year A)

12th January 2020

Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm
Sunday 8.30am
10am
(Spanish) 11.15am
12.15pm
7pm
Mon – Sat 10am + 6.30pm

Sacrament of Confession

Mon - Fri 6.15 – 6.30pm
Saturday 10.45 – 11.15am
6.00 – 6.30pm

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm
(Lunch 1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

After 10am Weekday Masses

Rosary: Wednesdays 10.30am,
followed by Tea/Coffee in the
Founders Room.

Legion of Mary – Every
Tuesday at 7pm in the Library.
New members are welcome!

Charismatic Prayer Group:

Every Thursday at 11am in the
Founders Room

Saints Days

Mon 13th – St Hilary
Fri 17th – St Anthony, Abbot

Children's Liturgy – Will be
on this Sunday 12th January at
the 10am Mass.

Requiem Mass:

Of Barney Miller will be held
on Thursday 16th January
2020 at 10am.

Sunday Reflection – This Sunday is the feast of Baptism of the Lord. This Year A, the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel of Matthew. The Baptism of Jesus is a precious and significant event. It marks a dramatic moment in his life. When we recognise a profound change in someone's life we generally ask 'why?' What experience propelled the change of direction? The Baptism event signals the beginning of the public life and ministry of Jesus. He leaves the security of a hidden life in the secluded Village workshop in Nazareth and heads South to enter the public arena of preaching and ministry around Jerusalem. Jesus was familiar with the great prophecies of Isaiah, telling of the coming of the Messiah who would initiate God's Saving Plan for humanity. He had heard about his cousin, John and his great ministry of calling people to repentance and purification. Jesus is impressed by what he sees John doing, so he lines up for Baptism. He recognises the plan of God as unfolding before his very eyes. He acknowledges too that he has a part to play in bringing God's purpose to fulfilment. John tries to dissuade Jesus from coming for Baptism. Jesus replies: "do all that righteousness demands". So, John gives in and Jesus is baptised. Then he has this remarkable experience: The heavens open, the spirit of God descends, and a heavenly voice proclaims, "This is my son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him". These were familiar signs of God's presence and activity. He is overwhelmed by the sense of being the "Beloved Son of God". He is forever in the loving secure hands of God. He can do whatever is asked of him because he is funded by the Father's love. Affirmed by the Father, Jesus embraces a new lifestyle. This gives him a new purpose in life and equips him to face any eventuality, even death itself. This is the basis from which all mission activity springs. We too engage with Jesus when we know from our Baptism that we are 'beloved sons and daughters of God'

First Holy Communion – Next Session will be this Sunday 12th Jan at 9am.

Peace Sunday – The next World Day for Peace with the theme, "Unusual Kindness", reflecting on how our Christian faith leads us to see all 'others' as sisters and brothers will be observed in England and Wales on next Sunday 19th Jan. Let us pray for Peace and do something positive to promote Peace. The 2nd collection next Sunday will be to support the great work of Pax Christi, the International Catholic movement for Peace.

Baptism Preparation Course – Will take place on Tuesdays 4th and 11th of February at 7.30pm in the Founders Room. Please get a registration form from our Church Colonnade.

Confirmation 2019/2020 – Confirmation commencement date is on Sunday 2nd February 2020 at 5.30pm in the Founders Room.

Parish Safeguarding Officer – Our Parish is currently looking for a volunteer to fill our Parish Safeguarding Officer role. This role is very important as it ensures the safety of the Parish Community members and activities held in the Church. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office.