

# Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

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**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

*Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*

A warm welcome to Mass today!

Parish Offertory donations can now be made online. Scan the QR code to go to the parish online giving page. Please Gift Aid if you can. Thank you so much! About to make/change a Will? Have you considered leaving a legacy to your parish?



Saturday 11 January (Vigil)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Elizabeth Reynolds, RIP
Sunday 12 January	9.30am 11.30am	St Kentigern St John the Baptist	Alice Crawford, RIP People of the Parish
Monday 13 January	No Public Mass		
Tuesday 14 January	9.30am	St Kentigern	<b>Funeral of Alice Crawford, RIP</b>
Wednesday 15 January	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Norah Hogan and Family
Thursday 16 January	9.30am	St Kentigern	Rose Mattison, RIP
Friday 17 January	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Eileen Feeney, RIP
Saturday 18 January	9.30am	St Kentigern	Josie and Joe Godfrey
<b>Confessions</b>		St Kentigern's: Saturdays 10.00am-10.15am St John the Baptist: Saturdays 5.15pm-5.40pm	

A message from Fr Jamie: Friends, today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. St John the Baptist distinguishes his baptism of repentance ("with water") from the transformational baptism of the Christian dispensation ("with the Holy Spirit and fire"). Christ's acceptance of a baptism of repentance speaks to his willingness to share in our fallen human nature; the baptism he himself brings will raise us up to share in his divine nature. Pope Leo the Great (400-461), in one of his Christmas sermons, describes this as a "wonderful exchange" and he says, "O Christian, remember your dignity!" Fifteen centuries later, the Second Vatican Council placed great emphasis on the baptismal vocation of every Christian and the universal call to holiness and to mission that follows from it. As we celebrate the Lord's baptism, may the powerful fire of his Holy Spirit which we received on the day of our baptisms be rekindled in our hearts and souls today! One of the newest members of our parish, Sam, will receive that great gift during Mass at St Kentigern's this weekend – this will give the whole community an opportunity to share in this joyful moment with his family, and participate in this reminder and renewal of our own baptismal calling.

Please pray for:

- The sick and the housebound of the parish: that the Lord will grant them healing, comfort and strength.
- All those who died, especially Alice Crawford and Maria Tuzi who died recently, those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have no-one else to pray for them. The funeral of the late Maria Tuzi will take place in St Kentigern's at 11am on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of January and the funeral of the late Alice Crawford will take place in St Kentigern's this Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of January at 9.30am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

## FEAST OF ST KENTIGERN: BIG BREAKFAST THIS SUNDAY

This weekend we mark the annual feast day of one of our parish patron saints. To mark the occasion, everyone is invited to the hall after 9.30am Mass this Sunday 12 January for a 'big breakfast' (bacon rolls, sausages, croissants, tea, coffee etc.) in his honour. St Kentigern: pray for us!

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST KENTIGERN'S RESUMES THIS WEEKEND

With the new school term underway, the children's liturgy group at St Kentigern's resumes this weekend. Mike, the coordinator of the group, offers the following description of what happens: "*Children's liturgy takes place in the parish room or in the hall most Sundays outside of school holidays. The subject of the day's gospel is introduced and presented in a child-friendly way, with a few reflections and some art/colouring in. It is available for children aged 3 and above, toilet trained, and for those doing sacramental preparation on Sundays when there is no sacramental preparation meeting happening. It is useful if at least one parent can come along as one other adult must be present in addition to the liturgy leader. Any parent wanting to find out more about taking part is also welcome of course!*" Thank you, Mike, and all those who take part in this wonderful ministry. We currently don't have a children's liturgy team at St John's: is this something you'd like to be involved in? Please speak to one of the priests after Mass to find out more.

## THANK YOU FROM THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

A message from the Society of St Vincent de Paul, following on from their Christmas appeal for help: "*The Society of St Vincent de Paul of St John the Baptist and St Kentigern wish to repeat our sincere thanks for all the wonderful presents and the food which parishioners gave to us for distribution to families before Christmas. Your generosity is truly humbling. We continue to have our boxes after Mass each Sunday which is our main source of income to assist with our work. If you can, please bring a little cash to donate. Many thanks again!*"

## THANK YOU: CHRISTMAS STARS AND TEAS AND COFFEES

In addition to the appeals for presents and clothes, the Christmas Stars in remembrance of loved ones raised a total of £320. This will be donated to Mary's Meals, who will use this money to provide a meal every day in a place of education for thirty-two children in the developing world. At St Kentigern's, the weekly teas and coffees also raised a total of £930, which has been distributed by the organisers to various good causes. Thank you all who supported these wonderful parish initiatives!

## NEXT MEETING OF SSVP (ST JOHN'S)

The next meeting at the Toby Carvery on St John's Road will be on Monday 20th January at 2pm. Come along for what is always an enjoyable get-together. February's meeting will be on Monday 17 February also at 2pm in the Toby.

## SUNDAY MISSALS: AVAILABLE AT BARGAIN PRICE

We still have a supply of Sunday Missals containing the updated translation of the Scripture readings, available to purchase at the back of the church. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous benefactor, these are on sale in our parish at the bargain price of only £8 (R.R.P. £18.99). Pick up a copy while they last!

## VOLUNTEER CLEANERS NEEDED FOR ST JOHN'S: CAN YOU HELP?

We are urgently looking for volunteers to join the legendary "Heavenly Dusters" to clean the church at St John's. Nothing too onerous - once a month for an hour. Please contact Mary Strachan 07740429776 or email [Mary.Strachan@staned.org.uk](mailto:Mary.Strachan@staned.org.uk)

## DIPLOMA IN CATECHETICS: GO DEEPER IN YOUR FAITH IN 2025

The Diploma in Catechetics is a year-long course beginning in January. It consists of a weekly lecture on Zoom, readings from the Catechism and regular one-to-one support. Holy Year discount: £125 (normally £200). Register at [bit.ly/diploma2025](https://bit.ly/diploma2025)