

*Baptism of the Lord*  
*Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22*

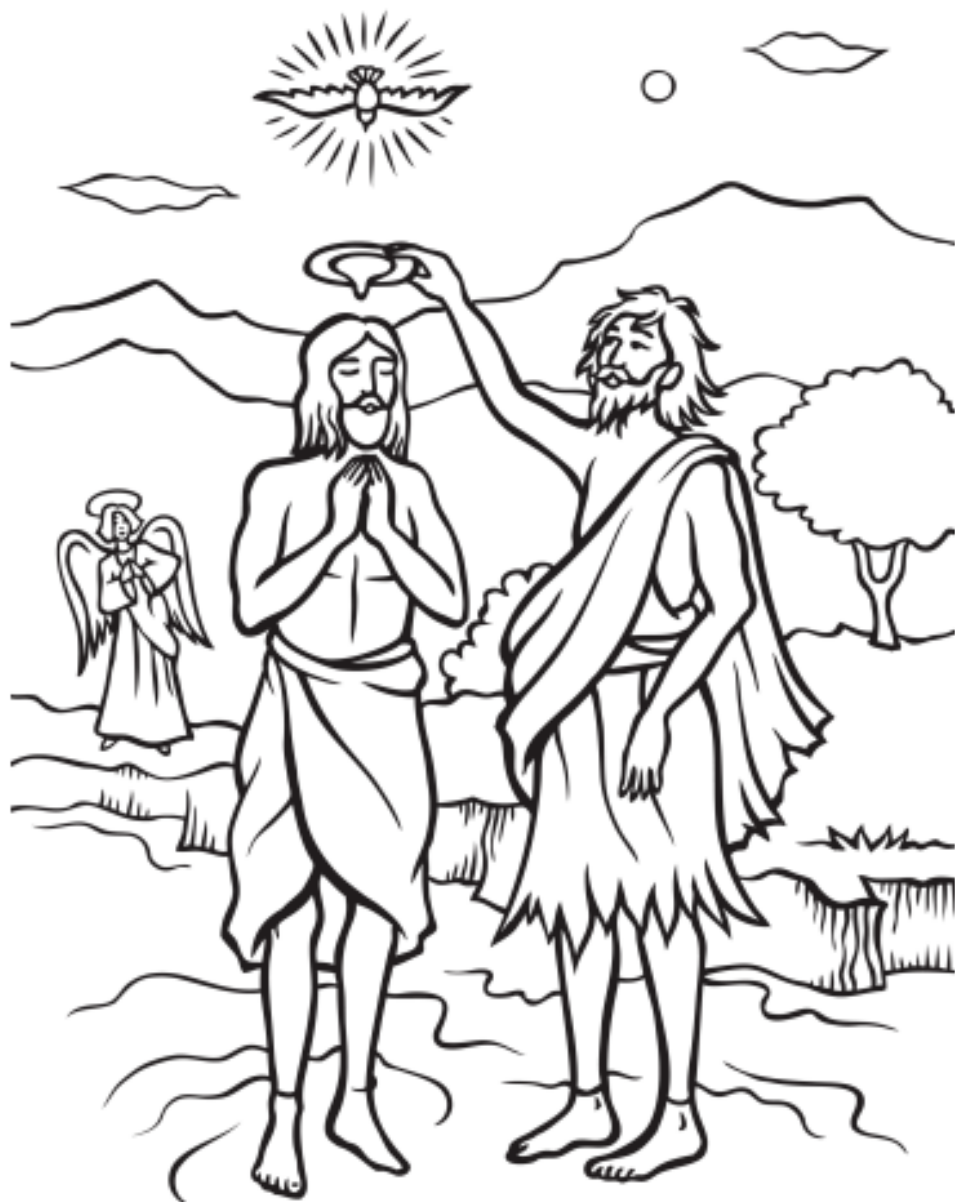


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Find more activities and prayers at [cafod.org.uk/families](http://cafod.org.uk/families)

**Welcome to our Parish Newsletter for:**

**St. Mary's R.C. Church and St. Aidan's R.C Church**

**Rev. Sean Hall**

**Tel. 0191 268 4222**

**[www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk) // [www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com](http://www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com)**

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**Sunday 9th January 2022**

**The Baptism of the Lord**

After listening to today's Gospel, The Coming of the Spirit (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Luke does not tell us who baptised Jesus. In Luke the story of John the Baptist ends with his promise of one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit - then John is arrested.

At the baptism itself all Luke's concentration is on the coming of the Spirit. Indeed, it is hardly an account of the baptism at all, for the baptism is only a time marker for the coming of the Spirit when "Jesus, after his own baptism, was at prayer".

Jesus' mission begins with the coming of the Spirit. In the same way, Luke's second volume (the Acts of the Apostles) begins with the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. It is as though Luke wants to show the importance of the Spirit from beginning to end of the Christian life. And this is the case: in both books the part played by the Spirit directs all the action.

The same is still true in the Christian community today, though sometimes human stubbornness and blindness does its best to impede the leadership and guidance of the Spirit.

Most of us are artists at blocking the Spirit when the Spirit's promptings are inconvenient! What does Luke's account of Jesus' baptism tell us about the Holy Spirit?

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

### SYNOD 2021-23

As you will have heard Pope Francis has called on people across the world to contribute their thoughts on how we should live and act as church in the Twenty-first Century. We are asked to reflect on various questions (which will be given out at Masses this weekend) and in particular ones about what resources we need to be better at spreading the Good News of the Gospel Message to people in our area today.

Here is a link to resources offered by the Diocese about the Synod  
[www.diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/synod-2021-2023/](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/synod-2021-2023/)

### ST MARY'S CHOIR

New members are always welcome to help us celebrate Sunday Mass with song and music. You are guaranteed a warm and friendly welcome! Please speak to Fr Hall or one of the existing members for more details.

### JESMOND ST MARY PARTNERSHIP CONFIRMATIONS

Open to anyone in school year 9 and above who is a baptised Catholic. Please enrol on one of the preparation courses from January.  
Contact: Pat Henzell on 07803727799 or Email: [chris.henzell@gmail.com](mailto:chris.henzell@gmail.com)

### PEACE SUNDAY

Taking place on Sunday 16th January, with the theme of Pope Francis' World Peace Day, 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace.' See [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) for details.

### HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENING

With guest speaker Mrs Hanneke Dye. Taking place at St Mary's Catholic Comprehensive on Benton Park Road, Newcastle on Tues 25th January. Please visit [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) to book.

### COLLECTIONS: W/C 2nd January 2022

St. Aidan's - Loose Plate: £106.00 // Gift Aid: £62.00

Catholic Calendars: £12.00

*Thank you for your continued support and generosity.*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING: 9th January 2022

Sat. 8th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Colin Bradford
Sun. 9th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun. 9th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish
Mon. 10th	***NO MASS***	
Tues. 11th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Pat Curry
Wed. 12th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Jim and Joan Byrne
Thurs. 13th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Fr. Peter Smith
Fri. 14th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	John and Ena Duffy
Sat. 15th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Francis Waight
Sun. 16th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun. 16th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Augusto Sr. & Primitiva Rivera

***We ask that ALL except for those with genuine medical exemptions, wear a suitable face covering while in our Churches.***

***You must also sanitise your hands as you enter the buildings & not gather inside our Churches before or after Mass. Thank you.***

### Please pray for all those who are sick:

Sylvia Keilty, Dorothy Noble.

### And those whose anniversary occurs about this time:

Paul Anthony, Irene Meenaghan, Ellen Walksinshaw, Patrick Curry, Joan Ralston, Valerie Beattie, Charlotte Mulligan, Alice Hedley, Mary Outerside, Ellen Tomlinson, James Patton, Jane Swinbourne, James Bolam, Catherine Agnew, Adele Stewart, Charlotte Parker, Frederick Armstrong, Raymond Dreinkald, Michael Tomlinson, Thomas Tweddle, John McMullen, Mary Brown, John Cook, Jean Dickson, Joseph Kenney, Nicholas Murphy, William Blewitt, Christina Barber, Brian Strong, Charles Church, Lilian Crossley, George Dobson, Annie Dixon, Annie McKaig, Joseph Horner.

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Contact Fr Hall directly via 0191 268 4222 or [seanehall1@gmail.com](mailto:seanehall1@gmail.com)

Access live mass streaming via our Facebook page NE12Catholic.

Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on [www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)