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Today, Jesus' baptism by John, was a special moment – the real coming of God's spirit upon him. It was the same Spirit who had come upon Mary at the moment of Jesus' conception and would come to Jesus at his last moment on the Cross.

The spirit brings him new energy. The feast marks that something new is happening, and that Jesus is the beloved and son, from eternity and into time. The Spirit came upon him – but not just for himself. He would send the Spirit later to us – of forgiveness and of perseverance in doing good.

Today is about energy. Jesus found a new spirit in himself after his prayer, and he heard words he would never forget. Maybe you have heard words of love from someone you will never forget. They give energy to the heart and soul, making us people always on the go, ready for new life within us.

The Spirit pours the energy of God into bread and wine, and they are changed forever. He sends himself forever. It is sending the love and presence and energy of God.

We know that we can get stuck. We need new infusions of the Spirit to give new energy. We are beloved sons and daughters of a God who loves us and cares for us. Can we be the type of people who others think it's good to meet and encounter?

Can we be open to the spirit of God, open to new life, new love, being really fully the person I can be?

***May the waters of baptism, O Lord, bring us the new life of your love.***

## Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ Year C

**1<sup>st</sup>: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7** *A chosen servant of God will courageously help others to find salvation*

**R. Ps 103 R/ Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7** *He saved us by the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit.*

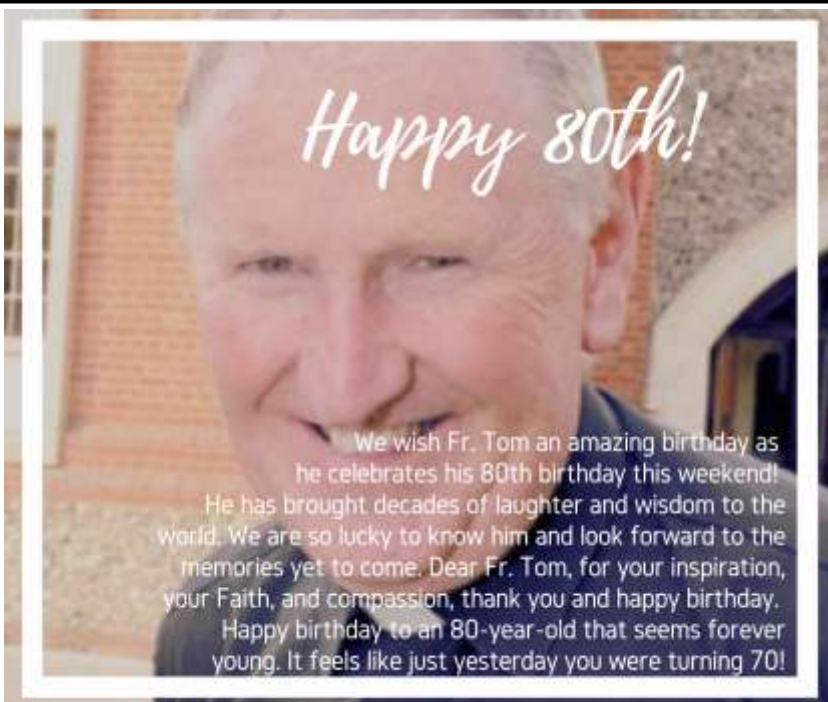
**Acclamation: Alleluia 2x! Some is coming, said John, someone greater than I. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22** *You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.*



## **BABIES to TEENS**

- **The Children's Liturgy team** welcomes you back at this Sunday's 11am Mass **CHILDREN'S LITURGISTS** Please pick up your new rotas
- **19 Jan 9.30am FHC programme in Hall** Families - please stay on for 11am Mass
- **5-26 Jan** after 11am Mass: **Hottie Chocolatey January** Join us in the Hall!
- **4 Feb Baptism Course** For parents whose child is being baptised in M'head. Contact Fr Ephraim/ office for more info
- **24 Feb Schools Public Speaking Competition** (organised by the Catenians). Catholic students aged 16-18 interested in competing, please email Jonathan on [manorcott@outlook.com](mailto:manorcott@outlook.com) by 31st Jan. Parental permission required
- **Fridays 8.45-10:45am Baby & Toddler Group** in St Edmund's (term time only)
- **ATTN:** If you are late for the 11am Mass, please be mindful that empty seats with reserved cards are for families attending the Children's liturgy/ FHC. Thank you!



**Join in Fr Tom's birthday celebrations after the 11am Mass!!**

## Mass Times & Mass Intentions

<b>Sat</b>	11th	10:00	Prayer for sinners, SI
		18:30	Prayer for World Peace, SI
<b>Sun</b>	12th	08:00	Family intentions, SI
		09:15	People of the Parish
		11:00	Angel Sanjurjo, A
<b>Mon</b>	13th	10:00	Mothers Prayers in Church
<b>Tue</b>	14th	10:00	Deceased member of the McLoughlin Family
<b>Wed</b>	15th	10:00	Claire Van Niekerk, RIP Mary Sharon Fernandes, SI
<b>Thu</b>	16th	10:00	Blandina Rodrigues, A
<b>Fri</b>	17th	10:00	Coleman Family, FM
<b>Sat</b>	18th	10:00	



St Mary's Primary & Pre-School welcome children & their families back to school - Learning & loving on our journey with Jesus

### OTHER EVENTS

**25 Jan 10am-7pm** More Fire! by Cor et Lumen Christi sign up <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/more-fire-tickets-1120629305419>

**Marriage Care** is looking to recruit volunteers to help present Marriage Preparation courses locally (a couple of Saturdays per year). Full training and support given. See [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or contact Sue Cooper 07939495774 or [sue.cooper@marriagecare.org](mailto:sue.cooper@marriagecare.org)

### IN THE PARISH

- **12 Jan 2.30-5pm LOSS & BEREAVEMENT GROUP** monthly in St Edmund Parish Centre
- **15 Jan 6.30pm Talk by Dr Judith: Jubilee & the Inner Pilgrimage** in the Parish Centre. Also 13 Jan 7pm St Thomas More / 14 Jan 10am in St Edmund Campion
- **16 Jan 2pm Rosary + 6pm Bible study** Zoom: ID 82806901794 Password 312990 or: <https://tinyurl.com/2hz5axvp>
- **18 Jan FEED THE HUNGRY** We will be providing a Lunch for some of the Poor and Hungry of M'head. Volunteers needed between 10:30-1:30pm to welcome guests, help serve food and clean up after – contact Trisha Ray or any member of The Vision Group. To make a financial contribution, a box will be available as you leave the Church this weekend. This initiative is part of a plan to put Catholic Social Teaching
- **25 Jan 7pm Burns night supper** £25 for a 3-course meal. Get tickets from Vision Group!
- **8 Feb 9.30-4.30pm Marriage: Preparing Together** Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Wokingham RG40 2HE. Or find a suitable date/time here: [www.marriagecare.org.uk/find-pt-course](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk/find-pt-course)
- **23 Mar 10.45am Fire extinguisher/ marshall training in carpark.** We need 3 per Mass so please email the office to register for the training. Refreshments provided.
- **Too many blessed palms at home?** Drop them into the box near the bookshelves by **28 Feb**
- **We are running low on hymnals.** If you have brought one home, please bring it back, or you can buy it @ £8

**Thank you:** As we move into 2025, Frs, Ephraim, Tom, Kevin and Liam want to thank you all for your kindness and care over the past year. We thank you for your support and encouragement. We continue to stand strong and proud as people of hope, love, joy and peace.

This Christmas just gone, we celebrated the Masses in our four churches of St. Joseph's, St. Elizabeth's, St. Thomas More and St. Edmund Campion. The liturgy was beautiful and so many of you got involved in setting the scene within and outside the church.

We must say, we are deeply touched by your abundant generosity of donations, well wishes and gifts over the Christmas period.

For your spirit of solidarity and being such fantastic witnesses of living a life of faith, we say thank you.

We pray this prayer for you:

### New Year's Prayer

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family, our friends and our parish communities of Maidenhead & Twyford.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains.

Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way.

Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, colour or creed.

Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant God's name each day.

Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love.

May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

God bless you all,

Liam, Ephraim, Tom & Kevin