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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-13

**Response to the Psalm:** Bless the Lord, O my Soul! My God, how great you are!

**Second reading:** Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia, He who is mightier than I is coming, said John. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

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Dear Parishioners

Baptism confers life, but it is also connected with death; in order to gain new life, we must die to the old. The baptism of Christ foreshadowed his death. It was his mission to suffer, die and rise again.

When we received the sacrament of baptism, we were admitted into membership of the Church, the body of Christ, and became sharers in his mission. We were immersed in the waters, died and buried with him and we rise again because of the redemptive sacrifice of Christ.

The Church will explain to us the public ministry of Christ, the preaching of the kingdom, in the daily and Sunday readings. The divine, redemptive mission of Christ is still active. The kingdom will be preached and built up slowly and gently, often among the poor and outcasts, sinners, but whose poverty and weakness enabled them to grasp more easily divine truth. The mystery of the Trinity, present at the baptism of Christ, will be proclaimed; all these people will be welcomed into the kingdom.

As we begin another year, we do so in the knowledge of what has been conferred on us by our baptism, that we too, have been commanded to proclaim the kingdom in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, who were present when Christ was baptised in the Jordan.

**God Bless
Fr. Benedict OSB**

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

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Registered Charity Number 1063237

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and served by the Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey

Parish Priest: Fr. Benedict Thompson O.S.B

Rev. Deacon Peter Griffiths



**Baptism of the Lord Year C
Week commencing Sunday 12th January 2025**

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Helen Woodhouse. She can be contacted at: sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Masses

Sat 11 th Jan	5.00pm	Baptism of the Lord	Robert & Sarah Lamb RIP
Sun 12 th Jan	10.30am	Baptism of the Lord	Eugene & Kathleen McLoughlin RIP
Mon 13 th Jan			
Tues 14 th Jan			
Wed 15 th Jan		SS Maurus & Placid (Mem)	Private Intention
Thurs 16 th Jan			
Fri 17 th Jan		St. Antony of Egypt (Mem)	
Sat 18 th Jan	5.00pm	2 nd Sunday Year C	People of the Parish
Sun 19 th Jan	10.30am	2 nd Sunday Year C	Keith Cotterell RIP

Mass is celebrated privately daily except on Monday.

If you would like a mass offered for a particular intention, please email the parish or put a note through the door of the presbytery, *please do not place it in the collection bag*. Thank you.

Those Who Have Asked for Prayers:

Derek Sollis, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis, Agnes Wilkins, Alma Finnerty, Bud Sollis, Agnes Finn.

Those who have recently died:

Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli, Anthony Woodhouse, Barbara Woodhouse, Kathleen McLoughlin, Peter McGoldrick, Anthony Roache, Lionel Quigley. Keith John Francis Cotterell, Anna Rose McGoldrick, Mary Baker, Georgette Cowell, Anthony Mathew, John Knox, Bill McCarthy, Bernadette Mary Parker, Mary Phipps, Alan Clatworthy, Abbot Finbar Kealy OSB, Katherine McCallion, Fr. Boniface Moran OSB, Richard Thornton-Pett, Mary Scally and all those we have been asked to pray for.

INFORMATION

Sunday Coffee

Please come and join us for Coffee, biscuits.

The next Sunday coffee morning will be **Sunday 26th January**

Thank you to Wendy and Lin for volunteering.

Please could we ask for Volunteers for the coming year, the form is at the back of the church. Currently we have no one to prepare coffee for January. Thank you.

Second Collection

The weekly second collection will normally be for help towards the payment of the diocesan levy and the upkeep of the house and church buildings. Both the church and the house are Grade II listed, so any work done has to be to a high standard as set by the requisite authority.

Church Cleaning

It would be really helpful if we could find two more volunteers for church cleaning. As we now only clean every other week this would mean that volunteers would only need to clean once every eight weeks. Please could you let the parish office know if you are able to volunteer, together with your telephone number and we'll be in touch. Many thanks.