



St Etheldreda's

WEEK BEGINNING 12 JANUARY 2025 - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

# NEWSLETTER

## Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am (English)

11 am (Sung Latin)

Monday-Friday: 1 pm

*'When Jesus had been baptised and was praying, the heavens were opened.'*



## The Rector Writes...

BY FR TOM THOMAS IC

**The Baptism of the Lord (Year C).** The Christmas season comes to an end with the Sunday of the Baptism of the Lord. Christmas decorations are removed; however by tradition the crib may remain until 2 February. From Monday the 13th, we return to the "Ordinary Time" in the Liturgical Calendar of the Church. The first lesson of the Baptism of the Lord comes from the Prophet Isaiah, written eight centuries before the birth of Christ. Even so, the text beautifully illustrates for us who Jesus is, the Chosen one, the Messiah, upon whom God's Spirit rests, who brings justice and light to the nations, who opens the eyes of the blind, releases prisoners free and light to all who are confined in darkness. These words of the prophet give us an everlasting hope. We find at Jesus Baptism that he is the "Beloved Son" of the Father, who anoints Jesus at the time of baptism, for the unique mission as Saviour of the world, who died and rose so we might be full partakers in God's Kingdom, on earth and in Heaven. By our Baptism we are anointed to become full partakers in God's life and work, which we are called upon to live through out our life. St. Teresa of Calcutta used to say, what matters most in life is not how many people we touch, but the quality with which we touch those who enter our lives. Be partakers of the divine life we are grafted into. Live in Hope and work for the good of humanity. Blessed Sunday.

## Etheldreda, Princess, Abbess, Saint

**Etheldreda's World - Princess, Abbess, Saint.** Dr Charles Moseley from Oxford University, wrote this book to mark 1,350 years since St Etheldreda founded a monastery on the site of what is now Ely cathedral in 673 AD. What was it like to be a Princess (c. 636-679 AD) an Abbess in a land where the old gods were still honoured by many? What power did women in her position wield? What did it mean to be revered as a Saint? This excellent book is available from the Presbytery. **Price 12.99.**

## Sunday's Music (11am)

**Lobo** Missa Petre ego te rogavi

**Lobo** Ego flos campi

**Lobo** Vivo ego, dicit Dominus

*Credo III, Ave Redemptoris Mater, Domine salvam fac*

**Organ voluntary: Brahms** O Gott du frommer Gott

**Music Director:** Robert Patterson

## Today's Readings

Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7; [9 am Mass only: Psalm 28. Response: "The Lord will bless his people with peace.>"; Acts 10: 34-38; Matthew 3: 16-16, 21-22.

## Thought for the week

Christ, by loving every human being and by making all human beings lovable in Him, has made of the whole world our neighbour. Therefore, Moses' commandment is still true, but with a new meaning. The command to love our neighbour is true for both the Old and the New Testament, but there is a difference. In the Old Testament, the love of charity did not have the power to go beyond the nation, whereas in the New Testament, love has been given by Christ's redemption and grace powerful wings to take it everywhere in the world.

Blessed Antonio Rosmini

## Support Us



## Beyond Synod 2024 - An Untorn Net

A multi-parish day of Conversation-in-the-Spirit, discernment, and action to propose practical implementation of the 2024 Synod's Final Document in parishes and dioceses. On Saturday, 25 January 2025, 10.00 for 10.30 - 16.00, London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street W1K 3AH. Tea / Coffee available. Nearest Tube Stations: Bond Street, Green Park, Marble Arch.

## A Year of Hope:

**An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.** 2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa) and more for a lively start to the Jubilee. With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse. Saturday 18Jan, 10:30am-midday, online. All welcome. Register here for free: [cafod.org.uk/jubilee](http://cafod.org.uk/jubilee)

## Sponsoring the Choir

For those parishioners attending the 11am Mass, please consider sponsoring the choir by taking a Choir Sponsorship Form from the cloister table, fill in your details and drop it through the Presbytery letter-box. A monthly or annual standing order would be the optimal way of your contributing to this scheme.

## Collections

9 am: -- 11 am: --  
Contactless: --  
Donations made by standing order, calculated weekly, amount to £324.42.

## Donation Appeal

**Donation Appeal.** We hope you will consider continuing to support St Etheldreda's. We are cutting costs where appropriate but it would be of immense help if you would consider supporting the parish by setting up a regular standing order. This can be done either by completing the standing order form available from the cloister table or through our parish [Diocesan microsite page](#). Individual donations can be made through either our webpage link -

## Medjugorje Apostolate Annual Retreat

Led by Fr Marinko Šakota OFM on Friday 7 March to Sunday 9 March 2025 at the Kairos Centre, Roehampton, London. Fr Marinko was the parish priest in Medjugorje from 2013 to 2022 having served there as an assistant priest from 2010 to 2013. The retreat is residential but there are places for day participants. For more information and to book please contact Paul Spencer at [pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com](mailto:pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com) or on 07710567183 before 31/1/25.

## New Payaz Giving Stands

These devices are now available to parishioners and visitors: two in the cloister and one in the church. Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and use your contactless debit/credit card or mobile phone to make a donation. You can also opt-in for Gift Aid to increase your donation by 25%. The devices come with a large 10" screen that makes it much easier for people to complete the Gift-Aid form. The DONA device is now out of service so we encourage you to use the new machines. Thank you.

## Getting married at St Etheldreda's – how to proceed

You should e-mail the Parish Priest at least 6 months before your intended wedding explaining who you are, your religious background, why you wish to get married at St Etheldreda's, and when (exact day, if possible). If the church accepts your request you will be invited to a preliminary meeting where the initial paperwork will be completed and the whole procedure will be explained and set in motion.

<https://givealittle.co/c/elyplace>

If you are a UK tax-payer, please consider gift aiding your donation. Any donation you make will be increased by 25% at no expense to yourself. If you have any queries about how to donate please contact our Parish Administrator at [enquiries@stetheldreda.com](mailto:enquiries@stetheldreda.com). Your donations will enable us to meet the costs of the day-to-day running of the Parish. Thank you for your support.

## Mass Intentions

### Sun 12th January

The Baptism of The Lord  
9.00 am  
Leonard Munywoki & Daughter  
GE  
11.00 am  
For the people of the parish

### Mon 13th January

Feria  
1.00 pm  
Concetta Furetto (Née Scebba)  
RIP

### Tue 14th January

Feria  
1.00 pm  
David Brayon RIP

### Wed 15th January

Feria  
10.00 am  
James John Burke RIP

### Thu 16th January

Feria  
Elizabeth Hennessy & Family

### Fri 17th January

St Anthony, Abbot  
1.00 pm  
Elizabeth & Bert Swift RIP

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## Contact

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14 Ely Place,  
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