

# SS LAWRENCE AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH NEWSLETTER



71 Broad Street Chipping Sodbury BS37 6AD & Sundridge Park Yate www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk

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## FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 8th and 9th January 2022 YEAR C



**DPL: St Ambrose / Diocesan Curia / Diocesan Services**

SAT	8 <sup>th</sup>	CS	5.00pm	FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	Private Intention
SUN	9 <sup>th</sup>	StP	11.00am	FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	Armando & Maria Jose de Fatima, C de Lemos
Tue	11 <sup>th</sup>	CS	9.30am	Mass	Private Intention (OLOL)
Wed	12 <sup>th</sup>	StP	9.30am	Mass	Bridie Green (Fmass)
Thur	13 <sup>th</sup>			No Service	
Fri	14 <sup>th</sup>	CS	9.30am	Mass	Mary Hughes
SAT	15 <sup>th</sup>	CS	5.00pm	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	R. Cookson Intention
SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	StP	11.00am	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Mary Hughes (Anni)
Tue	18 <sup>th</sup>	CS	9.30am	Mass	
Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	StP	9.30am	Mass	St Wulstan
Thur	20 <sup>th</sup>			No Service	Anne Toolan (Anni)
Fri	21 <sup>st</sup>	CS	9.30am	Mass	St Agnes
SAT	22 <sup>nd</sup>	CS	5.00pm	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
SUN	23 <sup>rd</sup>	StP	11.00am	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Anniversary Thanksgiving
SUN	23 <sup>rd</sup>	StP	6.30pm	Churches Together Service at St Paul's	
Tue	25 <sup>th</sup>	CS	9.30am	Mass	Conversion of St Paul
Wed	26 <sup>th</sup>	CS	10.30am	Funeral Mass for Mike Jouxson RIP	(NB at St Lawrence)
Thur	27 <sup>th</sup>			No Service	
Fri	28 <sup>th</sup>	CS	9.30am	Mass	St Thomas Aquinas
SAT	29 <sup>th</sup>	CS	5.00pm	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
SUN	30 <sup>th</sup>	StP	11.00am	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Joseph Sherer Brown

Confessions: please contact Parish Priest for appointment.

To contact a Priest: Fr Jim Williams (01454) 312161  
Parish Office Our Lady of Lourdes: 0117 9498743. To send items for the Newsletter e-mail Fran : frannewsletter7@gmail.com



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2022  
*A Churches Together Service of Praise and Thanksgiving*  
SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 6.30pm  
St Paul's Yate

### White Flower Appeal 2022

The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next weekend. SPUC is currently campaigning to protect Pro-Life speech. Pro-life witness is being restricted now more than ever; we must be able to speak freely to protect unborn babies. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers from this new attack.

**THE HOLY FATHER'S Prayer Intention for January - For true human fraternity.** For all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

**BONUS BALL - Game #957 w/n 16, Peter O'Rourke. £25 to the winner and £25 for the Parish building fund** The lottery is a fun way of supporting the Parish. The monies raised are for the Parish Building Fund which helps towards the continuing maintenance of all our Parish Buildings. If you don't feel safe enough yet to return to Mass, you can still take part by posting your money, preferred numbers and **contact details** through the Presbytery front door. Many thanks for your continuing support. Please speak to Kay Chapman or Pat O'Rourke for more information.



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It is a registered charity with number 1170168.

# What's on?



## Advent Fundraising

We are delighted to report that the Advent Fundraising has raised a total of £606. This includes the sale of raffle tickets and sales from donated items. Many thanks to all those who donated some wonderful items and to all those who bought tickets or items from the stalls. Your continued support is very much appreciated. Also well done to Kay Chapman for all her hard work in organising it all.

**SECOND COLLECTIONS.** There will be separate boxes or baskets at each church for the main collection and any second collection that is scheduled. If you wish to donate to the specific second collection on the allocated weekend, please place your donation in the designated baskets at the back of either church. If you are a user of the envelope scheme you can place your donation in one of these baskets. Thank you.

### **Forthcoming Second Collections**

15th/16th January 2022  
SPUC White Flower Appeal

**STAMPS:** I will be collecting used stamps for Charity again this year. If you have any used stamps, then please leave them in the collection boxes at the back of each Church. Please leave about an inch of envelope around each stamp. Many thanks. *Sr. Greta.*

## Reflections for The Baptism of the Lord Year C

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading from the prophet Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11.**

The book of Isaiah is not the work of the one man, Isaiah ben Amoz; but he is the inspiration for this collection of prophetic works. He most probably formed a school of disciples who studied at his feet. He came from upper-class Jerusalem family and had his first vision in the Temple in the 740 B.C. when he was 25 years old, and this vision established him in his prophetic vocation. Chapter 40 is the commencement of the Second Isaiah's writings, which are set in Babylon about the time that Cyrus, king of Persia took Babylon and allowed the exiles held captive there to return home. This was not universally seen as a liberation, so these works are to inspire the exiles to realise that God is with them and the gods of the Babylonians were not up to much, and encourages these exiles to imagine what it will be like to go back home to Jerusalem, hence we begin with "Comfort, comfort my people", says God. Their time of trial is over now and their God is waiting to lead them back home to re-build the Temple, and resume giving glory to God within their own culture and traditions and be close to God. He will, once again, be able to tend his flock like a good shepherd and gather his lambs in his arms. God is always looking to comfort us and tend for us, if we but will allow him to do so. We are, indeed blessed who acknowledge him as our Lord and God.

### **Psalm 103: 1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30.**

A song in praise of God's goodness and continues the theme, set by Isaiah's reading. God is merciful and forgives all our faults and renews us. Our God is always trying to build us up and console us.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading from the letter of St. Paul to Titus 2: 11-14, 3: 4-7.**

Paul is saying that if the Church is to be a place where Christ can appear, then the Church leaders need to keep a firm grip on the appropriate patterns of behaviour that are adhered to, and there must be no un-godliness, or worldly behaviour, and we need to give the signs of the chosen people by our good works. This is to be our response to the fact that Jesus gave himself in order to ransom us. As a result, we need to have good relations with the non-Christians because we were in the same situation as them before our redemption by Jesus. We should show kindness or maybe "Christ-ness."

### **The Holy Gospel according to Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22.**

Luke here clearly indicates that John, himself, declared quite openly that he was not the Christ, and we encounter, once again, Luke's reference to the Holy Spirit; but it is reference to Jesus, not John. Luke is quietly trying to convince John's disciples that they need to look to Jesus to find the Messiah, just as John, himself, had done. Luke's Gospel is very much about prayer, and this is the first of many occasions when he will show us Jesus at prayer. What a prayer, indeed, the heavens are torn open by his prayer and the Holy Spirit descends upon him in the form of a dove to anoint his mission, and the voice of the Father utters, "You are my Son, the beloved – in you I am well pleased." Jesus is the beloved Son, and we can rely upon him, his way of life and his teachings. We can confidently journey as people of the Good News proclaimed by Jesus. Let us, therefore go forward following Jesus by living appropriately the Gospel life. We are indeed very Blessed to have been ransomed by Jesus to become members of his family.

**God Bless you all & a Happy & Holy New Year. Deacon Vincent**

**Safeguarding our Vulnerable Adults and Children:** All church activities are subject to safeguarding policies and procedures. We encourage everyone to access these policies which can be found in the Diocesan Resource along with important contact numbers on the safeguarding pages. *Parish website:* <http://www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk/cliftdiocese.html>  
<http://www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk/safeguarding.html>



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul  
TURNING CONCERN INTO ACTION  
Meets regularly at St Paul's. To join please phone  
01454 312161  
Email [csandyatesvp@gmail.com](mailto:csandyatesvp@gmail.com)

Useful links:  
[www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk](http://www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk)  
[www.cliftdiocese.com](http://www.cliftdiocese.com)  
[www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

If you are interested in learning about the ethos, aims, and works of the Legion of Mary  
Tel: 01454 321749