



# IN TOUCH

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## Services

### Sundays:

**8am** - BCP Holy Communion

**10am** - Parish Eucharist  
Followed by refreshments

**5pm** - Evensong

Every 2&4 Sunday of the month

### Thursdays:

**10am** - Eucharist

Followed by refreshments

## This week

### Wednesday 10.30am

Coffee and fellowship

### Tuesday 6.00pm

PCC meeting - All visitors welcome.

### Thursday 10am Eucharist

Followed by refreshments

## Parish Office

Monday - **Clergy day off**

Tuesday - 10am - 1pm,

Wednesday - 10am - 1pm,

Thursday - 10am - 1pm,

Friday - 10am - 1pm,

Saturday & Sunday - Closed

[www.stnicholasmiddleton.co.uk](http://www.stnicholasmiddleton.co.uk)

*To make an appointment  
please get in touch with:*

### Priest:

Rev'd Dominik Chmielewski  
stnicholas.mos@gmail.com  
Parish Office: 01243855539  
Vicarage: 01903 882811

### Churchwarden:

Mr John Madell  
Email: madejo989@aol.com  
Mobile: 07831 845281

## Welcome to St Nicholas'

*Whether you are worshiping here every Sunday or only visiting with us today, you are most welcome to be here! Please stay for the refreshments after the service!*

## Baptism of Christ - Reflection

*Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17*

*The Spirit of God comes upon Jesus as he is baptised by John.*

The baptism of Jesus is attested to in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The account that appears in Matthew is the only one to include the dialogue between Jesus and John, however. Another difference in Matthew's presentation of this event is the announcement made by the voice from heaven, which says, "This is my beloved son . . ." In Mark and Luke, this voice addresses itself to Jesus: "You are my beloved son" The baptisms that John performs prefigure Christian Baptism. John baptises for repentance from sin. In accepting this baptism, Jesus unites himself with all sinners even though he is sinless. In Matthew's Gospel, John the Baptist distinguishes his practice of baptism from the Baptism that the Messiah brings: "I am baptising you with water . . . He will baptise you with the holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11).

The baptism of Jesus is another manifestation of Christ, another epiphany. Christ's baptism inaugurates his mission. In an analogous way, our Baptism inaugurates our mission as



## Dates for your diary

### *Sunday Evensong*

**23 January** - 5.00pm

Our Evensong on every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month continues, please join us for worship and referents afterwards.

### *First Communion*

**30 January** - Candlemass or The Presentation of Our Lord. On this day at 10am 3 children from our congregation Olivia, Nikodem and Joseph will be admitted to the Holy Communion for the first time. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this important day.

### *Plans for the future*

**20 February** after our 10am service we'll have a short information meeting about the plans and challenges for this year. Please save this date in your diaries and make sure to come!

## Bible readings:

**This Sunday:** Isaiah 62.1-5, 1Cor. 12.1-11, John 2.1-11

**Next Sunday:** Neh. 8.1-10, 1Cor. 12.12-31, Luke 4.14-21



### *Giving*

Please support us via The Parish Giving Scheme.



<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk>

## Our prayer list:

### **Please pray for:**

John Madell, Charlotte Blair, Julie Evans, Christine Lang, Gwen Lloyd, Diana Nova, Rod Black, Catherine, Nola, Jim, Pink family and Perry family.

*If you need to talk or you are in need of home visit or home communion, please get in touch with the priest, Fr Dominik*

Christians.

This Sunday marks a transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. In a way, today's feast is the high point of the Christmas season. Before Jesus' birth, angels announced to Mary and to Joseph who Jesus would be. At his birth, the shepherds and the Magi recognise Jesus as the Messiah. At his baptism, Jesus accepts that he is God's son and inaugurates that mission.

### *Family Connection*

### *Reflect on the Baptism of Christ with your family members*

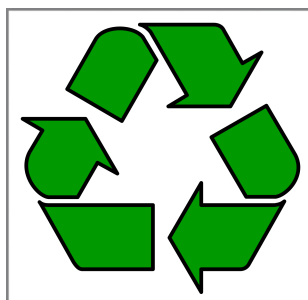
At Jesus' baptism, God affirms his Son's mission for salvation. God announces his pleasure with Jesus and, in Matthew's Gospel, announces to all that, "This is my beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17). With this affirmation, Jesus is able to resist the temptations described next in Matthew's Gospel and to begin his public ministry. As family members, we can support one another in our Christian living by affirming the importance of each person in our eyes and in God's. Confident that through our Baptism we too were made children of God, we can resist temptation and share in Christ's mission.

Gather as a family to read today's Gospel, Matthew 3:13-17. Recall that God's message about Jesus was meant for us, "This is my beloved Son." It was also an affirmation for Jesus about his role in God's plan.

Place each family member's name on a slip of paper and put the names in a bowl. Invite each person in the family to choose another family member's name and to prepare a message for that person, affirming their importance in God's eyes and in your family life. Pray together that your family will continue to support one another in your baptismal promises to be disciples of Jesus and then invite each person to read aloud the message they prepared. Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

Source: LoyolaPress

## *Bottle tops, pens and batteries...*



Milk Bottle Tops/Used stamps/ Empty or dried up pens and felt tips/Batteries

Please can you save any of these items and bring them into church as they can all be used to raise money for different charities while recycling and reducing rubbish going into landfill. Many thanks, Heather Kirk.

From Monday onwards there will be a designated container in the church porch, where you can drop off those items.

### *Visit our new website:*

[www.stnicholasmiddleton.co.uk](http://www.stnicholasmiddleton.co.uk)