



Holy Communion

Collect for Sunday

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to
be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 43:1-7

(page 706 of OT in bibles)

Read by Andrew Taylor

Gospel—Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

(page 77 of NT in bibles)

Eucharist presided by Revd Christine Bainbridge

Preaching by Revd Richard Bainbridge

Worship led by Revd Christine Bainbridge

Baptism led by Revd Richard Bainbridge

Prayers led by Rachel Thake

Hymns for Today

Christ be our light

Jesus be the centre

Beneath the cross of Jesus

Come my way, my truth my light

Like a candle flame

Crown him with many crowns

All are invited to come for communion and prayer.

If you do not wish to take communion, please come for prayer. If you have any particular need, problem or prayer request please speak to a member of the clergy after the service.

Safeguarding Training

Monday 14th January 7pm

We are pleased to host this diocesan-led event in the gallery.

A training opportunity for those involved with children and other safeguarding-related areas. It is hoped that all those involved with these areas will attend.

Taking Part

We are looking to recruit new volunteers for various roles within the Church.

- We are looking for people to lead intercessions.
- Children's work on certain Sundays, (not all!)
- Teenage/youth activities.
- Chalice bearers during the Eucharist.
- Bible Readers in services.

If you would be interested to explore any of these, to ask further questions, or to consider going on the rota on a regular basis please speak to a member of the clergy. Guidance and support will be given!

APCM

This year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the church gallery from 7.30pm, Monday 1st April.

We will soon be asking for reports... be warned!

Hope into Action

Since Sara H has stepped down as empowerment officer for the Hope into Action house we look after, Pamela Ward has taken over the role until a permanent replacement is found. She has had a very good first meeting with the two residents.

Farewells

After many years serving and enriching this congregation, we are soon to say goodbye to Ali and Pete Marshall as they move up North to be closer to family.

Please pray for them and for their family as they also prepare for this new phase of life.

Please speak to Rosemary Croft if you would like to sign a card, or contribute to a gift.

Church Lunches

The total raised from the December lunch (and given subsequently) amounted to £200. This sum is on its way to Novi Most International towards the cost of a new minibus needed for the youth ministry in Bosnia & Herzegovina, as explained by Matt and Rowan on their visit. More information at novimost.org.

We were also able to send another £47.50 to Christian Aid representing Gift Aid recoveries on donations made earlier in the year. Note that there will be no church lunch on 6 January.

Birthdays

Sue Jupp (14th)

Bridget Barwick (16th)

Zach Morris (17th)

Prayers

- Pray for those in our community who are fearful of what the new year may bring.
- Please pray for Chris and Bill Gothard, and family, for the grace and strength to persevere.
- Prayers for John Lawrence, son of Judith, as he continues his treatment.
- Prayers for Leslie & June Russell.
- Prayers for Carol Meunier.
- Prayers for Sam, Annie, Stephanie and Stina as they move from the area.
- Prayers for Timothy Jones (who is Baptised today), for family, godparents and friends.
- Prayers for Val Thorne and family, following the loss of son Chris.

Please give any items for prayer or notices to The Office *before* 9am on Wednesday by pigeon hole, e-mail or phone.

 **DIOCESE OF OXFORD**
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

Called to be Christ-like
CONTEMPLATIVE • COMPASSIONATE • COURAGEOUS

Church Diary

Sun 13th	10.30am	Holy Communion
	2-5pm	Baptism of Timothy Jones Contact Centre
Mon 14th	9am	Morning Prayer
	10am	English Class
	1-3pm	Monday Monsters
Tues 15th	9.45pm	Fireside
	12-2pm	Jacket Potato Club
Weds 16th	1.30-3.30	Oasis
	6-9pm	Cubs & Scouts
Thurs 17th	10.45am	Holy Communion (Café)
	11.15am	Coffee morning
Fri 18th	9am	Morning Prayer
Sun 20th	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) with John Reynolds INF

Small Groups

Oasis (Bridget Barwick)	966 9735	Wed 1.30pm
Richard & Rosemary Croft	926 0672	Thurs 8.00 pm
Jeremy & Rachel Thake	987 1288	Thurs 8.00 pm
Judith Lawrence	954 1332	Thurs 7.30 pm

You are welcome to join - please speak to contact/leader

Vicar: **Rev'd Vincent Gardner**
On extended leave

Curate: **Rev'd Gary Collins**
07986 901879

Associate Priest: **Rev'd Christine Bainbridge**
07939 662980

Church Office: **Tanya Penn**
(0118) 926 3633

121-147 Orts Road Reading RG1 3JN. Tel. 0118 926 3633
e-mail: office@stjohnandststephen.org.uk
website: stjohnandststephen.org.uk



The Baptism of Christ

13th January 2019



WELCOME TO TIMOTHY JONES! (who is being baptized today!)

...and everyone else! Don't rush away, please feel free to join us after the morning service for a cup of coffee or tea. We look forward to your company.

13th January—Croft Homegroup
20th January— Judith Lawrence & Homegroup

Welcome Team leader **Maureen Stevens**
On-duty Warden today is **Ian Maynard**

Picture Credit, Baptism of Christ by Greta Lesko