

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

13th January 2019

THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST



TODAY

8.00 am Holy Communion in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Angela Milton
Reader: Hilary Samson-Barry

9.30 am Second Sunday Communion Service in St Lawrence

President: The Revd Peter Waddell
Preacher: The Revd Vanessa Kerswill
Hymns: Jesus is the name we honour -
In Christ alone -
The deep, deep love of Jesus -
Come, see the beauty of the King -
Shine, Jesus, shine

11.15 am Holy Communion at Bedmond

President & Preacher: The Revd Jos Perris
Hymns: 53 - 242 - 311 - 354
Reader: Martin Tanner

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in St Lawrence

Leader: The Revd Peter Waddell

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Holy Communion said in St Lawrence

12.00 noon Wednesday

Morning Prayer said in St Lawrence

9.30 am Monday to Friday

Evening Prayer said in St Lawrence

5.15 pm Monday to Friday

Quiet Reflection in St Lawrence

11.00 am Wednesday

Early Prayer in St Lawrence

8.15 am Wednesday

WELCOME

Welcome to everyone at our worship today especially to visitors and newcomers - please introduce yourself if you are new or a visitor.

If you usually receive **Communion** in your own church, please do so here. If not, you are welcome to come to the altar rail for a **Blessing**, and if you carry a book with you the priest will know not to offer you the bread and wine.

The 9.30 am service is **recorded live** on 'www.thesundayervice.org' each week. No members of the congregation will be seen on camera.



Please tell a sidesperson before the service if you would like a **gluten-free wafer**.

A **T-loop** is provided for hearing aid users.



For our younger members in St Lawrence:

Seekers for children of primary school age (start in church), not 2nd Sunday each month;

Creche in the Breakspear Room;

Quiet Corner in church



Please join us for **coffee, tea or juice and biscuits** in the church hall after the 9.30 am service.



A **collection** is taken at each main service. If you are a UK tax payer, please complete a gift aid envelope.

This money is fundamental to the life of the church: its ministry, mission and charitable giving.

As we receive no income from the Government or any other external body, we are reliant on the generosity of the community and our fundraising endeavours to ensure that the important work of the parish continues.

Many regular members of the congregation give by direct debit and so put nothing in the bag as it passes by.

*If you would like to set up a regular direct debit, please ask for a **Parish Giving Scheme** pack.*

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

Bibles are available in the book rack by the door where you entered.

COLLECT: Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 43.1-7 Bible page 682

Although God had punished the Israelites for their negligent and immoral behaviour by sending them to live among pagans, he did not leave them to their fate. Through their exile, they learned how important their faith and their God was to them and how much God had given them over the years. It was easy for them to repent of their ways because God was at hand to show his loving mercy and ultimately he brought them back from their exile to the land of Israel.

NEW TESTAMENT Acts 8.14-17 Bible page 123

Samaria was a region of outcasts from the Jewish people and their very positive response to the apostle Philip's teaching would have been hard for the church in Jerusalem to accept. But it did accept it with good grace and sent the two most senior apostles, Peter and John, to Samaria to validate the new church there. The absence of the Holy Spirit at baptism was most unusual, but its manifestation when the apostles laid their hands on the new converts was a sign of their full reception into the body of Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 3.15-17,21-22 Bible page 57

Baptism was a practice used within the Jewish faith for those who were making a serious change to their lives and for those who were converting to Judaism. It was not simply an initiation rite or a rite of passage, but a commitment to faith in God and to trying to live in his way. Jesus was demonstrating his commitment to God and validating John's ministry by being baptised. The Holy Spirit descending upon him was a sign from God that he was doing God's work and that God was committed to him.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR OUR PRAYERS



GIVE THANKS FOR

- » the gift of the Holy Spirit to confirm and sustain us in faith
- » God's eternal covenant with the human race

PRAY FOR

- » the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide the Church and all Christian people
- » more people to come in faith to baptism and the life of Christ
- » for those who attend or work in Abbots Langley School; for those who live in Abbots Road and Adrian House
- » for those who worship at the Church of the Ascension

THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

- » Andrew Cummings : Brian McIntosh : Stephen : Sandra Smalley : Ben : Sean Brosnan : Vanessa

RIP

- » Frederick Peters (Newlands Park) : Melvyn Green : Gladys Brodhurst

AVAILABILITY

Peter's day off is Thursday

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Isaiah 62.1-5; Psalm 36.5-10;
I Corinthians 12.1-11; John 2.1-11

THE COMING WEEK

Monday 14th

- 2.15 pm Tiny Tots in the Breakspear Room
- 7.30 pm Bell ringing in St Lawrence tower
- 8.00 pm PCC meets in Bedmond Church

Tuesday 15th

- 10.15 am Tuesday Coffee in the Breakspear Rm
- 7.00 pm Youth Club meets in the church hall

Wednesday 16th

- 10.30 am Home Communion at Abbeyfield
- 11.15 am Quiet Reflection in the Corpus Christi Chapel
- 12.00 noon Holy Communion in St Lawrence

Friday 18th

- 10.00 am Craft Morning in the Tin Church
- 10.00 am HAL Coffee in the Henderson Hub
Abbots Langley High Street
- 1.00 pm Ascension Acorns in the Tin Church
- 2.00 pm Craft & Conversation in the Breakspear Room
- 6.15 pm Youth Choir in the Breakspear Room

NEXT SUNDAY

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 20th January 2019

8.00 am Holy Communion in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell

9.30 am Parish Communion with Seekers and Creche in St Lawrence
President: The Revd Peter Waddell
Preacher: The Revd Brian Hibberd

11.15 am Holy Communion
in the Tin Church, Bedmond
President & Preacher: The Revd Brian Hibberd

12.30 pm Sunday Lunch Club in the church hall

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in St Lawrence
Leader: The Revd Peter Waddell

NOTICES

► **PILGRIM COURSE** on 'The Beatitudes' starts tonight at 7.30 pm in the Breakspear Room for six sessions (until 24th February, missing out 3rd February). The Tuesday afternoon course will begin this week at 12.30 pm with a light lunch. Books (£5) are available this morning or at both meetings.

► **TINY TOTS** restarts tomorrow in the Breakspear Room from 2.15 to 3.00 pm - for all preschool children and their parents/carers - all welcome.

► **ASCENSION ACORNS** is a new group which has just started in the Tin Church, Bedmond on Fridays from 1.00 to 2.30 pm - for parents/carers and their babies and toddlers - all welcome.

► **MIDWEEK COMMUNIONS** are now on Wednesday at 12.00 noon followed by soup and a roll in the Breakspear Room.

► **QUIET CONTEMPLATION** will now be at 11.15 am on Wednesdays.

► Another **HOME GROUP** is coming on the scene! Led by Jane McHugh and Angela Milton the aim of the group is to provide an informal opportunity to explore Christianity together from different angles e.g. short courses, poetry, art, film. This is to be held on the first Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm in the Breakspear Room starting on 7th February. Refreshments will be provided. All are welcome.

► **SING-A-LONG** in aid of Malawi Funds on Saturday 26th January at 7.00 pm - **Mama Mia (Here we go again)**. £6 a ticket to include refreshments. Tickets available from the Malawi team.

► **VILLAGE CALENDARS** £5 each, from the church office or at *Over the Moon*.

It's never too late to join a **ROTA!** - we are looking for more people to help with **SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE** - it's only four times a year - you are part of a team and without more help we might have to take coffee off the rota a few times a year - please offer to help via the Office.

We would also like more **ACOLYTES** - those who carry the candles. Please speak to Carol Higgs to find out more.

► **FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE CURRY NIGHT** at the Abbots Tandoori on Monday 18th February at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. £17 per person. Contact Sue Coultrup (334387).

► **OUTLOOK** (Church magazine) is available for January - please take a copy (40p). We hope you will continue your subscription (£4.80) into 2019 - please pay your deliverer or via the office.

► **ALBAN LIFE** - a new diocesan magazine is available at the back of both churches - free, please take a copy.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:	The Revd Dr Peter Waddell 01923 263013
Email:	vicar@abbotslangle.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Angela Milton 01923 519453
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Guy Buckler via the Church Office
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Brian Hibberd via the Church Office
Reader:	Mrs Sally Sanderson 01923 265963
Church Office:	01923 261795
Open:	9.30 am to 1.00 pm daily
Email:	adminstlawrence@abbotslangle.org.uk

If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night, please contact Peter directly.

