

# THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

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

12th January 2025

## THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST



### TODAY

- 8.00am** Eucharist at  
St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** David Staines
- 9.30am** Second Sunday Service at  
St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Helen Neville
- 11.30am:** Eucharist at The Church of  
the Ascension
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Linda Ball
- Readings:**  
Isaiah 43:1-7  
Acts 8:14-17)  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
- Hymns at The Church of the  
Ascension:**  
163: All hail the power of Jesus' name  
494: King of glory, king of peace  
516: Love divine, all loves excelling  
386: Be thou my vision
- 5.00pm:** BCP Evening Prayer  
St Lawrence Church
- Officiant:** Revd Helen Neville

### WELCOME

Welcome to our worship today, especially to visitors and newcomers! Do please make yourself known, and stay for refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion here. If for any reason you'd rather not, do come for a blessing instead, bringing the service booklet with you as a sign that's what you'd prefer.

Please tell a welcomer before the service if you would like a gluten-free wafer at communion. There is no obligation to receive the wine if this causes anxiety.



**Our main Sunday morning service is filmed for live video streaming as well as other special services and can be viewed at [www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley](http://www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley) or via our website [www.abbotslangley.org.uk](http://www.abbotslangley.org.uk).** Recordings may also be retained and made available through other sites (e.g. Facebook and YouTube). The objective of this is to provide accessibility to those who are unable to attend.

For those unable to attend church due to medical reasons, we will be delighted to bring communion to you at home: please do ask!



**Refreshments will be served in the Church Hall after the 9.30am service.**



[www.abbotslangley.org.uk](http://www.abbotslangley.org.uk)

## THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

### 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.

### POST COMMUNION:

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.

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

'The new humanity that is created around Jesus is not a humanity that is always going to be successful and in control of things, but a humanity that can reach out its hand from the depths of chaos, to be touched by the hand of God. And that means if we ask the question, 'where might you expect to find the baptised?', one answer is, 'In the neighbourhood of chaos.' It means you might expect to find Christian people near to those places where humanity is most at risk, where humanity is most disordered, disfigured and needy... you might also expect the baptised Christian to be somewhere near, somewhere in touch with, the chaos in his or her own life - because we all of us live, not just with a chaos outside ourselves but with quite a lot of inhumanity and muddle inside us.' (Rowan Williams, *Being Christian*, p.4-5)

## Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167

12 January

Aelred was born at Hexham in 1109. His father was a priest and he entered the Cistercian Order at Rievaulx in about 1133, after spending some years in the court of King David of Scotland. He became Abbot of Revesby in 1143 and returned to Rievaulx four years later to become abbot and to spend the remainder of his life. He was profoundly influential through his spiritual writings, which he began at the request of Bernard of Clairvaux, the two having a similar approach to the spiritual life. Because of this, Aelred was often called "The Bernard of the North". He died on this day at Rievaulx in 1167.



## FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For those struggling in the cold
- For all hostages and prisoners
- For the people of Los Angeles
- For Soul Survivor, Watford

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; Liz Brooker; Christopher Seabrook; Bernie Eamer; Stephen Murray; Alan Alexander

### FOR THE DEPARTED

Betty Harris; Douglas Bishop; Edith Calderwood; Alan Hawkes; Emlyn Parry; Lin Lythaby

## NEXT SUNDAY

19th January 2025

### The Second Sunday of Epiphany

- 8.00am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 9.30am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 11.30am Eucharist at The Church of the Ascension
- 5.00pm Taizé Service  
St Lawrence Church

## READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Isaiah 62: 1 - 5 (P. 703)  
1 Corinthians 12: 1 - 11 (P. 170)  
John 2: 1 - 11 (P. 89)

## AVAILABILITY

Peter is off Monday  
Helen is off Friday

## THE COMING WEEK

### Monday - Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer  
*In the Corpus Christi Chapel*

### Monday 13th January

10.00am Coffee Morning  
*Breakspear Room*

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

### Tuesday 14th January

10.30am Tiny Tots  
*Breakspear Room*

8.00pm Finance Committee Meeting  
*Breakspear Room*

### Wednesday 15th January

10.00am Funeral of Betty Harris  
*St Lawrence Church*

12.00pm Eucharist  
*St Lawrence Church*

6.30pm Youth Choir practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

8.00pm Choir practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

### Friday 17th January

10.00am Bedmond Bells Craft and Chat  
The Church of the Ascension

1.00pm Funeral of Douglas Bishop  
*St Lawrence Church*

2.30pm Craft and Conversation (*note change of time for this week only*)  
*Breakspear Room*

There is no collection during today's service. If you would like to give this morning, please use the contactless giving point at the back of Church, or just leave your gift on the offering plates at the back. Thank you.

Many of our worshippers **support the work of the Parish financially** through regular planned giving. If you don't yet, please do—ideally using the Parish Giving Scheme. It is really easy to do: just visit [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) and search for 'Abbots Langley and Bedmond'. Alternatively, please call 0333 002 1260. For any queries about giving to the parish, please email: [churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk)

**Thank you to everyone who donates to the Watford Foodbank.** The items that are most needed at the moment are: Cereals, Milk (long life), Fruit Juice (long life), Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Vegetables, Rice Pudding, Custard, Jam, Tea/Coffee, Mashed Potato, Pasta, Pasta Sauces, Biscuits/Snack Bars. **Please make sure that all donations are unopened and are within the use by date. Items can be left at the collection point at the back of church, or in the dedicated basket at Sweeneys. Thank you.**

**Join in the fun at the Sing a Long to Mary Poppins!** Saturday 25th January at 6.00pm. Tickets £7 per person. Bring your own drinks. This is a fund raiser in aid of

Malawi. For tickets contact: [wendymeldrum@gmail.com](mailto:wendymeldrum@gmail.com) or the church office 01923 261795

**Friends of St Lawrence:** Evening out at La Banq, Monday 10th February, 7.00pm for 7.30pm. After the great success of this fundraising event for the Friends last year, we are holding another evening at La Banq in February this year. Do come along and enjoy wonderful food and great hospitality at La Banq. £20pp for a two course meal. Buy your own drinks. For tickets contact Wendy Meldrum [wendymeldrum@gmail.com](mailto:wendymeldrum@gmail.com) or contact the Church Office on 01923 261795

**Friends and Faith** returns at 8pm on Thursday 23rd January in the Breakspear Room, when we'll be starting a six-week look at the Lord's Prayer. Give it a go: it's a great way to make friends at church and grow deeper in your relationship with God. Everyone welcome, ask Peter for more details.

Please return your **Christingle candles** packed with loose change for the Children's Society. Bring them to a service or drop them in at the parish office over the next three weeks, so we can send a big donation off to support this vital work.

**Bishop Alan has announced his retirement** on the 31st May 2025.

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Vicar:

Revd Dr Peter Waddell 07552 359046  
Email: [vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk)

### Curate:

Revd. Helen Neville 07718 172642  
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### Safeguarding Officer:

Roxanne Yau  
[safeguarding@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@abbotslangley.org.uk)

### Churchwarden

Tom Betteridge  
[churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk)

### Director of Music

Marianne Ryall  
Email: [directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk)

### Church Office Opening Times:

10.00am until 12.30pm Mon-Fri - 01923 261795  
Email: [adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk)

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