

St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

www.sfachurch.org.uk

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Baptism of the Lord (C)

13th January 2019

PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.30 am	Well-being of Marina Bonham

End of the Christmas Season

Monday [Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Tuesday [Feria]

9.00 am Patricia, Billy and Tracy

Wednesday [Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Thursday [St Anthony, abbot]

9.00 am Eugene Murphy

Friday [Feria; *Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins*]

9.00 am Patrick McGrory

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass until 10.00 am

Saturday [St Wulstan, bishop]

9.00 am Private Intention

Confessions: Saturday, 4.30-5.00 pm

Please pray for the sick in our parish and for those who have died: **Harry Poole; John Cyril Crossley; James McGauley; Albert Lees** (anniversaries)

Last Week's Collection: £396.50. Thank you.

Bible Study on Tuesday at 7.00 pm in the presbytery.

The annual Parish Finance Meeting will take place after Mass on Sunday, 27th January. This is an opportunity to look at our income and expenditure for the past year and to assess the state of our finances. Everyone is welcome.

Copies of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Directory 2019 are on sale at the back of church; price £3.50.

On this day, our Lord and Saviour was baptized by John in the Jordan; hence, this is not a small feast but a great and even very great one. For when our Lord condescended to receive baptism, the Holy Spirit came upon him in the form of a dove, and the Father's voice was heard saying: 'This is my beloved Son. My favour rest on him.'

What a great mystery lies in this celestial baptism! From heaven, the Father speaks out, the Son appears on earth, and the Holy Spirit manifests himself in the form of a dove. Indeed, there is neither true baptism nor real remission of sins where the truth of the Trinity is absent, and the emissions of sins cannot be given where belief on the perfect Trinity is lacking. The baptism imparted by the Church is the sole true baptism and it is given just once.

Let a man immerse himself in it a single time and he will emerge pure and renewed; pure because he has washed away the stains of sins, and renewed because he rises to a new life after having put off the oldness of sin. For this bath of baptism renders man whiter than snow, not in his bodily skin but in the splendor of his spirit and the purity of his soul.

Chromatius of Acquileia (d. c.406 AD), *Sermon 34*
