

REFLECTION:

The Birth of John the Baptist, something to give thanks for!



We wonder how our children will turn out. We have hopes for them – for friendship, love, a good life, prosperity, a goal in life and many more. We have fears and anxieties about how they will get on in life. The people said of John the Baptist, ‘what will this child be?’ While his parents, old as they were, knew there was something real-

ly special about him in God’s plan, they also had the usual parental fears. They put their child into the protection and hands of God, as we do at each baptismal ceremony.

The future

John would have a chequered career. Nobody would have know then that he would eventually be martyred. Nor that he would live in the community of believers in the desert. Nor that he would announce the coming of Jesus.

The gospel today is an encouragement to put our loved ones in the care and the love of God. The love of God brings each of us into the world, and can keep us safe and joyful for life.

Announce God’s love

The vocation of each child, each person of any age and at all times, is something like John’s – to announce the love of God in word and deed among people. This for most of us is in the ordinary everyday life of relationships, work, leisure, pain and joy.

So we can wonder about our children and see in them what John’s parents saw in him as they marked his birth – the love of God made visible in a child and in all of us all our days, and the call to bring love into the world as best we can.

We can say of every child with joy and confidence, ‘praise to God’, echoing the prayer of John the Baptist’s father.



**THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST Yr(B)
CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH, HEALD GREEN**

**Saturday 23rd June 2018 (Vigil Mass) 5.30pm
Sunday 24th June 2018 Mass 9am & 11am
(Children’s Liturgy at 11am)**

				<i>Intentions</i>
Sat	23rd June	Nativity of John the Baptist	Vigil Mass 5.30pm	Secular Clergy Fund Benefactors Paula Jeffries RIP Jenny Leonard RIP
Sun	24th June		Mass 9am Sung Mass 11am	
Mon	25th June	Ferial	Celebration of the Word and Communion 10am	
Tue	26th June	Ferial	Mass 10am	Maureen Pettinchio Birthday & Get Well
Wed	27th June	Ferial	Mass 10am	Harry Stratton RIP
Thu	28th June	St Irenaues	Mass 10am Vigil Mass 7.30	Fr. Stephen Dwyer RIP Pope Francis
Fri	29th June	SS Peter & Paul HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION	Mass 10am	Sick of the Parish
Sat	30th June		Vigil Mass 5.30pm	Fr. Pauls’ own intention

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION :

Fr. Paul will be in the confessional on Saturdays:
11.30 till 12noon and 5-5.20pm. OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

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**Next Week : 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
30th June Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm
1st July Sunday Mass at 9am & 11am**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 29th HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mass at 10am

Vigil Mass Thursday at 7.30pm

NEXT WEEK 1st Sunday of the Month

COFFEE & CAKES IN THE HALL— come and join us for a chat with friends (and make new ones) after 9am Mass /before 11am mass

WELLSPRING— it is time again for the collection of non-perishable groceries, toiletries etc for the homeless people at the Wellspring.

LADIES' CLUB Thursday 28th June 2-4pm

Speaker George Eccleston (Mary Queen of Scots part 1)

LADIES SUMMER OUTING 12th JULY

PLACES STILL AVAILABLE

We are visiting Wentworth Woodhouse, a National Trust property in Yorkshire for a tour, then on to a local Garden Centre for you to purchase a snack etc. before the drive home.

Cost: Ladies' Club members £18. Non-members £23. If you are a National Trust Member and bring your card on the day you will receive a £5 refund. What a bargain!!!

DIOCESAN HOLY HOUR THIS SUNDAY 3PM/

In preparation for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress in September, Bishop Mark invites you to join him in St Anthony's Church Wythenshawe for a time of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. If you cannot attend it will be live-streamed from 3PM at <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/live-masses>

HEALD GREEN FESTIVAL SATURDAY 30TH JUNE—BE THERE AND ENJOY

We have 46 stalls and there will be a very varied musical experience to enjoy, Lots of fun events and rides. There will be a second hand books stall (run by Gillian Ellis, for charity).

CARMELITE MONASTERY

A mass to celebrate 100 YEARS OF THE CARMELITE MONASTERY IN BIRKENHEAD will take place on 16th July at 7pm—see poster in the porch

We welcome Brian Dale, president of the Didsbury Catenians, for the presidential mass at 11am

FATHER DAVID, FROM THE SPIRITANS (HOLY GHOST FATHERS)

Will be with us next weekend to tell us about their mission.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH—URGENTLY NEED SOMEONE TO SEE TO THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS ON A WEEKLY BASIS.

Rita has offered her services to this for many years but due to family commitments cannot carry on. We thank her for the splendid creations she has done and her hard work. If willing and able to do this please contact the parish office.

Retreat Friday 29 June 7pm- 9pm,

Saturday 30 9am-6pm, Sunday 1.30 to 8pm. by Jim Browne, international speaker from Ireland, in Wythenshawe Catholic Church / St Hilda's Church Northenden in the last week of June titled "SURRENDER & ACCEPT JESUS - An invitation to the Banquet" ends with Holy Mass, musical concert & evening meal. Bring a packed lunch on Saturday. Registration fee £10. For enquiries / registration contact Jesus' Meals tel/ text 07510865174 Email docuk17@outlook.com WhatsApp 07835043222 for enquiries / registration (can pay on the day).

MASS INTENTIONS The small brown envelopes are in the porch and we have some in the sacristy. If you have an anniversary of someone you love or a need for prayer, why not have a Mass offered.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS—weekly editions available for sale in the porch. The Catholic Times has a new format—why not give one a try?

VACANCIES

CATHOLIC TEACHERS A number of Catholic teachers across the diocese are not currently working, or have never worked, in a Catholic school. The Diocese is keen to recruit them into the Catholic schools, and to facilitate the process for those teachers who are considering coming into the Catholic sector there will be an informal session on **Saturday 30th June** at St. Hugh's Parish Hall, Timperley from 10 am to 12 noon. Details are on the notice board.

Diocesan vacancies

Senior Trusts & Foundations' Officer to play a key role in the development and implementation of the Diocesan fundraising activities and those of Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury in order to secure funding for parishes, programme work, project work (and organisational core costs) by assisting with the preparation of funding bid applications.

Diocesan Health & Safety Officer The post holder will act as the key contact for all health & safety matters throughout the Diocese and will co-ordinate health and safety compliance in all Diocesan Departments and Parishes, trading subsidiaries and associated organisations; supporting, training and assisting in developing risk assessments, policies and procedures required to deliver and promote a first class safety culture. This post is suitable for those holding NEBOSH diploma and Chartered Member of MIOSH

For more information please visit our website <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies> or send CV to Pauline.mcculloch@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Deacon Peter Lafferty—The travelling proved too much, we thank him for what he did for us and best wishes to him and Shirley.

LOST PROPERTY

Please check in the box in the porch for any items you are missing.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND



May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration.

COMMUNION FOR THE HOUSEBOUND

If you would like to have a Eucharistic Minister bring Christ, in Communion, to a sick or housebound relative or friend in our Parish, give your request and details to the Parish Office

HOLY WATER

Please note *Holy Water* is available from the stone jar on the altar steps near the Baptismal Font.



WELCOME

We welcome Lois Helena Elizabeth Slater and Fionn Hugh Kearney who are to be baptised this weekend. Please pray for them and their families.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Andrea Lomas will be available on Tuesday evenings 7.30-8.30pm for anyone wishing to discuss arrangements

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

This group meet each Monday at 2pm in the Meeting Room but **NOT on Bank Holidays.**

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH is prayed prior to 10 am

ROSARY Monday to Friday at 9.30am.

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicsingles.org.uk or tel. 0161 941 3498