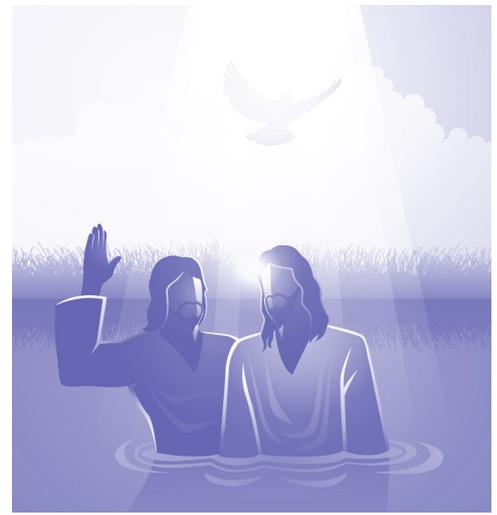


The Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood
St Teresa of the Child Jesus 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG
SS John Fisher & Thomas More 28 Rossington Ave, WD6 4LA
borehamwood@rcdow.org.uk www.catholicparishesofborehamwood.org

8th January 2023: Baptism of the Lord

Fr. Dominic McKenna Parish Priest Tel: 020 8953 1294
Sue Partington Parish Admin Tel: 020 8953 1294
Monday to Thursday: 10am - 4.30pm. suepartington@rcdow.org.uk

St Teresa's church is monitored by CCTV cameras 24 hours a day. Live streaming of all services takes place at St Teresa's and SS John Fisher & Thomas More. These can be viewed at www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood or through the link on our website



FIRE SAFETY NOTICE: If anyone has difficulty in hearing, walking or anything else that may slow down safe exit in the event of a fire, please let us know before the service starts, so that we can arrange for assistance for you.

Services for the forthcoming week

Saturday 14th January	Vigil: 2nd Sunday	6pm (SSJFTM)	Victor Cyril Doegah RIP (Ann)
Sunday 8th January	The Baptism of the Lord	8.30am (SSJFTM) 10am (St T) Noon (St T)	Lourda O'Leary RIP Ana Cristina Trindade RIP (Bday) Edward & Bridget Cheevers RIP
Monday 9th January	Feria	9.15am (St T)	Lourda O'Leary RIP
Tuesday 10th January	Feria	9.15am (St T)	Barbara Power RIP
Wednesday 11th Jan,	No Mass		
Thursday 12th January	Feria	9.15am (St T)	Brenda Cheevers RIP
Friday 13th January	Feria	9.15am (St T)	Lilly Pinto RIP
Saturday 14th January	Vigil: 2nd Sunday	6pm (SSJFTM)	Vanda Gazzola RIP

Mass Intentions now booked through until March 2023

Confessions Saturdays 10am-10.40am St Teresa's & 5pm-5.40pm SSJFTM

Liturgy of the Word - 8th January

- Entrance Antiphon:** After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.
- Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord will bless his people with peace.
- Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Alleluia!
- Next week's Readings:** Isaiah 49:3,5-6, Psalm 39:2,4,7-10, *rsp.vv* 8,9, 1 Corinthians 1:1-3, John 1:29-34

Fr Dominic writes:

What have we done with our gift of life?

With this feast of the Baptism of the Lord, our Church season of Christmas comes to a close because the baby has become a man. Jesus' baptism occurred about a quarter of a century after his birth and marked a new stage in his life as he leaves Nazareth and begins his public ministry. This Sunday is a chance to reflect not so much on Jesus' baptism but on our own.

Baptism is often misunderstood because many people see it only as a moment when original sin is removed and nothing more than that. As important as what the sacrament of Baptism takes away is what it gives, because the sacrament does more than erase original sin. It gives us a new identity as a disciple of Jesus Christ as we are immersed, bathed washed, wrapped in Jesus Christ. It gives us a mission to continue the work of Jesus. It gives us the equipment and access to the sacraments, that enables us to complete that mission.

For Jesus, John's baptism signified a turning point as the Lord enters his public ministry to fulfil the words of Isaiah, to give sight and release to every generation since. For us, the sacrament of baptism is more than a "rite of passage". It makes us a new creation with a new identity. That's why a child receives a new name as we did. It gives us a mission to heal, bridge and enlighten in the name of Jesus. That's why a baby receives anointings for its mission. It gives a baby the grace and power of the Holy Spirit to be faithful to that mission.

What have we done with the gift of life we were given? Have we taken care of our health? How have we used our youth, our young adult or mature years? How did we use the opportunities given to us? Are we squandering wasting, abusing the magnificent gift of life? In Baptism we are given the gift of a supernatural life. The grace of faith, membership in the church, becoming a part of Christ. We received the virtues or powers of believing hoping, loving as Jesus did. What have we done with that gift? Are we squandering, wasting or abusing the magnificent gift of supernatural life?

Monthly Standing Orders: £3,885

Last two weekend's Offertory

Envelopes £ 824

Loose Plate £ 1606.39

Contactless donations £ 310

Total for weekends 18th & 25th December £ 2740.39



FHC 2022-23 Programme. The next meeting is **Thursday 19th January 2023 6.15pm at St Teresa's School** when we will review chapters 5 & 6.



Confirmation: 2022-23 Programme. Next meeting is **7th March 2023 6.30pm, at St Teresa's Church**, when we will review the answers to sessions 4,5,& 6 if you haven't submitted your Saints Name & Sponsor yet, please do



Memories Café – bereavement and loss drop-in support sessions. Every Monday - 11am to 1pm at the Watford Hospital Chaplaincy. Memories Café offers a chance to meet with others who understand the experience of loss. It is a space to talk about the pain of bereavement and find mutual support and encouragement when you need it most. email: westherts.spiritualcare@nhs.net



The wonderful upgrade to the office computer has wiped out the newsletter email distribution list. If you are wondering why you haven't received it recently, please drop Sue an email and we will add you to the list!



Still scrabbling around for cash for the Offertory? Keep forgetting to bring your envelopes?, why not think about donating by Standing Order? All you need to do is pick up a standing order mandate & complete & return to us.

New Year's resolution – Volunteering for CAFOD



CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking people join us in our mission here in the Westminster diocese. Could you volunteer and help us raise awareness in either parishes or schools about our work across the developing world tackling poverty and injustice. Find out more by joining one of our volunteer meetings in Lambeth London on Saturday 21st January or Oakwood, North London on Wed 1st February. Please contact Tony at CAFOD for further details. westminster@cafod.org.uk or 0208 449 6970



Spring reflections at Rosary Priory:

11am in the chapel—St Margaret of Clitherow

10th January - Introduction

7th February - Household & enemies

7th March - The Reckoning

Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood

Burns Night

Saturday 28th January 7.30pm

St Teresa's Parish Centre

Tickets £12

Includes Haggis, Neeps & Tatties
& a wee dram!



BAPTISMS: We welcome Elijah who is being baptised this weekend Our baptisms take place on a Saturday afternoon, at either Noon, 1pm or 2pm, with a Rite of Welcome at your usual Mass the weekend before. They are individual ceremonies. If you would like your child to be baptised, please complete the registration form over the website (under Sacraments) & Sue will get in touch once she receives it. You can have up to four Godparents - no more as we don't have space in the register! - one of whom must be a practising Catholic. You will also need to attend a Baptism Preparation Course - you will be asked to book via the website when you submit your registration. *2023 courses arranged so far: 21st January, 25th February & 25th March. All 3.30pm-4.30pm at St Teresa's Church*

Warm Spaces in Borehamwood

MONDAY

Chatter Tables 11:30am-3:30pm at St Michael's Church
Borehamwood Library 9am-6pm at 96 Shenley Road

TUESDAY

Welcome Café 11:30am-3:30pm at St Michael's Church
Borehamwood Library 12pm-6pm at 96 Shenley Road

WEDNESDAY

Borehamwood Library 9am-6pm at 96 Shenley Road
Back2Bowls 1-3pm at Aberford Community Centre

THURSDAY

Welcome Café 11:30am-3:30pm at St Michael's Church
Borehamwood Library 12pm-7pm at 96 Shenley Road

FRIDAY

Organ Hall Community Centre 10am-4pm

SATURDAY

Borehamwood Library 9am-4pm at 96 Shenley Road

MORE INFORMATION

t: 0208 207 7801

e: community.services@hertsmere.gov.uk

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Thinking of getting married or do you know of someone who is getting married in a Catholic church? We now have dates for our **Wedding Preparation Classes**, run by Fr Dominic:

17th & 18th February 2023

16th & 17th June 2023

13th & 14th October 2023



Visually Impaired Club Borehamwood

Are you or someone you know visual impaired?
Looking for somewhere to go for friendship and support?
Are you aware of the Borehamwood Visually Impaired Club?

This could be just the place you are looking for!

- Borehamwood Visually Impaired Club meets on Friday afternoons in an accessible community centre in Borehamwood. We are a voluntary run group and currently meet once a fortnight 1.30-4pm.
- Our programme of activities includes; Quizzes, Games, Exercise sessions for physical and mental wellbeing, Friendship, Support, and so much more.
- Why not give us a try. All ages welcome. First session is free after which there is a weekly fee payable to cover the group's running costs.

Unfortunately we are unable to provide any direct personal care but if you have a carer they are welcome to attend with you. *We follow Covid guidance for the safety of everyone*

For more information and to book your first visit please email us, or ask someone else to on your behalf;

vicclub.borehamwood21@gmail.com