



11th January 2026

The Baptism of Christ

(The First Sunday of Epiphany)

Parish Mass

A voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

(Matthew 3.17)

Welcome to St Thomas the Apostle Church, Hanwell for our Parish Mass.



We hope you enjoy your time with us.

The hymns are in the Green New English Hymnal Books.

The Mass Setting for this Service is the John Rutter Service.

Please do take this Service Booklet away with you for your own prayers & reflections this coming week.

Front Cover Image: 'The Baptism of Christ' by Piero della Francesca c. 1439-1460.

The Gathering & Welcome

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

First Hymn: 12 On Jordan's bank.

The Prayer of Preparation

All: Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit;
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Invitation to Confession

Because God was merciful, he saved us through the water of rebirth and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. But through sin we have fallen away from our baptism.

Let us return to the Lord and renew our faith in his promises by confessing our sins in penitence.

(cf Titus 3.5)

All: Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,

forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.

Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

We Sing together the Kyrie Eleison.

All: Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, and be ✕ cleansed from all your sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Please Stand as we Sing together The Gloria.

All: Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray:

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.

All: Amen.

The First Reading: Isaiah 42. 1-9. (*Reading is read by Judy Neale*)

“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.” This is what God the Lord says—the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: “I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. “I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols. See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.”

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand as we Sing together the Psalm.

Psalm 29. (*Afferte Domino*)

1. Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty, bring young rams unto the Lord : ascribe unto the Lord worship and strength.
2. Give the Lord the honour due unto his Name : worship the Lord with holy worship.
3. It is the Lord that commandeth the waters : it is the glorious God that maketh the thunder.
4. It is the Lord that ruleth the sea; the voice of the Lord is mighty in operation : the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
5. The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedar-trees : yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Libanus.
6. He maketh them also to skip like a calf : Libanus also, and Sirion, like a young unicorn.
7. The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness: yea, the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Cades.
8. The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young, and discovereth the thick bushes : in his temple doth every man speak of his honour.
9. The Lord sitteth above the water-flood : and the Lord remaineth a King for ever.
10. The Lord shall give strength unto his people : the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

The Second Reading: Acts 10. 34-43. (*Reading is read by Sue Cunningham*)

Then Peter began to speak: “I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. “We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: 52 O Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

The Gospel

All: Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor: “*This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased*”. (*Matthew 3.17*)

All: Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

❖❖❖Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (*3. 13-end*)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.” Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Sermon or Homily is given.

God made a covenant with the people of Israel, calling them to be a holy nation, chosen to bear witness to his steadfast love by finding delight in the law.

The covenant was renewed in Jesus Christ our Lord, in his life, work, death and resurrection. In him all people may be set free from sin and its power, and united in love and obedience.

Therefore let us make this covenant of God our own. Let us give ourselves to him, trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.

Let us pray:

Eternal God, in your faithful and enduring love you call us to share in your gracious covenant in Jesus Christ. In obedience we hear and accept your commands; in love we seek to do your perfect will; with joy we offer ourselves anew to you. We are no longer our own but yours.

All: I am no longer my own but yours.

Your will, not mine, be done in all things,
wherever you may place me,
in all that I do and in all that I may endure;
when there is work for me and when there is none;
when I am troubled and when I am at peace.

Your will be done

when I am valued and when I am disregarded;
when I find fulfilment and when it is lacking;
when I have all things and when I have nothing.

I willingly offer all that I have and am
to serve you, as and where you choose.

Glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours.
May it be so for ever.

Let this covenant now made on earth
be fulfilled in heaven.

Amen.

The people are blessed with the Water of Baptism to mark the Renewal of the Covenant from the font.

Lord our God, you have helped us by your grace to make these prayers, and you have promised through Christ our Lord that when two or three agree in his name you will grant what they ask. Answer now your servants' prayers according to their needs; in this world grant that we may truly know you, and in the world to come graciously give us eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

*If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter, that he may 'bide with you forever;
E'en the sp'rit of truth.*

The Nicene Creed

All: We believe in one God
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Please Kneel or Sit for the Prayers of Intercession. (Led by Rowland Linder)

And at the end.

Lord, in your mercy.
All: Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,
All: Accept these prayers for the sake of
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of Peace.

Offertory Hymn: 55 Hail to the Lord's Anointed!

Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Open the heavens, Holy Spirit, for us to see Jesus interceding for us; may we be willing to share his baptism, ready to share his cup and strengthened to serve him for ever.

All: Amen.

The Lord is here.

All: His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

You celebrated your new gift of baptism in signs and wonders at the Jordan. Your voice was heard from heaven to awaken faith in the presence among us of your Word made flesh.

Your Spirit was seen as a dove, revealing Jesus as your servant, and anointing him with the oil of gladness to preach the good news to the poor.

Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven, we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven for ever praising you and singing:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
¶ Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Congregation Kneel or Sit.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. ¶

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. ¶

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, Joseph, her spouse, St Thomas the Apostle and our Patron, and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All: ✕ Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

Invitation to Communion

✖ God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

All: We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us.
Amen.

The Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) *is sung.*

All: Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

*The Priest, Altar Party, Choir and the People all receive communion.
If you are baptised and receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive communion here.
You are welcome to receive a blessing instead of communion.
If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your head bowed.*

Communion Hymn: 57 The race that long in darkness pined.

Prayers after Communion

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

All: Amen.

All: Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish Notices *are given.*

A Junior Church Presentation *may be given.*

Final Hymn: 352 Crown him with many crowns.

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.

All: and also with you.

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of his glory; and the blessing of God almighty ✺ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.



Vision and Values Day

Join us for our Vision and Values Day, where we will work together as a parish to define our long-term vision and core values. Teas and coffees provided. Lunch afterwards.

**17 January 2026
10 to 2 pm**



Bible Study & Reflection Group

Join us for bible study in the New Year, exploring the Gospel of Mark. A time for discussion, reflection, and prayer. Refreshments provided.

Wednesdays in the Lady Chapel

AFTERNOON SESSION
2:00 to 3:30 pm

EVENING SESSION
7:00 to 8:30 pm

All are welcome. Come to one or both sessions as you are able. Bring your Bible, your questions, and your curiosity. A space to reflect, share, and grow together in faith.

Pub & Prayer

Contemplative Compline
for 20s & 30s

18 January
5:30 pm
Lady Chapel

Join our 20s & 30s for
Contemplative Compline at
St Thomas the Apostle,
followed by pub!

Contact rowlandlinder@gmail.com
for more information!



Ceilidh
FUNDRAISER

When: Saturday 24th January 2026, 7.30pm

Where: St Thomas Church Hall
182 Boston Road, W7 2AD

Tickets: Adults: £20, children £10

Licenced bar with snacks

Get your tickets here: <https://shorturl.at/uYxOf>

Music by **Banter**





Parish Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank almighty God for his goodness.

The Wider Church: *We pray for the Church throughout the world, for our partners in mission and friendship.*

*Especially we pray for: **✠** Bishop George Dawson-Ahmoah and the Churches of Nkoranza, Ghana.*

*✠ Pfr. Jens Oehme and the people of the Lütherkirche, Hartau in Chemnitz, Germany. **✠** Revd Canon Clement Francis M.P.S. (Emeritus) and the people of Christ the King, Hillsborough, Carriacou, May our fellowship in the Gospel bear witness to Christ's love and draw many to his light.*

The Church of England and the Anglican Communion: *We pray for the life of the Church of England and the whole Anglican Communion. Grant to all who lead your Church wisdom and vision. Especially we pray for:*

***✠** Sarah, Archbishop Designate and Bishop of London, **✠** Lusa, Bishop of Willesden, **✠** Catherine, Archdeacon of Northolt. We give thanks for the Cathedral Church of St Paul the Apostle, our Diocesan Mother Church, and for all who work and worship there.*

Our Parish and Community: *We give thanks for this Parish of St Thomas the Apostle. Especially we pray for:*

Reverend Julia Palmer, our priest, her mother Marlene, and the Davoren family. We pray for our Churchwardens, PCC, and all who together serve in the life of the Parish. Bless our young people and their leaders - especially:

Rowland Linder - Pastoral Assistant and Youth Intern, and Stephen Brooks - Parish Administrator and Liturgical Assistant. We give thanks for all who make use of our Parish Hall, and for the friendships formed there.

Strengthen our ministries, deepen our fellowship, and guide us as we grow in grace, serving others in truth and love.

We pray for our local community in Hanwell and beyond. *Especially we pray for: our schools - Ealing Fields, Elthorne, Oaklands, and New Level Academy; for all who teach and learn within them; and for all who live and work in this parish. May Christ dwell in our homes and hearts, and may his peace be known among us.*

The Nations of the World: *We hold before God the nations of the world, especially: the Holy Land, Palestine, Gaza, and all who suffer in the Middle East, India and Pakistan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Ukraine. Grant to all in authority the spirit of justice and reconciliation, and to every people the gift of peace.*

The Sick and Those in Need: *We pray for the housebound, the sick, and all who are in hospital or in care. Comfort all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and give them hope and healing in your love. Especially we pray for: Andrea Arthturs, Roy Arthturs, John Ball, Paul Ball, Caroline Baxter, Ebenezer Blavo, John Brake & Family, Nathaniel Brito-Ault, Nigel & Davina Brooks, Ivan Carter, Noel Chardon, Jenny Cornwell, Patrick Dennerly, Daphne Dorival, Leo & Estriana Douglas, Merfyn Edwards, Gillian Fontaine, Geraldine, Celia Griffith, Darren Hancock, Ian King, Jaxon Prentice, Nick Lunn, Arda & Joe Metcalf, Dermot Molloy, Stuart Minty, Nicholas Robinson, Sarah, Gill Shaw, Keith & Sara Spillett, Colin Spooner, Leslie Stanton, John Tozer, Lynne Wilson and Anthony Wilson.*

The Departed: *We commend to your mercy all who have died recently. Especially we pray for: Viv & Betty Atkinson.*

We remember those whose year's mind falls at this time. *Especially we pray for: Ryk Mrtyle, Winnifred Lillian Mary Morgan, Noah Parfitt, Hilda Brooks, Ed Burrell, Thomas Berkerey, Derek Andrew Britton, Joseph Prince, George Hickling, The Revd. Tony Crowe, & John Colin Jones.*

**✠ May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace, and rise in glory. ✠**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Thomas the Apostle, and all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and all for whom we pray, to your unfailing love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

6:30pm: Book of Common Prayer Service of Evening Prayer

Led by: Reverend Julia Palmer.

Psalm(s): 46, 47. Epistle: Hebrews 1. 1-12, Gospel: Luke 3. 15-22.

Throughout the week, The Daily Offices of **Morning & Evening Prayer** are observed in Church at 9am and 5pm.

On Mondays & Wednesdays

(Live-streamed on Facebook)

On Tuesdays and Thursdays

The Offices are said in-person in the Lady Chapel.

(These are said privately to allow for personal, private prayers and reflections)

On Fridays

Morning Prayer only. This is at the earlier time of 8.30am.

(Live-streamed on Facebook)

Scan the QR Code to join us for The Daily Offices

(All are warmly welcome to join in person.)



Tuesday 13th January 2026 - 12(Noon) MASS in the Lady Chapel

Sunday 18th January 2026

Parish Mass for the Second Sunday in Epiphany

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18-25 January 2026

Reader(s): Eileen Sinclair & Colin Lomas.

Intercessor(s): Steve Purcell | Chalice: Andrew Lumsden & Rowland Linder.



*The Mass Setting for this Service is the John Rutter Service.
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Tuesday to Thursday (11am – 4pm)

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The Parish Office is closed on Fridays