

# Parish Press

Sunday January 12th, 2025

## Sentence

*The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'* Luke 3.22

## Prayer of the Day

Eternal God,  
at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan  
you proclaimed him your beloved Son,  
and anointed him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant that all who are baptised into his name  
may keep the covenant they have made,  
and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour  
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,  
one God, in glory everlasting.  
Amen.

## Readings

Isaiah 43.1-7	Page (OT) 520
Psalms 29	Page (OT) 392
Acts 8.14-17	Page 96
Luke 3.15-22	Page 46

## Today's services are

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Sung Holy Communion Service followed by morning tea

This week we pray for all who live in Kent Road, Surrey Hills.

**Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. (Philippians 4.8)**

## Mark's Reflections

The Baptism of Jesus is a significant event, as it marks the beginning of His public ministry. This event is described in all four Gospels, with the most detailed accounts found in Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22, and John 1:29-34. It takes place in the Jordan River, where John the Baptist, who was preaching a baptism of repentance, baptizes Jesus. This moment is rich in spiritual meaning and invites deep reflection on several aspects of Christian faith.

Jesus' Humility and Identification with Humanity:

The Revelation of the Trinity:

Jesus' Obedience to the Father's Will:

The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry:

The Role of the Holy Spirit:

God's Affirmation of Jesus:

As we read together of the baptism of Jesus we see:

Humility and Service: The baptism of Jesus is a profound example of humility and service. As Jesus humbly chose to undergo a ritual meant for sinners, believers are reminded to approach life with humility and serve others, following Jesus' example.

Obedience to God's Will: Like Jesus, Christians are called to obey God's will, even when it is difficult or when they may not fully understand it. Jesus' baptism challenges believers to submit to God's guidance in their lives, trusting that His plans are always for good.

Affirmation of Identity in Christ: The voice from heaven affirms Jesus' identity as God's Son. Believers can reflect on their own identity as children of God, finding assurance in their worth and value in God's love and calling.

Empowerment by the Holy Spirit: Just as Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit for His mission, Christians are invited to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide, empower, and equip them for the tasks God sets before them.

The Baptism of Jesus is a rich and complex event that not only reveals significant truths about His identity and mission but also offers lessons for believers about humility, obedience, identity, and empowerment. It serves as a powerful reminder of God's love for His Son and for humanity, offering a model for how Christians are to live their faith.

God bless

Mark

## Thank you to all who assisted with our Christmas Services

### Reminders

- **Wednesday Services begin again this week (15th of January) - a service of thanksgiving and healing.**
- **Family Communion Services begin again on February 2 with the 'Blessing of the Backpacks'**
- **Choral Evensong on Sunday February 2 followed by wine and cheese**

### Holy Trinity Sunday Morning Tea Roster 2025

Morning Tea roster sheets for 2025 are on a clipboard in Trinity Kitchen (if you don't receive a copy from Di Weetman). Thank you to all who have so willingly offered to help again in 2025.

### Parish Prayer List

Helen Burston, Stephen Binns, William Stewart (Stu) Parry, Robyn Foskett, Thelma Fiddymont, Rachel Hayman, Bruce Knox, Helen Morris, John and Sally James, Pam Dewar, Edith Jenkins, Sue Hand, Ann Constable, Gwen Jackson, Verna Hubert, Hayden Daley, Dorothy Watson.

### We remember

We give you thanks for your servants in every age. Grant that we, with all your saints, may be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of your kingdom. Colin Taylor, Mervyn Cooke, Olive Stevens.

### Hope25 Prayer

You call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world;  
by your Spirit awaken in us a true vision of your kingdom,  
a greater certainty of our salvation, and a deeper dedication to your service;  
that through our words and actions the same Spirit may  
bring many who are lost to be found,  
and for them to celebrate the hope that we can have in Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray.

Amen

## This Week at Holy Trinity

### **Tuesday**

9.30-12.30 Office Hours

### **Wednesday**

10am Service of Thanksgiving  
and Healing

### **Thursday**

9.30-12.30 Office Hours  
10am Parish Prayer Service

### **Sunday**

8am Holy Communion  
9.30am Sung Holy Communion  
Service followed by morning tea

## Readings this week

Monday	Mark 1.14-20
Tuesday	Mark 1.21-28
Wednesday	Mark 1.29-39
Thursday	Mark 1.40-45
Friday	Mark 2.1-12
Saturday	Mark 2.13-17
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Isaiah 62.1-5</b> <b>Psalm 36.5-10</b> <b>1 Corinthians 12.1-11</b> <b>John 2.1-11</b>

## Direct Giving to Holy Trinity

To give directly to the Parish, via the  
Anglican Development Fund,  
**BSB: 703-122. Acct No: 0500 4680.**  
Holy Trinity Surrey Hills.

Scan to access our website  
[holytrinity.sh](http://holytrinity.sh)



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