The Baptism of the Lord - Sunday 12th January 2020

The feast of the Epiphany has a lovely tradition of proclaiming the date of Easter and other Holy days. As we come to the end of the Christmas feasts with the Baptism of the Lord, I would like to share this tradition. It dates from the time before diaries, calendars and the many various electronic timepieces. As well as informing the faithful when the great feasts were occurring during any particular year, this tradition also served to remind them of the centrality of the Resurrection of the Lord. He is the one to whom ‘all time belongs’ and ‘all the ages’. Ash Wednesday, Ascension Day, Pentecost, Corpus Christi—all the dates are related to Easter—the feast of feasts.

Writing to the Corinthians, St Paul is adamant in saying that if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain (1 Corinthians 15:14). Even at this early point of the Church’s year we are being led towards the Easter mysteries. The Wise Men, whose faithful journey and humble worship of the infant Lord we commemorate this weekend, help us greatly in this aspect. Their gifts reveal not only the true identity of the child, but also his vocation—the king of kings (gold), true God of true God (frankincense), the one who has come to die and to rise again (myrrh). As we celebrate the manifestation of Christ to the Gentile world we are proclaiming Christ’s triumphant Death and Resurrection. As we keep this feast, and all the others which follow, it is the Risen Lord whose self-sacrificial love we remember and celebrate with joyful devotion.

Know, dear brethren, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God’s mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Saviour.

- On the 26th day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.
- On the 12th day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- On the 21st day of May will be the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- On the 31st day of May, the Feast of Pentecost.
- On the 14th day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.
- On the 29th day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent of Our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.’

*(From the Roman Missal, Third Edition, Appendix I).*

In Jesus and Mary ....................Fr Gerard
**PARISH OFFICE:** Parish Office open from 10am - 2pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. If you wish to contact the Parish Office, email: sthughoflincoln.office@gmail.com

**Admission to St Hugh’s School September 2020** - Fr Gerard will be available at the Presbytery as follows for the signing of the SIF: Monday 13th January 7.00pm - 9.00pm.

**N.B. The completed SIF should be returned to the school by 15th January 2020.** You must also complete the local authority Common Application Form (CAF). The SIF is not valid without the CAF.

**Dates for your Diary**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 11 Jan</td>
<td>Confirmation, Catechesis session 4.00pm - 6.00pm, Presbytery/Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13 Jan</td>
<td>Church Hall will be closed for electrical rewiring till 17th January</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 14 Jan</td>
<td>First Holy Communion - Session 4 - 6.15pm to 8.00pm, Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 20 Jan</td>
<td>Parish Finance Committee meeting 8.00pm Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 21 Jan</td>
<td>Baptism - Session 1 - 8.00pm Parish Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 26 Jan</td>
<td>Service as part of Christian Unity Week, 3.00pm Parish Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 28 Jan</td>
<td>Baptism - Session 2 - 8.00pm Parish Hall</td>
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**Parish Volunteer:** Put faith into action and help CAFOD in your parish. As a volunteer in your church community you can mobilise parishioners to act for global justice. Your unique relationship with the parish priest, other volunteers and your passion for a better world will help promote CAFOD’s work, connecting your community with those overseas. Most of all your actions will ensure that our sisters and brothers in the poorest places in the world can have more prosperous and fulfilling lives.

Helping in the community is sociable and rewarding. For more information contact: Jenny Finlayson, Email: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk; Tel: 01483 898866

**Fully escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland,** celebrating the feast of St. Patrick, 16th March 2020. £599.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights’ in Knock House Hotel with breakfast and dinner. All entertainment and excursions included. Lunches on days out. Wheelchair accessible rooms. Single room supplement £100. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

**Update from Woking Mind** - Our partner mental health charity CornerHouse sadly closed its doors recently, which was no doubt a difficult decision for their Board of Trustees. Woking Mind, have agreed to take on their groups and staff members to minimise any disruption to the support their service users received from CornerHouse. We therefore manage many new groups in addition to our current services so we can provide wider support including specific concerns such as anxiety, eating disorders and postnatal depression, etc.

We are working with Woking Borough Council on a mental health need analysis so we can delve deep into the key unmet needs so we can focus our efforts on closing the gaps as much as possible. We are committed to mental health services in our community and are so grateful for our passionate team, volunteers and supporters like yourselves.
Fr Gerard would like to thank everyone for their generosity this Christmas with gifts, cards and Christmas offering.

**Giving Tree**
All gifts were delivered to families, individuals and organisations in time. Letters have been received thanking St Hugh’s for their generosity and knowing that others were thinking of them went a long way to making their Christmas that much easier. THANK YOU!

**Parish Projects**
Our projects, *Woking Mind and Friends of Ahotokurom Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre, Ghana* have recently received a quarterly payment of £360.

Do have a look at their websites to see the great work that is being done by them:  
www.ahoto.org and www.wokingmind.org.uk

**Churches for Knaphill (C4K) next meeting Wednesday, 15th January:** If you are interested in ecumenical events you will be very welcome to attend this meeting which will at hosted by a Holy Trinity parishioner in Lower Guildford Road starting at 7.30pm.

Apart from a review of events during Advent we will be discussing the forthcoming Christian Unity Service, Lent and Easter. Speak to Roger (01483 481944, rogandmad.furnell@btinternet.com) for more information.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18th-25th January):** The theme this year is ‘Unusual Kindness’ and resources prepared by the Christian churches of Malta and Gozo can be found at https://ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer and are based on the shipwreck of St. Paul as recounted in the Acts of the Apostles and includes an octave of prayer.

To mark the end of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity the Churches for Knaphill (C4K) will be holding an Ecumenical Service here at St Hugh’s on Sunday, 26th January at 3.00pm followed by refreshments in the hall. All are welcome.

**Ecumenical Mental Health Project:** This time of year can be difficult for many people, please see the ‘Green for Go, Go for HELP’ poster in the Narthex which has which has details of services available for people in crisis. If you are interested in the Mental Health Project please contact catherine.martindale@abdiocese.org.uk.

**Details of the following are displayed on our Notice Board**
- Parish Accounts - Details of the parish finances are in the Narthex
- CAFOD, Parish Volunteer, looking for a Gap Year with a difference

**PARKING** - A number of complaints from our neighbours have been made recently regarding the parking of our parishioners. Please avoid parking on the pavement and blocking drives. Do think about walking or parking in the village car park please.

**St Hugh’s Baby & Toddler Group:** Due to the Hall closure, we will meet again on Friday 24th January.
The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary……...
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to Thy Word. Hail Mary……...
V. And the Word was made Flesh,
R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary………………
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy Grace into our hearts; that we to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.