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12TH JANUARY - THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

COLLECT

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. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43.1-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the eartheveryone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

PSALM: 29

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of Glory thunders.

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders: the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees: the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness: the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare: in his temple all cry, 'Glory!' **R**

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood: the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to his people: the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. **R**

SECOND READING: Acts 8.14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

This is the word of the Lord Thanks be to God The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance. As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord, we celebrate the revelation of Christ your Son who takes away the sins of the world. Accept our gifts and let them become one with his sacrifice, for he is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen**

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMNS	
Entrance:	74
Offertory:	73
Communion:	72 (tune: NEH 102)
Final:	544

PRAYERS

Bishops in our diocese: Martin, Will, Ruth.

The Sick: Ann Adkin, Chris Avery, Felicity Caperon, Sarah Cashmore, Jenny Chatterton, Tracey Divall, Eileen Head, Gwilym James, Paul Jones, Rita Miell, Tracey Norris, Ian Platten-Higgens, Edward Sibley, Claire Stogden, Catherine Wallis.

Recently Departed: Nigel Rigler, Connie Phillips.

Year's Mind: Alfred Dray, Catherine Lang, David Herrington, Jo Moreton, Maurice Reynard.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES	8am	Mass (BCP)
Sunday 12th January	10am	Sung Mass
Wednesday 15th January	10am	Mass
Sunday 19th January	8am	Mass (BCP)
Epiphany 2	10am	Parish Mass

A memorial service for Nigel Rigler will be held on Friday 24th January at 2pm in St John's Church.



St John's Church is currently in interregnum. For all enquiries please contact one of the churchwardens.		
Churchwardens:	Churchwardens: Carol Brown (01892 652310) carol.brown@btinternet.com	
	Philip Morris: (07967359599) morrip57@gmail.com	
Hall Contact:	Please go the Church Hall section of the website: https://www.stjohnscrowborough.co.uk	
PCC Secretary:	Rita Burton (01892 664071) tylersrmb@gmail.com	
Safeguarding:	Carol Brown (01892 652310) carol.brown@btinternet.com	