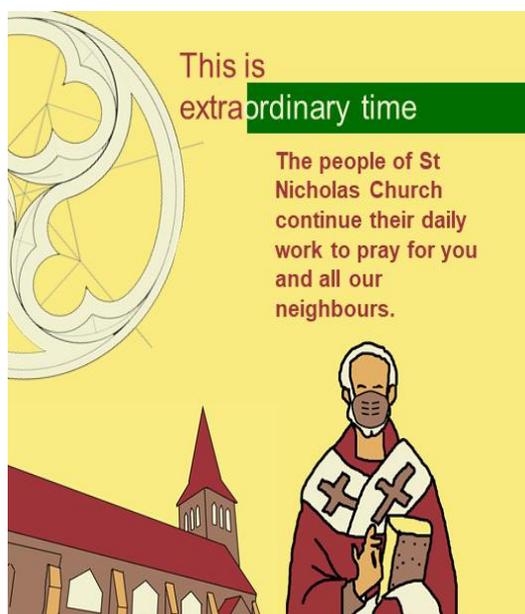


**Worship at St. Nicholas, Sutton
for Baptism of Christ, 10 January 2021
Collect, hymns & readings**



Collect (prayer of the week)

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
didst reveal him to be thy Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant that we, being born again by water and the Spirit,
may be faithful to our calling as thine adopted children;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Hymns

Opening *Lord, the light of your love*
Gradual *Thou, whose almighty word*

Readings

Genesis 1.1-5

Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath

1In the beginning when God created* the heavens and the earth, 2the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God* swept over the face of the waters. 3Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. 4And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Acts 19.1-7

Paul in Ephesus

19While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. 2He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' 3Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' 4Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' 5On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— 7altogether there were about twelve of them.

Mark 1.4-11

The Proclamation of John the Baptist, The Baptism of Jesus

4John the baptizer appeared* in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8I have baptized you with* water; but he will baptize you with* the Holy Spirit.'

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved;* with you I am well pleased.'

The Baptism of Christ

In the Western churches, the Epiphany ('manifestation') became an occasion to celebrate one element in the story of Christ's birth, the visit of the far-travelled magi, understood as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles...In the Eastern churches, the Epiphany is, rather, the celebration of Christ's baptism at the hands of John, when the heavens were opened and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved Son. The miracle of Cana in Galilee, where Jesus 'first manifested his glory', follows immediately:

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana wedding-guest
in thy Godhead manifest. (Christopher Wordsworth)

The arrangement of the Sundays of Epiphany in the Revised Common Lectionary deliberately draws out these aspects.

(from *Common Worship: Times and Seasons: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*)

I encourage you to make a habit of daily prayer, whether *A Way of Daily Prayer*

(attached, or on website under Useful Information-Service Sheets);

Common Worship *Daily Prayer* <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>;

or *Book of Common Prayer*.

Bible readings for Morning and Evening Prayer:

Sunday 10 January Baptism of Christ

MP 1 Samuel 16.1-3, 13, John 1.29-34

EP Isaiah 42.1-9, Ephesians 2.1-10

Monday 11 January

MP Amos 1, 1 Corinthians 1.1-17

EP Genesis 1.1-19, Matthew 21.1-17

Tuesday 12 January Aelred, abbot, 1167

MP Amos 2, 1 Corinthians 1.18-end

EP Genesis 1.20-2.3, Matthew 21.18-32

Wednesday 13 January Hilary, bishop, teacher of the faith, 367

MP Amos 3, 1 Corinthians 2

EP Genesis 2.4-end, Matthew 21.33-end

Thursday 14 January

MP Amos 4, 1 Corinthians 3

EP Genesis 3, Matthew 22.1-14

Friday 15 January

MP Amos 5.1-17, 1 Corinthians 4

EP Genesis 4.1-16, 25-26, Matthew 22.15-33

Saturday 16 January

MP Amos 5.18-end, 1 Corinthians 5

EP Genesis 6.1-10, Matthew 22.34-end