

## Reflection—

*I stand on the bank of the River Jordan. I wonder at what John the Baptist declares about Jesus as he passes by. Could this unassuming young village carpenter be really the Son of God? John seems to imply that even he was taken by surprise. He is fascinated by Jesus but he has seen the Holy Spirit descend like a dove and remain on him, so he fulfils his mission and primary task by testifying that Jesus is indeed the Son of God.*

*Does John have a premonition that suffering lies ahead for Jesus, the innocent, vulnerable Passover lamb of sacrifice who takes away the sins of the world? I ask myself how can this be the destiny of the Son of God.*



*Artists frequently depict John the Baptist with one arm outstretched pointing to Jesus. This image accurately reminds us of John's part in the gospel story. It also illustrates his own self-understanding. John is able to identify who Jesus is, but only Jesus "takes away the sin of the world" and "baptizes with the Holy Spirit". It is Jesus who is "the Son of God".*

*In biblical times a person's name had a mysterious identity with its bearer. This tradition is carried over when we honour "The Most Holy Name of Jesus". In the New Testament the name of Jesus is invoked in a variety of ways, perhaps most strikingly in Paul's hymn: "Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is*

*above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:9-11).*

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

**SATURDAY 18th January Vigil Mass 4.00 pm**

**SUNDAY 19th January Mass 9.30 am**

**Behold, the  
Lamb of God**  
Who takes away the sins of the world



Saturday	18th	<b>The Second</b>	Vigil Mass 4 pm Parishioners
Sunday	19th	<b>Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	Mass 9.30 am evangelisation
Monday	20th	Feria	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tuesday	21st	St. Agnes, Virgin, Martyr	Mass 10 am Priest's Private Int
Wednesday	22nd	Feria	Mass 10 am Our School
Thursday	23rd	Feria (Mass for Christian Unity)	Mass 10 am The unity of all Christians
Friday	24th	St. Frances de Sales, Bp, Dr.	Mass 10 am The sick
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>25 th</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>Vigil Mass 4 pm Parishioners</b>

### Next Week : THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A):

**Saturday 25th January 2020 Vigil Mass 4 pm**

**and Sunday 26th January Mass at 9.30am**



**ST. BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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**27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

## **Stand Together**

This year is the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and it is also Holocaust Memorial Day. In cities and towns across the United Kingdom, events will be held to mark this milestone in human history and to express the hope that such evil may never happen again.

This year, the theme chosen for Holocaust Memorial Day is "Stand Together". Those who are targeted by persecutors and racists find protection when others stand together in solidarity with them and challenge what is being done.

### **St. Benedict's Church Rotas 2020**

All volunteers (new or long serving) must now complete and sign a volunteers form. These will be available in church from this weekend. We need your name contact number, e mail and your signature. Forms will be available this weekend.



Thank you to those people who stayed after Mass for the Parish Meeting. It was very informative and interesting. A few ideas for the weeks ahead have come out of the meeting.

**A Mass for Christian Unity** on Thursday 23rd January at 10 am. This is during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

**A Mass for the Sick and Housebound on Saturday 8th February at 11 am**

Followed by a light lunch in the hall afterwards.

At the Mass those who wish to will be able to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. It will need volunteers to bring those who are in need of transport to the Mass.

**NEXT MEETING IN HALL  
SUNDAY 16th FEBURARY**

### **GUILD OF ST. STEPHEN THANKSGIVING MASS 2020**

This year it will be celebrated on  
**SATURDAY 7TH MARCH 2020**

**By Bishop David McGough in  
St. Chad's Cathedral, Queensway, Birmingham B4 6EX**

At 12 noon.

Followed by refreshments in the Grimshaw room.

Fr. Paul hopes that St. Benedict's will be well represented by our Servers who are in the Guild.

More information nearer the time.  
Please put the date in your diary now.



A reminder to all who are in the **GIFT AID SCHEME**. Please ensure we have been informed of any change of address or Tax situation. **THANK YOU.**

**If you are not Gift Aiding your church giving why not do it?**

**We still have places available at St Benedict's school in Reception for 2020 admissions.**  
Please contact the school on 01827 712 and ask to speak to Mrs Finelli for further details.

### **PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration.

Please don't forget to hand in your Mass requests in an envelope with the name and date on and with your donation inside. Fr. Paul has no outstanding Masses.



### **When Mass begins...**

We should be in our place in church with plenty of time to prepare with prayer. So often people arrive after Mass has begun, sometimes ten minutes late. This is not the way to begin praising God and preparing to receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. It is also disturbing for others around you. Please make every effort to be in church at least five minutes before Mass begins. Thank you

*Fr. Paul*