

## Baptism of the Lord

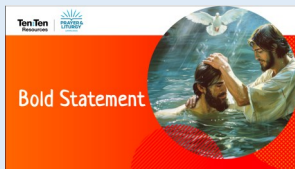
The Baptism of the Lord shows us the moment when Jesus is revealed as the Son of God. In the Gospel, God's voice declares, "This is my beloved Son," to all who are present. This public affirmation makes it clear that Jesus has been chosen to fulfil God's mission. This moment tells us who Jesus is and why He has come. He is not just a teacher or a prophet. He is the Son of God, sent to bring salvation to the world. The baptism marks the beginning of His mission, showing that He is ready to follow the Father's plan.

For us, this reminds us of our own identity as God's children. Just as Jesus received the Father's love and approval, we are loved by God too. This encourages us to trust in God's plan for our lives and live in a way that honours Him.

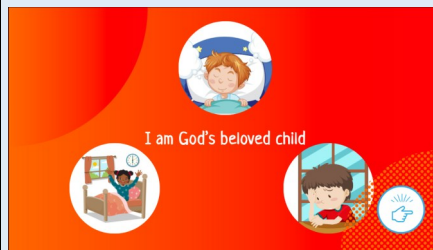
**Prayer intentions:** The Pope's prayer intention for January—For prayer with the Word of God, that it may nourish our lives and be a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

### Theme of this weekend's Gospel:

Jesus' Baptism was a beautiful event that made a bold statement - He is God's Son! Through this assembly, we understand that we are invited to follow Jesus' example of baptism and make a bold statement for God in how we live our lives.



### Going forth for this weekend's Gospel:



### This month's Virtue to Live By

Our Virtue to Live by:

## Respect and Courtesy

I am respectful.

I treat others as I would like to be treated.

I show courtesy to everyone as we are all made in God's image and likeness.

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you." Matthew 7:12

**Collective Worship Newsletter:** Please find the newsletter for January by clicking on this link:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

## Special Visitor

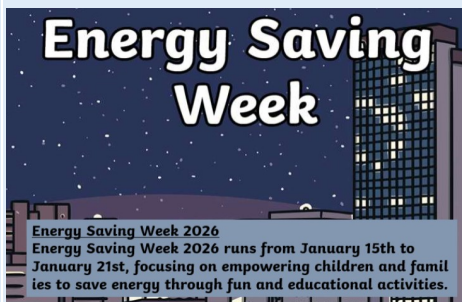
On Monday, instead of picture news this week, we had a visit from Jamie McIlroy and Alex Oldale from the Sheffield Steel Dogs Ice Hockey team.

The children enjoyed hearing from Alex about the equipment used when playing ice-hockey to keep them safe along with what it takes to become a professional ice hockey player.



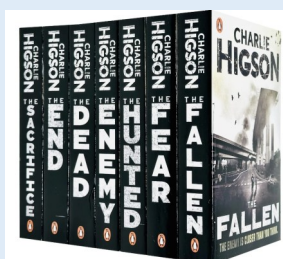
## Catholic Social Teaching

**Catholic Social Teaching Principles:**  
Stewardship (caring for God's creation)



## Book Recommendations

This series is recommended by Joseph E. It is a horror genre and due to the subject matter, it is more suitable for Y6+.



## Prayer of the Month

Our prayer for January is ...

Morning offering

O Jesus,  
through the most pure heart of Mary,  
I offer you all my prayers,  
thoughts, works and sufferings of this day  
for all the intentions of your most Sacred heart.

**Word of the week:** Baptism

# Information / Messages

**Y2 Workshop:** On Wednesday (14th January) at 2:30pm, parents/carers of children in Y2 are invited to come to a special Year 2 event celebrating the children's recent Design and Technology project. The children have been working incredibly hard to create their very own pop-up books. To celebrate their achievements, we will be holding a binding session followed by a Pop-Up Book Launch.

**Y5 Swimming Assembly:** The school swimming service are delivering an assembly for parents at 8.45am on Wednesday 14th January to give information about school swimming lessons, which will begin on Monday 9th February.

**FOSM Meeting:** This will take place on Friday 16th January 3.15 - 4.15pm in the school hall. All are welcome to attend. Childcare will be provided for those attending the meeting.

**Parent workshops:** Mrs Hirst will be running a 30 minute parent workshop for **children in Y4 on Monday 19th January at 8:45am** to give information and advice about the multiplication check. Mrs Reeves will be running a 30 minute parent workshop for **children in YR on Wednesday 21st January at 8:45am** to give information about how we teach phonics at St. Mary's and how you can support your child.

**Smart Watches in School:** Please could we remind parents about our school uniform policy on smart watches. To help children stay focused on learning and to ensure a calm, safe school environment, smart watches should not be worn in school. These devices can be distracting, may allow messaging or internet access during the school day, and can raise safeguarding concerns. If a child does bring a smart watch into school, it will be collected and kept safely in the school office and returned to them at the end of the day. We appreciate parents' support in helping us maintain a positive and focused learning environment for all pupils. Our uniform policy can be found here for reference [click here](#)

**Cross Country:** Our cross-country season continued this weekend with race 6, which was held at Handsworth Grange. A massive well done to Wesley C, who was our sole representative and placed well. We would love it if more children could represent us at these events. Children can even apply for a free race kit to wear to compete courtesy of FOSM. The next race will take place on Saturday 7th February at 9:30am at Norfolk Park Community School.

## Dates for your Diary

### Monday 12th January

Swim team to visit Y5 class

### Wednesday 14th January

8:45am—swimming assembly for Y5 parents

2:30pm—Y2 Little People Big Dreams Workshop for parents

### Friday 16th January

3:15-4:15pm—FOSM meeting in school

### Monday 19th January

8:45am Y4 parent workshop - Multiplication check

### Wednesday 21st January

8:45am—YR parent workshop—phonics

### Thursday 22nd January

3:15—4:30pm—Young Voices rehearsal

### Wednesday 28th January

~~PJ Day (FOSM)~~— moved to following week

9am—High School Musical visit to Ecclesfield High

~~6pm—Bedtime stories~~— moved to following week

### Friday 30th January

12pm—9pm—Young Voices at the Arena

### Monday 2nd February

2:45pm—Candlemas Service

### Tuesday 3rd February

Y5/6 Handball competition

### Wednesday 4th February

PJ Day—FOSM

8:45am—9:15am—Reading Morning

Team Event

6pm-6:30pm—Bedtime stories

### Saturday 7th February

9:30am—Cross country at Norfolk Park

### Celebrations

#### Stars of the week

Louis H, Rosie B, Elspeth C, Sofia HD, Alex B, Jack C, James S

#### Hot Chocolate

Chidindu A, Harlo H, Rosie B, Olivia T

#### School Council Star

Mrs Taylor

#### Mini Vinnie Award

Rudy W

#### Acts of Kindness

Sophia P, Merryn TW, Sienna C, Rocky G, Matilda, Mila

#### Reading Awards

**Lexia**—Benji A, Olivia BI

**50,000** - Camille W, Willow L, Samuel RH; **100,000**—Molly M;

**250,000** - Matilda T, Elizabeth B, Clara T, Wesley C;

**500,000** - Annie BB; **2 million** - Dominic R

**Reading for Pleasure**—Christopher R

#### Maths Awards

##### Numbots—

Benji A, Amelia A, Thea P, Elspeth C, Joseph B, Charlie J, Charlie H, Alexander I

**TT Rockstars—Improved speed:** Colby L, Chiemerie A, Caspian G

**Unsigned Act**—Willow L; **Going Green**— Violet G

#### Vocab Ninja

Isla R, Ava H, Eleanor R, Penelope CS