



PARISH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER

RC churches of St Ethelbert & St William of York, Bolton

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Sunday 10th January 2021 The Baptism of the Lord

Introduction

The Baptism of the Lord shows two particular events. The confirmation of the truth of John's teaching about the coming of the one who will, 'baptise with the Holy Spirit' and the beginning of Christ's mission on earth. In 2002 a sculpture was commissioned to mark the Commonwealth games in Manchester. It can now be seen next to the City of Manchester stadium. The sculptor, Thomas Heatherwick designed a piece that resembles an explosion of metal (see internet for pictures). He entitled his work, '**The B of the Bang**'. It represented the very beginning of an explosive event. In a sports sense this can be the initial surge of power from a runner as they leave the blocks. For me, in a spiritual sense, I have always seen the Baptism of the Lord as a similar event in the start of the Father's plan for the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. Viewed with the eyes of this world a simple baptism in a river, but viewed with spiritual eyes the phenomenal ignition of God's power that will change the world for ever.

God bless,

Fr Morrourgh

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|-----------|---|----------------|
| Monday | 9:30am | St William's |
| Tuesday | 9:30am | St Ethelbert's |
| Wednesday | 6:15pm – 6:50pm Exposition & Confession – St William's | |
| | 7:00pm | St William's |
| Friday | 9:30am | St Ethelbert's |
| Saturday | 11:15am – 11:50am Exposition & Confession – St Ethelbert's | |
| | 12:00pm | St Ethelbert's |
| Sunday | 9:30am | St William's |
| | 11:30am | St Ethelbert's |
| | 7:00pm | St Ethelbert's |

Mass Intentions: Jean Dobson (LD),
John.T. Cherowbrier (A), Margaret. A.
Cherobrier (A), Margaret Carebine (A)

Lately dead, A: Anniversary, BA: Birthday Anniversary, B:
Birthday, S: Sick, M: Memorial, WA: Wedding Anniversary

The Lord's Day at Home

For those still at home and not attending Mass the Liturgy Office has prepared a service called "The Lord's Day at Home", based on the Sunday Scriptures, that you can pray on your own or with your family. It is particularly aimed at those not able to follow a Mass on the internet.

[The Baptism of the Lord \(10th January\)](#)

Covid-19 - Latest Lockdown

As you know, our churches are remaining open and Masses at both our churches will be continuing as normal.

Personally, I think the decision to stay open at the moment is very unwise. We have been put back into '**Private Prayer**' for far less than we are experiencing at the moment. I cannot unilaterally close our churches as it would put a strain on surrounding churches that remain open and I'm not sure if I'd even be allowed to by the diocese.

So, all I will say is this:

- 1)** Think very, very carefully about attending Mass at the moment, especially if you are elderly or in any way vulnerable. The obligation to attend Mass is still lifted and there are plenty of Masses online. This seems to me an ideal time to make use of them.
- 2)** If you are unwilling to follow the advice of our stewards, then please do not attend church as you are a risk to others health.
- 3)** Due to the much increased transmissibility of the virus, there must be **NO** gathering of groups at the back of church before or after Mass. Please leave the church building promptly. If you wish to chat to friends outside, then please do so away from the main door so others can pass safely, and be aware of your own distancing from each other.

I want all of us to come together in better times to celebrate the Eucharist, and I want to do this without seeing empty spaces where some of our brothers and sisters used to sit. My primary concern has always been, is, and always will be, for your safety. Fr Morrough

St Ethelbert's 200 Club: Thank you to all who continued to support the 200 club through 2020. As this brought a much needed boost to parish funds. 50% of takings are paid out in winnings and 50% are allocated to parish funds. Please consider joining if you are not already a member. The joining forms are at the back to St Ethelbert's church and will be added to the website. The cost is £1 per week per number. Payments can be made at church to Lee Pendlebury (11.30 am Mass) and Agnes Lloyd-Holt (7 pm Mass). If you wish to pay by bank transfer **you must ensure that you label the payment with *E200 (standing for Ethelbert's 200 club) and your name so that it can be allocated.*** You must also let Julie Walsh (parish administrator) and Lee Pendlebury know of the payment and amount so it can be allocated. If you are paying by bank transfer then this should be an annual (£52 per number), half yearly (£26 per number) or monthly (£4.34). Unfortunately, we are unable to accept weekly or ad hoc

payments by bank transfer. If you make a payment in person, you will be provided with a receipt rather than having a card completed. We found that many people didn't bring their cards each week. The payments will be allocated against your name on the master log. Please retain your receipts as a record of your payments made.

St. Ethelbert's 200 Club Winners

27.12.2020 – the last of 2020 – no. 144 Maureen Morley
3.1.2021 – no. 50 Eileen Poole.

Christ the Redeemer Parish

Collections: Donations from both Churches: £1383.42(Christmas & w/e 27.12.20), £414.00 (w/e 3.1.2021). The statement for the end of December showed £791.00 in Gift Aided donations, £469.00 in other donations and £140.00 in Web donations. Thank you for your continued generosity to the Parish.