

Parish Priest: Father Benedetto D'Autilia

## The Baptism of the Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this Sunday after the Solemnity of the Epiphany, we are celebrating the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which ends the liturgical season of Christmas. Today, we fix our gaze on Jesus, who was baptized at the age of about thirty by John in the Jordan River. It was a baptism of penance that used the symbol of water to express the purification of the heart and of life. John, known as the "Baptist", that is, the "Baptizer", preached this baptism to Israel in preparation for the imminent coming of the Messiah; and John the Baptist told everyone that someone else would come after him, greater than he, who would not baptize with water but with the Holy Spirit (cf. Mk 1: 7-8). And so it was when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan, the Holy Spirit came down and settled upon him like a dove, and John the Baptist recognized that he was the Christ, the "Lamb of God" who had come to take away the sins of the world (cf. Jn 1: 29). Therefore, the Baptism in the Jordan is also an "epiphany", a manifestation of the Lord's Messianic identity and of his redeeming work, which will culminate in another "baptism", that of his death and Resurrection, for which the whole world will be purified in the fire of divine mercy (cf. Lk 12).

On this Feast, John Paul II used to administer the Sacrament of Baptism to various children. The baptism of children expresses and accomplishes the mystery of new birth to divine life in Christ: parents who are believers bring their children to the baptismal font that represents the "womb" of the Church, from whose blessed waters God's children are brought forth. The gift received by new-born infants needs to be accepted by them freely and responsibly once they have reached adulthood: the process of growing up will then bring them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, which precisely strengthens the baptized and confers upon each one the "seal" of the Holy Spirit.

Dear brothers and sisters, may today's feast be a favourable opportunity for all Christians to rediscover with joy the beauty of their own Baptism, which is an ever-timely reality if it is lived with faith: it ceaselessly renews within us the image of the new person, in holiness of thought and action. Baptism, moreover, unites Christians of every denomination. As baptized persons, we are all children of God in Christ Jesus, our Teacher and our Lord. May the Virgin Mary obtain for us an ever-deeper understanding of the value of our Baptism and of witness to it by leading a dignified life.

*by Pope Benedict XVI, ANGELUS,  
 Baptism of the Lord, 8th January 2006*



### MEETING TIMES THIS WEEK

#### SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Thomas Raunds | 5:00pm

#### SUNDAY MASSES

Most Holy Name Oundle | 9:15am

St Paul Thrapston | 11:00am

#### CONFESSIONS

During Adoration on Thursdays & Fridays

Also by appointment.

#### PARISHIONERS PRAYER GROUP

Zoom meetings every Tuesday at 7pm

All parishioners are welcome.

If you need further information, please email

Marlene on [mrod268@yahoo.com](mailto:mrod268@yahoo.com).

#### YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING

Ages 10-18 - with Father Benedetto

St Paul the Apostle | Thrapston TBC

#### REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Requiem Mass for **James Platt** on

Thursday **19<sup>th</sup> January at 11.am** in the parish church of The Most Holy Name of Jesus in Oundle.

Requiem Mass for **Maureen Turner** on

Thursday **26<sup>th</sup> January at 1.00pm** in the parish church of Saint Paul the Apostle in Thrapston.

### MASS FOR THE ETERNAL REST OF Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

7.00pm

at the parish church of

Saint Paul the Apostle

THRAPSTON

	St. Paul the Apostle Thrapston	Most Holy Name of Jesus Oundle	St. Thomas More Raunds
Sunday	<b>SUNDAY 8th JANUARY</b> <b>BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b> 11:00am : Mass Sharon Ingram & Mary Rodgers well-being, Jim duCassé RIP	<b>SUNDAY 8th JANUARY</b> <b>BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b> 09:15am : Mass Teresa Fitzmaurice RIP	<b>SATURDAY 7th JANUARY</b> <b>VIGIL OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b> 5:00pm : Mass Pro Populo
weekdays	<b>TUESDAY 10th JANUARY</b> 10:00am : Mass	<b>TUESDAY 10th JANUARY</b> 7:00pm Parishioners Prayer Meeting on Zoom	<b>MONDAY 9th JANUARY</b> 10.00am : Mass Mary & David Moat RIP
	<b>THURSDAY 12th JANUARY</b> 10:00am : Mass Adoration & Confessions after Mass Joan Macey RIP	<b>FRIDAY 13th JANUARY</b> 10:00am : Mass Adoration & Confessions after Mass	<b>FRIDAY 13th JANUARY</b> 2pm : Rosary & Divine Mercy 3pm : Stations of the Cross
Sunday	<b>SUNDAY 14th JANUARY</b> <b>2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> 11:00am : Mass Maureen Turner RIP	<b>SUNDAY 14th JANUARY</b> <b>PATRONAL SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS</b> 09:15am : Mass	<b>SATURDAY 13th JANUARY</b> <b>VIGIL OF THE 2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> 5:00pm : Mass Pro Populo



## The Commons Health and Social Care Committee Inquiry into Assisted Suicide ('Assisted Dying')

The House of Commons Health and Social Care Committee has launched an inquiry into assisted suicide. There is very little time to respond as responses must be received by 20 January. However, there is a [very short online form](#) of just six questions which should not take more than ten or fifteen minutes to respond. Please have a look at it and forward it to anyone you know who may be sympathetic.

**Question 1** sets out the law, and asks whether you broadly agree with the law on this issue in England and Wales.

**Question 2** asks you to explain why in no more than 300 words. With so few words it is good to focus on the main reason for supporting the current law, i.e. the main danger as you see it, in legalising assisted suicide. Use your own words and, if it is appropriate, appeal to your own experience, as a healthcare professional or as a carer or as someone who suffers from chronic illness or disability.

**Question 3** asks which factors are most important when considering the issue. Choose two or three.

**Question 4** – If you want to add a third factor under “other” this might include the:

- negative impact on suicide / suicide prevention;
- negative impact on palliative care services / the culture of palliative care;
- potential reduction in financial or social support for disabled people;
- danger of a ‘slippery slope’ from terminal to chronic physical to mental illness or disability;
- abuses due to a tick box mentality as happened under the Liverpool Care Pathway or in Mid-Staffordshire.

You will need to give a very short explanation in your own words.

**Question 5** asks if a “Citizens’ Assembly”, further independent research, or a referendum would be helpful to the debate, or if some ‘other’ option would help. It is very important to answer this question and NOT to tick “Citizens’ Assembly” or “Referendum”. The experience in Jersey shows how a Citizens’ Assembly (or “Citizens’ Jury”) can be selected so that it is strongly in favour of assisted suicide or euthanasia and can come up with very extreme proposals – much more extreme than proposals from elected politicians, courts, professional bodies, or broad-based consultations. A Citizens’ Jury would be a very dangerous gamble with people’s lives.

**Question 6** – If you want to add an option under “other” this would include:

- a Parliamentary Select Committee, with more than six weeks consultation (and not over Christmas!);

- a Joint Committee of both Houses including people with expertise in palliative care and who can speak from a disability perspective;
- looking at the evidence that is already there, for example on the websites of the [Anscombe Bioethics Centre](#), [Living and Dying Well](#), or the [All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dying Well](#);
- Having an inquiry about what is happening under the euthanasia and assisted suicide laws operating in Canada, as the United Kingdom is more similar to Canadian society than it is to the United States and what is happening there is very worrying.

If you represent an organisation or have done research in this area then you may also consider [writing a longer submission \(up to 3,000 words\)](#). See [further advice here](#). This gives more scope but is still relatively short so you should not seek to encompass the whole debate but should focus on two or three key points and provide evidence from experience or from published data.

We understand that the issues raised in this inquiry are sensitive and may be upsetting. You may be able to get support or advice from the organisations listed below:

- **Samaritans** – Support and guidance for everyone. Call **116 123**; this is open 24 hours a day every day. Or else you can email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org).
- **The Silver Line** – Support for older people; a free confidential helpline providing “information, friendship and advice” to people aged 55 and over, and support for “older people who are suffering abuse and neglect”; open 24 hours a day every day. Call **0800 4 70 80 90**.
- **Mind** – For information, advice, and support for anyone experiencing a mental health problem. Call **0300 123 3393**.

Link to Survey:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/M66AML>



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82-83 St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1RA, United Kingdom  
Tel: 07734 964 620  
Email: [admin@bioethics.org.uk](mailto:admin@bioethics.org.uk)  
Reg. Charity No. 274327

# CRIB DONATIONS

Our Crib Donations this year will go to Mission Together which is the children version of the charity MISSIO (Red Boxes Charity)



## Christmas Crib Appeal



Your support at Christmas will help children living in poverty across the world to:

- ◆ Hear the story of Jesus and see his love for all God's children.
- ◆ Benefit from a healthy meal and good pastoral care.
- ◆ Receive an education and practical support, like Nu Moe and Nyan below.



Mission Together is the children's branch of Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission  
[missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk)

Reg charity no. 1056651 **missio**

# Your Legacy Awareness

Invest in the future of your Parish and our Diocese

## YOUR LEGACY

Help secure the future of  
our Church  
for the benefit  
of those  
following in your footsteps

A gift of just 1%  
in your Will  
leaves those closest  
to you with  
99% of your estate



The Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust  
Charity number: 234091



If you want to learn more about  
this

initiative visit our diocesan website

<https://northamptondiocese.org/legacy/>

# St Paul the Apostle | Thrapston The Most Holy Name of Jesus | Oundle St Thomas More | Raunds

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## NYMO – Youth Ministry Conference LUX Flawless

A residential weekend for young Catholics from year 7-13. A weekend packed with activities, faith exploration and fun. Join over 100 young people from around the Diocese from 3rd - 5th February 2023 at The Kings Park Conference Centre in Northampton.

Please contact Fiona email: [fiona@nymo.org](mailto:fiona@nymo.org)

Visit [www.nymo.org/lux](http://www.nymo.org/lux) for more information and to book your place.

[www.nymo.org/lux](http://www.nymo.org/lux)



## Statue of Our Lady

### The Most Holy Name of Jesus Oundle

Those of you who have been in the parish a while will remember Fr Graham, who brought a statue of Our Lady back from a shrine in France where it had been specially blessed.

For a number of years, the statue was passed around parishioners who would sign up to take it home and put it in a special place for a week. It could be to mark a special event or intention or simply to give special honour to Our Lady for that week.

Over Covid etc the custom has been lost so it would be good to reinstate it for those who wish. The statue normally lives at the far right of the window-sill in the entrance hall and there is bubble wrap and a blue velvet bag for transporting it safely.

Please sign up on the sheet if you would like to take it and return it the following week so others can take advantage of the opportunity.

Please ensure you sign up to be sure we know who has the statue at any time.





### MASS INTENTIONS

Every Mass is offered to God for everybody (living and dead). However we can apply each Mass for special intentions. The intention could be for the **well being** or the **eternal rest** (RIP) of a person.

You can book an intention by writing the desired date, church and name(s) on an envelope and hand it to the priest. A Mass intention may involve an optional personal donation to the priest, which goes into the parish funds, as your parish priest receives a monthly stipend and so does not keep any 'stole fees'. If you wish, be generous as you can, for this is a small but pious contribution to our parish.



### PARISH FOOD BANKS IN OUR CHURCHES

There is a box for donations to our foodbank at the back of the Church. We need non-perishable items - tins of meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, rice pudding, packets of pasta, rice, tea & coffee, cartons of long-life milk & fruit juice, and also basic toiletries & household goods - soap, toothpaste, shampoo, washing powder, washing-up liquid etc.



[svpthrapston@gmail.com](mailto:svpthrapston@gmail.com)  
Joe Gasan on 07860 372283  
[www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk)

### SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

THRAPSTON & RAUNDS  
[Franklin.kathym@gmail.com](mailto:Franklin.kathym@gmail.com)

OUNDLE  
[Pabaneriee@googlemail.com](mailto:Pabaneriee@googlemail.com)

### Attending Mass:

The wearing of masks whilst inside our churches is optional. Please sit where you wish, using common sense and respecting other's right to space. Communion will be administered both on the tongue or on the hand. The Sign of Peace : please bow to those around you.

### Parish Giving

Regular standing order donations may be made directly to your Parish or by standing order:

**St Paul the Apostle | Thrapston**  
**St Thomas More | Raunds**

Nat West  
Account : RCDN St Pauls Parish Thrapston  
Sort Code : 60-06-11  
Account No : 65068874

**The Most Holy Name of Jesus | Oundle**

Nat West  
Account Name : RCDN Most Holy Name of Jesus  
Sort Code: 60-06-11  
Account No : 46714626

Please complete a "Gift-Aid" declaration and your Parish receives tax refund cash on your behalf. Please ask for a form by email.



Thank you

Please consider increasing your donations and standing orders as we enter 2023. Thank you for your support and charity

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**07881 467 624 | email: [frbenedetto.dautilia@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:frbenedetto.dautilia@northamptondiocese.org)**

**Our Churches:**

**St Paul the Apostle:** Sackville Street, Thrapston NN14 4NZ  
**The Most Holy Name of Jesus:** Stoke Hill, Oundle PE8 4BH  
**St Thomas More:** 6 Marshall's Rd, Raunds, Wellingborough NN9 6HP

**Contact us:**

**Postal address:** The Presbytery, 2 St Paul's Gardens, Thrapston, NN14 4FE

**Newsletter additions (deadline Tuesday 5pm) : [parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org)**

**Website:**

[www.eastnorthantscatholic.org](http://www.eastnorthantscatholic.org)