

# BAPTISM of the Lord

*and the holy Spirit  
descended upon him  
in bodily form like a dove.  
And a voice came from heaven,  
"You are my beloved Son;  
with you I am well pleased."*

Luke 3:22

## **St. Michael's Cathedral**

Services

for

The First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of our Lord

Sunday, January 12, 2025

**7:00 A.M. & 9:00 A.M.**

*"To be a guiding light of Christ's grace, justice, freedom and love".*

**The Cathedral Church of Saint Michael and  
All Angels**  
*The Diocese of Barbados*

*Diocesan Bishop*

**The Rt. Rev'd Michael B. St. John. Maxwell, M. A.**

*Dean*

**The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson**

*Precentor*

**The Rev'd Canon George Knight, B.Min.**

*Assistant Priest*

**The Rev'd Stephanie-Ann Wedderburn, B. Sc; B.A.**

*Organist/Choirmaster*

**Mr. John F. Bryan, B.Sc., BMus.**

*Organist*

**Mr. Eric Cobham, B.Sc., BMus**

*Vergers*

**Mrs. Chloe Grant**

The First Sunday after the Epiphany: THE BAPTISM  
OF OUR LORD – YEAR C

**7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist**

**President and Preacher:**

**The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson**

**9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist**

**President: The Rev'd Canon George Knight**

**Preacher: The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson**

**Lay Eucharistic Minister: Mrs. Valdine Browne**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**THE PREPARATION**

Organ Prelude

The Opening **Hymn ~ 42**

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake, and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within;  
prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge, and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent doth thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

*Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749),  
from Jordonis oras praevia, from Breviary, Paris, 1736, Latin;  
translation: John Chandler (1806-1876), and  
Editors of Hymns Ancient and Modern  
Translation © Hymns Ancient and Modern (admin. Hope Publishing Co.).*

Opening Sentence “*Epiphany*” Page 98  
God chose to make known how great among the nations are  
the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you,  
the hope of glory. *Colossians 1:27*

**THE INVOCATION** Page 101

**PRESIDENT:**

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**ALL:**

**And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**ALL:**

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your Name  
and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace

to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament.

**All: Amen.**

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Page 101

**ALL:**

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE KYRIES**

Page 102

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

Page 102

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One;  
you alone are the Lord:  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect:

Page 160

*“First Sunday after Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord”*

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed Him your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptised into His Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess Him as Lord and Saviour; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

**Lectors: 7:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Alicia White**

**9:00 A.M. ~ Senator Gregory Nicholls**

A reading from the Word of God written in the Book of Isaiah, the forty-third chapter, beginning at the first verse.

Thus says the LORD,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm  
you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,

and honoured, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up,"

and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth--

everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

**LECTOR:** The Word of the Lord.

**ALL:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 29** *Afferte Domino*

Page 502

- 1 **A**scribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendour.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \*  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe  
\*and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.



11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of  
peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy  
Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be  
forever. Amen.

Second Lesson: Acts 8:14-17

**Lector: 7:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Deidre Cox**

**9:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Margaret Aimey**

A reading from the Word of God written in the Acts of the  
Apostles, the eighth chapter, beginning at the fourteenth  
verse,

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had  
accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.  
The two went down and prayed for them that they might  
receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come  
upon any of them; they had only been baptised in the name  
of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on  
them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**LECTOR:** The Word of the Lord.

**ALL:** **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual **Hymn 538**

O thou who camest from above  
the fire celestial to impart,  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze,  
and trembling to its source return  
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
to work and speak and think for thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire  
and still stir up the gift in me.

Still let me prove thy perfect will,  
my acts of faith and love repeat;  
till death thy endless mercies seal,  
and make the sacrifice complete.

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.*

The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**Gospeller:**

**7:00 A.M. ~ The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson**

**9:00 A.M. ~ The Rev'd Stephanie-Ann Wedderburn**

**GOSPELLER:** The Lord be with you.

**ALL:** **And also with you.**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the third chapter, beginning at the fifteenth verse.

**ALL: Glory to Christ Our Saviour.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than

I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**GOSPELLER:** The Gospel of Christ.

**ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**The Sermon: The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson**

**The Nicene Creed**

Page 104

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is seen or unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
one in Being with the Father.  
Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
He came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit  
He was born of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered, died and was buried.

On the third day He rose again  
in fulfilment of the Scriptures;

He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and  
glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

## **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

### **Intercessors:**

**7:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Harriett Godding**

**9:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Sharron Lucas-Blackman**

LEADER:

INTERCESSION FORM “B”

Page 107

LEADER:

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**ALL: That we all may be one.**

LEADER:

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**ALL: That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

LEADER:

We pray for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons;

**ALL: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

LEADER:

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**ALL: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

LEADER:

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**ALL: That our works may find favour in your sight.**

LEADER:

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**ALL: That they may be delivered from their distress.**

LEADER:

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**ALL: Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

LEADER:

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.

**ALL: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

LEADER: Let us pray for our needs and those of others.

*Silence may be kept.*

**ALL:**

**Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords to your will; and the good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**ACT OF PENITENCE**

Page 123

PRESIDENT:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (*1 John 1:8,9*)

*A period of silence shall be kept.*

PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

**FORM A**

Page 123

**ALL:**

**Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**THE ABSOLUTION**

Page 124

PRESIDENT:

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

**THE GREETING OF THE PEACE “A”**

Page 124

PRESIDENT:

We are the Body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptised into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

**ALL:**

**Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.**

**PRESIDENT:**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP: “Let there be peace on earth”**

Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on earth  
The peace that was meant to be  
With God our Creator  
Children all are we  
Let us walk with each other  
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now  
With every step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment  
And live each moment  
In peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.

*Words: Jill Jackson; Melody: Sy Miller (1945)*

**THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT**

The Offertory **Hymn: “When Jesus came to Jordan”**

When Jesus came to Jordan  
To be baptized by John,  
He did not come for pardon.  
But as his Father's Son.



He came to share repentance  
With all who mourn their sins,  
To speak the vital sentence  
With which good news begins.

He came to share temptation,  
Our utmost woe and loss,  
For us and our salvation  
To die upon the cross.  
So when the Dove descended  
On him, the Son of Man,  
The hidden years had ended,  
The age of grace began.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us  
To keep the vows we make,  
This very day invade us,  
And every bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction,  
The gift we covet most:  
To share the resurrection  
That leads to Pentecost.

*Words by F. Pratt Green (1903-2000)*

## **THE OFFERTORY PRAYER “B”**

Page 126

**PRESIDENT AND PEOPLE:**

**Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us: this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of**

**Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Page 126

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

PRESIDENT: Lift up your hearts.

**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**

PRESIDENT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PRESIDENT:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because in coming to dwell among us as man, He revealed the radiance of His glory, and brought us out of darkness into His own marvellous light.  
*(Go to page 131)*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**ALL:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might;**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is He who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING “A”**

Page 131

PRESIDENT:

All Holy and glorious Father,  
our Creator God,  
we give you thanks  
because in your loving wisdom  
you brought all things into being,  
and are truly worthy of praise  
from every creature you have made.

Again and again  
we have turned away from you;  
yet in every age your steadfast love  
has called us to return,  
to live in union with you:  
for it is your eternal purpose  
to put new life into all things  
and make them holy.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ  
who took our human nature upon Him  
you have redeemed the world  
from the bondage of sin:  
and by the power of your Holy Spirit

you have gathered a people to yourself,  
to make known in every place  
His perfect offering which He made  
to the glory of your Name.

Hear us, therefore, Father,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;  
And grant that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be unto us His Body and Blood.  
For, on the night He was betrayed  
He took bread,  
and when He had given thanks to you,  
He broke it and gave it to His disciples  
and said: "Take this, and eat it:  
This is my Body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And after supper  
He took the cup of wine:  
and when He had given thanks,  
He gave it to them and said:  
"Drink this, all of you:  
This is my Blood of the New Covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me."

PRESIDENT:

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**ALL:**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

PRESIDENT:

And so, Heavenly Father,  
rejoicing in His Holy Incarnation;  
His Blessed Passion and His Perfect Sacrifice  
made once for all upon the Cross;  
His Mighty Resurrection from the dead;  
His Glorious Ascension into heaven;  
and looking for His Coming in glory;  
we offer to you this Bread and this Cup.

We pray that you will accept this sacrifice of  
praise and thanksgiving;  
and grant that all who eat and drink of the Body and Blood  
of your Son, our great High Priest,  
may be renewed by your Holy Spirit,  
and be one Body, one Spirit, in Him.

Let faith and love increase in us.  
Unite us with all Bishops,  
all other ministers of your Word and Sacraments,  
and with the whole people of God,  
living and departed,  
whom you have made for yourself.

Confirm us in holiness,  
that we may be found ready to join the company  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Apostles,  
and all your saints,  
when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again:  
Forever giving you thanks and praise  
through Him for whom all good things do come.

With Him and in Him and through Him,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father Almighty,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**ALL:**  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power**  
**be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Page 144

**PRESIDENT:**  
As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**ALL:**  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your Name;**  
**your kingdom come;**  
**your will be done**  
**on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread,**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD “A”** Page 145

**PRESIDENT:**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**ALL:**

**Though we are many, we are one body, because  
we all share in one bread.**

**THE COMMUNION**

**The Invitation “A”** Page 145

**PRESIDENT:**

My brothers and sisters in Christ, draw near and receive His Body, which He gave for you, and His Blood, which He shed for you. Remember that He died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**ALL:**

**Grant gracious Lord that we may so eat the flesh of your  
dear Son Jesus Christ, and drink His blood, that we may  
evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.**

**THE AGNUS DEI** Page 147

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:**

have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
grant us peace.



## The Administration of Communion/Spiritual Communion

The Communion Hymns: “*Shall we gather at the river*” &  
597

Shall we gather at the river,  
Where bright angel feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God?

*Refrain:*

*Yes, we'll gather at the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river;  
Gather with the saints at the river  
That flows by the throne of God.*

On the margin of the river,  
Washing up its silver spray,  
We will talk and worship ever,  
All the happy golden day.

*Refrain*



Ere we reach the shining river,  
Lay we every burden down;  
Grace our spirits will deliver,  
And provide a robe and crown.

*Refrain*

Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

*Refrain*

**Hymn ~ 597**

I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall,  
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.  
The love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.

The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,

is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here.

Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one.

*Words: Brian Wren (1936-).  
Words © 1971, 1995 Stainer & Bell Ltd.*

**THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER “A”**      Page 147

**ALL:**

**Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we who share His Body live His risen life; we who drink His cup bring life to others; we upon whom your Spirit shines give light to the world. Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE BLESSING “*Epiphany*”**      Page 150

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with good news of His kingdom; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**ALL: Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## The Recessional **Hymn** ~ 104

Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar,  
branch of royal David's stem,  
in thy birth at Bethlehem:  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
and at Cana, wedding-guest,  
in thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in power divine,  
changing water into wine:  
anthems be to thee address  
God in Man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill:  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
stars shall fall, the heavens shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine,  
all will see his glorious sign;

all will then the trumpet hear,  
all will see the Judge appear:  
thou by all wilt be confest,  
God in Man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
mirrored in thy holy word;  
may we imitate thee now,  
and be pure as pure art thou;  
that we like to thee may be  
at thy great Epiphany;  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in Man made manifest.

*Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

Page 152

**PRESIDENT:**

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**ALL**

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Postlude

*(Worshippers are invited to sit silently and listen to the voluntary. However, those who wish to leave at this point may do so quietly.)*



**The First Sunday after Epiphany: The Baptism of the  
Lord ~ Year C**

**First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7**

**Comment:** *“When you pass through the waters, do not fear, for I am with you.”*

In this prophetic reading, **the Lord assures Israel that they are God’s chosen people. They are not to fear; God will save them.** It is the time of the end of the exile, and God, who created the servant Israel, now promises to deliver the Lord’s own out of all their troubles. Sons and daughters will be summoned from the ends of the earth—everyone called by God’s name and formed for God’s Glory.

## **Psalm 29**

The majesty of God is described in the likeness of a thunderstorm: the Lord is mighty over land and sea.

## **Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17**

**Comment:** *“Prayer and laying on of hands for the Holy Spirit.”*

In this New Testament account, we hear of **the spread of the early church as converts are received from among the Samaritans.** Many Jews would have felt ethnic tension and even animosity toward Samaritans. Peter and John travel to Samaria and lay their hands upon the converts, that they might receive the Holy Spirit and know the fullness of God’s presence and power. The Lord’s Spirit continues to work in surprising ways, surmounting cultural barriers and traditional enmities as the gospel continues its progress.

## **The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

**Comments:** *“The baptism of Jesus with the descent of the Holy Spirit.”*

Our gospel **is the story of Jesus’ baptism.** Some people expect that John the Baptist might be the Christ, but he points to a yet mightier one to come whose baptism will be decisive.

The Holy Spirit is then manifest and shows this one to be Jesus. A voice from heaven speaks to him in words that echo ancient oracles concerning the king and the calling of the Lord's chosen servant.

## CATHEDRAL NEWS

**1. FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:** The ministry, mission and maintenance of the Cathedral is supported primarily by its members' contributions weekly and monthly. However, contributions are appreciated from anyone. An invitation is extended to all visitors and well-wishers to support the financial needs of this sacred place. Please donate to St. Michael's Cathedral, Bridgetown, St. Michael.

Friends and well-wishers may write to [stmichaelcathedral@caribsurf.com](mailto:stmichaelcathedral@caribsurf.com) or call 1 246-427-0790 for more details. Meantime, donations can be made through online payments to St. Michael's Cathedral, CIBC First Caribbean International Bank, Bridgetown Branch, Account # 2719302; Transit # 09606.

Sincere thanks to all for their generosity; and may God bless everyone, as together, we work to be faithful stewards of His bounty.

**“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)**

**2. BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS - CATHEDRAL REVITALIZATION 2024 and BEYOND: Mission – Ministry - Maintenance - Money.**

- i. **DONATION CARDS:** Please note that Cards are still available for members to solicit donations from family, friends and well-wishers to support the Cathedral. Your continued generosity and kind cooperation would be greatly appreciated.
- ii. **EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE:** This celebration will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.
- iii. **PARISH OBSERVANCE:** To mark the arrival of the first Bishop of Barbados, The Rt. Rev'd William Hart Coleridge, DD in the Parish Church of St. Michael on January 29, 1825, the midweek service in the Cathedral will be dedicated to this event. Wednesday, January 29, at 10:00 A.M. The Rt. Rev'd Michael B. St. J. Maxwell will be the president and preacher. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**
- iv. **CATHEDRAL OPEN DOORS:** In celebration of the historic arrival of the first Bishop of Barbados, there will be “Cathedral Open Doors: A Pilgrimage in Faith”, from Thursday, January 30, 2025 to Saturday, February 1, 2025, 9:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M., daily. This event will climax on Sunday, February 2, 2025, with Choral Evensong at 6:00 P.M. Parishioners, visitors to the island, Anglicans from across the Diocese and the public in general, are invited to visit the Cathedral during these times to draw on its spiritual capital. Refreshments will be on sale at various times.
- iv. **PARISH LEADERS:** There will be a meeting for all leaders of organizations and ministries on Wednesday, January 15, at 5:30 P.M. in the Cathedral House. All are asked to make a special effort to attend.



*Congratulations to all those celebrating their birthdays  
this week January 12 to 18, 2025.*

- *13 Mr. Keith K. Gill*
- *15 Ms. Heather R. Browne*  
*Mr. Ajani Yarde*
- *16 Mrs. Marlene D. Russell*



*May God bless and strengthen you.*

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**CITY OUTREACH:** The St. Michael Centre for Faith and Action (SMCFA) will host this annual event on Friday, January 24, 2025 at 12:00 noon in the Cathedral House. The specially invited participants will be served a meal and be given care-packages. Cash donations are invited and persons may also contribute to this appeal by use of Pledge Cards, which are available from the Trustees of the Centre. In addition, members of the Cathedral are asked to volunteer to assist with the hosting of this social service.



**SICK:** Please remember the sick or injured of our Parish and wider community, especially Margaret Browne, Colleen Byer, Courtney Carrington, Darwin Clarke, Heather Coward-Downes, Alice P. Hall, Jonathan Holder, Marcia Hoyte, Selina Jones, Jeffrey Mascoll, Marlene Moore, Blair Murray, Clyde Outram, Sylvester (Blues) Sargeant, Sheila Sealy, Claudette



Sealy, Phyllis Springer, Winifred Trotman, Ernesta Yarde and George Yearwood.



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**BEREAVEMENT:** We extend sincere condolences to the families of the late:

- Mrs. Celia Gill (New York)
- Mrs. Yvonne Johnson (St. Leonard, Thursday, 16, 2025 at 3:00 P.M.)
- The Rev'd R. Roosevelt Taitt (General Licence)

We thank God for their lives, work, and witness among us. **May the bereaved families know the blessedness of those who mourn.**

**STEWARDSHIP:** The envelopes for 2025 are available for collection. The Initial Offering will be received on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This contribution serves to offset the cost of the purchase of the envelopes, which is \$4,136.72.

**DIOCESAN CALENDARS:** The Diocesan Calendars for 2025 are available from the Cathedral Office during the week and on Sundays from the designated persons, at the price of \$7.00 each.

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***THEME FOR THE WEEK***

*“Christ comes to us as our hope in the darkness of life.”*

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## **CATHEDRAL MINISTRIES**

**Today, Sunday, January 12, 2025**

**The First Sunday after Epiphany: The Baptism of our  
Lord**

**7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist**

**9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist**



**Wednesday, January 15, 2025**

**10:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist**

**5:30 P.M. ~ Meeting of Parish Leaders**



**Sunday, January 19, 2025**

**The Second Sunday after the Epiphany:**

**7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist**

**9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist**



**Daily Book of Common Prayer Readings  
January 12 – January 18, 2025**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Morning Readings</b>	<b>Evening Readings</b>
The First Sunday after the Epiphany: <i>The Baptism of our Lord</i>	Psalms 146, 147 Isaiah 40:1-11 Hebrews 1:1-12	Psalms 111, 112, 113 Genesis 1:1—2:3 John 1:1-7, 19-20, 29- 34
Monday	Psalms 1, 2, 3 Isaiah 40:12-23 Ephesians 1:1-14	Psalms 4, 7 Genesis 2:4-9(10- 15)16-25 Mark 1:1-13
Tuesday	Psalms 5, 6 Isaiah 40:25-31 Ephesians 1:15-23	Psalms 10, 11 Genesis 3:1-24 Mark 1:14-28
Wednesday	Psalm 119:1-24 Isaiah 41:1-16 Ephesians 2:1-10	Psalms 12, 13, 14 Genesis 4:1-16 Mark 1:29-45
Thursday	Psalm 18:1-20 Isaiah 41:17-29 Ephesians 2:11-22	Psalm 18:21-50 Genesis 4:17-26 Mark 2:1-12
Friday	Psalms 16, 17 Isaiah 42(1-9)10-17 Ephesians 3:1-13	Psalm 22 Genesis 6:1-8 Mark 2:13-22
Saturday <i>The Confession of Saint Peter: The Apostle</i>	Psalms 66, 67 Ezekiel 3:4-11 Acts 10:34-44	Psalm 118 Ezekiel 34:11-16 John 21:15-22

# SERMON NOTES

Sermon

Text:.....  
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Topic:

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Preacher:

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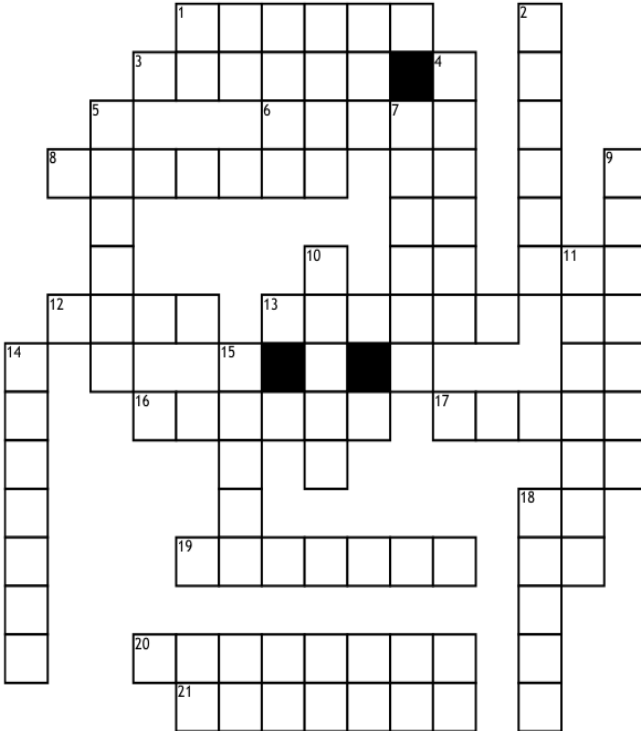
Points to Ponder:

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What was God saying specifically to me during the Sermon?

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# Jesus is Baptized



**Across**

- 1. Name of the river where Jesus was baptized?
- 3. Everyday we should talk to God through \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6. Live a life of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8. God's holy light was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12. Who baptized Jesus?
- 13. John didn't feel \_\_\_\_\_ to baptize Jesus.
- 16. Communicate with God through \_\_\_\_\_.
- 17. The \_\_\_\_\_ is our roadmap.

- 19. Father, Son and Holy Ghost?
- 20. Baptism announced the beginning of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.
- 21. John was sent to \_\_\_\_\_ the way of the Lord.

**Down**

- 2. John was kin to Jesus and was his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Going to \_\_\_\_\_ is a way of being faithful.
- 5. Accepting God as our \_\_\_\_\_ means that we can have an eternal relationship with him.

- 7. How old was Jesus?
- 9. What book tells us the baptism story?
- 10. Jesus knew that God \_\_\_\_\_ him even though he was eventually sent to the cross.
- 11. Jesus led a \_\_\_\_\_ life.
- 14. Jesus gave us an \_\_\_\_\_ to follow.
- 15. The \_\_\_\_\_ is symbolic of Jesus' blood, which cleanses us of our sin.
- 18. God's \_\_\_\_\_ confirmed to John that he was who he said he was.

## OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

### Church Warden Emeritus

Mr. Arlington DaCosta Watson, BSM, J.P.

### Church Wardens:

Mr. Samuel Maxwell      Mr. Victor Sylvester

**Secretary:** Ms. Donnah Russell, J.P.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Juno Burrows

**Treasurer:** Mr. David Murray

Assistant Treasurer: Ms. Harriett Clarke

### Synod Representatives

Ms. Cyrilene P. Forde

Mr. Darnley King

Mr. Samuel Maxwell, J.P.

### Alternative Synod Representative

Ms. Donna Inniss

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## LEADERS OF ORGANISATIONS AND MINISTRIES

<b>Men's Fellowship:</b>	Mr. John Moore
<b>Mothers' Union:</b>	Mrs. Colleen Byer
<b>Church Army:</b>	Captain Donnah Russell, J.P.
<b>Woman's Auxiliary:</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
<b>Ushers Guild:</b>	Mrs. Juno Burrows
<b>Outreach Committee:</b>	Mrs. Delores Hinds
<b>Guild of Servers:</b>	Mr. Jerry Alleyne
<b>Health Ministry:</b>	Dr. Wendy Sealy
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Mrs. Harriett Blackman
<b>Flower Guild:</b>	Mrs. Shirley Hurley
<b>Guild of St. Raphael:</b>	Mr. Darwin Clarke





### **CONTACT US**

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<http://www.youtube.com/c/SaintMichaelsCathedralBarbados>

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