

The Church of Saint Laurence, Upminster

# PORCHTALK



Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 *Baptism of Christ*

## Welcome to Saint Laurence.

Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

<b>Today</b>	Holy Communion	8.00 am
12 <sup>th</sup> January	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>Baptism of Christ</i>	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
<b>Monday</b>	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Organ Teaching	5.15 pm
	CM&FG Meeting, Parish Office	8.00 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Church Alarm Servicing	1.00 pm
14 <sup>th</sup> January		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Evening Prayer, Lady Chapel	4.15 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Funeral of Doreen Mulley followed by burial in Churchyard	10.00 am
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
17 <sup>th</sup> January		
<b>Saturday</b>	Organ Exam	9.30 am
18 <sup>th</sup> January		
<b>Next Sunday</b>	Holy Communion	8.00 am
19 <sup>th</sup> January	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</i>	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

**Evensong readings this Sunday:** Isaiah 55:1-11; Romans 6:1-11

**Mass readings next Sunday:** Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

**Evensong readings next Sunday:** 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Ephesians 4:1-16

**Coffee:** January 19<sup>th</sup> – Beryl, Walter and Maureen

*Please let Revd Susannah or Deborah Masterson know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.*

## NOTICES

**Revd Neil on leave** - having successfully completed all the requirements of his curacy, Neil will be taking a period of sabbatical leave from today until Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**You are all invited to join Finlay Course** for special refreshments in the Main Hall after the Parish Mass this morning, in celebration of his 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**The funeral of Shirley Gunary** is to be held at St Mary's Church Olveston, Bristol at 1pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. A Memorial service will be held at St Laurence at 1pm on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January and will be followed by refreshments in the Main Hall. For catering purposes, please let Susannah or Deborah know if you will be staying for refreshments.

**18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January** is the International Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. For information visit: [www.cte.org.uk/wpcu2025/](http://www.cte.org.uk/wpcu2025/)

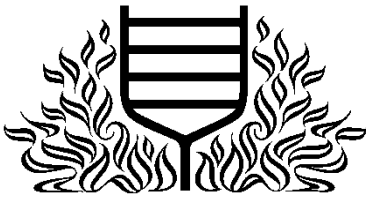
**Thank you to all who assisted** with the extra Advent and Christmas services throughout December and to all who cleaned and decorated and greeted people making St Laurence a welcoming place to visit for everyone at this time of year. Your input is essential and appreciated.

**Everybody is very** welcome to Choral Evensong and Benediction in church on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February to celebrate Candlemas.

**February Feast on 25<sup>th</sup> February at Top Meadow** - The menu and booking form are now available (please see separate insert). Menu choices and payment due to Debbie Stewart by Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January latest please!

**Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme** - St Laurence and many other places of worship have benefited from this scheme which allows for VAT relief on repairs and other works including aspects of our proposed building project. The scheme currently runs until 31<sup>st</sup> March but it is not clear whether it will be continued beyond that. The impact of its cessation on listed places of worship will be considerable. If you would like to support its continuation, please consider writing to your MP and/or the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. More information and a sample letter is available at: [www.nationalchurchestrust.org/news/autumn-budget-important-update-uk-churches](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/news/autumn-budget-important-update-uk-churches)

*Please consult notice boards under the tower and in the porch for other notices and further information*



# AT THE MASS

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

*Baptism of Christ*

**Introit** 99 Hail to the Lord's anointed

**Setting** A New People's Mass - Murray

## **Collect of the Day**

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Isaiah 43:1-7**

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 Saviour.  
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.'

**Gradual hymn**                      108 When Jesus came to Jordan

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

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 baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Alleluia**                              Plainsong

### **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance.

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 baptize 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 baptized, 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.'

<b>Offertory hymn</b>	104 Songs of thankfulness and praise
<b>Anthem</b>	A New Year Carol (1936) - Text: Adapted from Tom Tiddler's Ground by Walter de la Mare; Music: Benjamin Britten.
<b>Communion hymn</b>	109 When Jesus comes to be baptised
<b>Final hymn</b>	494 I, the Lord of sea and sky
<b>Organ Voluntary</b>	Voluntary VII Opus 7 - John Stanley

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

*Prayer request forms are available at the back of church. Please use them if you wish us to pray for someone.*

**Sunday:** Linly Lo-Yee, Noel Lyons, Baby Florence, Alan Butcher, Terry Evens, Delyse Maggs, Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Bob Bossey, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, William Holden, Fr Tom Keighley, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Paul Matthews.

**Wednesday:** Mary Ann Madden, Rosalind Manley, Charles Osmond, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, James Tape, Rosemary Watkins, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Camilla Jackson, Revd Catherine Towner.

**Additional Prayers:** All those receiving Home Communion.

**Recently departed:** Claire Easton, Shirley Gunary, Doreen Mulley, Daphne Freeman.

**Anniversaries of the departed:** John Fowler, Melvyn Gallagher, Hyla Rose Holden (Priest), Winifred Hodgson, Peggy Lockwood, Phyllis Knight, Maurice Harper (Priest), David Hill, Christine Forrest, Howard Jones, Maidie Gay, Pauline Lee, Frances Pryer (Deaconess), Bill Shore, Ian Tresadern, Bill Harding, Ray Mulley.

# CHARITY OF THE MONTH

## JANUARY: YOUTH PWR CHARITY

Donation envelopes are available at the back of church.

Youth PWR Charity, Weatherill House,  
23 Whitestone Way, Croydon, CR0 4WF.  
Registered charity number: 1193805.



### DONATIONS

A cash collection will be taken during Sunday morning services for church funds, which support our mission and ministry including the upkeep of this historic site. If you do not carry cash, we also have a card machine located by the main door which can be used before or after the service.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aiding your donation - either via the machine or (for cash) using the envelope available in the pew. This means that your donation will be worth more to the church but at no extra cost to you.

If you would like information about joining our Planned Giving scheme, leaflets are available from the back of church.

Thank you - whatever you feel disposed to give will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

### EASYFUNDRAISING

The church is registered (as St Laurence Church, Upminster) on [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) - if you register an account, select the church as a cause and download the web browser extension then every time you spend money on many retail websites and have activated the extension, a percentage of your spend will be donated to St Laurence at no cost to you. The individual amounts are small but every little adds up - please help us via this route if you can.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

If you would like to know about sponsorship, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church or speak to Jean and Cheryl (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Joanne (Parish Administrator).

### ST LAURENCE CHURCH CARE OF CREATION



**Simple Swap No. 11** - Consider swaps for more sustainable food products: Odd box is a company delivering weekly boxes of fruit and veg that would otherwise be foodwaste. It is either 'too odd' or 'too many' for the supermarkets. It is possible to exclude items you do not like. A small fruit and veg box contains 7 types of vegetable and 3 types of fruit @ £14.49. Other sizes available. [www.oddbox.co.uk](http://www.oddbox.co.uk). Refill Cabin is at South Ockendon Garden Centre on Saturdays 10am - 3pm. Refill your dried goods and household products in 'Ermintrude' the Eco Cabin.

## CONTACTS

**Rector** The Revd Susannah Brasier

01708 220174 susannah.brasier@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Assistant Curate** The Revd Catherine Towner (*currently on sick leave*)

01708 225374 catherine.towner@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Assistant Curate** The Revd Neil Barrett (*currently on sabbatical leave*)

revd.neilbarrett@gmail.com

**Pastoral Assistant** Deborah Masterson

01708 609816 deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Churchwardens** Jean Keen and Cheryl Hale

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Parish Safeguarding Officer** Akosua Boachie

07760 791032 safeguarding@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Director of Music** Nigel Lockwood

07899 876247 metcautdesign@googlemail.com

**Parish Office** Joanne Chapman

01708 220696/07592 946992 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Open: Tue. 3.30-6pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 9-11.30am.

**Hall Bookings** Becky Perchard

07341 434798 halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Planned Giving** treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk

**Website** www.upminsterparish.co.uk

**Address** St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB

**Welcome to the Parish Church of Upminster.** If we have not met you before, do introduce yourself. If you wish, give these details to one of the officials.

Name

Telephone

**Revd Susannah sends a weekly email about services, news and events.  
Please email her if you would like to receive her emails.**