

## Thought for the Day

This week's Gospel reading brings us the story of Jesus' baptism. There have been several "recognition moments" already - mostly during Jesus' infancy and childhood - but this one is a public declaration, made by God, and tells those listening that Jesus is his son. It really couldn't be plainer.

When Jesus first comes to John for baptism, John is horrified. He knows perfectly well who Jesus is and knows his own need for receiving the Holy Spirit through baptism. But this symbolic baptism is needed so that all those present will recognise Jesus for who he is. Take a moment to cast yourself into the story. You are one of the crowd, perhaps awaiting your own baptism, or having just been baptised, or simply an "interested bystander". You are standing on the banks of the Jordan, and suddenly you hear a voice declaring that "this is my Son, in whom I am well pleased". The voice is not linked to a visible human, and you just know inside yourself that it is God speaking. You take a look at the "Son of God" and recognise him to be the new travelling teacher. How will you respond beside the Jordan? How will you respond here in King's Norton today?

Sylvia.

### **Please Remember in your prayers:**

Mason Green, Paul Cowley, Siobhan and Darlene, June McCoy, Pauline Wells, Joyce Hancock, Maureen Black, Steven Fearon, Greta Lacey, Gabriella Young, Matthew Coulter, Margaret Roper, Eddie Matthews, Mary Barnes, Kate Charalambous, Donald Bullas, Fiona Fendick, Kath Baylis, David Hanson, Lyn Taylor, Angela Brady, Don and Family, Lorraine Langdon and Darcey.

**Those Who have died and those who grieve for them:** Leigh Matthews and Nigel Duce 

## Notices

**Prayers for the Vacancy** – Today with your notice-sheet you will receive a book mark with prayers for a vacancy on it. We encourage you to use these in your prayer times at home, to hold the church and our prospective new Rector before God.

**January Fundraiser** – We invite you to bring any unwanted or broken gold or silver items which can be exchanged via bank transfer for money at the bullion store in the jewellery quarter. We will store donated items safely and off-site during January and take it all in one session.

**Church Flowers** - a big thank you to all those people who gave donations during 2025 towards the cost of the flowers for Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Alison Blumer.

**B30 and South Birmingham Foodbank** -Thank you for your ongoing support: our most urgent needs are tinned fish (tuna, mackerel, sardines, salmon), tinned meat and meat products, gender neutral shower gel and rice (500g).

**Women's Group** - Our next meeting is Tuesday 13th January at 2.30pm at Hawkesley when member Fran Badger will be sharing with us her research into Midwifery in 19th century Birmingham with an illustrated talk called '*Born in Birmingham: an introduction to midwives and maternity care in the urban west midlands 1794-1881.*'

**Evening Services During Winter** – with the weather conditions being unpredictable over this winter period we may occasionally have to cancel the evening services at short notice, for health and safety reasons. While we endeavour to let people know it would be wise to check the website [www.kingsnorton.org.uk](http://www.kingsnorton.org.uk) before you leave the house to see whether the service is going ahead.

THIS WEEK	
SUNDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	9.00 am Matins (David Ash) 10.30 am Morning Praise (Pauline W & Cate B) 6.00 pm Communion & Anointing (Rev Mark Bennett)
MONDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	10.00 -12.00pm Churchyard Team
TUESDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	2.30 Women's Group@ Hawkesley Church B38 9TR. 6.00 -8.00pm Junior Choir (Please speak to Sylvia if interested)
WEDNESDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	10.00am-12.00pm Open Church 10.00am-12.00pm Knit & Natter @ Hawkesley Church B38 9TR.
THURSDAY 15 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	9.00-11.00am Tiny Tots 10.00-12.00pm Churchyard Team
FRIDAY 16 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	7.15-8.30pm Adult Choir Practice (please speak to Sylvia if interested)
SATURDAY 17 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	10.00 am – 12.00 pm Open Church
SUNDAY 18 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY	9.00am BCP Holy Communion 10.30 am Holy Communion (Rev Gordon Steele) 6.00 pm Compline (Sylvia Fox & Ruth Howman)

### DATES FOR THE DIARY:

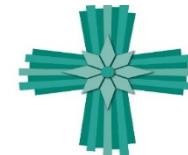
Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 12.00 pm Ash Wednesday Service with Bishop Michael followed by simple lunch.

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**St. Nicolas, Kings Norton**

### **Epiphany 1**

Incorporating Hawkesley LEP

Part of the Church of England



#### **TODAY**

Acts 10:34-43 p.126  
Matthew 3:13-end p.3

#### **NEXT WEEK**

1 Corinthians 1:1-19 p.162  
John 1:29-42 p. 88

#### **Collect for the Week**

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:  
may we recognize him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

**QR To Donate! Alternatively, donate at the back of church or using our donation boxes!**



#### **Contact Details**

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Office Hours: Mon – Thurs 10 – 2 pm Closed on Fridays