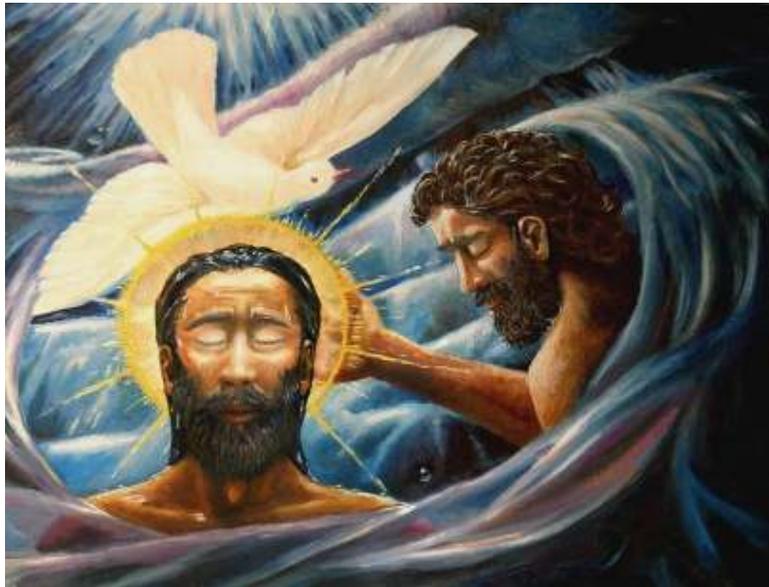


St Hilda's Church Warley Woods



Remembering the Baptism of Jesus

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

EPIPHANY 2

Sunday 13th January 2019

Charity Registration No. 221124

The Children's Society Christingle

A better childhood. For every child.



www.christingle.org

WELCOME TO OUR CHRISTINGLE SERVICE TODAY!

What sets your heart on fire? What motivates you to love?

These are the questions we will be thinking about today in our worship. Today we remember the Baptism of Jesus where we learn how his loving heavenly father affirmed him in his identity and empowered him with the Holy Spirit to accomplish his purposes.

Today, we also remember and celebrate the incredible work that the Children's Society does in in our area to affirm the most vulnerable children and empower them to live fruitful lives.

We welcome Sue Sharp, who has worked for the Children's Society for 14 years in the West Midlands. She will share something of her own story of what sets her heart on fire and motivates her to love in practical ways. She will also share some up-to-date stories of what the Children's Society is doing in Sandwell.

At the end of our service we will each receive our Christingles and consider how the Holy Spirit can light our hearts and fire us up to serve others and to serve God.

In this season of Epiphany during the four Sundays of January we are thinking about what new thing God might be calling us to be and do for him and for others in 2019. To help us pray during this month we are using the following prayer that is attributed to our patron saint, Hilda:

*Take me often from the tumult of things into Thy presence
and there show me what I am
and what Thou hast purposed me to be;
and hide me from Thy tears.
O King and Saviour, what is Thy gift to me?
And do I use it to Thy pleasing?*

**YOUR HELP TODAY WILL GO TOWARDS LOVING
AND SUSTAINABLE CARE FOR CHILDREN IN
SANDWELL.**

**IF YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE USE THE ENVELOPE
PROVIDED TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE
CHILDREN'S SOCIETY TODAY.**

Begin with Quiet: the singing bowl announces a period of quiet

Paul says:

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day:

**So may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. Amen.**

When Jesus 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.'

Peaceful Chant: Holy Spirit come to us Taize

Please remain seated. We will sing this several times. Perhaps you would like to sit with your hands open in your laps or held out, as a sign of your willingness to invite the Holy Spirit to come. Know that you are welcomed and beloved of God.

**Holy Spirit, come to us,
kindle in us the fire of your love.
Holy Spirit, come to us,
Holy Spirit, come to us.**

Peaceful prayer of gathering

Paul will lead an extemporary prayer to gather us.

Short words of welcome and introduction

We welcome Sue Sharp, from the Children's Society.

Hymn: O worship the Lord, in the beauty of holiness

During which Guides and Scouts flags will be presented.



**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.**

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness:
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**These, though we begin them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.**

Prayer of Confession

Please sit or kneel. We join together in saying this prayer of confession. Perhaps you would like to hold out your hands as you pray. Your prayer is introduced with the beautiful words of the third verse we have just sung.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

Come now and together let us say:

Loving God,

**we confess that we are not living in the freedom
that you offer to those who have been baptised:
that we are sometimes overwhelmed by guilt and envy; that
we are sometimes consumed by anger and greed; that we
are sometimes inhibited by anxiety and fear; that we are
sometimes resentful or unforgiving.**

**God of justice, hear our prayer for mercy,
grant us forgiveness, and give us your peace
as children of God marked by your love. Amen.**

Prayer of Forgiveness

In our tradition, a priest prays forgiveness over all who humbly seek God's mercy. This is sometimes called repentance – a decision to turn away from sin and turn towards God. These words are liberating and powerful. Hold out your hands as a sign you wish to receive God's forgiveness.

God created you, forms you and redeems you;
and calls you by name.

Do not be afraid any more.

You are chosen by God,
and set free by God's love.

May the Father forgive you by the death of his Son
and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit
all your days. **Amen.**

Reading: Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

Diane Eades, who does so much to champion Children's Society at St Hilda's, will read from the Gospel of Luke

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.'

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² 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.'



This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Talk: Affirmed and Empowered

What can we learn from the story of Jesus' baptism about how God calls us to be fully who we are and empowers us with loving purposes?

Hymn: Colours of Day

Please stand if you are able

**Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet.
So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of his Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.**

**Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing our friend.
So light up the fire...**

**Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the sun came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, his Spirit is near.
So light up the fire...**

Stories from The Children's Society

Sue Sharp will share some of the work of the Children's Society in the borough of Sandwell and what lights up the fire of her heart.



Response: What inspires you?

Is there something that you have heard today that inspires you, fires you up, lights up your heart?

Can you tell the person next to you about an experience of being empowered by the Holy Spirit?

Allow each other a couple of minutes to share a story. Then we will bring you all back together again.

Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

In our prayers today, please join in with the simple response:

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We join together in saying the prayer Jesus taught us:

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray,

in our own mother tongue:

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn: Shine, Jesus, shine

Please stand if you are able to sing this song. During the singing, the offering will be received. Please use the envelopes provided for the Children's Society if you would like to give specifically to the charity.

**Lord, the light of your love is shining;
In the midst of the darkness, shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory.**

**Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire.**

**Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

**Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance.
By the blood I may enter your brightness;
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.
*Shine, Jesus, shine...***

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.
*Shine, Jesus, shine...***



Offertory Prayer

We say together:

**Yours Lord is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you
and of your own do we give you.**

The Christingle:

Please be seated as the symbolism of the decorated orange is explained and the candles lit



The Christingle Prayer

We all join in saying:

Lord Jesus,

I receive and hold in my hands a picture of your love.

As I look at my Christingle and feel its weight

**I remember how you carry this world
with extraordinary tender love.**

As I feel the red ribbon circling it

**I remember your call to widen our circle
to include the extra ones, the forgotten ones.**

As I look at the sweets and fruit,

**I offer you the gifts you have given me to serve others
and follow the way of your cross.**

As I look at the candle

I am reminded that you light up my heart:

**help us all to trust your empowering Holy Spirit
to inspire us to love today and always. Amen.**

Final Hymn: The Spirit lives to set us free

Please stand if you are able

**The Spirit lives to set us free,
walk, walk in the light;
He binds us all in unity,
walk, walk in the light.**

*Walk in the light,
walk in the light,
walk in the light,
walk in the light of the Lord.*

**Jesus promised life to all,
walk, walk in the light;
the dead were wakened by his call,
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk in the light...

**He died in pain on Calvary,
walk, walk in the light;
to save the lost like you and me,
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk in the light...

**We know his death was not the end,
walk, walk in the light;
he gave his Spirit to be our friend,
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk in the light...

**By Jesus' love our wounds are healed,
walk, walk in the light;
the Father's kindness is revealed,
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk in the light...

**The Spirit lives in you and me,
walk, walk in the light;
his light will shine for all to see,
walk, walk in the light.**

***Walk in the light,
walk in the light,
walk in the light,
walk in the light of the Lord.***

The Blessing

Go peaceful, in gentleness,
through the violence of these days.
Give freely, show tenderness,
in all your ways.
Seek wisdom, let faithfulness
burn like a flame.
God speed you, God lead you
and keep you wrapped around his heart;
may you be known by love.
And the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be upon you now and remain with you always. Amen.

Instrumental music continues

During which the flags are processed out.

PLEASE STAY TO SHARE IN REFRESHMENTS.

NOTICES AND SERVICES

The Sanctuary flowers are the gift from Mrs M Bell

Services for Sunday 20th January 2019 Epiphany 3

10.30am Holy Communion

6:30pm United Service at Smethwick Baptist Church
*To mark the celebrations of the Week of Prayer
for Christian Unity*

PANTO TIME! PETER PAN AWAITS

Details for our visit to the Hippodrome on **Thursday 24th January 2018**. The show is due to start at **7:15 pm**, so can you please be at St Hilda's Church for **5:45 pm**, so we can leave at **6:00 pm**. I will contact you directly for outstanding coach and ice cream money. Thank you, see you there. **Jean Downs** (0121 585 7823).

VICARAGE GARDEN WORKING PARTY

All are welcome to come and enjoy an hour or 2 tidying up the vicarage garden on Saturday 26th January 10am - 12 noon. We have some tools and gloves to use but feel free to bring your own too. We are very grateful for the generous donation from the congregation of a new wheelbarrow for use in the garden. Thank you. **Fran Ellis**

FOODBANK

Many thanks to all who support the Smethwick Foodbank through your generous gifts of food and toiletries which are much needed and appreciated. Donations from St Hilda's over the last four weeks weighed 60 kg. Currently, the following are particularly needed: tins of fruit, sponge puddings, rice, custard, cartons of long life fruit juice, jars of coffee, packets of crisps, toilet rolls, toothbrushes, shower gel. The Foodbank no longer distributes sugar. Thank you for your help. **Anne Harris**

TRAIDCRAFT

Following their consultations, I have received notice from the Traidcraft Team that Traidcraft is to continue trading! Such good news and the answer to many prayers. Please continue to support this very worthy cause, as we continue to 'FIGHT POVERTY THROUGH TRADE' I shall be re-stocking our sales cupboard as soon as I have notice of availability. Thank you for your support.

Wendy, Renate and Ann

CHANCEL FLOWERS

A copy of the list for Chancel Flowers for 2019 is pinned on to the notice board next to 2018 list. Please advise Wendy if you would like to take one of the vacant dates or if you change your date for one of them. (wendy.dyke@btinternet.com) Thank you for your continued support. **Wendy and the team**

MAGAZINE 2019

I have updated the list from which the Church Magazines are distributed and hope I have not missed anyone. If this should be the case please let me know so that I may arrange to rectify the error. The Magazine subscriptions are due for the year 2019 from 1st January 2019 and I am pleased to advise that the cost will be unchanged at 50p a copy or £5.50 for the year if paid on or before 31.03.2019. My thanks once again to all the collectors for their continued help in collecting the subscriptions and in distributing the magazines throughout the year. I look forward to your continued support. **Alan Gibbens**

MEN'S BREAKFAST ON SATURDAY 19TH JANUARY

The first Men's Breakfast of 2019 will be held on Saturday 19th January. Food will be served at around 9am in the Vicarage. A cooked breakfast or cereal will be available as well as a time of fellowship. There are no charges but donations if you wish. If you wish to come or would like more details, please see Richard or Paul. It would be good to see you there. **Richard Haynes**

UNDERSTANDING HOW OUR CHURCH IS GOVERNED

This year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Passion Sunday, 7th April. This is quite some time away but perhaps a good time to put it on your calendar! It is at this meeting that we elect the members of the PCC for another year. If you are thinking about becoming a member but don't really know what's involved, you might like to consider coming to one of the two remaining PCC meetings of the current year. These are being held on Monday, 28th January and Tuesday 5th March, both at 7.0 p.m. in the Vicarage. This would give you an idea of what happens at a PCC meeting and you would be free to take part in any discussion even though you would not have the right to vote. If this idea appeals to you and you'd like further details, see the Vicar or myself. **Derek Latham.**

CANDLEMAS

On Sunday February 3rd we will be celebrating Candlemas in a different and special way. We are inviting all those who have been baptised at St Hilda's (or indeed any other church) to bring in their baptism candle for blessing. We particularly want to invite all parents and Godparents and Godchildren to attend this family friendly service. The service will include Godly Play, signing ourselves with water and lighting of candles. Please invite your own Godchildren, or Godparents! and bring your baptism candles for blessing. It is hoped that this service will be a new link with our baptism families and will encourage them to return to their chosen church. **Mandy**

Useful contacts:

Rev. Paul Hinton	Vicar	0121 429 1384
Mrs Sue Round	Churchwarden	0121 572 9752
Mr Gerald Poole	Churchwarden	0121 429 9225
Mrs Mandy Saunders	Children and Families Missioner for St Hilda's (Tues/Wed/Thur 9am - 5pm)	07519 163974 mrej81@tiscali.co.uk
Mrs Fran Ellis	Reader	0121 429 6267
Mrs Rose Akeroyd	Reader	0121 422 2786
Mr Richard Haynes	Reader & Lay Pastoral Minister (Mon/Tues/Wed)	07972 530161
Mrs Freddie Brogan	Parish Administrator (Mon & Thur 9am - 1pm)	07582 957364 administrator@sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk

QUIET TIME BEFORE THE SERVICE

Please respect people that want or are having quiet time before the service as you do not know what their week has been like. Please do not ask people questions about work for the church before the service as this is their time not yours. Please do not put people off from coming to church on Sunday if they are not allowed any time to pray, reflect or have peace. There is always time over a coffee at the end!

PLEASE TAKE BOOKLET AWAY WITH YOU

CCL :Licence No 134913