



11th January 2026
The Baptism of Christ

St James' Church
www.stjamesexeter.org Exeter

Rector

Fr Henry Pryse 01392 431297
Day off: Thursday

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Charity register number: 1128877

A Year to Celebrate

In October 2026 we mark 70 years since the consecration of St James' Church on its present site. If you have any ideas or suggestions of how we might celebrate this anniversary, please contact Caroline Adams or one of the churchwardens.

This Week

Morning Prayer is said at 8.30 am

Online: Mon, Wed

In the church: Tue, Thu, Fri

Mon 12th January Mark 1: 14 – 20

2.30 pm Churchwardens meet

7.00 pm Choir practice

Tue 13th January Mark 1: 21 – 28

Wed 14th January Mark 1: 29 – 39

12.00 noon Eucharist

12.30 pm Friends Who Lunch

Thu 15th January Mark 1: 40 – 45

Fri 16th January Mark 2: 1 – 12

2.00 pm Craft group

Sat 17th January Mark 2: 13 – 17

Next Sunday: 18th January

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

John 1: 29 – 42

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Parish Eucharist

6.00 pm Service of Wholeness & Healing



Collect

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.

10.00 am Music

Processional hymn 513 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Offertory hymn 589 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Recessional hymn 537 O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness

Sharing God's love through worship, fellowship and service

First Reading: Isaiah 42: 1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Second Reading: Acts 10: 34-43

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3: 13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Post-Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

