



# *Emmanuel Parish*

## *Community News Letter*

10th January 2021

BCP Baptism Of Christ (Epiphany 1)

CW Year B

Liturgical Colour: Gold or White



### Worship at Emmanuel

The Church is now **CLOSED** indefinitely due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Do go onto the website to read the Newsletter.

Watch a Sunday Service

Watch a short morning Prayer service

Visit St Cuthbert's website

Watch St Bart's Roby service live at 11 am

If anyone needs to talk to someone they can leave a message on the church office phone (506723) or call Rev Stewart (07540 344870) or any other member of the leadership team Linda (213986), John (07834 376050), Jean (227211) or Sara (07889 094743).

Visit Emmanuel Church Website on [www.emmanuelsouthport.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelsouthport.org.uk)

### Closure of the Church & Services

Sadly, and for the right reasons, the church is now closed and all services suspended due to the ever increasing spread of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Until further notice. I know this will be a blow, but our excellent leadership team will begin their weekly telephoning of parishioner's to ensure all needs are catered for, as they did back in March and the ensuing months, for which we are all grateful. So again

The church is  
not empty.



The church has  
been deployed.

### 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



### Today we celebrate the Baptism of Christ.

Why is it so important? Why are we baptised? Christ's baptism was a step of obedience at the beginning of his public ministry to identify himself with John's message of repentance and the revival movement it had begun. By submitting to the waters of baptism, Jesus linked himself with those who were coming to John and repenting. He was setting an example for all of his followers as well.

The baptism of Jesus is recorded in the Gospel Bible books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.



### The Weeks Roundup

What can I say? Yes it has been a week of highs and lows. The lows being that we have seen such an increase of the R rate, more deaths and more infections and we have not, sadly, reached the peak yet. We are locked down again, for who knows how long, schools are now closed and the hospitals are under strain as we try and contain all. The advice we continue to observe the restrictions, only essential shopping, exercise within you town/ village, regular hand washing, face masks and consider yourself as a carrier so keep your distance is imperative to follow and I know we will. To add to this we have had the confusion of Brexit, plummeting temperatures, sleet, snow etc so although depressing, it makes it a little easier to stay home and stay safe.

I believe we were all filled with horror and disbelief as we watched the events on Capital Hill unfold which no one could ever condone. We can only hope and pray that common sense will eventually prevail and an equilibrium will be restored.

The positives are that immunisation is beginning to be ramped up, so that we may all be immunised sooner rather than later, yet another anti-virus product will be here by the spring so will enhance our arsenal to help combat this awful disease

We welcome each day as dawn breaks, the evenings are becoming lighter, a watery sun comes out, the birds are active, bulbs are poking their heads up and you can feel spring is on its way. We give thanks to all of our public and commercial providers for carrying on in the face of this adversity. So stay positive, keep your humour, stay warm and safe all of you and remember that



This is YOUR news letter so if you want an item included then Please email or phone in by Thursday email [sally@cleverwebseo.com](mailto:sally@cleverwebseo.com) or phone 01704 227 157 Many thanks Sally.

### Thought Of The Week

During this very sad and chaotic week we have seen the passing of Gerry Marsden, amongst many others., who's souls we pray for. It is bound to lower our spirits but I think we will gain strength and hope for the future ahead as we walk through this storm. So draw strength in the following words, which we know is the anthem for several football clubs, immortalised by the recording by Gerry and The Pacemakers and seems so apt for now.

When you walk through a storm  
Hold your head up high  
And don't be afraid of the dark

At the end of a storm  
There's a golden sky  
And the sweet silver song of a lark

Walk on through the wind  
Walk on through the rain  
Though your dreams be tossed and blown

Walk on, walk on  
With hope in your heart  
And you'll never walk alone

You'll never walk alone

Walk on, walk on  
With hope in your heart  
And you'll never walk alone

You'll never walk alone

So my friends keep faith in God, in the human race, remain positive and believe as we walk on we will keep the hope in our hearts for a better and brighter time ahead.

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