

The Gathering of God's People -
Welcome and Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be
with you all
and also with you.

We come from scattered lives to
meet with God.
Let us recognise his presence with us.

Silence

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together.

Hymn No. 643 (Slane (1))

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that
thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and
the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my
light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true
word,
I ever with thee, and thou with me,
Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true
heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breast-plate, my sword
for the fight;
be thou my armour, and be thou my
might;

thou my soul's shelter, and thou my
high tower,
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of
my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty
praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my
days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my
heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou
art!

High King of heaven, when the battle
is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright
heaven's sun,
Christ of my own heart, whatever
befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Introduction to Baptism

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us
that to enter the kingdom of heaven
we must be born again of water and
the Spirit,
and he has given us baptism as the
sign and seal of this new birth.
Here we are washed by the Holy
Spirit and made clean.
Here we are clothed with Christ,
dying to sin that we may live his risen
life.
As children of God, we have a new
dignity
and God calls us to fullness of life.

[Please kneel or sit]

The Penitence

St Paul says, 'Be imitators of God; love as Christ loved; do not grieve the Holy Spirit; put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice.'



O God,
we thank you for the gift of these
precious children India, Theodore and
Renée; pure and innocent.
We now think of the things that we
have done, said or thought or not done
that have tarnished our purity and
shattered our innocence.

[Silence]

You made us to be one family, yet we
have divided humanity.
We have labelled people and put them
into boxes in our minds and in our
hearts.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You were born a Jew to reconcile all
people, yet we have brought
disharmony amongst races.
Forgive us when we have been too
apathetic or too afraid to speak out.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You rejoice in our differences, yet we
make them a cause of enmity.
Give us the courage and generosity of
heart to embrace difference, to
celebrate diversity and to be enriched
by variety.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins and make us holy to
serve him in the world, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and
miracles the wonder of your saving
presence:
renew your people with your heavenly
grace,
and in all our weakness sustain us by
your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for Baptism

At our Lord's baptism in the river
Jordan, God showed himself to all who
have eyes to see and ears to hear.
The Father spoke from heaven, the
Spirit descended as a dove and Jesus
was anointed with power from on high.
For us baptism is the door of faith,

through which we enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

As children of God, we are adopted as his sons and daughters, and called to proclaim the wonders of him who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The First Reading - Saint Matthew 4: 18-23

The first reading is from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter 4, beginning at verse 18.

18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the

kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn No. 640 (Purify my heart)

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver;
purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord; I chose to be holy, set apart for you, my master, ready to do your will.

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy;
purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

The Second Reading - Saint Mark 10: 13-16

The second reading is from the Gospel according to Saint Mark, chapter 10, beginning at verse 13.

And they were bringing children to him, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall

not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



The Sermon

The Presentation

We welcome these children who come to be baptized. I invite their sponsors to present them now.

Parents and godparents:

We present India Gabrielle Mitchell, Theodore William Mitchell and Renée Carol Mitchell to be baptized.

Parents and godparents, will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing India Gabrielle, Theodore William and Renée Carol for baptism and answer on their behalf?

By your own prayers and example, by your teaching and love, will you encourage them in the life and faith of the Christian Community?
With the help of God, we will.

In baptism these children begin their journey of faith. You speak for them today. Will you care for them and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?
With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

In baptism, God calls us from darkness to his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?
I do.

Do you then renounce the devil and all his works?
I do, by God's help.

Will you obey and serve Christ?
I will, by God's help.

The priest says to the whole congregation:

You have heard these our brothers and sisters respond to Christ. Will you support them in this calling?

The congregation answers:

We will support them.

Hymn No. 581 (Here I am, Lord)

[Verses 1 and 2 and Chorus]

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

The Baptism

Water is poured into the font.



Praise God who made heaven and earth.
Who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[Shortened version of the Blessing of the Water]

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life, and we thank you for the water of baptism.
Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again. Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The priest asks the parents and godparents:

Do you believe and accept the Christian faith into which Renée, Theodore and India, are to be baptized?

I do.

The priest addresses the whole congregation:

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess, together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

[Using a shortened version of the Apostle's Creed in question-and-answer form.]

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. Amen.



The priest baptizes by pouring water over India, saying:

India Gabrielle, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of India, saying:

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross.

The priest baptizes by pouring water over Teddy, saying:

Theodore William, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of Teddy, saying:

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross.

The priest baptizes by pouring water over Renée, saying:

Renée Carol, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of Renée, saying:

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross.

The priest then prays for India, Teddy and Renée, saying:

Live as disciples of Christ, fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

Confess Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, look for his coming in glory.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. Amen.

The priest continues:

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation joins the priest, saying:

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as members with us of the body of Christ,
as children of the one heavenly Father,
and as inheritors of the kingdom of God.**

Renée, Teddy and India, are presented with gifts from the Parish of Children's Bibles and lit candles. The Bible is to help them to learn more about God and his Son Jesus Christ and to grow in their faith, and the candle symbolises the light of Christ, which has been passed down through the centuries and which is today extended to Teddy, Renée and India, that they may shine forth the light of Christ throughout their lives.



Hymn No. 581 (Here I am, Lord)

[Verse 3 and Chorus]

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord,

if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

[Please sit or kneel]

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

**Prayers for India, Teddy and Renée
and their family**

Father, we thank you that Renée,
Teddy and India, have now been born
again of water and the Holy Spirit,
and have become your own children by
adoption,
and members of your Church.
Grant that they may grow in the faith
in which they have been baptized;
grant that they themselves may

confess it when they come to be confirmed;
grant that they may bear witness to it by lives of service to others;
and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in them;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, bless the home of these children India, Teddy and Renée. Bless their mum Alexa, their dad Shane, and their godparents, Andrew, Renée, Gavin, Sarah, Clodagh and Peter. Give such grace and wisdom to all who have the care of them, that by their word and good example they may teach them to know and love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for Others

The Blessing

May the Father from whom every family in earth and heaven receives its name
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being,
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith, and that,
knowing his love, broad and long,
deep and high beyond our knowledge,
you may be filled with all the fullness of God;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy

Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

We have resumed taking up collections. But we recognise that many people give online and via Standing Order, so please feel free and comfortable not to put any collection in the basket. If you wish to donate to the church online or electronically, the treasurers would be happy to give you the required details. There will be a sum-up machine available at the back of St Philip and St James' Church for you to make a donation at the end of the service, if you would wish to do so.

Hymn No. 647 (Cwm Rhondda)

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

The Dismissal

God has delivered us from the domination of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

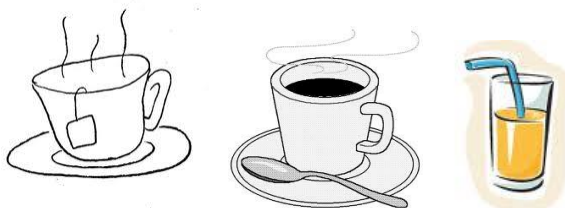
Teddy, Renée and India, you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your lives. ***Shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord;

In the name of Christ. Amen.

In the interests of trying to keep all who come to our churches safe, please take away this service sheet and any other items that you may have brought with you or used in church this morning. Thank you.

Stay well and stay safe.



Tea/Coffee/Juice

You are warmly invited to tea/coffee/juice in the parish hall after this Service.

The parish hall is at the east end of the church, go through the double yellow doors, and the hall is on your right!

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 25th January 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday 29th January 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

10.00 Service of Wholeness and Healing in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Service of Wholeness and Healing in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 1st February 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday 5th February 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.00 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 8th February 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday 12th February 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.00 Morning Prayer in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Morning Prayer in St Philip and St James' Church

18.30 Sausage Service in St Philip and St James' Church

Wednesday 15th February 2023

10.30 Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday 19th February 2023

8.30 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

10.00 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church

11.00 Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church

MOUNT MERRION
SELECT VESTRY MEETING
MONDAY 23RD JANUARY
2023
19.30 HOURS VIA ZOOM

BOOTERSTOWN AND
CARYSFORT
SELECT VESTRY
THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY
2023
19.30 HOURS
IN ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES'
CHURCH

REGISTER OF VESTRYPersonS

The Register of Vestrypersons is the electoral roll of the Parish, and is updated at the January Select Vestry meetings of our respective parishes. If you are not on the Register, you are not entitled to vote on parish matters and are not able to hold any office in the parish, or serve on the Select Vestry. Please contact the Churchwardens to be placed on the Register of Vestrypersons.

It is very simple to do, the churchwardens have forms available, and all you have to do is fill in the short, simple form and give it to a churchwarden.



Sunday Clubs Re-opening!

We are delighted that both of our Sunday Clubs are re-opening in February. They will meet once a month, and as it happens, both Sunday Clubs will meet on the same morning. The dates are:

Sunday 12th February 2023

Sunday 5th March 2023

Sunday 2nd April 2023

Sunday 7th May 2023

Prize-giving – Sunday 28th May 2023
 at the Blessing of the Animals in St Philip and St James' Church at 10.30.

St Thomas' Sunday Club will meet in the Monk Gibbon Hall at 10.00 and St Philip and St James' Sunday Club will meet in St Philip and St James' Parish Centre at 11.00. The children and leaders will join the rest of the congregation before the end of the service in the respective churches.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to lead our Sunday Clubs...

St Thomas' Sunday Club: Katy Ryan, Claire Flanagan, Catherine Thanaseelan and Adam McMurray;

St Philip and St James' Sunday Club: Joanne Sherry, Stefanie O'Brien-Feeney and Gillian Morrow.

All children who are aged three and over, and who are toilet-trained are very welcome to join the Sunday Club.



History of the Parishes

Michael Lee is compiling a history of our parishes for our forthcoming celebrations in 2024:

2021 - 200th anniversary of the foundation of the Parish of Booterstown

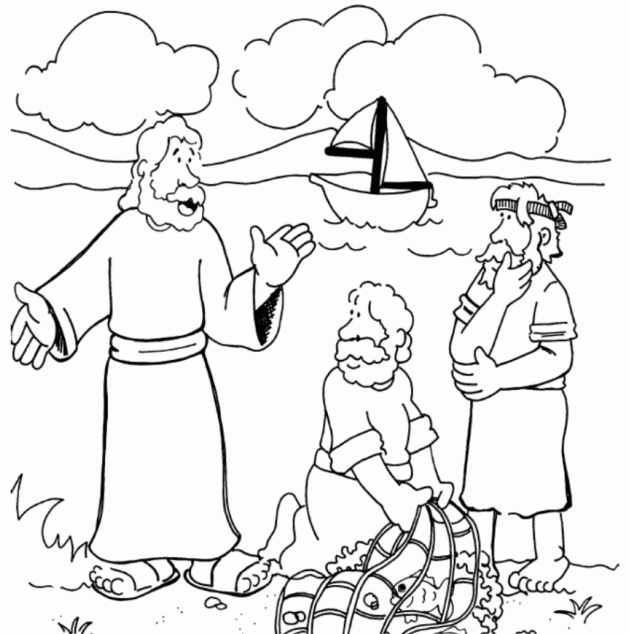
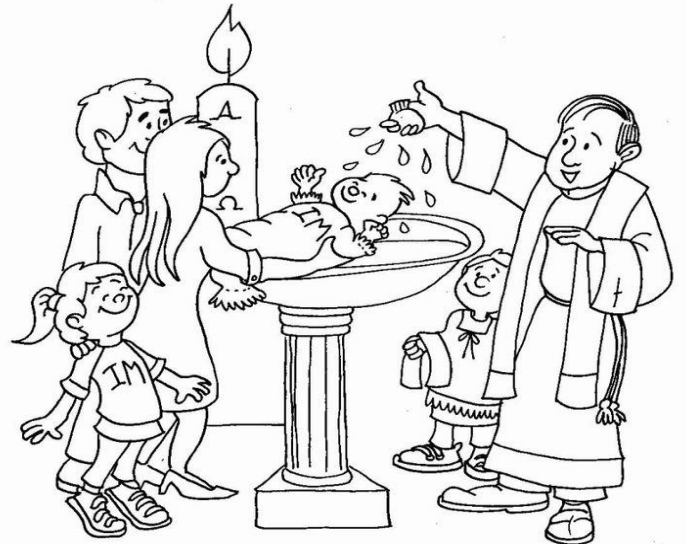
2024 - 200th anniversary of the consecration of St Philip and St James' Church

2024 – 150th anniversary of the consecration of St Thomas' Church

2026 - 200th anniversary of the foundation of Booterstown National School

Mike has interviewed some of the parishioners of both churches, about their memories, stories and experience but he really would like more stories and photographs if you have them. *"Do not think that your story is not interesting enough, all will help make up the wonderful different strands that will enrich the colourful weave of the story of these historic churches."*

Please email your story/stories, or contact Mike at mikelee2653@gmail.com



COLOURING SECTION

