**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**. Amen.**

**Genesis 1:1-5**

1In the beginning when God createdthe heavens and the earth, 2the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God\* swept over the face of the waters. 3Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. 4And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

**Mark 1:4-11**

4John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8I have baptized you with\* water; but he will baptize you with\* the Holy Spirit.’

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you 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. **Amen.**



**NOTICES:**

At the end of the service please take this sheet home with you and place your service booklet in the box marked at the back of church.

To comply with NHS Test & Trace we ask you to fill in the contact sheet and place this in a separate box at the back of church. Please do not fold the sheet. For the time enter the time of the service you are attending. If you are using the NHS app the QR code is displayed at the back of church and in the porch.

**Forthcoming services:**

17th January Plough Sunday

11.00am Due to Covid regulations we are now unable to meet at the Fogarty Moss Centre, Oulton Park. Instead we shall hold the service at St Peter’s, Little Budworth. Bishop Mark will be visiting us for the first time.

Unfortunately we shall need to pre-book for this service as places are limited. If you would like to attend please contact the Vicar on 01606 889995 or email paulcodawson@outlook.com.

24th January Epiphany 3

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary’s

11.00am Morning Prayer at St Peter’s

30th January Candlemas

10.30am Benefice service of Holy Communion at St Mary’s.

**St Mary’s RNIB Appeal: please save your stamps**

There will be a collection box in church once again, for all your used stamps.  The RNIB can make good use of them.

Please trim them with 1cm of envelope all round, put them in two envelopes: British and Foreign, and leave them in the box at the back of St Mary’s.  At the end of January, they will be sent off to help the RNIB appeal.

Thank you in advance.

**St Peter’s hats & gloves for the homeless**

Please place these in the container outside Cora’s house. Thank you.

