



St Clement's Parish Church



Sunday 11th January 2025

The Baptism of Christ

You are most welcome.

A message to new visitors is found on page 4.
Our 10:30am order of service begins on page 5.

8:00am **Holy Communion** (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant: The Rector

10:30am **Parish Eucharist** (*Common Worship*)

Celebrant: The Rector

Preacher: The Rector

Setting: 'A People's Mass - Anthony Gregory Murray with Coventry Gloria Celtic Alleluia. From the Epiphany until the Eve of The Presentation'.

Hymns: 55, When Jesus came to Jordan, 56 (omit v 4), 49

Music at Communion:

'*Da zu dir der Heiland kam*' Richard Wagner

'*Christ, when for us you were baptised*' Billing

Postlude:

'*Chorale Prelude "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern "*

(*How brightly shines the morning star*) Johann Pachelbel

At This Time

For your prayers

Gillian Kullman, Jennie Frampton, Lindsay Gorringe, Chris Pratt, Jeremy Connor, David Robertson, Margaret Thompson, Lois Field, Margaret Williams, HM The King, the bereaved and those suffering during warfare.

Recently Departed

Derick Chapman.

The departed whose names hang upon our Christmas tree

Year's Mind

Richard William Brown, Maureen Sheila Barsby, James Bateman Rosseter, Stanley Vincent Gardiner, Elsie Mabel - 'Peggy' - Rosseter, Jim Ashman, Ethel Esther Chase, Lucie Elisabeth Adam, George James Silk, Alexander Kum, Anne Dorothea Major, Audrey Kathleen Turner

Reflection for the week

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Turnbull

In the summer of 1998 bishops from all over the world gathered in Canterbury for the decennial Lambeth Conference. On a free weekend Brenda and I went to Whitstable for me to baptise our twin granddaughters. As you do, we went back to Canterbury through an unknown place called Sandwich and immediately fell in love with it. A few months later we bought a house here in preparation for retirement in 2003. Holiday visits confirmed we had made the right decision, not least by occasional visits to St. Clement's. I was first attracted to the church by its neat, cobweb free, notice board where one of the churchwardens was a certain E W Swanton, whose erudite voice I had listened to literally all my life on radio and television cricket broadcasts. That name and that of Tessa Sale, in charge of flowers, confirmed our resolution to make our home here.

We have never regretted it. We had a warm welcome from the rector, Mark Roberts, and loved the music under the direction of, yes, Julian Sampson. Above all perhaps was the warmth and friendliness of the congregation which made us feel immediately at home. It may seem strange that it's a bit awkward for a retired bishop to change sides from chancel to nave. Questions occur: 'will they allow me to be me and to make the step into retirement without expecting too much': 'will the rector feel threatened by

having one of those purple headed mountains on the plains of the parish': 'will people please just knock on our door and ask us out for a drink'. I needn't have worried as we became involved in town life as well as making a host of new friends. As I reflect on those early days, I sympathise with those who are afraid to approach St. Clement's but would like to. For many curious people it a very big step to come to a service here.

It's a good day to be listening to some of their questions. The baptism of Christ identified him with all aspects of humanity. It commissioned him as Messiah. He was encouraged by his heavenly father.

If we were baptised today, it would identify us with the people we have been talking about. It would commission us with all we need in order to be welcomers and pray-ers with those who hesitate. We would hear the encouragement of our heavenly father.

For my ninetieth birthday I received a lovely present from a member of the congregation. It was a prayer for every year for the text ten years. Now that is faith. It seemed to embody the vitality of the present St. Clement's for which I am deeply thankful.

New to St Clements?

Welcome! We're delighted that you're here

There has been a place of Christian prayer on this site for more than 1,000 years. All are welcome at our services - whatever your background and whatever your faith.

Many of the words of our service can be found from page five of this booklet. Feel free to join in with the words in bold, and to stand, kneel, or sit as you feel able and comfortable. Don't worry about getting it 'right', we're all learning to pray!

The service will start with notices and a hymn. We then bring to mind the times we've not loved God, our neighbours, and ourselves fully. Though it can be uncomfortable admitting we are sinners, we want to be honest with God (and ourselves) that we're not perfect. We can trust that God is utterly loving and forgiving.

A series of readings from scripture follows, and then the sermon, in which the preacher attempts to break open the scriptures and apply them to our lives today.

We pray for the needs of the Church and world, and then the altar is prepared. A collection will be taken, as 'giving' is an important part of

our Christian lives, but don't worry if you're unable to contribute as a visitor.

The priest leads the Eucharistic Prayer - the prayer of thanksgiving - during which we offer bread and wine to God, and He transforms it into the Body and Blood of Christ.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion (it's fine to only receive the Body or Blood if you prefer. For reasons of hygiene please don't dip the wafer into the chalice). Or do come forward holding this booklet to receive a blessing. **If you need a gluten-free wafer please let someone at the door know before the service.**

We share refreshments in the Sunley Room (accessed up the ramp behind the organ), and you are most welcome to stay. Toilets may also be found here.

The Church is open daily for peace and prayer. If you'd like to know more about our worship or faith, do talk to people in the congregation or one of the priests. You can also visit our website, www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk

Music at 10:30am today

As we reflect upon the Baptism of Christ the choir sings two hymns. The first is a setting in German of “Da zu dir der Heiland kam” translated as “When the Saviour came to thee”. The “thee” was of course John the Baptist. A rough translation of the words is

*When the Saviour came to thee,
willingly accepted thy baptism,
dedicating Himself to a sacrificial
death, He gave the covenant for our
salvation: that we might be consecrated
through baptism so as to be worthy of
his sacrifice. Noble Baptist! Christ's
precursor!*

The music and possibly the words are somewhat surprisingly by Richard Wagner – not of course well known for any significant church music, but for his orchestral and operatic writing. This chorale written in the Lutheran style appears right at the opening of his opera *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*. The assembled city folk are in Saint Catherine's Church on Sunday morning. They sing this chorale tune at the conclusion of their service accompanied by organ. It is followed by a short hymn by F Bland Tucker (1895-1984) – Christ, when for us you were baptised. Tucker was an American Bible scholar, priest and prolific hymn writer. The hymn ends:-

*Baptise us with your Spirit, Lord.
Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God's service,
We may perfect freedom find.*

As we are still very much in the season of Epiphany, the outgoing organ voluntary is a Chorale Prelude by Johann Pachelbel (of Pachelbel's Canon fame) based on the 1597 Lutheran hymn tune *How brightly shines the morning star*. Firstly, the full hymn tune is played followed by the Prelude itself in which the tune is played very slowly in the pedal part whilst the hands scurry around in a decorative manner, all in a bright and cheery manner. This piece is very much in the early North German Organ tradition where composers such as Pachelbel, Buxtehude and later J S Bach had to provide much music to accompany services using tunes which were familiar to congregations.

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Order of Service

The Gathering

*Notices are given before the service.
Stand for the opening hymn:*

Hymn 55

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confessing our Sins

The Celebrant introduces a period of silence in which all call to mind their sins. Then all kneel or sit.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in

thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The Celebrant pronounces the forgiveness of sins. All stand. The Gloria is sung, the congregation singing parts in bold.

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

We worship you, **glory in the highest, give you thanks, glory in the highest, praise you for your glory. Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, **have mercy on us**. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer, **receive our prayer**.

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, You alone are the most High, Jesus Christ, With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, the glory of God the Father. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.** Amen. Amen.

The Celebrant says: Let us pray: 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. *All say Amen.*

The Scriptures

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.

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

*Remain seated as the Choir sing
Psalm 29*

*Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty,
bring young rams unto the Lord :
ascribe unto the Lord worship and
strength.*

*Give the Lord the honour due unto his
Name : worship the Lord with holy
worship.*

*It is the Lord that commandeth the
waters : it is the glorious God that maketh
the thunder.*

*It is the Lord that ruleth the sea; the
voice of the Lord is mighty in operation : the voice of the Lord is a glorious
voice.*

*The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedar-trees : yea, the Lord breaketh the
cedars of Libanus.*

*He maketh them also to skip like a calf :
Libanus also, and Sirion, like a young
unicorn.*

*The voice of the Lord divideth the
flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness: yea, the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Cades.*

*The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds
to bring forth young, and discovereth
the thick bushes : in his temple doth
every man speak of his honour.*

The Lord sitteth above the water-flood : and the Lord remaineth a King for ever.

The Lord shall give strength unto his people : the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Acts of the Apostles 10.34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: '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.'

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

When Jesus came to Jordan

**When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon,
but as his Father's Son.**

**He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.**

**He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.**

**So when the Dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.**

**Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make,
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the Resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.**

(F Pratt-Green 1903-2000)

*Turn to face the Book of the Gospels
as it moves to the centre of the nave.
'Alleluia' is sung.*

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 3.13-end

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized 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 baptized, 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.' This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

A sermon is preached.

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who

proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Intercessions & Peace

Kneel or sit to pray. The following response may be used: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer

At the end: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Stand for the Peace The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The altar is prepared while we sing.

A collection, taken as the congregation arrived, is offered up to God. If you would like to make a donation please leave it in the safe beside the north porch after the service, use the cardreader there, scan the QR code here, or head to: www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/donate Thank you.



Hymn Number 56 (omit v 4)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Celebrant prays over the offerings, and all respond Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

The Celebrant prays the Preface, leading into:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. *All kneel or sit*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance

of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary, Clement, Peter, Paul, and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. *All say boldly: Amen.*

Preparation for Communion

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.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Holy Communion

Sidespeople will indicate when to move for Holy Communion. All who are baptised are welcome to receive Communion, or do bring this booklet with you to indicate that you wish to receive a blessing instead.

After all have received Holy Communion, Stand as the Celebrant says 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. *All say* Amen.

All say Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Hymn 49

Going out into the World

This is followed by the blessing and dismissal: The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The Celebrant blesses and dismisses the congregation. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ, Amen!**

The organ postlude is part of our act of worship, please remain quiet. If you are able, do please stay for special refreshments

Parish Notices and Events

Please send any news or notices for a Sunday booklet to the Parish Office before noon on the Wednesday preceding.



**THE
LOST
WILL BE
RESTORED**

**THIS EASTER
AT SAINT CLEMENT'S...**

**SPONSOR
A RESTORED
TILE TODAY!**

'Sponsor a Tile' campaign

Around 1869, the east wall behind the high altar was paved with beautiful tiles featuring flowers, anchors, and a central cross. The whole wall was whitewashed over in 1913. We have begun the process of removing the whitewash to reveal this splendid wall, ready to be unveiled during the Easter Vigil (Saturday 4th April 2026 at 8:00pm), in the full glory of the light of the Resurrection.

To celebrate the restoration of the tiles, and to ensure the continued life of St Clement's, we invite you to sponsor a tile. You could sponsor a tile for yourself, a friend, a family member, a Godchild... This is your chance to support the life and building of St Clement's, to have your chosen name recorded here for generations to come, and to mark it with a gift.

All are invited to celebrate Easter here in 2026 and to witness the unveiling of our restored tiles.

Head to www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/sponsoratile to learn more about our special fundraising campaign, and to sponsor a tile, or pick up a leaflet in Church.

‘Curious about Christianity’ A message from the Rector

I am often stopped in the street, or contacted, by people who are curious about our faith, but don’t know where to begin exploring it. Many of these people come to Christmas services, so I am sitting in The Crispin Inn’s Snug for the next three Tuesday evenings, from 7:30pm, with a drink, and any (all ages over 18) are invited to join me for an informal conversation about Christianity.

This is offered for those who are not regular or practicing Christians - so it will not be for regular members of the congregation. But if you are a regular member of the congregation please:

- a) Pass on this information to any who might be interested;
- b) Please pray for me, and for any who join me on these evenings; and
- c) Make sure to particularly smile and welcome any new faces during this month (but be sure we don’t be *too* welcoming either, which can be terrifying!)

Pastoral Care Group

If you would like to know more about our new pastoral care group, or to register your interest in becoming a part of the team, please email Derek on d.kirkaldie@stclementsandwich.org.uk. There are also leaflets on display, or feel free to have a chat with Derek or the Rector. Training begins late February.

Zoom Compline

Zoom Compline has just celebrated its first anniversary! During our first year, a total of 250 people joined us — a remarkable achievement and a real testament to the success of an objective within our Warm Welcome Project under Teaching & Praying. Our next Zoom Compline will take place on **20 January 7.30pm**. You can keep up to date with future dates by referring to the **Weekly Service Booklet**. Details on how to join are available on our website, under Services, www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/zoom-compline or you can speak to Derek for more information.

Parish Diary

...returns soon

Parish Directory

PARISH OFFICE

Caroline Flynn
Parish Administrator

St Clement's Hall,
Church Street St Clement's,
Sandwich. CT13 9EH.

Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:30pm (1:00pm Fridays)

020 3089 4745 - please leave a message with BT Callminder.
admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk
www.stclementsandwich.org.uk

THE RECTOR

The Reverend Sebastian Hamilton
fr.sjm.hamilton@gmail.com + 01304 746033
Day of Rest: Monday, Study Day: Saturday

CHURCHWARDENS

Val Oates + val.oates@stclementsandwich.org.uk +07811359788
Howard Evans + h.evans@stclementsandwich.org.uk + 07810 835389

HON. SECRETARY

Ros Daniels + Secretary@stclementsandwich.org.uk

HON. TREASURER

Steve Kirkpatrick + treasurer@stclementsandwich.org.uk

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Julian Sampson + sampson@supanet.com

SACRISTAN

Diane Coller +d.coller@stclementsandwich.org.uk

The week ahead

Monday 12th January - Feria

Tuesday 13th January - The Feast of St Aelred

11:00am Interment of Ashes



Wednesday 14th January - Feria

10:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Thursday 15th January - Feria

Friday 16th January - Feria

9:45am Morning Prayer

From 10:00am Coffee Pot (*Parish Hall*)

Saturday 17th January - The Feast of St Antony of Egypt, A

Sunday 18th January - The Second Sunday of Epiphany

8:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

10:30am Parish Eucharist (Common Worship)

Day	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Monday	Ps2, 110 + Genesis 1.1–19	Ps 34, 36 + 1 Corinthians 1.1–17
Tuesday	Ps 8, 9+ Genesis 1.20 – 2.3	Ps 45, 46 + 1 Corinthians 1.18–end
Wednesday	Ps 19, 20 + Genesis 2.4–end	Ps 47, 48 + 1 Corinthians 2
Thursday	Ps 21–24 + Genesis 3	Ps 61, 65 + 1 Corinthians 3
Friday	Ps 67, 72 + Genesis 4.1–16, 25–26	Ps 68 + 1 Corinthians 4
Saturday	Ps 29, 33 + Genesis 6.1–10	Ps 84, 85 + 1 Corinthians 5