St Mary the Virgin & St Mary Magdalen, Tetbury

Sunday 3rd March 2024: Lent 3

Family Holy Communion with Baptism

Praying for Ruth, Tilly, Teddy,
Bertie and Barnie to be baptised today

HYMN: NO. 301 GOD IS HERE

Please take your blue hymn book and stand for our first hymn.

THE GREETING

President The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all

All **and also with you.**

Welcome to all the Moulder family, godparents, with friends and family.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We remain standing

President We gather together here as God's family. Preparing to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, let us confess our sins and ask forgiveness from our heavenly Father, for he is full of gentleness and compassion.

President We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love: fill us with your Spirit. Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

President We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith: fill us with your Spirit: Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

President We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust: fill us with your Spirit. Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

President May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THIS SUNDAY

President Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

BIBLE READING: EXODUS 20:1-17

We sit down for our first reading. At the end of the reading:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING : JOHN 2:13-22

Please remain standing as we continue with the Gospel reading.

President The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

President Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end of the readings:

President This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

BAPTISM

Ruth and Nik bring Tilly, Teddy, Bertie and Barnie to the front, with all the godparents. The President first addresses the whole congregation.

President Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Ruth, Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie and uphold them in their life in Christ?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

President Will you help them to live and grow within God's family?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

The President first addresses Ruth:

President Ruth, do you wish to be baptised?

Ruth I do.

President Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

Ruth I am.

President With Ruth, Nik and all the godparents: you speak for Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie today.

Will you pray for them and help them to follow Christ?

Parents and godparents reply: We will.

President We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?

Ruth with Nik and godparents reply: I do.

Do you reject evil?

Ruth with Nik and godparents reply: I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

Ruth with Nik and godparents reply: I do.

Do you trust in Jesus as Lord?

Ruth with Nik and godparents reply: I do.

President Ruth, Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie, Christ claims you for His own. Receive the sign of His cross. Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

All **Stand bravely with Christ;**
Oppose the power of evil,
and remain His faithful disciple
to the end of your life.

President 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.

All **Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

President Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus. On him you poured your Spirit at his baptism in the River Jordan. He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him. And so, Father, we ask you to bless this water, that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, filled with your Spirit and know themselves loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever.

All **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Everyone is invited to stand.

President Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with Ruth, Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie, the Faith of the Church.

President Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

President This is the faith of the church.

All **This is our faith.**
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

BAPTISM, COMMISSION AND WELCOME

The President pours water three times on each candidate saying:

President I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The baptism is followed by anointing:

President May God who has received you in baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All **Amen.**

We finish with the words of the welcome.

President There is one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism:
by one Spirit we are all baptised into one Body.

All **Ruth, Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie, we welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

PRAYERS

During the prayers, this response is used.

Leader Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

And at the end we say:

Leader Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

President Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,
since as members of one body we are called to peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

President Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

You are invited to share God's peace by turning to greet those around you with the words: "Peace be with you."

HYMN: NO. 468 I DANCED IN THE MORNING

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

President Heavenly Father, as we set before you these gifts of bread and wine, bless also the gift of our hearts and minds as we offer our lives in your service, for Jesus Christ's sake.

All **Amen.**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

President Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and singing:

All sing **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.

President We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Everyone is invited to sit or kneel.

President Trusting in God's promises, as Jesus taught us, so we say:

All **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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

President We break this bread, to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,**
because we all share in one bread.

All sing **Jesus, Lamb of God,**
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.

President Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

Everybody is welcome to share in Holy Communion, either to receive the bread and wine if that is your usual practice, or to receive a blessing by the laying on of hands. We may sing a hymn during Communion.

HYMN: NO. 598 THERE'S WIDENESS TO GOD'S MERCY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All **Faithful God, in baptism**
you have adopted us as your children,
and made us members of the body of Christ.

We thank you that in all we have shared today
you renew your promises within us.
Empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,
and send us out as disciples of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Banns and notices are given.

HYMN: 548 ONE MORE STEP

You are invited to stand.

THE GIVING OF THE LIGHT

We invite Ruth and Nik to bring forward Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie to each receive their Baptism Candles.

President God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and given us a place with the saints in light. Ruth, Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie, you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

All **Shine as a light in the world**
to the glory of God the Father.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

President The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; ✞ And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and all those you love, this day and always.

All **Amen.**

President Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

With Ruth and Nik, Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie lead us out, taking the light of Christ into the world.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO STAY FOR TEA, COFFEE AND JUICE AT THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH AFTER THE SERVICE.

Acknowledgement:
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Welcome to this Christening

Welcome to Ruth and Nik with their family and friends,
on this special day for Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie.

As Ruth and the children are baptised with water, this marks
the start of an amazing journey of faith.

Today they are specially known and named as
God's beloved children, precious to our
loving Heavenly Father.

Today, as parents and godparents, you promise to
support the children to grow up knowing the story
of God's love, and living out that love in their lives.
But you don't do it alone.
Today all of God's family here at St Marys'
promise to help and support you as well.

And for everyone witnessing this baptism, it provides an
opportunity to remember our own baptism and
reflect on the progress made on our journey of faith,
which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

Faithful and loving God,
bless Ruth and Nik, with Tilly, Teddy, Barnie and Bertie
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,
and protect their homes from harm.
Fill them with the light of your presence
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.