

INTERCESSIONS 9.1.22 THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST/1st SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Let us pray:

On this First Sunday of Epiphany we reflect on Christ's own baptism. As he was equipped by the Holy Spirit, and affirmed in his divine role as the Son of God, may we too be re-equipped by the Holy Spirit in our roles as followers of Christ.

We pray also for our loved ones who may not yet know you. May they be drawn to you and desire baptism for themselves.

Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer

In our world there are many places where natural disasters, conflicts and poverty continue to cause problems. We pray for safety and sufficient resources to be made available, not forgetting the residents of Afghanistan who struggle in the face of inequality and lack of educational opportunity.

Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for more covid vaccines to be made available and for more people to agree to receive them, so that there is global protection against covid variants. As we begin a new year may the world become a safer place.

We pray also for our own government and local councils in their own decision making. May they be guided according to your wisdom.

Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer

We pray for all those known to us who are suffering in mind, body or spirit at this time. In a few moments of silence let us place them before God for his healing hand to be upon them.....

Lord, bring healing, bring peace.

We also pray for those who have recently lost loved ones. May they be given your peace and comfort.

Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer

Lastly we pray for ourselves. We may already have struggled to keep new year resolutions, but we pray that on a daily basis we may renew our commitment

to you in our pursuit to live Holy lives, and to be open to your wonderful grace and forgiveness whenever we fail.

Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
Our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.