



Parish Eucharist
The Second Sunday of Epiphany with Holy
Baptism of Freddie Nelson and Charlie Zara

Sunday 14th January 2024

Presiding Priest, Preacher and Baptising Minister: Revd Vanessa Elston
Director of Music: Ms Katy Silverman



stmarysbattersea



Welcome to St Mary's, especially if this is your first time here. We hope you will find the love of God in Jesus in our worship and among the people of this parish church.

I'm currently 'covering' here at St Mary's which has just entered a period of vacancy. I'll be here regularly through into early 2024. If I can help you in my time here, please just let me know. The best way to get in touch is via the Parish Office.

Reverend Vanessa Elston

Giving to St Mary's

We have an online giving facility at St Mary's via Give a Little. This means that you can give in a number of ways.

Online via this link or the QR code below: <https://bit.ly/SMBRegular2021>



Via the Contactless Giving Machine available at the back of the church.

Via the Yellow Gift Aid Envelope in the order of service or available at the back of the church. Please complete all the details on the front of the envelope.

Via the Cash Collection during the service.

You can also set up a Standing Order. Our bank details are: Battersea Parish Church PCC, Sort Code 502101, Account Number: 82127468

**Baptised members of all Christian traditions
are welcome to receive Communion here today.
Everyone is invited to come to the altar rail for a blessing.**

Baby changing facilities and toilets can be found downstairs in the Crypt.

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We Gather as God's People

Welcome

A member of St Mary's welcomes us to church.

Hymn

Common Praise 87

Hail to the Lord's anointed

The Greeting

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.

Vanessa welcomes us and sets the scene for our worship.

Collect for Purity

**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**

Presentation of the Candidates

Vanessa presents Freddie and Charlie to the congregation, asking:

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 Freddie and Charlie and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Shee then says to Freddie and Charlie's parents and godparents:

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Freddie and Charlie with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith. Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with them in the way of Christ? *With the help of God, we will.*

In baptism Freddie and Charlie begin their journey in 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.*

Gloria (*Mass of St Cedd, Peter Nardone*)

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
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;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer,
receive our prayer.
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 Father. Amen. Amen.**

Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
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.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Read by Debbie Apostolides

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down.

The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Revelation 5:1-10

Read by Hallam Murray

A reading from the Revelation to John.

I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?' And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.' Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.'

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

Common Praise 85

Earth has many a noble city

Gospel Reading: John 1:43-51

The Lord be with you

And also with you

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Revd Vanessa Elston

We keep a few moments of silence after the sermon

Anthem

In the bleak mid-winter

Darke

The words to this can be found in Common Praise nr 55.

The Baptism of Freddie and Charlie

The Decision

Vanessa addresses Freddie and Charlie through their parents and godparents

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into 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 turn to Christ.*
Do you repent of your sins? *I repent of my sins.*
Do you renounce evil? *I renounce evil.*

Signing with the Cross

She makes the sign of the cross with the Oil of Baptism on the children's foreheads, saying

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.
Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

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.**

Hymn

During which the baptism party move to the font

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine. | 3. Child of joy, our dearest treasure,
God's you are, from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you:
live as one who bears Christ's name. |
| 2. Child of love, our love's expression,
love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits,
into joy and laughter lead. | 4. Child of God, your loving parent,
learn to listen for God's call.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,
trust and love God more than all. |

Ronald S. Cole-Turner
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Prayer over the Water

Vanessa stands before the water of baptism and says

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 thanks and praise.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the River Jordan. We thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

Saving God, give us life.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land.

Saving God, give us life.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Saving God, give us life.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Saving God, give us life.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith, and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Saving God, give us life.

Profession of Faith

Vanessa addresses the congregation:

Let us affirm, together with Freddie and Charlie who are being baptized this morning, our common faith in Jesus Christ.

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 his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Baptism and Giving of a Lighted Candle

Vanessa baptises Freddie and Charlie and prays for them.

May God, who has received you by 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. **Amen.**

She then gives each child a lighted candle, lit from the Paschal Candle, and says:

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.
You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.
Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

We welcome Freddie and Charlie:

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.
**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Peace

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

A greeting or a handshake of Peace is exchanged.

Offertory Hymn

Common Praise 470
I, the Lord of sea and sky

Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer B)

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.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the Magi the King of all the world was revealed to the nations. In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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, who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; 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. Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

*We pray silently for a moment,
uniting our prayers with those who are worshipping from home.*

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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

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.

Giving of Communion

The president shows the consecrated bread and wine to the people:

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We come forward to receive Holy Communion. For many people in church this is the most special part of the service and we request that we remain in silent prayer or that we sing the Communion hymn.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Communion Motet

How brightly beams the morning star *Sweelinck*

How brightly beams the Morning Star! What sudden radiance from afar doth glad us with its shining, brightness of God that breaks our night and fills the darken'd souls with light who long for truth were pining! Thy word, Jesu, only feeds us, rightly leads us, life bestowing; praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

Communion Hymn

Common Praise 308

Just as I am

Post Communion Prayer

**God of glory, you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

We Commit Ourselves to God's Service

Banns of Marriage are read and any news and notices shared.

Blessing

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 among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Common Praise 90

Songs of thankfulness and praise

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

PLEASE DO STAY FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS.

Your Prayers

Please remember Israel and Gaza in your prayers, and all caught up in the war.

The Sick and those in Need: Ann, Alberto Calderin, Denise Lyman, Ashley & Maureen, Paul Bell, Harry & Grant, John Pine, Sheila

The Recently Departed and their Families: : Jim Peers, Joan Matthews, Jeremy, Sabin & Murray, Marion Brudy, Margaret Driscoll, Morty Decanto, Sheila, Sandy & Peter, Bobby, Elizabeth George

This Week at Mary's

The Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in Church 10am to 4pm.
The office is contactable by phone and email on Monday.

Monday 15 January	Bellringing at 7.30pm
Wednesday 17 January	Choir Practice at 7.30pm
Thursday 18 January	Study Group meets in Church 1.30pm
Saturday 20 January	Platinum Choral workshop (All day)

Sunday 21 January – The Third Sunday of Epiphany

8.30am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)

11am Parish Eucharist and Godly Play

Morning Preacher: Reverend Vanessa Elston

3pm Winter Recital Series: Evan Lawrence

6pm Unity Week Service at Sacred Heart

St Mary's Battersea is currently in a period of vacancy and will remain without a resident parish priest until the arrival of an expected interim priest-in-charge in February 2024. In that time, the best way to get information or to enquire about any aspect of church life is via the Office (office@stmarysbattersea.org.uk)

During the next few months there will be no weekday worship in St Mary's. Special services will be announced in the notices and newsletter.

Parish Office Notices

Newsletters: The next deadline for submissions is Wednesday 17 January

Articles: While we've got no full-time priest, it would be good to have occasional newsletter articles from members of the congregation. If you could write a short piece for, please let Felicity know in the Office.

Readers: We are looking for more people to read at the 11:00am services. Please do get in touch with Felicity in the office if you can help!

Church Flower Donations

If you would like to make a donation to the Sunday flowers, the sign up sheet for the dates is at the back of Church or contact the office/Melora. If you would like to specify a person or anniversary, please add the details and we will put the information in the service sheet on the appropriate Sunday! Pedestals cost up to £50 but ANY contribution is greatly appreciated. Please contact the office or Melora (details at back of Church) for more information or to make a donation.

Music at St Marys – Winter Recital Series

The popular Winter Recital series begins on Sunday 21st January! These are free concerts that take place at 3pm on Sundays.

The First Recital on 21st January at 3pm is with Evan Lawrence performing as part of his string quartet.

Future recitals include:

28th January: local musicians Faye Sutthakorn-Evans and Florica Grigoras

4th February; Robert Patterson continuing his series of Bach organ recitals

11th Feb: Schubert's Winterreise sung by Aleksii Koponen

Please do come along and spread the word about these excellent free concerts.

Appointment of Interim Priest-in-Charge

We are delighted to announce that, after consultation with the Patron and parish representatives, the Bishop of Southwark has appointed the Revd Canon Stephen Taylor to be interim Priest in Charge of St Mary Battersea, subject to the usual legal formalities.

Stephen is currently Diocesan Secretary of the diocese of Canterbury, having most recently served as Archdeacon of Maidstone in the same diocese. Stephen moved to Canterbury from the Diocese of Durham where he served his curacy and two incumbencies before becoming Provost of Sunderland Minster.

It is anticipated that Stephen and Julie will move to Battersea in late January to live in the Vicarage and that Stephen will be licensed at Evensong on 18th February.