



PARISH OF CIRENCESTER
St John Baptist | Holy Trinity | St Lawrence

The Birth of John the Baptist
(Patronal Festival)
21st June 2026

Collect

Almighty God,
by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour
by the preaching of repentance:
lead us to repent according to his preaching
and, after his example,
constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice,
and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake;
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.

Isaiah 40.1-11

40 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

.../

⁹ Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
‘Here is your God!’
¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Galatians 3.23-29

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Luke 1.57-66,80

⁵⁷ Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸ Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.
⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. ⁶⁰ But his mother said, ‘No; he is to be called John.’
⁶¹ They said to her, ‘None of your relatives has this name.’ ⁶² Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. ⁶³ He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, ‘His name is John.’ And all of them were amazed.
⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶ All who heard them pondered them and said, ‘What then will this child become?’ For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.
⁸⁰ The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Post Communion

Merciful Lord,
whose prophet John the Baptist
proclaimed your Son as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world:
grant that we who in this sacrament have known your forgiveness and your life-
giving love
may ever tell of your mercy and your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

**St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist; 4p.m. Friends 50th AGM;
6p.m. Friends 50th Anniversary Festal Evensong**

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Eucharist

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist; 4p.m. Restore@4

Next week's CW readings for Sunday 28th June – The 4th Sunday after Trinity
Jeremiah 28.5-9; Romans 6.12-23; Matthew 10.40-42

BCP Sunday 28th June - The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

BCP collect and Readings for 8.00 am beginning on Page 162

Next Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

**St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist; 12.30p.m. Baptism
4p.m. Evening Worship**

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Eucharist

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist

Parish Forum open for enquiries Mon, Thu, Fri...10a.m. – Midday
Canon Graham's Open Office is NOT available this Monday 22nd June 2026

NOTICES FOR THE PARISH

The Friends of Cirencester Parish Church: The **50th AGM** of the FCPC will take place on **TODAY** in the Parish Church at **4pm**. This will be followed with refreshments in The Forum. **Festal Evensong** will be celebrated at **6pm** and the preacher will be **The Bishop of Gloucester**. There will be a Reception after the Service.

Mothers' Union Corporate Communion: The next service is on **Thursday June 25th** at **12noon** in **St John Baptist**.

A Community film screening and discussion entitled "**People's Emergency Briefing**" is taking place at the **RAU** on **Thursday 25th June** at **7.30pm**.

Jubilate, from Dean Close Prep School presents music for trebles and mixed voices, **Friday 26th June 1.30pm** in **St John Baptist**. Free with a retiring collection for the church.

Contributions to pewleaflet@cirenparish.co.uk by Tuesday evening please!

The **South Coast Singers** in concert - Something to Sing About – Songs of Heritage and Hope on **Monday 29th June at 7.30pm** in the **Parish Church**. Free entry.

Mothers' Union. Our next meeting on **Wednesday July 1st** is our closing service in **Holy Trinity Church**, Watermoor at **2.30pm**. The service will be led by **Rev. Rosemary Franklin**. Afterwards there will be a bring and share tea in the Parish Hall. All welcome, members or not.

Cirencester Deanery presents: **Letters from the Global South, 4th - 7th July** in **St John Baptist Church**, free entry 10am – 4pm featuring Letters and artwork from children on the frontline of the climate and nature crisis — their stories, their world and what we can do to help.

Archdeacon's Visitation. **Sunday 5th July** at 3 p.m. in **The Parish Church** of St John Baptist Cirencester. There will be no 4pm Evening Worship.

A number of **Tower Open Days** are planned in the Parish Church over the next few months. The next being on **Saturdays 4th & 25th July** from 10am until 4pm.

From the Parish Calendar:

- Tue 23 Jun 9.30am: Art group painting in celebration of 175th – Holy Trinity
- Wed 24 Jun 12.30pm: Funeral (Stewart Walker) – Holy Trinity
- Wed 24 Jun 7.15pm: Cantores Rehearsal – St John Baptist
- Thu 25 Jun 9.15am: Seedlings – St Lawrence
- Thu 25 Jun 12noon: Mothers' Union Corporate Communion – St John Baptist
- Thu 25 Jun 2pm: Funeral (Alec Moisejevs) – Holy Trinity
- Thu 25 Jun 2pm: Memorial Service (Timothy de Zoete) – St John Baptist
- Fri 26 Jun 12.30pm: Dean Close School rehearsal – St John Baptist
- Fri 26 Jun 1.30pm: Dean Close Prep School Concert - St John Baptist
- Sat 27 Jun 7.30pm: Cantores Concert of Choral Music – St John Baptist

Contact Details:

Canon Graham 01285 239655 / 07871 571147; email: vicar@cirenparish.co.uk

Rev'd Luke 07850 270719; email: revlukefalvey@cirenparish.co.uk

Parish Office 01285 659317; email: office@cirenparish.co.uk

Monday to Saturday:

St John Baptist: Morning Prayer: Daily at 9am (not Saturday)

Midday Eucharist: Daily at noon (Saturday at 10am)

Evening Prayer: Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 5pm

Little Angels: Mondays at 9.30am

Holy Trinity: Eucharist: Wednesdays at 7pm

St Lawrence: Drop In: Wednesdays at 9am

Parish Forum: Coffee & Chat: Thursdays at 10am

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