

# St Simon Zelotes



**MORNING PRAYER WITH BAPTISM ONLINE**

**Sunday 11 January 2026**

**10.00am**

St Simon Zelotes Church  
Milner Street  
London SW3 2QF

Tel. 020 7589 8999

[www.stsimonzelotes.com](http://www.stsimonzelotes.com)



We especially welcome Apollonia this morning along with her parents, Adam and Evangeline, godparents, family and friends.

## Welcome

### Hymn

*On Jordan's bank*

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake, and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be ev'ry breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within;  
prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent doth thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Charles Coffin (1676-1749) trans. John Chandler (1806-1876).  
CCLI Licence No. 1891688



## Baptism

### Presentation of the Candidate

*The Minister addresses the whole congregation*

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 Apollonia and uphold her in her new life in Christ?

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

*The Minister addresses the parents and godparents*

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Apollonia with joy. Today we are trusting God for her growth in faith. Will you pray for her, draw her by your example into the community of faith, and walk with her in the way of Christ?

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

In baptism Apollonia begins her journey in faith. You speak for her today. Will you care for her, and help her to take her place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

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



## The Decision

*The Minister addresses the 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 reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

## Signing with the Cross

*Apollonia receives the sign of the Cross*

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All: 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.**



## Profession of Faith

*The Minister addresses the congregation, parents, and godparents.*

Let us affirm,  
for ourselves and the one to be baptised,  
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

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.**

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.**

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.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## Baptism of Apollonia

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

**All: Amen.**

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.

**All: Amen.**

*Children leave for Sunday School, Youth Group, and Crèche while we return to our seats.*



**Baptismal Anthem**  
*The Lord bless you and keep you*

The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you  
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace  
Amen

Words: Numbers 6:24-26; Music: John Rutter.  
CCLI Licence No. 1891688

**First reading: Isaiah 42:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>'Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on him,  
and he will bring justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup> He will not shout or cry out,  
or raise his voice in the streets.

<sup>3</sup> A bruised reed he will not break,  
and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out.

In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

<sup>4</sup> he will not falter or be discouraged  
till he establishes justice on earth.

In his teaching the islands will put their hope.'

<sup>5</sup> This is what God the Lord says –  
the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,  
who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it,

who gives breath to its people,  
and life to those who walk on it:

<sup>6</sup> 'I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness;  
I will take hold of your hand.

I will keep you and will make you  
to be a covenant for the people

and a light for the Gentiles,

<sup>7</sup> to open eyes that are blind,  
to free captives from prison

and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.



<sup>8</sup> 'I am the Lord; that is my name!  
I will not yield my glory to another  
or my praise to idols.  
<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have taken place,  
and new things I declare;  
before they spring into being  
I announce them to you.'

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Second reading: Matthew 3:13-17**

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. <sup>14</sup> But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?'

<sup>15</sup> Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.' Then John consented.

<sup>16</sup> As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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.**



### **The Collect for the First Sunday after the Epiphany**

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people which call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Morning Collects**

#### **Anthem**

*There shall a star*

There shall a star from Jacob come forth  
and a Sceptre from Israel rise up and dash in pieces princes and nations.  
How brightly beams the morning star!  
With sudden radiance from afar  
With light and comfort glowing!  
Thy Word, Jesus, inly feeds us,  
Rightly leads us,  
Life bestowing.  
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn  
CCLI Licence No. 1891688

### **Intercessions**

### **Notices**



## Hymn

### *Songs of thankfulness and praise*

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar,  
branch of royal David's stem,  
in thy birth at Bethlehem.  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme,  
and at Cana, wedding-guest,  
in thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in power divine,  
changing water into wine.  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

3 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
mirrored in thy holy Word  
May we imitate thee now,  
and be pure, as pure art thou  
that we like to thee may be  
at thy great Epiphany  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in man made manifest.

Christopher Wordsworth. CCLI Licence No. 1891688

## Sermon

Matthew 3.13-17

'Let there be Light!: The Baptism of Christ'

*Mike Neville*



## Hymn

### *Name of all majesty*

(We take a collection during this hymn. People give in a variety of ways. Some may not be in a position to give. Please pass the plate on if that is appropriate for you. If you are a taxpayer, please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes in your pew, completing the information on the front. You can also give using the card reader located at the back of the church.)

1 Name of all majesty,  
fathomless mystery,  
King of the ages by angels adored;  
power and authority,  
splendour and dignity,  
bow to his mastery,  
Jesus is Lord!

2 Child of our destiny,  
God from eternity,  
love of the Father on sinners outpoured;  
see now what God has done  
sending his only Son,  
Christ the beloved One,  
Jesus is Lord!

3 Saviour of Calvary,  
costliest victory,  
darkness defeated and Eden restored;  
born as a man to die,  
nailed to a cross on high,  
cold in the grave to lie,  
Jesus is Lord!



4 Source of all sovereignty,  
light, immortality,  
life everlasting and heaven assured;  
so with the ransomed, we  
praise him eternally,  
Christ in his majesty,  
Jesus is Lord!

Timothy Dudley Smith. CCLI Licence No. 1891688

### **Blessing**

### **Voluntary**

*Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* (op.68) - Flor Peeters

## **Christianity Explored**

One life, what's it all about? Starting **Wednesday 14 January at 7.30pm**, our four short Christianity Explored sessions are an opportunity to discuss any questions about Christianity. We'll also read extracts from the Gospel of Mark and watch a short film each week. Whether you're unsure, intrigued, or would like to revisit the essence of Christian faith, this course is for you. To indicate an initial interest in the first (taster) session, get in touch with Mike at [mike.neville@ssz.org.uk](mailto:mike.neville@ssz.org.uk).

## **Church Building closed - organ restoration project**

Due to planned restoration work to the organ, the church building will be closed from Monday 12 January through to Friday 16 January.

## **Church Supper and Guest Service – Sunday 25 January**

On Sunday 25 December there will be an informal church supper after the evening service. The whole church family and friends are invited. The service beforehand will include a talk aimed at those exploring or sceptical about Christian faith and will have guests particularly in mind. If you are able to bring food or wine, or be on the welcome team, please get in touch with Beurre/Sophie at [sophie.butterfield@ssz.org.uk](mailto:sophie.butterfield@ssz.org.uk).

## **An evening with Lord McColl**

On **Thursday 12 February**, St Simon's is hosting an evening with **Lord Ian McColl**, in conversation about Christian faith and his life as a surgeon, professor and parliamentarian. The evening begins at 7.00pm and will include an interview, audience Q&A, and refreshments afterwards. The event is for the congregation and friends, and we encourage you to invite others. There's no need to register or sign up; for questions, please contact Liv Jani at [liv.jani@ssz.org.uk](mailto:liv.jani@ssz.org.uk).

## ***Weekly email***

*Associate Vicar Joe Ammoun sends out a weekly email letter each Wednesday with church family news and a short reflection. If you don't currently receive this but would like to, please get in touch with Gloria at [gloria.skelsey@ssz.org.uk](mailto:gloria.skelsey@ssz.org.uk).*