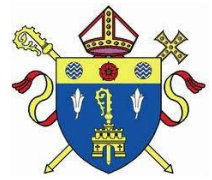




The Epiphany of the Lord (Year B)

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Parish Sister: Sister Eleanor 01900 602028 eleanorgenevieve@hotmail.co.uk



Parish News & Events

Key: SM = St Mary, SG = St Gregory, OLSM = Our Lady & St Michael,
Sat 6 Jan 2024 Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord
 17.45 SM Confessions
 18.00 SM Mass (The Doran Family)
Sun 7 Jan The Epiphany of the Lord
 09.15 SG Confessions
 09.30 SG Mass (People of the Parish)
 10.30 OLSM Mass (Malcolm Kelly)
 11.00 SM Baptism - Jules Easterbrook
 18.00 OLSM Mass (Pauline Parker)
Mon 8 Jan The Baptism of the Lord
 10.00 OLSM Mass (James Wylie & Family)
 18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer
Tues 9 Jan Week 1 Ordinary Time
 09.30 SM Adoration
 10.00 SM Mass (May & Michael Morgan)
 18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer
Wed 10 Jan Wednesday of week 1
 11.30 SG Lectio Divina
 12.00 SG Mass (Margaret Pattinson)
 18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer
 18.30 OLSM Mass (Joseph & Mary Matthews)
Thur 11 Jan Thursday of week 1
 10.00 SM Mass (Tony O'Hare)
 18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer
Fri 12 Jan St Aelred
 08.00 SJ Mass in St Joseph's School
 11.30 SG Adoration
 12.00 SG Mass (Eileen & Denise Mills)
 18.00 OLSM Evening Prayer
 19.00 OLSM Latin Mass
Sat 13 Jan St Kentigern & St Hilary
 10.00 OLSM Mass (The Woodall Family)
 10.30 OLSM Confession, Adoration & Rosary
Sat 13 Jan Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 17.45 SM Confessions
 18.00 SM Mass (People of the Parish)
Sun 14 Jan 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 09.15 SG Confessions
 09.30 SG Mass (Catherine Evans)
 10.30 OLSM Mass (Mike & Joan Briers)
 18.00 OLSM Mass (James Fallon)

Sanctuary Lamps
(week beginning 07.01.24)
OLSM: None SG: None

SM: None Sacred Heart Altar: None
Lady Altar: In Loving Memory of Philip Tognarelli

Please remember in your prayers the sick & housebound: Catherine Wilson, Mabel Tognarelli, Doreen Doran, Fletcher Ditchburn, Anne Braniff, Dennis & Susan Castleton, Jack Gullen, Veronica Tubman, Joan Rodgers, Margaret McAleavey, Ibrahim Tobya Shsha, Maureen Dolan, Brendan McManus, Donald Pettitt, Linda Tallentire, Mary Cronolly, Gilbert Carruthers, Marie Blair, Mary Murphy, Jim Cunningham, Geoff Williamson, Helen Bailey and Joan Ainsworth. **And those whose anniversaries occur around this time:** Clifford Gibbons, Iris Burns, Veronica O'Neill, Joseph Sherwood, Moira Burns, Mary Gorman, Esme O'Connor, Marjery White, Thomas Milligan, Yvonne Matthews, Mary Pape, Olive Little, Margaret Bateman, Philip Tognarelli, Kathleen Minnis, Daniel Dempsey, Elizabeth Benson, Elaine Johnson and Vera Telford.

Parish Finance. In future figures will be given monthly for donations to the parish. Details for online banking: Account - LRC DTR Christ the Good Shepherd. Sort Code: 40-27-02. Account No. 91752146.

Happy New Year! Before we launch into another year, the turn of a year is a good opportunity to look backwards and to thank God for the many blessings: the great celebrations of faith, the Open Door initiative and the Alpha Course reaching out to the wider community, Father John's Golden Jubilee, the concerts, markets and fairs, the blessing of many new families from different parts of the world, the pilgrimage to Rome, and all the Christmas festivities.

One of the highlights of the past year was the Mission with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. In simple and profound ways the Friars taught us to put into practice what we have fervently been praying for: they helped us to understand what it is to 'rise up' from our sleepiness, 'to open the doors', 'to go out of ourselves', 'to be disciples and to make disciples', and 'to walk joyfully' and 'to build up the Church'. These are not slogans which sound nice, but a daily call on our lives, a call to deeper prayer, conversion, and a commitment to grow together and to serve those who are different from us, and especially to have a heart for those who have little in our midst. Expect to hear more on this over this coming year as we work towards learning to live out our vision as a parish.

Today's Feast of the Epiphany reveals to us how even as a baby in Bethlehem, Jesus drew towards Himself peoples from other lands. Our cribs often present us with three wise men. We do not know if there were three wise men; we only know that there were three gifts (gold, frankincense and myrrh). The tradition of three wise men arose out of the belief that there were three known continents at the time, underscoring the fact that the Lord is calling to Himself all nations. St Paul writes, 'Remember you were once without the Messiah, you were all foreigners, not belonging to God's chosen people, strangers to the covenants of promise. You lived in this world without hope and without God. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the Blood of Christ' (Eph. 2:12-13).

Thinking of becoming Catholic, or maybe you know someone who is interested? We will be beginning our journey of faith programme shortly for those who want to find out more about the Catholic faith and would like to become full members of the Church. Please see one of the priests or contact the parish office.

Crib Offerings. This year Bishop Paul would like the Crib Offerings to be used for the Friends of the Holy Land. www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

Poinsettia - Thank you to all those who donated a Poinsettia in memory of a loved one. **This Sunday you are invited to take them home.**

Wanted. Has anyone got any second-hand bikes that would be suitable for teenagers? Please see one of the priests.

Open Door. St. Gregory's church Mondays, 9am & Our Lady & St Michael's every Friday at 10.30am. St Mary's church hall, Harrington, Thursdays, 10.30am.

Altar Servers Retreat. There will be a second collection for the Altar Servers this weekend (7/8 January) to support those who cannot afford the full cost of the retreat. Please place your donation in an envelope and mark for 'Altar Servers'.

White Flower Appeal 2024. The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children will be holding its appeal next weekend, helping to protect the sanctity of life.

Over 55s Lunch, Helena Thompson Museum, Tuesday 16 January, 12noon Telephone Marion 01900 605417.

Offertory Envelopes 2024/25. The Offertory Envelopes for use from Sunday 7 April 2024 will soon be on order. For those who use online banking we have a small supply of envelopes just for special collections, if you would like a box of these please contact Sharon as soon as possible. From April to October 2023 HSBC has charged the parish £1211.10 for depositing cash/cheques. **Please consider donating via Standing Order/online banking as the parish is charged much less for these methods of donating.** In Our Lady & St Michael's there is a contactless payment facility. **If you wish to cancel your offertory envelopes for one of these methods please ring Sharon in the parish office.**

Dates for the Diary: Adamas Voces will be performing a Candlemas Concert on Saturday 3 February at 7pm at Banklands. Tickets available from the Parish Office.

Other News and Events

Men's breakfast Saturday 13 January, 9.30am at the Carnegie.

Diocese of Lancaster Lourdes Pilgrimage, 23-30 July, led by Bishop Swarbrick. Please contact info@joewalshstours.co.uk or 0808 189 0468 for details. There is also a coach for youth which will include a day of sightseeing in Paris, for more information go to: youth@lancasterlourdes.co.uk

*Come, Holy Spirit!
Give us the grace today to rise up,
to open wide the doors,
to go out of ourselves so as to
draw others to Christ,
to be disciples and to make
disciples, that we may walk in your
ways joyfully and build up Your
Church across West Cumbria.
We make this prayer through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*