

**Catholic Church of Mary Immaculate
& St Gregory the Great**

The Epiphany Of The Lord

A warm welcome is extended to everyone

Please take this newsletter home

“When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.”

Faith is an entirely free gift that God offers to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. "Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace" (Thomas Aquinas).

To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Saviour, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came that both Jew and Gentile might find true and lasting peace with God.

God is asking us to bring the light of Jesus Christ to those we meet this week through the witness of our life and testimony. Please keep in your prayers the Alpha Course which begins with a Promotional evening and supper at 7.30pm on Thursday 10 January in the parish hall.

Quote from the early church fathers: John Chrysostom (347-407 AD), in his homily on this passage from Matthew 2, explains the significance of the star of Bethlehem:

"Note how fitting was the order of events: the wise men saw the star, were received by the Jews and their king; they heard prophecy to explain what had appeared; the angel instructed them; and then they journeyed from Jerusalem to Bethlehem by the guidance of the star. From all this we learn that this was not an ordinary star, for no other star has this capacity to guide, not merely to move but to beckon, to "go before them," drawing and guiding them along their way. The star remained after bringing them to the place, in order that the child might also be seen. For there is nothing conspicuous about the place. The inn was ordinary. The mother was not celebrated or notable. The star was needed to manifest and illumine the lowly place, until they had reached their destination at the manger." [The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 7:3]

Fr John

Sunday 6 January 2019

- 18.30*** Mass Phyllis McEneaney ann +
followed by party in the hall
- 08.00** Mass Patrick Giblin ann+
- 09.30** Mass Maura Howells +
- 11.15** Mass Parish & People
- 18.30** Mass

Monday 7

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00** Mass Paul Fitzgerald +
- 20.00 RCIA - JP Room

Tuesday 8

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00** Mass John Stewart ann+

Wednesday 9

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00** Mass Paul Fitzgerald +
- 11.00-18.00 ADORATION*
- 13.00** Mass at Barnet General Hospital

Thursday 10

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00** Mass Karen Abbot +
- 16.00 *Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

Friday 11

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00** Mass Breda Crabb +
- 11.00-18.00 ADORATION*

Saturday 12

- 09.30 Morning Prayer
- 10.00** Mass Tracy Jennings +
- 18.30*** Mass

Sunday 13 The Baptism of The Lord

- 08.00** Mass Elio Marcangelo +
- 09.30** Mass Maura Howells +
Holy Communion Session 1 - PH
- 11.15** Mass
- 13.00** Baptism:
- 18.30** Mass Parish & People

Parish Priest: Fr John McKenna

Hospital Chaplain: Fr Arnel Tadeo 07404 645003

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Pastoral Assistant: Mary Boland **PA/Parish Secretary:** Janet Nestor **Evangelisation Co-Ordinator:** Jonathan Stephens

Adoration every Wednesday and Friday after the 10.00 Mass till 6.00pm - come and spend some time with Jesus.

Fr Arnel is now celebrating Mass every Wednesday at 1.00pm in the Chapel at Barnet General Hospital. All welcome.

Our Crib offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work with disadvantaged children and families. This will help provide mental health services, family support and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our Diocese.

Holocaust Memorial Day is on Sunday 27th January 2019 at 1pm (seated by 12.45pm) at Rickett Quadrangle Middlesex University, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4BT (organised by the London Borough of Barnet). Free entry. For more information, call 020 8359 2652 or email mayor@barnet.gov.uk

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019 The principal service is **HERE** on **Thursday 17th January 2019 at 7.30pm**. **Speaker: The Reverend Dr Simon Stocks, tutor for Biblical Studies.**

Lunchtime Services during the week at 12.30pm followed by refreshments:

Friday 18th Jan – Wesley Hall, Stapylton Road.

Monday 21st - St Mark's Barnet Vale, Potters Road.

Tuesday 22nd – Christ Church, St Albans Road.

Wednesday 23rd - Hope Corner Community Centre, Mays Lane.

Thursday 24th - St Mary the Virgin, Monken Hadley

Saturday RE Classes for children attending non-Catholic schools starts next weekend. The term's dates are January 19th, February 2nd & 16th and March 2nd, 16th & 30th. Time 9.30am-10.45am in the JP Room (next door to the presbytery). All children in non-Catholic schools, from Reception to Year 6 are welcome to join the group to learn more about their Catholic faith.

The Bishop's of England and Wales invites us to keep Pax Christi Peace Sunday on 20th January as a day of prayer. Pope Francis' World Peace Message for 2019 'Good Politics Serves Peace!' *'In sending his disciples forth on mission, Jesus told them: 'Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you.'* (Luke 10:5-6).

CAFOD Volunteers: do you have good public speaking skills and want to help us tackling poverty and injustice? CAFOD needs volunteers to speak on our behalf in parishes and/or schools in the Westminster Diocese about our work in the developing world.

To find our more details, or book a place on our next volunteers information day in London on Saturday 19 January, please call CAFOD on 020 8449 6970 or email westminster@cafod.org.uk

Primary School Applications: appointments are available for this Wednesday 9th January only. Please email the office barnet@rcdow.org.uk to book your appointment.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

The Sick & Homebound

Sacrament of Baptism

Recently died:

Music for the Liturgy
09.30 Mass

Entrance: 159

Psalm: Let every nation of the earth rejoice to hear of the Saviour's birth.

Gospel Acc: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. And Mary bore Jesus, our Saviour and Lord.

Good news! Good News!

Response to prayers:

Cantor: O come to us abide with us. **All: And hear us as we pray.**

Offertory: 607

Communion: 698 / 170

Going Forth: 166