

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr David Lucuy
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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7th January 2018

New Year Same Disastrous Outcomes?

It's a well-known saying that if you continue to do the same thing you will get the same results. Yet despite this obvious truth we continue to approach life in exactly the same old ways and repeat the same disastrous outcomes. We tend to get through life relying on the knowledge we already have, instead of searching for something new.

Today the Church commemorates the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. We call it the 'Epiphany' a word derived from the Greek meaning 'to appear' or 'to be shown forth'. The Epiphany is about searching for meaning purpose and revelation. The Magi were men of great learning, intellect and wealth, yet they weren't prepared to sit back and imagine they knew it all. Guided by a star and motivated by a hunger for truth, they stepped out of their comfort zone and set out across the desert not knowing what they would find or how long it would take. It was a journey of faith and great courage.

In the same way as the star got the wise men questioning, so too we find guiding stars in our lives that make us question. What circumstances get us looking for deeper meaning? The desire to leave a mind-numbingly meaningless job, the need to make sense of a family illness, or the curiosity to research the background to a motivational book are all circumstances in which we might find our 'guiding stars'. Today's gospel reading is an invitation for all God's people to step out of their comfort zones and search for a new way of life and a better truth.

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BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next classes for parents wishing to have their infants baptised will take place on Wednesdays 10th & 17th January 2018 at 7pm in St John's Church in Duncan Terrace. You should please attend on both evenings.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Next practice on Saturday 13th and singing at Mass on Sunday 14th January.

PRAYER PARTNERS: If you are willing to pray especially for one of the First communion candidates as they prepare for the Sacrament, please sign your name on the paper on the table by the organ at the back of church. Next week you will get the name of your prayer partner. Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: the next Children's session is on Sunday 14th January at 9:45 a.m. Next Parent's Meeting, Thursday 18th January at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes £182.58 Loose £165.55 **Thank you for your generosity.**

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Brian Mpunga – a 15yr old boy from St Aloysius' School who died just before Christmas **and for all those whose anniversaries are about this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.**

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), Cassie Robinson, Tessa Charlton, Michael Hehir, Emmanuel Tala, Mary Wallace, Nina & Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Peggy Walsh, Nora Moran, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Anne & Thomas Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Ellen Hunt, Hazel Hoyte, Angela Neary, Jackie Payne.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 7 th January	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD <i>(Parish Mass Book p 115)</i>	8.30am	Brian Daws RIP
		11.00am	Bridie Rynne RIP
Monday 8 th January	Baptism of the Lord	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 9 th January	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 10 th Jan.	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 13 th January	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	All our Parishioners
Sunday 14 th January	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p 127)</i>	8.30am	John Gilmartin RIP
		11.00am	Peter Griffith RIP

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Confessions: Sunday 8am-8.20am: 10.30am – 10.50am

Weekday Mass at St John the Evangelist Monday - Friday at 10.00am – All welcome

Confessions at St John's on Saturday 10.30-11.15am and 5.15-5.45pm