

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr Allan Alvarado Gil
Fr Larry Milby (retired, in residence)

Pastoral Assistant: Sister Miriam Bruder SSND (home: 020 7837 8378)

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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6th January 2019



That Epiphany Moment

The wise men in the Epiphany gospel were visionaries with a star that they were determined to follow whatever the obstacles. The wise men began their quest with a hunger for the truth and a determination to find answers. When they finally found Jesus lying in a lowly stable, they came away happier and wiser men as a result. Following their star had given the three men a focus in their life and new meaning. We don't know what happened to them next, but it is likely they spent their lives sharing the good news with everyone they met, Jews and Gentiles alike. Following their star helped the Magi to be the people God had meant them to be. Sadly, the same cannot be said for our own lives. We live our lives trying to be all things to all people. We live our lives dizzy with trying to live up to other people's expectations. We very rarely get time to be ourselves. We very rarely get that Epiphany moment of our own or get to know what God really wants of us. So how do we follow our star? Firstly, we have to have a vision. The new year stretches ahead like a clean sheet of paper. What does God want of us? Some people agonise over this question, but for many of us it's simply a case of looking at our talents and using them to make the world a better place. For others it might be about looking around and choosing one other person to build up. If we have impossibly busy jobs our vision might be a small one, if we have lots of free time, we might be able to set a life changing goal. Having a vision is all well and good, but next we have to make plans and put those plans into action. This might involve sitting down and identifying obstacles. Remember that obstacles aren't always put in our way by other people. More often or not obstacles exist in our own minds and in our own character traits. As we travel towards our goal, we must determine in whom and in what to trust. When things get tough, it is easy to listen to a well-meaning friend encouraging us to take an easy way out or adopt a more comfortable goal. "King Herods" don't always come in the obvious guise of a pantomime baddie. Lastly, we must be able to recognise Jesus in our lives, and once we have found him, allow him to navigate. For all those who are heading into the new year feeling lost, or tired, or lonely, or disillusioned, remember that good things await those who listen to God, and that God is ready to guide those who recognise his star quality.



PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL 15th JANUARY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: to Fr Larry who is 80 years young today! *Ad multos annos...* There will be a gathering in the hall for him after the 11 o'clock Mass.

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Part Two of the First Communion programme begins next Sunday, 13th January at 9:45 with the first children's class held in the Church hall and followed by attendance at the 11:00 Mass with parent(s). On Thursday, 17th January, 7:00 p.m. there is an important Parent Meeting.

FIRST COMMUNION PRAYER PARTNERS: If you are willing to be a prayer partner for one of the children who will be preparing for First Communion this year, please sign the paper on the table by the organ. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION 2019: completed Confirmation Enrolment Forms should please be returned by next Friday 11th January 2019.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: the next classes for parents wishing to have their infants baptised will be on Wednesdays 9th & 16th January at 7pm in St John's Church, Duncan Terrace, Angel. You should please attend both classes.

POST-BAZAAR HELP: Next Sunday, 13th January, after the 11:00 Mass can a few people please help to pack up items left from the bazaar? Thank you!

GAMES TABLE: Is anyone aware of someone or some group who could use a small pool or snooker table (not sure which it is)? Please let Sr Miriam know and have a look, if you wish.

PIANO: If anyone could use a piano, please let Sr Miriam know.

FOR YOUR DIARY: If you volunteer in the parish in any capacity, please mark Saturday 26th January 2019 in your diary for a 'thank you' social.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes: £208.80 loose cash: £165.29
Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Terry Mahon (Maureen O'Malley's brother), Dora Best, Lady Elizabeth Uzoma Nzekwe (Valentines' mother) & Clarence Clarke **who died recently, 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 Liam Buckley, 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, 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, Irene Cullen, Gerry Twomey, Barbara Johnson, Josephine Onwuka, Pauline Timlin, Kevin Corcoran, Patrick McShane, Margaret Walsh, Russell Blanco, Florence S Philip, Amidu (Blessing) Yamba, Evelyn Corcoran, Gerry Corcoran, Eamon Hanahoe, Mary Paditey, Kieran Vos, Bridget Ryan.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 6 th January	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD <i>(Parish Mass Book p.115)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Dora Best RIP
Monday 7 th January	Christmas feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 8 th January	Christmas feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Weds. 9 th January	Christmas feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 12 th January	Christmas feria	10.30am	Thomas Nolan RIP (Anniv)
Sunday 13 th January	BAPTISM OF THE LORD <i>(Parish Mass Book p.118)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Intentions of Bridget McLaughlin

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