

Mass this Sunday: The Epiphany of The Lord (B) 7th January 2024

Today's Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6 Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come.

Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6 All people share in the promise and salvation of God.

Matthew 2:1-12 "And falling to their knees, they did him homage."

Mass This Week			Intentions
Saturday 6 th	6:30pm		Pauline Favell (RIP)
Sunday 7 th	9:00am		For Our Parishioners
	10:30am		Giuseppa Tamburello (anniversary)
Tuesday 9 th	6:00pm	Weekday	St Mary's School
Wednesday 10 th	9:15am	Weekday	Eamon Behan (anniversary)
Thursday 11 th	9:15am	Weekday	Julie Hunt (intention)
Friday 12 th	9:15am	Weekday	Julie Hunt (intention)

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for the intention of Julie Hunt

The Sacrament of Reconciliation may be celebrated during exposition (5:30pm Saturday) or by appointment. *Please note that it is our intention to livestream the 9am Sunday Mass and most of the weekday Masses.*

First Holy Communion Programme continues next week.

- Parents Meeting Wednesday 10th January at 7:30pm
- Children's Workshop Saturday 13th January at 11:30am
- Link Mass Sunday 14th January at 10:30am

2025 Jubilee preparation: The Diocesan Agency for Evangelisation is offering a **Lent Programme 2024: "We Dare To Say"** This is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions each based on a line from the Lord's Prayer. The course has been specially prepared for the Year of Prayer, see poster for more details. As Ash Wednesday is only five weeks away, we need to get our resource orders in very soon. Please can you sign up on the sheet in the Sacristy if you would like to part. We must order booklets by the 8th January! So please sign up asap.

Crib Offering 2023 Please consider donating at the Crib to support the Catholic Children's Society. The CCS brings God's message of hope and love to disadvantaged children and families. They are helping local families in crisis who are struggling to put food on the table, keep warm and provide a safe home for their children. There are many vulnerable families in need of support and our parish will be donating our Crib Offering to support this important work. You can donate at the Crib or via their website <u>www.cathchild.org.uk/crib</u> Gift Aid envelopes are available in the Sacristy. Thank you for your support.



The Westminster Yearbook 2023-2024 (containing the 2024 Liturgical Calendar) Copies are now available to purchase for £5 in the sacristy.

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for January For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Journey of the Magi T.S. Eliot

'A cold coming we had of it, Just the worst time of the year For a journey, and such a long journey: The ways deep and the weather sharp, The very dead of winter.'

And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory, Lying down in the melting snow. There were times we regretted The summer palaces on slopes, the terraces, And the silken girls bringing sherbet. Then the camel men cursing and grumbling And running away, and wanting their liquor and women, And the night-fires going out, and the lack of shelters, And the cities hostile and the towns unfriendly And the villages dirty and charging high prices: A hard time we had of it. At the end we preferred to travel all night, Sleeping in snatches, With the voices singing in our ears, saying That this was all folly.

Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley, Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation; With a running stream and a water-mill beating the darkness, And three trees on the low sky,

And an old white horse galloped away in the meadow.

Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel,

Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver, And feet kicking the empty wine-skins.

But there was no information, and so we continued And arrived at evening, not a moment too soon Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.

All this was a long time ago, I remember, And I would do it again, but set down This set down This: were we led all that way for Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly, We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death, But had thought they were different; this Birth was Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death. We returned to our places, these Kingdoms, But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation, With an alien people clutching their gods. I should be glad of another death.