

Notices for the week beginning 3 January 2016

Sunday 3 January 2016 Feast of the Epiphany

Mass Book, pages 7 and 115

Intentions of David and Mary Leadbeater; 8.30 am Libby Shaw (Lately Dead); 10.30 am

People of the Parish

Monday *Christmas Octave*

No Mass

Tuesday *Christmas Octave*

No Mass

Wednesday *Christmas Octave*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Christina Toole

Thursday *Christmas Octave*

Mass 10.00 am Mary Gray (Lately Dead)

Friday *Christmas Octave*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of David and Mary Leadbeater

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *Christmas Octave*

Confessions 10.00-10.30 am; 5.15-5.45 pm

Sunday 10 January 2016 Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

6.00 pm (Vigil) Intentions of David and Mary Leadbeater; 8.30 am Raxma Whitehead

(Anniversary); 10.30 am Anthony Toole (RIP)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Terry Andrew, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Michael Hornsby, Mary and Michael Howlings, Adeline Lewis, Sheila McGrath, Colin McHugh, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Sam Patel, Lana Ridley, Michael Rogers, Claire Sutton, Warren Ward, Naomi Wadling, Anne Wilkinson and Susan Wright; **Lately Dead:** Gwen Herbert and Libby Shaw;

Anniversaries: Sister Marthe André, Sister Genevieve Brusey, Robert Brown, Bridget Budd, Margaret Cole, Martin Conway, Margaret Dinwoodie, Helen Hinton, Beatrice Keeley, Vincent Keeley, Anne Kenny, John Kowalewski, Margaret Lynch, Gordon McSweeney, Clare Nelson, Cathleen Renihan, Pamela Ryall, Julie Sander, Julia Sunderland, Anton Tabone, Mary Trumper, Francis Warren, Ernest Williams, Raxma Whitehead and Richard Woods. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015	6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
9/10 Jan	E F Sherratt O Conway	A Halliday	P Apps W Hinds
	R M Miles M Sherratt	S Wright J Samuel	H Houston S Lewington
	W	D Kerr	

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £175.40 Loose: £217.00 Building Fund: £98.50
Standing Orders in December: Offertories £2,502 Building Fund: £129

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

3 January 2016



Parish Priest: Canon Vincent Berry

Presbytery: 51 Langdon Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6BA
telephone 01442 823161 email tring@rcdow.org.uk

Pastoral Assistant: Wendy Hinds 01442 824369

Hall Bookings: Nicola Hickey 01442 826906

Youth Worker: Dan Marsh 07776 124434 email: danyouthwork@gmail.com

Local Catholic Schools: St Thomas More (Primary), Berkhamsted, phone 01442 385060

website: www.stmore.herts.sch.uk; Head teacher: Miss Isabel Cerasale

John F Kennedy (Secondary), Hemel Hempstead, phone 01442 266150

website: www.jfk.herts.sch.uk; Head teacher: Mr Paul Neves.

Times of Services

Sunday

Mass: 6.00 pm (Vigil), 8.30 am and 10.30 am

Holydays

Mass: 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

Weekday

Mass: Wednesday to Friday 10.00 am

Saturday

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10.00 – 10.30 am
5.15 - 5.45 pm

Letter from Langdon Street

My dear people

Today is the feast of Epiphany. It is a feast of light. We celebrate the “shining forth” or revelation of God to humanity in the person of Our Lord. /at mass today we hear the words of the Prophet Isaiah telling us God’s presence in our lives as the light that illuminates a new future for God’s people. It reveals the Old Testament prophesies being fulfilled in the stable at Bethlehem and the visit of the shepherds and, sometime later, the wise men from the East. We then hear St Paul telling us that he had been given the commission to make know to all the peoples of the world the grace of God revealed through God’s Son. In the Gospel we are told of the visit of the wise men from the East. The shepherds has represented Israel, the wise men represented us. The wise men travelled many miles and crossed many boundaries to fulfil their mission. Today’s feast helps us to cross boundaries and join with all people of good will to unite together for the good of all humanity and indeed the entire creation.

In one of his Christmas speeches Pope Francis spoke about our devotion to the Child Jesus. The tradition of the Crib is traced back to St. Francis of Assisi and “keeps alive in our hearts the mystery of God made man”. He also mentioned St. Therese of Lisieux, who as a Carmelite nun took on the name of Therese of the Child Jesus and “knew how to live and bear witness to that 'spiritual infancy' that is assimilated by meditating, in the school of the Virgin Mary, on the humility of God Who made Himself small for us.” On New Year’s Eve he joined in the singing of the ancient hymn “Te Deum” which sings of praise and thanks giving to God.

The liturgy at the conclusion of the civil year included the singing of the “Te Deum”, the Church’s solemn hymn of praise and thanksgiving. The hymn ends with the words “let your mercy, Lord, be upon us for we have hoped in you.” He said that the hymn helps us see the works of God in history and in our own lives, and gives us hope for the new year that lies before us. He recalled the scenes of violence and death that marked the previous year, the untold suffering of many innocent people, the plight of refugees forced to leave their homes, of the homeless, and the hungry. But he also noted “the many acts of kindness, love, and solidarity that often go unnoticed, but which should not be obscured by “the arrogance of evil.” “The good always wins,” the Pope said, “even if at times it can appear weak and hidden.”

The wise men that we honour today came from the East, possibly from Babylon (present day Iraq) or Persia (modern day Iran). St Matthew calls them Magi who were priest-astrologers. They were later named Melchior, Caspar and Balthasar in the sixth century. The gifts they brought were of special significance. Gold meant kingship and power, frankincense used in several religious traditions as a way of worshiping God and myrrh, used to anoint dead bodies in preparation for burial. Another tradition suggested that the wise men came from different continents, Melchior from Europe, Caspar from Asia and Balthasar from Africa. These traditions have no historical origins but they are there to remind us that the mission of Our Lord was a universal one, for all the peoples of the world.

After each of the Christmas masses, I gave out a prayer book compiled by Cardinal Nichols as a companion for the Holy Year of Mercy. There are spare copies so please take one today.

Yours sincerely

Vincent Berry

Parish Priest

CORPUS CHRISTI FRIENDSHIP GROUP

We have formed a friendship group in our Parish. It meets on Monday mornings at 10.30 am. Until recently it met in Anusia’s Coffee Shop in Tring High Street. Unfortunately Anusia’s has had to close. For the time being it will meet in the Akeman, Akeman Street. Our aim is that we meet together and enjoy each other’s company. If you are interested, please phone Wendy on 01442 824369 or Simon on 01442 826681. Lifts can be provided if necessary.

TON UP CLUB

The winners of the last draws of 2015 were David Long (no.47) and Ingrid Fido (no.51) winning £50 each and the Christmas bonus draw of £100 was won by Noreen Robinson (no.56). A full list of winners can be seen on the notice board at the back of the church.

A few renewal payments of £20 are still outstanding and anyone who would like to join the Ton Up Club should contact Heather Houston h.houston@ntlworld.com or phone 01442 386657. One monthly prize is £50 is on offer plus the Christmas bonus draw of £100. All proceeds to the church building fund.

PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM

Parents who wish to arrange for the baptism of their children should arrange to meet Canon Berry to complete an application form. Parents are asked to attend a pre-baptism talk which takes place once a month. Baptisms take place normally on a Saturday or Sunday. At least one godparent must be a Catholic.

PREPARATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Classes for First Confession and First Communion begin each autumn. Registration takes place in September.

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

Classes begin shortly and Registration forms are available at the back of church.

GETTING MARRIED

If you are planning to get married during the coming year, please get in touch with the parish office as soon as possible preferably at least six months before the wedding.

There is a great deal of paper work involved, especially if people are planning to marry overseas. Many countries, including our own, require couples to attend marriage preparation programme. We arrange this in our parish.

Occasionally two couples want to be married on the same day. We confirm the date and time of weddings at least six months before the event. If a second couple wishes to marry on the same day they will have to make their arrangements around the time of the first wedding. There needs to be a gap of two hours between weddings. If a couple have chosen to marry at 3.00 pm, latecomers can only get married at 1.00pm or earlier, Five o’clock would not be possible since it would clash with preparations for the Saturday evening mass.

If anyone is planning a second marriage, please do not make any firm plans until you have discussed your situation with a priest. If the first marriage requires a church annulment, the process takes at least a year.