

8 JANUARY 2017

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S CITY CENTRE CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTHAMPTON

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF

STELLA MARIS DEANERY ALSO
INCLUDES:

- ST. BONIFACE, SHIRLEY
- HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL,
LORDSWOOD
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
PORTSWOOD
- CHRIST THE KING &
ST. COLMAN'S, BITTERNE
- OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION,
HEDGE END
- ST BRIGID, WEST END
- ST. PATRICK'S, WOOLSTON
- THE ANNUNCIATION,
NETLEY ABBEY



THERE IS A STAR SHINING IN OUR EYES

The account of the three wise men, the Magi, has been familiar to us from the earliest days of our childhood. But there is still so much we do not know. I wonder what they thought when they arrived at the house, to which the star led them. It wouldn't have been a wealthy home where you'd expect to find a king. But the wise men didn't turn around.

They went inside and gave precious gifts to a child from a poor Nazarene family. Were not these Magi wise not only because of their line of work, but because they saw beyond Jesus' earthly status to his spiritual one. They saw a King in commoner's clothing.

Matthew's shows us that right at the beginning of the story of Jesus, the one who is to rule Israel, and the world, is greeted with the cheers of some and the fearful fury of others. King Herod tries to co-opt the wise men to betray their journey, to end their commitment to future possibility and new life. At the centre of the whole story of striking contrasts lies a baby who is joy.

Perhaps, this is not only the description of the times into which Jesus was born, but also our times. When we have found our lasting joy in the midst of the encircling gloom, cynicism, despair, indifference and meaninglessness, the only thing to do is to kneel and adore.

But some, like Herod are afraid of this "great joy for all people." In the end, the Magi went their own way, and because they refused to be seduced by cynicism, because they allowed themselves to be surprised by this great joy, the star to which they had committed themselves appeared again.

Throughout Jesus' life he spent time with people on the edge of society – tax collectors, prostitutes, adulterers and thieves. Even the genealogy of Jesus' family line, written at the start of Matthew's Gospel, contains a veritable catalogue of dubious characters. The Christ saw beyond the labels society put on by others and saw all people as children of God.

If we are still in need of a New Year resolution let's remember those whom society overlooks, and consider how we can be Jesus' hands and feet to them.

Andy Philpott

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:

1. The Magi sought the 'infant king' (Gospel), found him, and did him homage. Where have you sought 'the Lord'? Did you 'find' him? Where? What was your response?
2. 'The mystery' has been revealed through the Spirit (2nd reading). What is that 'mystery' for you? In what way has 'the Spirit' (God) revealed himself to you ... in prayer, through the Scripture, the Sacraments, trials, joys ...?
3. The 'glory of the lord is rising on you' (1st reading) Isaiah says. How do you reflect the glory of God?

Vincent Harvey

TODAY SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 2017

HOLIDAYS: we wish Fr Tomy well as he goes home for a break (9 January—3 February) and to Deacon Andy & Myra who also go away for a few weeks on Monday. When Fr Tomy returns he will be attending a national conference and then moving to St Vincent de Paul Parish, Millbrook.

RETIRING COLLECTION: HCPT

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD today.

WELCOME RITES 9am, 10am and 11am Masses today.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAMME for all candidates continues at 2pm today in St Boniface Church Hall. Theme 'Why the World Is Broken'.

CRIB COLLECTION for this year to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre towards their work in the Holy Land.

CHRISTMAS: thank you to all involved in whatever way in our Christmas Celebrations: Penitential Service through the 'Family Mass', Midnight Masses and Dawn & Day Christmas Masses and the various gatherings we took part in. Thank you to all who worked so hard (and work so hard) to enable us to celebrate our lived faith so worthily.

THANK YOU also for the generous Christmas collection, all the gifts, cards and 'affirming' words/comments about the ministry of the clergy ... we are all blessed.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON FINISHES ON MONDAY (Baptism of the Lord) and on Tuesday we move into 'Ordinary Time' (Weekdays: Cycle 1; Sundays continue 'Year A'. The crib will be dismantled but 'Jesus, Mary and Joseph' will remain in front of the Lady Altar until the 'Feast of the Presentation of the Lord' on 2nd February).

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: The Abortion Act came into force in 1967 (50 years ago!). Since then over 8.7 million unborn have been aborted. See what SPUC are doing: www.spuc.org.uk If you know someone who is struggling after an abortion contact ARCH (Abortion Recovery Care and Helpline): 0845 603 8501. **Pick up a 'White Flower Appeal' card and 'Be a Witness to Life'**

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR JANUARY: That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity. *(There used to be two intentions but Pope Francis will add a second prayer intention each month related to current events or urgent needs, like disaster relief. The urgent prayer request will help mobilize prayer and action related to the urgent situation).*

FATHER EZEKIEL emailed recently to send everyone 'best wishes'. He writes: "I was in one of the remote parishes for Christmas Masses and thanks be to God I am now once more connected. The situation in the country is worse. For instance, in the whole Country there were no Midnight Masses due to insecurity: we had to celebrate only Vigil Masses plus Midday Masses. I am now in Bishop House and my official appointment may come out next month after which you will be notified accordingly. Wishing you a happy Noel and Blessed New Year".



RECENTLY DIED:

Rosina Johnson RIP late of Wilton Manor Nursing Home. Funeral 2:30pm Friday 6 January at Wessex Vale Crematorium.

Josephine Poynter RIP late of Arden Close, West End. Funeral service 12:45pm Wednesday 11 January in St Edmund's Church followed by committal at St Mary Extra Cemetery.

Raymond Old RIP late of Lingwood Walk, Bassett. Requiem Mass 12 noon Friday 20 January in St Edmund's Church followed by cremation at West Chapel, Southampton Crematorium.

Pam Bennett RIP late of Swaythling Road, West End. Funeral details to be confirmed.

May their dear souls rest in peace. Please keep their families in your prayers.

THIS WEEK


BAPTISM PREPARATION 7pm Monday 9 January in St Edmund's Hall for parents who have registered to have their children baptised.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION 7:30pm Tuesdays 10, 17, 24, 31 January 2017 in St Edmund's Hall for couples who have registered. Course fully booked.

CCPG 7:45pm Wednesday 11 January in St Edmund's Presbytery.

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA) meet 7:30pm Thursdays in St Edmund's Hall, Rockstone Place, SO15 2EQ for those interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith.

PILATES WITH HILARY recommences Friday 13 January 10am in St Edmund's Hall. **Text Hilary on 07786 617302 if you are interested in joining this class.**

 **YOUTH CLUBS:** Junior **FROGZ** for ages 8-12, meet on the 2nd & 4th Fridays of the month from 6pm—7:15pm. *Next meeting: Friday 13 January. Theme: Christmas Quiz.*

Senior **FANNING THE FLAME** for ages 12-18 Fridays 7:15pm—9:00pm, includes a talk. All welcome. Venue for both: St Boniface Church Hall.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP meet at 8pm in St Edmund's Hall on Fridays. All welcome.

NEXT WEEKEND

HEALING DAY with Little Way Healing Ministries **Saturday 14 January 10am—4:30pm** at the Highfield House Hotel, Highfield Lane, SO17 1AQ. Fr Laurence Brassill OSA, Pauline Edwards and team offer a day of healing. *There will be a time of praise, worship, teaching and healing prayer. Do you suffer from fear, sickness, loneliness, abuse, rejection, depression or is 'something' holding you back? Jesus said: "Lay your hands on the sick and they will recover".* Come and see.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION for parents and candidates 10:30am Saturday 14 January at St Anne's School.

1 JANUARY WAS WORLD PEACE DAY read the Pope's message on Peace at www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/News/World-Day-of-Peace. In it there is a call to action for all of us, to help bring peace in our families, our communities and so in the wider world. For, he pledges "the assistance of the Church in every effort to build peace through active and creative nonviolence. Every such response, however modest, helps to build a world free of violence, the first step towards justice and peace." **We, in England & Wales mark Peace Sunday on the 15 January.**

NEXT WEEK

FINANCE GROUP meet 7:30pm Tuesday 17 January in St Edmund's Presbytery.

SOUP LUNCH 1:05pm Thursday 19 January in St Michael's Church. £3 per person. All proceeds to Christian Aid and CAFOD. All welcome!

POETRY SHARE, WIT AND HUMOUR 7pm Thursday 19 January at St Joseph's Church. *Laughter, from a little chuckle to a good belly laugh, is good for the soul.* Many well-known poets have used wit and humour to communicate, from Ogden Nash to Edward Lear and from Spike Milligan to Pam Ayres. Spot them in the montage on the poster together with Roald Dahl, Jenny Joseph, Carol Ann Duffy, John Cooper Clark and Hilaire Belloc. **Come and share the fun of poetry. Please bring a poem you have enjoyed over the years, or one you have written.**

EU WELCOME INFO EVENING 6pm Friday 20 January in St Edmund's Lodge.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE—HOUR'S ADORATION following Mass from 12 noon—1pm Sunday 22 January in St Edmund's Church.

GENERAL ITEMS

CLEANING TEAM ROTA'S now available for 2017 in the Sacristy at St Edmund's. Please pick up your copy.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY: Friday 27 January watch this space.

CAFOD Portsmouth Supporters' Meeting Saturday 4 February 2017 from 10am—1:30pm at St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX. There will be a special talk on our livelihoods work in Zambia (our Lenten focus) by Mark Chamberlain and a chance to hear an update on all our exciting campaigns from Dan Hale.

'UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE' a DVD course by Jeff Cavins to be run at St Edmund's Hall during Lent. The course commences at 7:30pm on Tuesday 14 February and finishes on 4 April (8 sessions). Email the Parish Office if you would like your name added to the list.

JANUARY 2017 TWO HUNDRED CLUB WINNERS

Our congratulations—the 1st & 2nd prizes have both gone to Keith & Mary Hudson £30.

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOUR VALUABLES WHILST AT MASS handbags have been stolen in the past.

ST ANNE'S CONSULTATION ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS—SEPTEMBER 2018. As required by regulations, the governing body of St Anne's will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2018—2019 from 16/12/16 to 27/1/2017. See noticeboard for the proposed changes. Copies can be obtained online at www.st-annes.uk.com or email flangford@st-annes.uk.com

YEAR OF CARITAS: LOVE IN ACTION our theme for 2017 keep an eye open!

ADORE (Alton Day Of Renewal) 11am—4pm Saturday 28 January. You are warmly welcome to a mini-retreat day (or morning/afternoon) of spiritual refreshment and renewal, focussing on the *Charisms or gifts of the Holy Spirit*. Please note new venue: at Alton Convent, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NG. For more info and directions, see noticeboard or website: www.altonrenewal.com. Contact Deacon John Foley on 07769 251747.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION: room to let in our student house from end of January at the monthly rental of £320 which includes lights and water. Contact Anne at the Parish Office 023 8033 3589.

SYRO-MALABAR COMMUNITY. I have been asked recently who the 'Syro-Malabar' Community is ... some think they may be simply like the 'Polish Mission', even Anglicans!

The Syro-Malabar Catholic Church is one of the 22 Eastern (Oriental) Catholic Churches in full communion with Rome (the 'one' Western Catholic Church). It is the 2nd largest Eastern Catholic Church after the Ukrainian Church and the largest of the Saint Thomas Christian (Nazrani) denominations with 4.6 million believers. It is a *sui juris* Church governed by the Synod of Bishops headed by the Major Archbishop. The Syro-Malabar Church is an Apostolic Church which traces its origin to the St Thomas who was martyred in AD 72 at Mylapore, near Chennai/Madras. The early Christian community in India was known as St Thomas Christians or Nazranis, meaning those who follow the path of Jesus of Nazareth. Recently an Eparchy was set up in England, with a Bishop, Msgr. Joseph (Benny Mathew) Srampicka, based in a Cathedral in Preston. See the website for more information www.syromalabarchurchuk.org Vincent Harvey.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Anushka & Francis Ponniah, Mary Berridge, Joachim Rodrigues, Ken Rouse, Robert Rymill, Tony McCall, Donna Madden, Joyce Mguni, Caroline Gailor, Rosa Santos, Fr David Hutton, Lucky & Sujata, Mano, Nelum, Felicity Singleton, Sheila & Clare Morris, Morris Penny, John Redhead, Jackie Duggan, Esther Pananwela, Noreen Kealy, Kay Kelly, Colm O'Riordan, Valerie Summerton, Simon Parry, Sue Tutton, Alex Boyle, Janette Brookes, Joy Grant, Joanne Cunio, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, JL, Malcolm Cross, Teresa Adams, Judy Brown, O'Hanlon family, John Morris, Paul Sassu, Moyra Clearkin, Peter Scott, Phyllis Grattan, HE, Virginia Monteiro, Maria Annunziata, Jean Kaye, Vera Morris, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Maria Farrao, NW, Bosco and Myra Andrade, Joe Sculley, Josie Franklin, John O'Reilly, Bridget Busk, Pauldia Grant and all parishioners who are ill, having surgery or on our prayer list.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 2017

*(Key to City Centre Catholic Masses below are SJ = St Joseph's Church, Bugle Street, SO14 2AH and SE = St Edmund's Church, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ)

SAT	7 JAN	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	SEÁN, KATHLEEN & STEWART ADAMSON RIP MASS IN POLISH
SUN	8 JAN	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	LEO STOY—THANKSGIVING & GOD'S BLESSINGS (JS) IAN MORLEY RIP (FM) MARY O'SULLIVAN'S INTENTIONS (DS) MARGARET SHEERAN—WELLBEING & HEALING (DB)
TUES	10 JAN	1st WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME	10:00AM SE	BRIDGET BUSK & FAMILY'S INTENTIONS
WED	11 JAN	1st WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME	12:45PM SE 7:00PM SE	FUNERAL: JOSEPHINE POYNTER RIP JOACHIM RODRIGUES BIRTHDAY—GOD'S BLESSINGS, THANKSGIVING & HEALING (AR)
THURS	12 JAN	ST AELRED	12:15PM SJ	JUNE EVANS RIP (IK)
FRI	13 JAN	ST HILARY	7PM SE	ALEX & GEOFFREY STANLEY RIP (MB)
SAT	14 JAN	OUR LADY ON SATURDAY	11AM SE 6:15PM SJ 7PM SE	JOHN SHEERAN—HEALING & WELLBEING (DB & EB) REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF BARNEY ROSS (JH & MH) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	15 JAN	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9AM SE 10AM SJ 11AM SE 7PM SE	AGOSTINHO GONCALVES RIP (MG) SISTER OLGA MOURMZEFF RIP (LS) ROBERT & FAMILY—THANKSGIVING (RK) MARGARET McMANUS RIP (P & J)

PARISHES MASS TIMES: *Holy Family, Millbrook* Sat Vigil 18:30; Sun 11:00am; 1:00pm (Polish); Holy Day 19:00. *St. Boniface, Shirley* Sat Vigil 18:30; Sun 08:30; 10:30; Holy Day 10:00; 20:00. *St. Vincent de Paul, Lordswood* Sun 09:15; Holy Day 10:00. *Christ the King & St Colman* Sun 11:00; Holy Day 19:00. *Immaculate Conception, Portswood* Recon: Sat 10:30 (After Mass); Sun 08:30; 10:30; Holy Day 10:00; 19:30. *Our Lady of the Assumption, Hedge End* Sat Vigil 17:30; *St Brigid, West End* Sun 17:30; *St Patrick, Woolston* Sat Vigil 18:00; Sun 11:00; Holy Day 09:15 (term time); 10:00 (outside of term time). *The Annunciation, Netley Abbey* Sun 09:00, Holy Day 19:00.

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Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk

Apostleship of the Sea: Roger Stone Tel 07963 345 618
E-mail address: rogerstone@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Catholic Home Care: Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498
E-mail address: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

EU Welcomer's Project: Dave Adcock 07786 392 886
E-mail address: euwelcome@yahoo.co.uk

Hospital Chaplain: Fr Michael Cronin 023 8120 8517

Martha's Gift Shop: 023 8033 3400

PA Property Admin.: Chris Barber Tel 023 8017 0499
Email Address: cbarber@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Poitiers Project Graham Alldred 07980 933 828

Polish Chaplaincy: Father Zbigniew Budyn
Tel 02381786316 email: southampton@tchr.org

Address: 15 Languard Road, Southampton, SO15 5DL

Safeguarding Reps: Catherine Marshall-Cox & Claire Thompson

Solent Uni. Chaplain: Sister Virginia Adnan 07413 557 751

S'oton Uni. Chaplain: Sister Valentina Stilo 07983 883 377

Vocations to Priesthood: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/vocation/

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: Springhill Primary 023 8033 3954
St Anne's School 023 8032 8200
St George College 023 8032 2603

Prayer of the Church Week 1

SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 2017—THE EPIPHANY

Psalm Response:

All nations shall fall prostrate
before you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

We saw his star as it rose and
have come to do the Lord homage.

Alleluia!

READINGS SUNDAY 15 JANUARY 2017 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5—6
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1—3
Gospel Reading: John 1:29—34

2ND COLLECTION TODAY NO 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK HCPT

Collections	24 & 25/12/16	Crib Offerings	1st 1.1.17	2nd 1.1.17 Church Maint
Total	£7,259.43	£183.49	£2,488.86	£304.84
Cash	6,003.18	183.49	918.10	215.46
S / O	729.00	-	1,256.61	71.50
Gift Aid Tax	527.25	-	314.15	17.88

Thank you for your generous contributions. Your donations make the life and work of the Parish possible.

CONFESSION TIMES

St Edmund's: Saturdays 11:30am
St Joseph's: Thursdays 11:45am
Saturdays 5:45pm