

East Hendred Catholic Parish

Epiphany

1st-10th January 2021



The Journey of the Magi (1927)

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.*

Epiphany

Friday **1st January (Mary Mother of God)**
9.30am Mass

*** Sunday** **3rd January (Second Sunday of Christmas)**
9.30am Mass 11.15am Mass

Wednesday **6th January (Epiphany)**
9.15am Mass
(followed on live-stream by St Amand's School)

*** Sunday** **10th January (Baptism of the Lord)**
9.30am Mass 11.15am Mass

*** Please book in the usual way for these masses.**

There are no other masses during this period.

East Hendred Catholic Parish

NOTICEBOARD

HOLY FATHER'S JANUARY PRAYER INTENTION

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

Baby Martha, John Castle, Petal Connell, Daniel Cuevas, Rose Millet, John Stringer, Louise Woodhouse, Sr Catherine, Mary Wallace, Brenda Paddon, Angus Clark, Karen Greig, Kitty Teasdale, Mary Mc Nichol, Andrew Gunn, Elizabeth Gunn, Des McNichol, Christine Robinson, Rose

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Week 3rd - 9th January: Agnes Mary Western, Minnie Curran, Joseph Bray, William Dearlove, Janice Biles, Denis Murphy, Lady Sarah Cumming-Bruce, Gilbert Lawrence Jones, John Joseph O'Hara, Harriet Champ.

THE YEAR OF THE WORD

Following the disruption caused by COVID-19, Bishop Philip has extended 'The Year of the Word' until 30th September 2021. In short, we shall continue with our intense Scripture programme till then.

GIVING

To help with supplying the Didcot Foodbank, contact Veronica Paget: veronicapaget@hotmail.com or leave suitable food outside her front door. Jackymattam@btinternet.com helps with the poor locally.

MISSIO The Red Box Collection for 2020 has been sent in. £701.83. Thanks to Margaret Maytham for overseeing this. Must get mine sorted....

TO GIVE TO OUR PARISH BY REGULAR STANDING ORDER OR GIFT

BANK DETAILS: PRCDTR East Hendred, St Mary

Sort Code: 309304 Account Number: 00877183

To arrange Gift Aid, contact : hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CONTACT DETAILS: Fr Andrew is 01235 835038 or 07976 437979
aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

The Divine Office

The People of God share in different ways in the daily recitation of the Divine Office. The Office of Readings (sometimes called 'Vigils' or 'Matins') used to be a night time provision. Nowadays it takes place early in the morning but may be scheduled for any convenient time of day. To this, religious add the minor hours of Terce (approx. 9am), Sext (approx. 12 noon), None (approx. 3pm), and Compline (late evening). Those not in religious communities are able to replace Terce, Sext, and None with a short Midday Office. The major hours are Lauds (Morning Prayer) and Vespers (Evening Prayer), each climaxing with a Gospel Canticle, the Song of Zechariah (*'Benedictus'*) in the morning and the Song of Our Lady (*'Magnificat'*) in the evening. It is these major hours, which the Second Vatican Council called 'the hinges' (*'cardines'*) of the Divine Office and it is these major hours which the whole People of God are to share.

It is not an easy time to buy Office Books, which are all being revised. Stocks are low if not non-existent. Many people now make use of an app and read the Office on an iPad or iPhone. Google <https://universalis.com> for material and help with dealing it. There are some basic decisions: the version on the internet is free but uses its own translation to avoid problems of copyright; the version as an iPhone or android app costs about £10 (one-off single payment) and that allows one to use the proper texts. There are also options: to use Revised Standard Version (as we do in East Hendred); to listen to the Office read and sung &c.

Universalis as it describes itself

Martin Kochanski who runs the site writes:

"[Universalis] is the biggest present there can be, because it changes lives, and it lasts for ever. A Universalis registration code costs £19.99... It gives the recipient all the Mass readings for every day, forever, and all the Hours of the Liturgy of the Hours for every day, forever. There are also benefits such as the daily 'About Today' pages, with their stories of the saints and their illustrations. The registration code works on whatever devices your friend has – Android and iPhone/iPad/iPod Touch and Mac and Windows – and also for making personal e-books. It is very simple indeed to give a Universalis registration code as a present. [Our blog post gives all the details.](#)"

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

1st – 10th January 2021

Christmas and Epiphany

MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

1st January 2021 **Numbers 6:22-27**
Galatians 4:4-7 **Luke 2:16-21**

2nd January 1 John 2:22-28 John 1:19-25

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

3rd January **Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2, 8-12**
Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18 **John 1:1-18**

4th January 1 John 3:7-10 John 1:35-42

5th January 1 John 3:11-21 John 1:43-51

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6th January **Isaiah 60:1-6**
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 **Matthew 2:1-12**

7th January` 1 John 3:22 – 4:6 Matt 4:12-17,23-25

8th January 1 John 4:7-10 Mark 6:34-44

9th January 1 John 4:11-18 Mark 6:45-52

BAPTISM OF THE LORD B

10th January **Isaiah 55:1-11**
1 John 5:1-9 **Mark 1:7-11**

Reflection on the Readings of Christmastide

CHRISTMASTIDE stretches beyond the Octave Day, the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (1st January), to the Epiphany (6th January), and beyond to a second manifestation of the Epiphany, the Baptism of Christ (this year on 10th January). The readings for these solemnities are set out in the mass sheets for the days concerned. You may be interested too in the Epiphany Proclamation. This sets out – appropriately ‘makes manifest’ on the Epiphany – the liturgical celebrations for the year ahead, notably the impact of the moveable feast of Easter on the surrounding weeks.

During the weekdays of Christmastide we continue with the First Letter of John. This being a holiday season, you will permit an overview, rather than a reflection on each of the daily extracts. The passages themselves are given below. They are recognisably from the same pen, or community, as the Gospel of John. The vocabulary – the Word, Light, Life, Love – is clearly Johannine and, as we discovered, the struggle has moved on from the Jewish authorities in the Fourth Gospel, who opposed Jesus, to a struggle between different groups, with rival interpretations of what it might mean to be a disciple of Jesus. Is it sufficient to believe that Jesus is the Word of God or is it important to live a life of love, love for God and for one another.

Just as there is a distinction between Light and Darkness, there is a distinction between the law of Love and the life of Sin, between Death and Life. Those who are addressed as ‘children’ are ‘children’ of God because God has revealed himself as a loving father. We battle against the Evil One, the Anti-Christ, and the Devil’s weapon is to persuade us that Jesus is not the Christ. The writer of 1 John is uncompromising: to deny Christ is to deny the Father. True believers have both eternal Life and the consolation of the Truth.

The anointing which has been received from the Holy One – here meaning either the Father or the Son, or indeed both - is itself a protection from lies and false teaching. By Baptism and Sealing – what we now call ‘Confirmation’ – we learn to discern not only what is true but also that we abide in God and God in us. This abiding is nothing less than Eternal Life and it is from this Life within us that we confess belief in the Son. Belief in the Son is also belief in the Father for ‘he who confesses the Son has the Father also’.

A clear division appears between those who are born of God and commit no sin and those who are children of the devil, who are intrinsically sinful. The hope, for those who are born of God, is that they are the object of God's love, such that he is content for us to call him and know him as 'Father'. It is clear that what the writer here is calling 'sin' is a reference to what, as Catholics, we know as 'mortal sin', the sin which separates us utterly from God. We remember a saying earlier in the letter:

⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 Jn 1:9)

What is explained in the first couple of chapters of 1 John in terms of light and darkness is subsequently explained in terms of love. The message of love is that the commandment of God is to believe in the name of the Lord Jesus and express that belief – prove its efficacy – in the love we have for one another. Loving one another is the message we have heard from the very beginning. It is always a surprise to discover fellow Christians – not least in social media - who do not seem to have read and internalised this, the heart of the Gospel!

Love is no sentimental matter. The template is the love that God has shown to us, expressed in chapter 4.

God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.

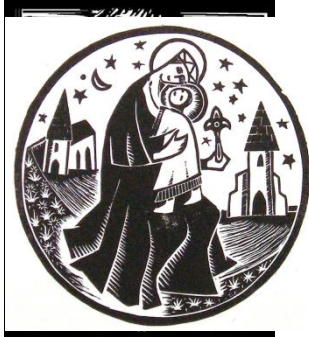
Fittingly, that is read on 8th January, a Friday, the day of the week when we are particularly mindful of the Sacrifice of Calvary. On Saturday 9th we hear a couple of useful summaries of the lesson of love:

¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

The second is an epigram, or perhaps a proverb:

¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.

East Hendred Catholic Parish



Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 1st January

Antiphons, Prayers and Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Hail, Holy Mother who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever.

Salve, sancta Parens

Sedulius

Collect

O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary, bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation: grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the Author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ your Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading

The LORD said to Moses, ²³ 'Say to Aaron and his sons, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

Numbers 6:22-27 [RSV]

²⁴ The LORD bless you and keep you:

²⁵ The LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you:

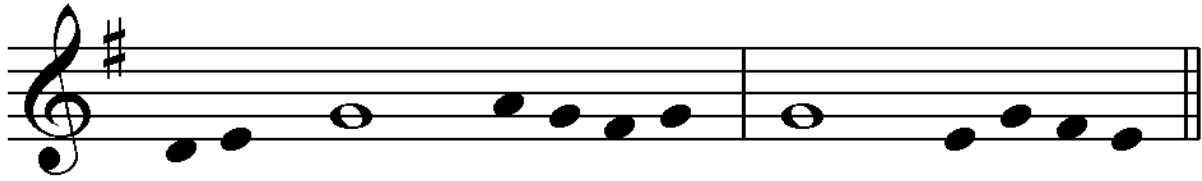
²⁶ The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷ So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.'

Mary Mother of God

Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (R/2)

Tone III.5



R/ O God, be gra- cious and bless us | ()

O God, be gra-cious and bless us
and let your face shed its *light* u-pon us.
So will your ways be *known* u-pon earth
and all nations learn *your* sal-va-tion. **R/**

Let the peoples *praise* you, O God;
let the nations be glad *and* shout for joy,
with uprightness you *rule* the peo-ples;
you guide the *na*-tions on earth. **R/**

Let the peoples *praise* you, O God;
let all the *peo*-ples praise you.
May God still give *us* his bles-sing
that all the ends of the earth *may* re-vere him. **R/**

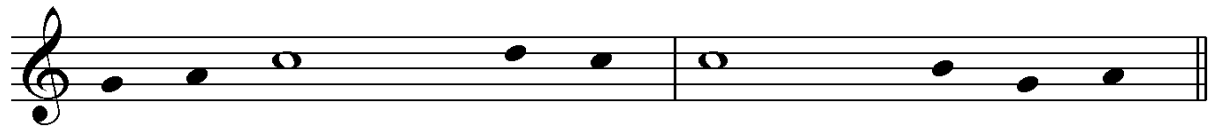
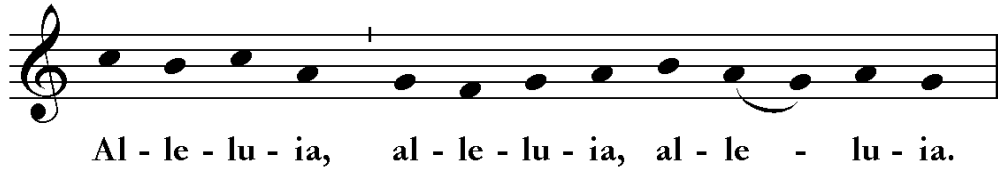
Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7 [RSV]

When the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' ⁷ So through God you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir.

Mary Mother of God

Alleluia



At va-rious times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the *pro*-phets: but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us *through* his Son.

Gospel

Luke 2:16-21 [RSV]

¹⁶The shepherds went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who in your kindness begin all good things and bring them to fulfilment: grant to us, who find joy in the Solemnity of the holy Mother of God, that, just as we glory in the beginnings of your grace, so one day we may rejoice in its completion; through Christ our Lord.

Preface

De maternitate beatæ Mariæ Virginis

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, and to praise, bless, and glorify your name on the Solemnity of the Motherhood of the Blessed ever-Virgin Mary.

For by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit she conceived your Only-Begotten Son, and without losing the glory of virginity, brought forth into

Mary Mother of God

the world the eternal Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him the Angels praise your majesty, Dominions adore, and Powers tremble before you. Heaven and the Virtues of heaven and the blessed Seraphim worship together with exultation. May our voices, we pray, join with theirs in humble praise, as we acclaim: Holy, Holy, Holy &c.

Communion

Jesus Christus heri et hodie

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.

Prayer after Communion

We have received this heavenly Sacrament with joy, O Lord: grant, we pray, that it may lead us to eternal life, for we rejoice to proclaim the blessed ever-Virgin Mary Mother of your Son and Mother of the Church. Through Christ our Lord.

Sub Tuum Præsidium

Sub tuum præsidium
confugimus,
Sancta Dei Genetrix.
Nostras deprecationes
ne despicias
in necessitatibus nostris,
sed a periculis cunctis
libera nos semper,
Virgo gloriosa et
benedicta[†]

We fly to Thy protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from all dangers,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.
Amen.

The Latin translation, likely derived from the Greek, dates from the 11th century:

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Saturday 2nd January

Reading

1 John 2:22-28

Christ our Advocate

²² Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. ²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. He who confesses the Son has the Father also. ²⁴ Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is what he has promised us, eternal life.

²⁶ I write this to you about those who would deceive you; ²⁷ but the anointing which you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that any one should teach you; as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie, just as it has taught you, abide in him.

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.

East Hendred Catholic Parish

**Second Sunday
after Christmas
3rd January 2021**

**Antiphons, Prayers
and Readings**



Entrance Antiphon

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

Dum medium silentium

Wisdom 18:14-15

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, splendour of faithful souls: graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First Reading

Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2, 8-12 [RSV]

Wisdom will praise herself,

and will glory in the midst of her people.

² In the assembly of the Most High she will open her mouth,
and in the presence of his host she will glory:.....

⁸ 'Then the Creator of all things gave me a commandment,
and the one who created me assigned a place for my tent.

And he said, 'Make your dwelling in Jacob,
and in Israel receive your inheritance.'

⁹ From eternity, in the beginning, he created me,
and for eternity I shall not cease to exist.

¹⁰ In the holy tabernacle I ministered before him,
and so I was established in Zion.

¹¹ In the beloved city likewise he gave me a resting place,
and in Jerusalem was my dominion.

¹² So I took root in an honoured people,
in the portion of the Lord, who is their inheritance.'

Christmas II

Psalm 147:12-20



R/ *The Word* **was made** *flesh ()* | **and lived** *a-* **mong us.**

O Je-rusalem, glorify *the* Lord!
O Zion, *praise* your God!
He has strengthened the bars of *your* gates;
he has blessed the children *wi*-thin you. **R/**

He established peace on your *bor*-ders,
he gives you your fill of *fi*-nest wheat
He sends out his word to *the* earth
and swiftly runs *his* com-mand. **R/**

He reveals his word to *Ja*-cob;
to Israel, his laws *and* judg-ments.
He has not dealt thus with other *na*-tions;
he has not taught them *his* judg-ments ! **R/**

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18 [RSV]

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. ⁵ He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.... ¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans: glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!

Christmas II

Gospel

John 1:1-18 [RSV]

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God; ³all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. ⁹The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. ¹¹He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. ¹⁵(John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") ¹⁶And from his fulness have we all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.

Prayer over the Offerings

Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make on the Nativity of your Only-Begotten Son, for by it you show us the way of truth and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom. Through Christ our Lord.

Preface

(De Nativitate Domini III)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For through him the holy exchange that restores our life has shone forth today in splendour: when our frailty is assumed by your Word not only does human mortality receive unending honour but by this wondrous union we, too, are made eternal. And so, in company with the choirs of Angels, we praise you, and with joy we proclaim: Holy, holy, holy &c.

Communion Antiphon

Omnibus qui receperunt eum

To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.
cf Jn 1:12

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God, we humbly ask you, that, through the worship of this mystery, our offences may be cleansed and our just desires fulfilled Through Christ our Lord.

Monday 4th January

Reading

1 John 2:29 - 3:10

No one born of God commits sin

²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that every one who does right is born of him.

3 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ And every one who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴ Every one who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. He who does right is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸ He who commits sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ No one born of God commits sin; for God's nature abides in him, and he cannot sin because he is born of God. ¹⁰ By this it may be seen who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not do right is not of God, nor he who does not love his brother.

Tuesday 5th January

Reading

1 John 3:11-26

Love One Another

¹¹ For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, ¹² and not be like Cain who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³ Do not wonder, brethren, that the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵ Any one who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But if any one has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹ By this we shall know that we are of the truth, and reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who keep his commandments abide in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit which he has given us.

East Hendred Catholic Parish

Epiphany
6th January 2021



**Antiphons,
Prayers and Readings**

Entrance Antiphon

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Ecce advenit

Cf Mal 3:1; 1 Chron 29:12

Collect

O God, who on this day revealed your Only-Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6 [RSV]

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes round about, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be carried in the arms. Then you shall see and be radiant, your heart shall thrill and rejoice; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Mid'ian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Epiphany

Psalm 72 1-2, 7-8, 10-13 **R/** cf 11

Tone I.1



R/ All na- **tions shall fall pro-strate** | **be - fore you, Q Lord.**

O God, give your judgment to *the* king,
to a king's *son* your ju-stice,
that he may judge your people in *ju*-stice,
and your poor *in* right judg-ment. **R/**

In his days shall justice *flou*-rish,
and great peace till the *moon* is no more.
He shall rule from sea *to* sea,
from the River to the *bounds* of the earth. **R/**

The kings of Tarshish and the islands shall pay him *tri*-bute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba *shall* bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall *pro*-strate,
all na-*tions* shall serve him. **R/**

For he shall save the needy when *they* cry,
the poor, and those *who* are help-less.
He will have pity on the weak and the *nee*-dy,
and save the lives *of* the nee-dy. **R/**

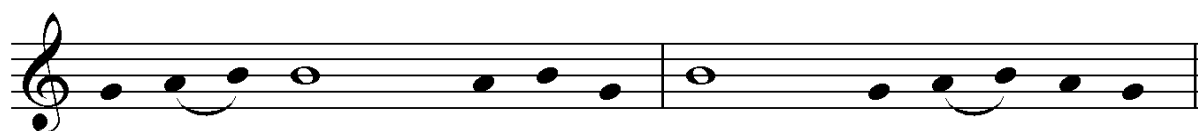
Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-6 [RSV]

You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; that is, how the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Epiphany

Alleluia



Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12 [RSV]

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him.' When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.' When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Prayer over the Offerings

Look with favour, Lord, we pray, on these gifts of your Church, in which are offered now not gold or frankincense or myrrh, but he who by them is proclaimed, sacrifices and received, Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Preface

[De Epiphania Domini]

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For today you have revealed the mystery of our salvation in Christ as a light for the

nations, and, when he appeared in our mortal nature, you made us new by the glory of his immortal nature. And so, with Angels and Archangels, with thrones and Dominions, and with all the host and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim: Holy, holy, holy &c.

Communion Antiphon

Vidimus stellam

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

Cf Mt 2:2

Prayer after Communion

Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord, always and everywhere, that we may perceive with clear sight and revere with true affection the mystery in which you have willed us to participate. Through Christ our Lord.

The Epiphany Proclamation 2021

Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts

Know, dear brethren (brothers and sisters),
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection,
who is our Saviour.

On the **seventeenth** day of **February** will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the **fourth** day of **April** you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the **thirteenth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus
Christ.

On the **twenty-third** day of **May**, the feast of Pentecost.

On the **sixth** day of **June**, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of
Christ.

On the **twenty-eighth** day of **November**, the First Sunday of the Advent of
our Lord Jesus Christ,

to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

Thursday 7th January

Reading

1 John 3:22 – 4:6

All who keep God's commandments abide in him, and he in them

We receive from God whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who keep his commandments abide in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit which he has given us.

⁴ Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are of God; for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit which confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, ³ and every spirit which does not confess Jesus is not of God. This is the spirit of antichrist, of which you heard that it was coming, and now it is in the world already. ⁴ Little children, you are of God, and have overcome them; for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵ They are of the world, therefore what they say is of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are of God. Whoever knows God listens to us, and he who is not of God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Friday 8th January

Reading

1 John 4:7-10

God Is Love

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ He who does not love does not know God; for God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.

Saturday 9th January

Reading

1 John 4:11-18

God has given us his Spirit

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **12** No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his own Spirit. **14** And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. **15** Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. **16** So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. **17** In this is love perfected with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love.