

East Hendred Catholic Parish

Christmas and Epiphany

1st-9th January 2022



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.*

Christmas and Epiphany

All masses live-streamed www.churchservices.tv/easthendred

Saturday 1st January (Mary, the Holy Mother of God)

9.30am Sung Mass

Sunday 2nd January (Second Sunday of Christmas)

9.30am Sung Mass *(Fr Martin Flatman)*

11.15am Mass at St Patrick's *(Fr Paul King)*

6pm Holy Mass *(Fr David O'Sullivan)*

Thursday 6th January (Epiphany)

9.30am Sung Mass *(Fr Paul King)*

Sunday 9th January (Baptism of the Lord)

9.30am Holy Mass *(Fr Martin Flatman)*

11.15am Holy Mass *(Fr Paul King)*

6pm Holy Mass *(Canon Peter Turbitt)*

There are no other masses during this period.

Weekday masses at St Mary's resume on Tuesday 11th January.

CONTACT DETAILS

Fr Andrew: 01235 835038 or 07976 437979

aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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Reflection Born of the Virgin Mary (5)

An Extract from the Catechism of the Catholic Church

498 People are sometimes troubled by the silence of St. Mark's Gospel and the New Testament Epistles about Jesus' virginal conception. Some might wonder if we were merely dealing with legends or theological constructs not claiming to be history. To this we must respond: Faith in the virginal conception of Jesus met with the lively opposition, mockery or incomprehension of non-believers, Jews and pagans alike; so it could hardly have been motivated by pagan mythology or by some adaptation to the ideas of the age. The meaning of this event is accessible only to faith, which understands in it the 'connection of these mysteries with one another' in the totality of Christ's mysteries, from his Incarnation to his Passover. St. Ignatius of Antioch already bears witness to this connection: 'Mary's virginity and giving birth, and even the Lord's death escaped the notice of the prince of this world: these three mysteries worthy of proclamation were accomplished in God's silence.'

Mary - 'ever-virgin'

499 The deepening of faith in the virginal motherhood led the Church to confess Mary's real and perpetual virginity even in the act of giving birth to the Son of God made man. In fact, Christ's birth 'did not diminish his mother's virginal integrity but sanctified it,' and so the liturgy of the Church celebrates Mary as *Aeiparthenos*, the 'Ever-virgin'.

500 Against this doctrine the objection is sometimes raised that the Bible mentions brothers and sisters of Jesus. The Church has always understood these passages as not referring to other children of the Virgin Mary. In fact James and Joseph, 'brothers of Jesus', are the sons of another Mary, a disciple of Christ, whom St. Matthew significantly calls 'the other Mary'. They are close relations of Jesus, according to an Old Testament expression. ***to be continued.....***

FOR YOUR PRAYERS



HOLY FATHER'S JANUARY PRAYER INTENTION

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

Baby Martha, Sid Wallace, Dame Catherine, Diana France, John Castle, Petal Connell, Daniel Cuevas, John Stringer, Louise Woodhouse, Mary Wallace, Brenda Paddon, Karen Greig, Mary McNichol, Elizabeth Gunn, Des McNichol

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Week 2nd-8th January: Agnes Mary Western, Minnie Currant, Joseph Bray, William Dearlove, Janice Biles, Dennis Murphy, Lady Sarah Cumming-Bruce, Gilbert Lawrence Jones, John Joseph O'Hara.

East Hendred Catholic Parish

NOTICEBOARD

HOLIDAY PERIOD

Warm thanks to all of you for contributing to the Christmas Gift. Fr Andrew highly appreciates your generosity. He is on holiday from 2nd -10th January inclusive. During that time Fr David O'Sullivan is available in an emergency on 01235 762374. Weekday masses resume at St Mary's on Tuesday 11th January.

Thanks also to those who sorted out flowers and tree, fogging, organ playing, reading, singing, sacristy work, service sheets, serving, seating plans, ushering.

CHURCH SERVICES LIVESTREAM AT CHRISTMAS

On *Friday 24th December* 140 were watching from 135 machines, 69 from the UK and 24 from elsewhere in the world

On *Saturday 25th December* 112 were watching from 44 machines, 35 from the UK and 9 from elsewhere in the world

On *Sunday 26th December* 107 were watching from 43 machines, 34 from the UK and 9 from elsewhere in the world

SYCAMORE

The **SYCAMORE** course for adults interested in finding out more about the Faith or preparing for baptism and/or confirmation is now well underway. Please contact aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk if you are interested, a.s.a.p. **SYCAMORE** meets on Tuesday at 8pm on Zoom. The next meeting is on Zoom on 11th January and begins the second semester of the course.

CATHOLIC NETWORK

What was formerly 'the Universe', the most popular Catholic Newspaper, is no more. Instead there is a free on-line Catholic publication.

<http://www.thecatholicnetwork.co.uk/>

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

SYNOD 2021-2023

Last October, the Holy Father launched a three-year consultation process with the whole Church. There are three stages. Between now and the end of April 2022, parishes are to produce a report to send to the diocese. These will be conflated nationally and, from September 2022 to March 2023, there will be reflections throughout the world. Finally in October 2023, the Synod of Bishops will meet in Rome to produce a report for the Pope. Every parish is asking people and groups to reflect on 'What changes need to be made – in myself, in our parish, in the Diocese, to make the Church's mission today more vibrant and effective?' We shall co-ordinate our parish response via individuals and accredited groups through the Parish Pastoral Council and the St Patrick's Pastoral Committee. Meanwhile, comments and suggestions, personal and group submissions, to Fr Andrew or to John Carpenter.

E-MAILS, WEBSITE, AND FACEBOOK

Last minute changes are sometimes unavoidable and these are communicated by e-mail to the Bulletin list. Anyone may join the Bulletin list - contact hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk – and particular care should be taken of those who have no access to e-mail.

See our website www.hendredcatholicparish.org.uk

See also our East Hendred Catholic Parish page on Facebook.

CHARITY: DIDCOT

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

Parish Priest:

aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office:

hendred@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 2022

Christmas and Epiphany

MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

2nd January Eccl'us 24:1-2, 8-12
Eph. 1:3-6, 15-18 John 1:1-18

3rd January 1 John 2:29 – 3:6 John 1:[19-25], 29-34

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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD C

10th January Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Titus 2:11-14 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

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). As regards the rest of the year, you may be interested 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.

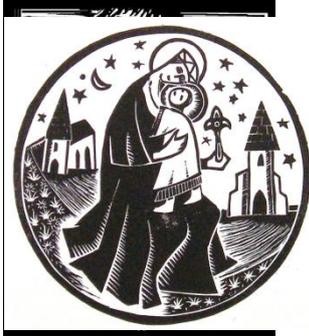
Though we lose the rest of chapter 4 this year to the Sunday readings, these verses give us a useful summary. First:

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.

Second, 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:

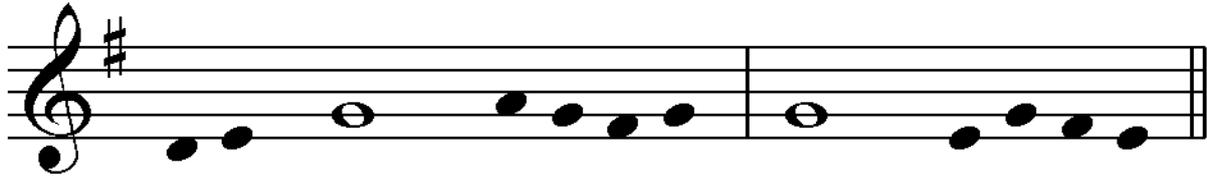
²⁶ The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

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/**

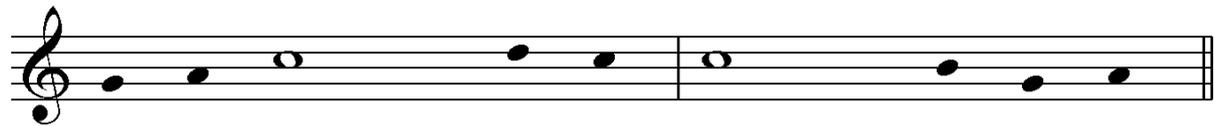
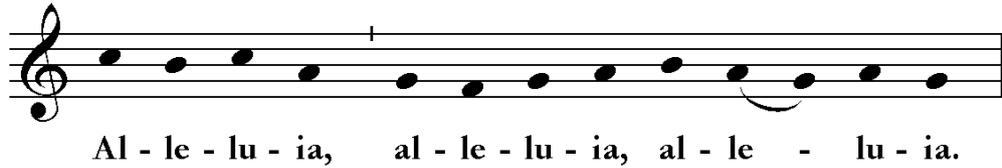
Second Reading

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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East Hendred Catholic Parish

**Second Sunday
after Christmas
3rd January 2022**

**Antiphons, Prayers
and Readings**



Entrance Antiphon

Dum medium silentium

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.
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.'

Psalm 147:12-20

R/ The Word was made flesh: and lived among us.
O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!
O Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates;
he has blessed the children within you. **R/**

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

He reveals his word to Jacob;
to Israel, his laws and judgments.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his judgments ! **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!

Gospel

John 1:1-18 [RSV]

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

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Offertory Hymn

It came upon a midnight clear (*see below*)

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.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

after St Alphonsus Liguori (18th cent.)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Even if I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus. There is room in my heart for you.

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

Post-Communion

Unto us a boy is born

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.

Alma Redemptoris Mater

Mother of Christ, hear thou thy people's cry
Star of the deep and Portal of the sky!
Mother of Him who thee from nothing made.
Sinking, we strive and call to thee for aid.
Oh, by that joy which Gabriel brought to thee,
Thou Virgin first and last, let us thy mercy see.

IT CAME upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold.
'Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all gracious King'.
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they
 come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing;
And ever o'er its Babel-sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man at war with man hears not
The love-song which they bring:
O hush the song ye men of strife
And hear the angels sing!

And ye, beneath life's crushing load
Whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow:
Look now! for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo the days are hastening on
By prophets seen of old
when with the ever-circling years
comes round the age of gold
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Edmund Hamilton Sears

Puer nobis nascitur

UNTO US a boy is born!
The King of all creation,
Came he to a world forlorn,
The Lord of ev'ry nation.

Cradled in a stall was he
With sleepy cows and asses;
But the very beasts could see
That he the world surpasses.

Herod then with fear was filled:
'A prince,' he said, 'in Jewry!'
And all the little boys he killed
At Bethl'hem in his fury.

Now may Mary's son, who came
So long ago to love us,
Lead us all with hearts aflame
Unto the joys above us.

Alpha and Omega he!
Now let the organ thunder,
While the choir with peals of glee
Shall rend the air asunder.

Percy Dearmer

Monday 3rd January

Reading

1 John 2:29 - 3:6

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 4th January

Reading

1 John 3:7-10

He who is born of God cannot commit sin

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.

Wednesday 5th January

Reading

1 John 3:11-21

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

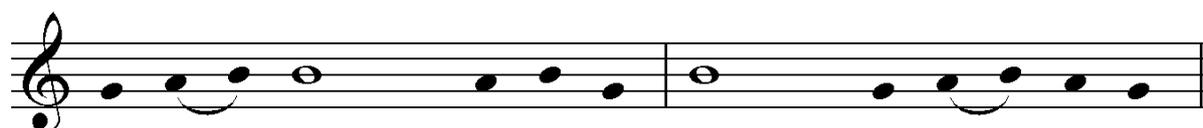
First Reading

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.

Isaiah 60:1-6 [RSV]

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.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

after St Alphonsus Liguori (18th cent.)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Even if I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus. There is room in my heart for you.

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.

Alma Redemptoris Mater

Mother of Christ, hear thou thy people's cry
Star of the deep and Portal of the sky!
Mother of Him who thee from nothing made.
Sinking, we strive and call to thee for aid.
Oh, by that joy which Gabriel brought to thee,
Thou Virgin first and last, let us thy mercy see.

The Epiphany Proclamation 2022

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 **second** day of **March** will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

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

On the **twenty-sixth** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus
Christ.

On the **fifth** day of **June**, the feast of Pentecost.

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

On the **twenty-seventh** 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.

Friday 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.

Saturday 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.