



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 5th January 2025
The Feast of the Epiphany

- 9.30am** Said Mass with Children's Church
- 11.00am** Sung Mass with Procession
Hymns: 50: Responsorial Psalm 72: 49: 51: 47
- 2.30pm** Children's Messy Church Epiphany Party

*WHAT child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds worship and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him praise
The Babe, the son of Mary.*

*So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
All tongues and peoples own him,
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let every heart enthrone him:
Raise, raise your song on high
While Mary sings a lullaby,
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The Babe, the son of Mary.*

Start of Procession

- ∇ Let us proceed in peace
℞ **In the Name of Christ. Amen**

Prayers at the Crib

Lord, by the song of the angels you disclosed your birth to your own people, and by the leading of a star you revealed your glory to strangers. Teach us to know you now, and to make you known to all, for at this time you were born into the world for us, and live and reign, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, now and for ever. **Amen.**

End of Procession

- ∇ Nations shall come to your light
℞ **And kings to the brightness of your rising.**

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages, and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

668 The Feast of the Epiphany

Introit Behold, he appeareth, the Lord and Ruler: and in his hand the kingdom, and pow'r, and dominion. **Psalm** Give the King thy judgements, O God: and thy righteousness unto the King's Son. Glory be...

Gradual All they from Saba shall come, bringing gold and incense: and shall shew forth the praises of the Lord. *V.* Arise and shine, O Jerusalem: for the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. **Alleluia** Alleluia. Alleluia. *V.* We have seen his star in the East: and are come with offerings to worship the Lord. Alleluia.

Offertory The Kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents; the Kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts: all Kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall do him service.

Communion We have seen his star in the East: and are come with our offerings to worship the Lord.

Collect

O God,
who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah Ch60 v1 - 6

'Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
² See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
³ Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ 'Lift up your eyes and look about you:
all assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.
⁵ Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.
⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 72: 'May all nations be blest in him.'

New Testament Reading - Ephesians Ch3 v1 - 12

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles –
² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. ⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Gospel - Matthew Ch2 v1 - 12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi ^{1a} from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'
³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."^f

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.'⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Post Communion

Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Notices

Monday to Friday 8.00am - Morning Prayer
Tuesday 8th January 11.00am - Said Mass
Saturday 11th January 10.00am - Coffee and Chat in Church

Sunday 12th January 2025
The Baptism of Christ
The First Sunday of Epiphany
9.30am Said Mass with Children's Church
11.00am Sung Mass



Please remember in your prayers

Fr John & Carol Luff, Willa Owen, Brian Garner, Jill Stephenson, John Greany, Paulo De Augustino, Pamela Parkes, David Amory and Margaret Morris.

Please join us for refreshments
In the Vestry after the 11am Mass

After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – **6.00pm Thursday**
To Fliss or email fml397026@aol.com