

DATES FOR DIARY

18th – 25th January: Christian Unity Octave. There will be Unity Services in a local church most days of the octave, including at St Ignatius. These will be announced in due course. Please do come to as many of these as possible and pray for unity among Christians.

11th February, 7.00pm: Thanksgiving Mass at St Ignatius for those who support the Soup Run.

25th February, 12.00noon: Diaconate Ordination at St Ignatius for Jesuits in London preparing for priesthood.

LATELY DEAD

Teresa Pascal

Funeral on 11th January at 11.30am

Winifred O'Brien

Funeral on 12th January at 10.00am

Edward Bergin

Funeral on 13th January at 10.00am

Lorraine Herft

Funeral on 19th January at 12.00noon

Enid Prince (née Joseph)

Funeral details in due course

MUSIC

10.00^{am} Mass:

166, 1013, 150, 1014, 1015, 1018, 1019, 169, 170

11.30^{am} Mass:

Entrance: 166, **Gloria:** 1013, **Psalm:** as set, **Alleluja:** Celtic, **Offertory:** Star Carol (Rutter) + 150, **Sanctus:** 1014, **Acc:** 1015, **Amen:** 1018, **Agnus Dei:** 1019, **Communion:** 169, **Final:** 170, **Postlude:** Jesus, meine Freude (Bach).

USUAL TIMES FOR LITURGIES

Sunday Masses

7^{pm} [Sat evening – Vigil of Sunday]

8.30^{am}, 10.00^{am}, 11.30^{am}, 6^{pm}

4.30^{pm} (Latin American, en español)

1.30^{pm} & 7.30^{pm} (Polish, po polsku)

Weekday Masses

Mon - Fri: 10^{am} & 6.30^{pm}

Saturday: 10^{am}

Sacrament of Reconciliation

in English:

Saturday: 10.30-11.15^{am}; 6.00-6.45^{pm}

in Polish (po polsku):

Sunday: 1.00-1.30^{pm}; 6.00-6.45^{pm}

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

1st Friday: 10.30^{am}–8^{pm}

Other Fridays: 10.30–11.30^{am} & 7–8^{pm}

PARISH STAFF & TEAM

Contact them on: 020 8800 2121

For appointments to see a priest, please phone, between 8am and 1pm Monday to Thursday

Parish Priest: Fr David Smolira SJ

Assistant Priests: Fr Michael Bossy SJ, Fr Gerard Gallen SJ, Fr Mateusz Konopiński SJ, (Polish/English), Fr Bogdan Leśniak SJ (Polish/English)

Jesuit Superior: Fr Hugh Duffy SJ

Sacristan: Sr Eugenia Geraghty OSM

Parish Secretary: Judy Bronson
Tel: 020 8800 2262

Catechetics: Elwira Pniewski
Tel: 020 8800 2202
elwira.pniewski@schoolandfamily.org

Parish Council Chairman:
Mathew D'Souza Tel: 07717 172003

If you have any concerns about safety or well-being of a child or vulnerable adult in the parish, please contact our Safeguarding Officer: Attracta Asika 07494 366233



8th January 2017
The Epiphany of the Lord

A Roman Catholic Parish served by the Jesuits: 27 High Road, London, N15 6ND. Tel: 020 8800 2121
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EPIPHANY

TODAY'S READINGS AND RESPONSES:

Entrance Antiphon

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

Readings

Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2: 1-12

Responsorial Psalm

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!

Communion Antiphon

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

FOLLOWING YONDER STAR

Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar: suitably fancy names for the three exotic characters that we think about on today's feast of the Epiphany. Appearing from the East, emerging out of the desert on camels, bestowing unusual gifts on the baby Jesus, returning to their own country by a different route, never to be heard of again. What a strange, though colourful, feast this is! What can it all be about?

First of all, of course, Saint Matthew doesn't even say there were three of them; we just assume that from the number of gifts, and only many centuries later did someone decide that we may as well give them names as well. Were they really Wise Men, learned philosophers, were they Kings, or were they just some kind of wandering magicians? (The word Magi seems a bit close to magic, don't you think?) And as for the moving star, what is that all about?

Maybe we have to remember that the writers of the gospels were serious. They were trying to convey to us this greatest Good News of all, that God has sent his own son Jesus into our world and that this is the most important event in the whole of human history. Saint Matthew was not in the business of providing a bit of picturesque entertainment to round off the Christmas season. There are no pantomime figures in the gospels.

Surely Matthew is looking at the responses of human beings to the presence of Christ. He is revealing to us not only Christ, but also ourselves. He is looking at the deep springs of human motivation. Look how the Wise Men are willing to go to great lengths to see Jesus and then to worship him and leave their gifts at his feet, and then look how King Herod is also willing to go to great lengths to see Jesus, but in order to destroy him. One is wisdom, the other is craftiness. One is motivated by the desire for holiness and goodness, the other by the fear of losing power. One welcomes the presence of God, the other is determined to remove that presence.

Does any of this sound familiar to you? Does it remind you of anything in our contemporary world? Do you experience similar impulses in your own life? Who is Jesus Christ for you? What place has God in your life? Do you want to welcome him or would you rather keep him well out of the way?

So do indeed enjoy this feast of the gorgeously attired Magi, but remember that it is more about us and our world than about them.

Hugh Duffy SJ

SUNDAY AT ST IGNATIUS

Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Last Sunday's Collection: £3,816.98. Thanks very much for your continuing generosity.

The Counters this Week: Group C

PARISH ITEMS AND EVENTS

Thanks: We had a very busy time in the parish over Advent and Christmas, as I am sure many of you had at home too. Many thanks to all who helped to make this time of year so special, especially those who helped organise and support the Advent Talks, the Advent Film Nights and those who contributed to and helped distribute the Christmas hampers. We have some food donations for the hampers left over and these will be used for the homeless. Thanks again for your generosity. Fr David also wants to take this opportunity to thank all the other people who help and support the life of the parish: the parish council, those who help organise social and parish fund-raising events, those who help with charitable fund-raising, those who work with the homeless, those who clean the church (inside and outside), those who count the collection, those who staff our reception and answer phones many, many more who are so generous with their time and talent. All of your efforts are very much appreciated. Thank you!

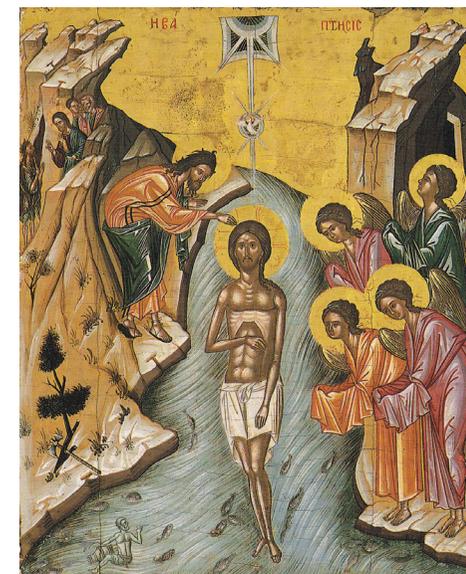


Year for Couples and Families: Many of you will remember filling in one of the questionnaires at mass on how we can better help couples and families in our parish. Now that the celebrations of Christmas and the New Year are over, we will be studying your responses in detail and deciding how best to follow-up on what you have written. It may take us

a week or two to process everything and discuss your responses in the planning group for the Year for Couples and Families, so we may not be giving you much feedback until the end of the month. Please remember to keep praying for couples and families in the parish and we will try and get some prayer cards to help with this as soon as we can.

THIS WEEK AT ST IGNATIUS

Feast Day: Monday the 9th of January is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Masses are at the usual times of 10.00am and 6.30pm. On Tuesday the 10th of January, we return to "ordinary time" in the Church's calendar.



Icon: the Dodekaorton 4. The Baptism, 32x47 cm. approx., (1547), Dionysiou, Mt. Athos