

learnt much from this first attempt at what seems to work and how we might improve on this initiative for future Draws. The intention is to hold these draws twice each year to give a huge boost to both our Parish Churches Restoration Funds.

Parish Weekend Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2017: Thank you to all those who have booked places so far. Please could all completed booking forms along with deposits of £30 per person be given to Fr Ross as soon as possible, so that we can give the Shrine an early indication of numbers and secure rooms. If you have not been to Walsingham before this is an ideal introduction to the wonderful ministry of the Shrine. Fr Ross or any previous pilgrims will be only too pleased to tell you more.

Confirmation: Finding a common suitable time for the preparation of adults desiring to be Confirmed has proved illusive this year. So the Rector is preparing candidates in their own homes. Please contact Fr Ross if you wish to be Confirmed. The Bishop will be Confirming at All Saints when we observe Candlemass, at 7:30pm on 1st February 2017, the first Confirmation to be held there for many, many years.

Advent Boxes: If you have forgotten to return your box today, please do so as soon as possible. This enables our Treasurer to send in the amount raised to the Winter Night Shelter as soon as possible.

New Testament Greek course for beginners: hosted by 'Community Learning MK' - a ten-week starting on 11th January 2017. The course will cover the basics of the language and enable learners to understand short passages of scripture. It will run at the Rivers Centre in Bletchley each Wednesday from 7pm until 8.30. The cost will be £87 (concession £70). Learners are welcome to contact Philip Allsop for further information, or to visit our website: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/clmk. The Enrolments team can be contacted on 01908 556760.

Looking ahead: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday which, this year, is observed on 1st March. Easter Day is observed on 16th April. In the last few years trying to hold a Lent Course on a weekday evening has proved not to be a good time to get a sufficient number of people to attend; and yet there is a clear need for such a Course. Fr Ross would be grateful to hear from people as to what day/time of the

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with
CALVERTON



**St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford
with All Saints, Calverton**

**THE SOLEMNITY OF
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

8th January AD 2017



Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the



A Loop System is in operation at St Mary & St Giles -
please set hearing aids to the "T" position.



Access for the Disabled at St Mary & St Giles is via the path on the north side of the church. **At All Saints** it is via the South Porch.



Gluten-Free Hosts: if you are on a Gluten-Free diet and would like a Gluten-Free Host when you receive Holy Communion please mention this before Mass to one of the Sidesmen who will arrange this for you. Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest so that he is aware of your need.



Collections: for the continuing mission of Christ are taken while the altar and gifts of bread and wine are being prepared. If you are a visitor and a taxpayer and would like to make a donation please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the end of each row - please fill in your details. This enables us to reclaim, from the Inland Revenue, 25p for every £1 donated.



We observe a period of quiet prayer and reflection before the celebration of Mass, between the end of the Organ Voluntary and the Sacristy Bell being rung, in order that we may be better prepared to worship almighty God.

Reception of Holy Communion: All Baptised and Confirmed Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. If you are unwell or uncertain about receiving the Precious Blood please do still receive the Host. Our Chalice Assistants are not authorised to permit the intincting (dipping) of the Host.



Please join us at the back of church for tea or coffee after Mass. A priest will be near the main door shortly after the end of Mass should you need to talk with one.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

Prayer Thought

Just as the Magi came from their very different culture and background to worship the infant king, so too we have come today from our different homes, backgrounds, jobs, schools, all coming together with the single purpose of worshipping the same infant king whom the Magi travelled to worship so many years ago.

(STAND) THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The priest greets the people

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
and also with you.

Penitential Rite

The priest invites the people to call to mind their sins and repent of them.

Most merciful God,

ceive Holy Communion. It is customary to kneel throughout the distribution of Holy Communion except when going forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament and upon returning to your place.

Prayer after Communion

(STAND)

Let us pray.

And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while, unless the silence has just been observed. Then the priest, with hands extended, says the Prayer after Communion; at the end of which the people acclaim:

Amen.

All then pray:

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

(STAND)

THE CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

For the dismissal, the Priest faces the people and blesses them using a form appropriate to the Season:

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Today:
9:30am
11:00am
Intention:

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY
PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
FAMILY MASS at All Saints
Our Parishes at the beginning of 2017

Monday:
8:30am
9:30am
8:00pm
Pray for:

The Baptism of the Lord
Mass at St Mary & St Giles
'Squeals on Wheels' in the Parish Hall
Bellringing Practice
the Sick, Housebound & Handicapped

Tuesday:
10:30am
Intention:

Feria
Mass + Eleveses at All Saints
The Prime Minister & Ministers of the Crown

Wednesday:
6:00pm

Feria
Rector available in Parish Office for the arrangement of the Occasional Offices
Mass at St Mary & St Giles
Our MP, Iain Stewart

7:30pm
Intention:

Thursday:
10:30am
Intention:

St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot
Mass at St Mary & St Giles
For Religious Men and Women

Friday:
8:00am
7:30pm
Intention:

St Hilary, Bishop
Mass at SMSG School (North Site)
Parish Singers Rehearsal
For Bishop Jonathan

Saturday:

Feria

who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

The priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer of thanksgiving, recalling the command of Jesus Christ, 'Do this in memory of me.'

Priest: The mystery of faith:

(Page 5 of Mass Setting at SMSG)

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the priest interceding for the Church, the world, all those present at this celebration, and the Faithful Departed. At the Doxology at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer all join in the Great Amen.

(Page 7 of Mass Setting at SMSG)

Priest:for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer: (STAND)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei

(KNEEL)

When sung at SMSG:

(Page 8 of Mass Setting)

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Bread of Life, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Cup of Hope, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Prince of Peace, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

(Music for the Mass texts is available on a card in each of our Parish Churches for those who wish to use it)

The Kyries: *When sung at SMSG:* (Page 1 of Mass Setting)

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison, eleison.

The Gloria in excelsis ('Mass of Christ the Saviour' Setting)

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace on earth,
peace to people of good will.***

**We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.**

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace on earth,
peace to people of good will.***

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.**

**you are seated at the right hand,
the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace on earth,
peace to people of good will.***

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.**

***Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace on earth,
peace to people of good will. Amen. Amen.***

The Collect

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (SIT)

The First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

(Old Testament Page 627 in the Bibles) a prophet foreshadows the joyful redemption of all men in terms of the return of Israel from the 'night' of exile.

The Responsorial Psalm

(from Psalm 72)

The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. ®

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. ®

The Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

(*New Testament Page 162 in the Bibles*) St Paul speaks of
God's plan of salvation as a 'mystery' whose meaning is that
pagans as well as Jews are saved 'in Christ Jesus'.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the east,
and have come to worship the Lord.
Alleluia!

The Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

(*New Testament Page 1 in the Bibles*) recounts the story of
the Magi which is meant to show how the gentiles or pa-
gans were the first to offer homage to the new-born Messi-
ah and Saviour of the world.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

As the Gospel is announced the people respond:

✠ ✠ ✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel Reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*The hymn 'We Three Kings' is sung, as the images of the Magi are placed in the
crib. Our Appeal Boxes are brought forward in the final verse.*

The Homily

The Nicene Creed (STAND)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light
from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were
made.**

**For us men and for our salvation he came down from
heaven, (all bow during the next three lines)
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he
suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the**

Intercessor: Father, the wise men came from the east to
worship your Son: grant to Christians everywhere a true
spirit of adoration.

V/. Lord, in your mercy
R/. **Hear our prayer.**

Father, you are the King of Kings and Lord of Lords: grant
an abundance of peace to your world.

Father, the Holy Family shared the life of the people of Naz-
areth: protect in your mercy our neighbours and our fami-
lies, together with the whole community of which we are
part.

Father, though you were rich, for our sake you became
poor: show your love for the poor and powerless, and
strengthen...Fiddy Abraham, Anna Archer, Shirley Brown,
Steve Cooper, Larry Francis, Jane Holman, Terry Mason,
Sue Maton, Pete, Tony Oakley, Wendy...and all those who
suffer.

Father, the wise men presented to your Son gold, incense,
and myrrh: accept the gifts we bring, and the offering of our
hearts at the beginning of this new year.

Father, you are the King of Heaven, the hope of all who
trust in you: give to...Henry Blake, Ronald Sefton, Eileen
Haseldine, William Leese, Jeremy Tapper and to those
whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**8th**
Bertie Stock, George Card; **9th** John Grimsley; **10th** William
Stockings, Dora Stockings; **11th** Jonathan Shirley, Anne Par-
sons, Alan Britton; **12th** Eileen Coats, Martin Gunstone; **13th**
Winifred Colegate, George Bailey, Mary Webb; **14th** John
Marsh...and all the faithful departed the wonders of your
salvation.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Priest: Rejoicing in the fellowship of wise men, shepherds
and angels, and of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Jo-
seph, we commend ourselves and all Christian people to
your unfailing love. Merciful Father, **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine are brought to the altar by Anna & Rosie Page.
Then priest says the Offertory Prayers as we sing a hymn (either standing or
sitting). A collection is taken and brought forward. If the hymn has finished and
the priest is still saying the Offertory Prayers the people respond:*

Blessed be God for ever.

(STAND) Pray brethren that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the
praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his Church.**

The priest says the Prayer over the Gifts to which all respond:
Amen.