

Mass Text for The Epiphany of the Lord

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

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Response:
All nations shall fall prostrate before you,
O Lord.

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

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Communion Antiphon:

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

MASS TIMES for the coming week

Saturday 7th January

Vigil Mass of The Epiphany of the Lord

St John's: 5pm Pro Populo

*English Martyrs: 6.30pm Annie Furlong's
Intentions (EM Luncheon friends)*

*(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at
English Martyrs 5.50pm—6.20pm)*

SUNDAY 8th January

The Epiphany of the Lord

*English Martyrs: 9am Francis and
Margaret McLoughlin RIP (P McLoughlin)*

*St John's: 11am Chris Anthony and
Olivet John-Baptiste RIP (J Baptiste-Grant)*



Mass times for the coming week

MONDAY 9th January—The Baptism of the Lord
Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 10th January
No Mass Today

WEDNESDAY 11th January
No Mass Today

THURSDAY 12th January
No Mass Today

FRIDAY 13th January
No Mass Today

SATURDAY 14th January
No Mass or confessions this morning

Weekend Masses as usual



**PARISHES OF
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**
www.thamesisis.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Phillip Harris, 15 Manor Crescent, Didcot OX11 7AJ
Telephone: 01235 812338
Office e-mail: didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Secretary: Mrs Joanna Robins
(Parish Office in Presbytery open Tuesday to Friday mornings for all enquiries)
Fr Phillip's e-mail: ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

8th January 2017
The Epiphany of the Lord

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord – the being-made-known of Jesus to the world. The Gospel tells how wise men from the East – Magi – followed a star and, after seeking the Christ-child first in Jerusalem where King Herod was, were led eventually by the star to “the place where the child was.” We hear that “The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage.”

Who were these men? Certainly, it seems that they were wise because religious and philosophical wisdom was what had sent them out on their quest. Perhaps, as Pope Emeritus Benedict said when writing about the *Infancy Narratives*, more than anything, “the wise men from the east are a new beginning. They represent the journeying of humanity toward Christ. They initiate a procession that continues throughout history. Not only do they represent the people who have found their way to Christ: they represent the inner aspiration of the human spirit, the dynamism of religions and human reason toward him.”

It is the deep longing in every person's being that we see journeying to Bethlehem in the Magi. In this sense we can see that all humanity is seeking Christ – from the ancient Greek philosophers through even to modern-day atheists: the longing for God is in all our hearts. For some of us, we have journeyed already far enough to find “the child with his mother Mary” and we fall on our knees at every Mass and do him homage; for others they may be on the journey without knowing yet where they are heading. They need us as guides – other “wise men” – who will show them the One whom all humanity's searching is trying to find: Jesus Christ.

Let us, then, answer the longing in our hearts and journey ever closer to Christ and his Blessed Mother, and may the way we live that journey help others to do the same.

Fr Phillip



**Mass Text for 15th January,
The Second Sunday of
Ordinary Time (Yr A)
Entrance Antiphon**
All the earth shall bow down before you,
O, God, and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O most High!

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10
Response:
Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Second Reading: Cor 1:1-3
Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!
Gospel: John 1:29-34

Communion Antiphon:
You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice
that quenches my thirst..

MASS TIMES for the week of 15th January

SATURDAY 14th January
Vigil Masses of the Second Sunday of
Ordinary Time

St John's: 5pm Pro Populo

(Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4.30pm)

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Pro Populo

*(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at
English Martyrs 5.50pm—6.20pm)*

SUNDAY 15th January

English Martyrs: 9am Therese Johnson RIP
(P McLoughlin)

St John's: 11am Pat and Chris Watts RIP
(Foundation)

Mass times for the coming week

MONDAY 16th January
Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 17th January
St John's: 9.30am Peter Hogan's Intentions
(C Jeffery)

WEDNESDAY 18th January
English Martyrs: 9.30am
*(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
and Benediction)*

**English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form
Latin Mass**

THURSDAY 19th January
St John's: 9.30am Private Intention (D Kennedy)

FRIDAY 20th January
English Martyrs: 9.30am

SATURDAY 21st January
English Martyrs: 9.30am
*(Followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation and
reciting of the rosary)*

Weekend Mass times as usual

English Martyrs Church is open for prayer Tuesday to Friday mornings until 1pm. **If you have a key, please do not lock the church during these times.** Thank you.

In your prayers, please remember...

Cyril Verling, Jenny Evans, Amanda Gender, Christopher Almeida, Anna Pearce, Mary Guinan, Maureen Logan, Mary McCrystal, Margaret Goldsworthy, Sophia Farmer, Janina Krokowska, Ann and Cyril Tomline, Terry Appleyard, Charlotte Pyatt, Val Claridge, Joan Russell and all the sick of the parish.



Consecration of English Martyrs Church, Saturday 18th February at 12 Noon

The Consecration of the church is one of the most important events in its lifetime. Fifty years ago, Bishop Warlock came to English Martyrs in Didcot and blessed the church, but because it was not fully paid for, it could not be consecrated at the time. We are really pleased that Bishop Philip is going to be coming to Didcot on the anniversary of English Martyrs' blessing, to actually consecrate the church. This is going to be on Saturday 18th February at 12 noon. Because this is such an important event, **this will be the only Mass on that Saturday.** We hope that everybody will be able to attend from both churches in order to make this a wonderful celebration.

Youth Activities in the Pastoral Area

Bowling at Kassam Stadium Bowlplex—All pastoral area youth groups are going bowling on **Friday 27th January from 7-9:30pm** at the **Kassam Stadium Bowlplex**. Andy Robins, the Youth Coordinator for the Didcot and Wallingford is organising the event, so please call him on **07952 145851** or email at **a.robins@talktalk.net** if you'd like to go. The cost is usually around £5.50 for children and £6.50 for adults aged 16+ for one game, but there is also a games arcade and places to buy a drink or snack, so youngsters may need a bit of extra spending money. £7-£10 should be fine.

Safeguarding Training at St Edmund's - There will be diocesan safeguarding training for all volunteers in the area working with young people, at St Edmund's in Abingdon, from **10am-12:30pm on Saturday 28th January**. If you are DBS checked and have not attended one of these sessions yet, please email **soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk** to register.

Wallingford Food Bank

The Wallingford Food Bank in December catered for 160 individuals — 90 adults and 70 children. In her report on the month of December, Jean Burt, who set up and runs the food bank, notes: "Our stocks at the moment are quite substantial, with the exception of the very staple items such as sugar, milk, fruit juice, tinned potatoes, carrots, corned beef and hot dogs." If you feel able to provide any of these items, there will be a box at the back of church to receive your donations from Saturday January 14th. The latest Food Bank report is on the noticeboard at the back of church. Thank you to all those who have helped and continue to help to support the Food Bank.

Readers' Rota

The next Readers' Rota for St John's is now available and can be collected from the back of the Church.

Telephone Number for SVP

**If you know of anyone in need please call
07580539765.**

Last week's Collections:

£1606

Thank you for your donations