



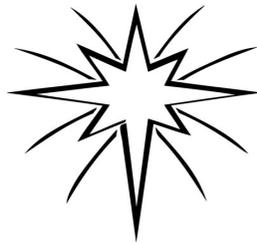
## Epiphany

The celebration of the visitation of the Magi - whom the Bible describes as learned wise men from the East - has developed its own distinct traditions throughout the Roman Church. In Ireland, Catholics celebrate "Women's Christmas" - where women rest from housework and cleaning and celebrate together with a special meal. Epiphany in Poland is marked by taking chalk - along with gold, incense and amber - to be blessed at Mass. Back at home, families will inscribe the first part of the year, followed by the letters, "K+M+B+" and then the last numbers of the year on top of every door in the house.

The letters stand for the names traditionally given to the wise men - Casper, Melchior and Balthazar - as well as for the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat," or, "Christ, bless this house." While the Bible remains silent about the wise men's actual names, as well as how many of them there were, we do know that they were clever, wealthy, and most importantly, brave. They were willing to take the risk in order to go searching for the truth, in what they discerned was a monumental event. Lastly, the gifts the wise men brought - frankincense, myrrh and gold - as gifts that point not only to Christ's divinity and his revelation to the Magi as the King of Kings, but also to his crucifixion. In giving herbs traditionally used for burial, these gifts, bring a theological "shadow, a sense of anticipation of what is to come." *(Catholic online)*

### Epiphany prayer

Let us pray. O God,  
by the leading of a star Thou didst manifest Thine  
only begotten Son  
to the Gentiles on this day;  
mercifully grant that we who know Thee by faith,  
may be brought to contemplate the beauty of Thy  
majesty.  
Through the same Jesus Christ Thy Son.



[www.romanmissal.co.uk](http://www.romanmissal.co.uk)



## Catholic Parishes of St Mary, Lady of Lourdes

St. Mary's Brierley Hill,  
Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswinford and  
Our Lady of Lourdes, Cradley Heath.  
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*Part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham: Reg. Charity No. 234216*



### 2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

**3RD JANUARY 2021**

#### **PSALM RESPONSE**

The Word was made flesh,  
and lived among us.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed by the pagans;  
Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

To all who would accept him,  
He gave power to become children of God.

*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. (Roman Missal)*



Ordinary (A2)	Psalter week 2	Intention/Info
<b>Sunday 2nd/3rd</b> <b>2nd Sunday of</b> <b>Christmas</b>	<b>Sat 5pm Mass KF</b> <b>9.45am Mass BH</b> <b>11.30am Mass OH</b>	Richard Adams People of the Parish Leslie Hancox
Monday 4th		
Tuesday 5th	<b>1.30pm OH</b> <b>Vigil Mass for Epiphany</b> <b>2pm Mass OH</b> <b>7.30pm KF</b>	Adoration  Joseph Kochuparambil Novena
Wednesday 6th <b>EPIPHANY</b>	<b>10am Mass BH</b> <b>10.30am -11am BH</b> <b>12noon Mass KF</b>	Fr Stephen Adoration Keith Tonilius
Thursday 7th	<b>2.30pm Funeral Service</b>	Patrick Woods
Friday 8th	<b>10.30am-11am KF</b> <b>11am Mass</b>	Adoration Thomas and Joan Jeavons
Saturday 9th		
<b>Sunday 9th /10th</b> <b>Baptism of the</b> <b>Lord</b>	<b>Sat 5pm Mass KF</b> <b>9.45am Mass BH</b> <b>11.30am Mass OH</b>	Tracy People of the Parish Jean Hancox

Please pray for all those whose have died especially Patrick Woods, Joseph Kochuparambil (Fr Shanju's grandfather) those on our January deceased list and for all those whose anniversaries occur this month. May they all rest in peace.

Please pray for all those who are sick including Francis Chin, Jess Shaw, Eva McCall, Harold Shackley, Michael Rose, Jill Rowe, James Kearney, Catherine Greenaway, Barbara Masterman, Margaret Shipley, Tess Barnsley, Steve Dunn, Lynsey Cooper, Alec Huffer, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Roy Davies, Chris Rylands, Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Peggy Tromans, Rob Bryan, Ilona Bryan, Betty Storey, Lily Petford, Connie Birch, Stella Jones, Margaret Marlowe, Don Neale, Michael Rose, Anne Peters, Francis Theseira, Jackie Spittle, Barry Simner, David Barnsley and Dawn Russon. May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

**FOODBANKS - both our foodbanks have now reopened to help those in need. If you are able to donate to them they will be happy to accept your donations - the need is growing and donations are much needed at this difficult time for so many people**

Collections: BH: GA £537.00, Loose £150.79, poor Parishes £25.950., Rent £60.00, Donations £700.00 KF GA, Loose £ KF GA, Loose £. OH GA £, Loose £

## This year Epiphany will be celebrated on Wednesday 6th January

Masses will be at :

Tuesday 5th January (Vigil Mass) Old Hill 12.30pm  
 Wednesday 6th January Brierley Hill 10am  
 Wednesday 6th January Kingswinford 12noon



**Stewards/Wardens** Are there any volunteers to help at Brierley Hill on Wednesdays please? If so, please speak to Fr Shanju or Stephanie or email the office. Thank you

**Collections** If you would like to set up a regular donation to your Church via the bank please ask for the details you need. Our income has been severely reduced by the pandemic but sadly the bills have not.

**Happy (Belated) New Year** to all our parishioners pray that with the news of a second vaccine we can return to some normality by Easter!

### New Year resolutions

Each year people firmly believe that *this* will be *the* year - the year they lose weight, the year they make more of an impression at work, the year something is better than the previous. But how many of us make New Year's resolutions to follow Christ?

1. **Educate yourself** Proverbs 1:5 says, "Let the wise listen and learn yet more, and a person of discernment will acquire the art of guidance."
2. **Listen** James 1:19 helps us understand what listening means. "Remember this, my dear brothers: everyone should be quick to listen but slow to speak and slow to human anger..."
3. **Be generous** This is *not* limited to money! Remember, when we offer to help people pack for a move, practice for a speech, listen to their worries or feed the hungry, we are being generous and mirroring Christ's heart.
4. **Be more like Jesus** We are called to follow Christ's example John 8:12, "...I am the light of the world; anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark, but will have the light of life."  
*(Catholic online)*