

OUR LADY AND ST. HELEN'S

CONDORRAT.

117, Achray Road, G67 4JG
Tel. 01236-731-258

Priest: Rev. Paulinus Onyenuru OP.
Deacon: Paul McNair
www.ourladyandstheLEN.org
olsthelen@rcag.org.uk



Mass times

Monday to Friday	10 am
Saturday Vigil Mass	6 pm
Sunday	10 am & 12 noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday to Friday	9:00 -9:45 am
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Confessions

Tuesday and Thursday	9:20 am
Saturday	5:20 pm

The Epiphany of the Lord - Solemnity

Sunday, 4th of January, 2026.

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

The Glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 72 (71)

All the nations of the earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

It has now been revealed that the Gentiles are fellow heirs of the promise.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

We have come from the East to worship the king.

Reflection: "And they Came"

The Epiphany is God revealing Himself to all nations through the "3 Wise Men." The Magi journeyed towards Bethlehem. They noticed the star and, instead of waiting for perfect clarity, allowed themselves to be led. They responded to the Divine drawing them into the deep-unknown. These men came from the East, crossing distance and uncertainty, not knowing exactly what awaited them. They travelled a long distance, yet fatigue did not stop them. And when they finally arrived, they did not find what the world would call greatness. They found a small, poor, hidden child. Still, they knelt and worshipped. And in that moment, the Gospel tells us, they were filled with great joy. The Magi were open-minded, and that is the secret of the Epiphany: those who come with open hearts are never disappointed.

Beside this openness stands the figure of Herod, who also heard of the child and knew where He was to be born. Yet Herod did not come. His heart was closed by fear and by the need to protect his power. The contrast is striking. The Magi travelled far with open hearts and found joy, while Herod remained where he was, wallowing in unrest.

As we begin this new year, this celebration calls us to reflect on some questions. How do we come to God? How do we come to worship? How do we come to one another as a parish community? It is easy to come with fixed expectations, with old habits, or with guarded hearts shaped by past experiences. Yet the Epiphany invites us to come as the Magi did. Willing to be led, ready to be surprised, and humble enough to kneel when God reveals Himself in ways that challenge our assumptions.

When the Magi encountered Christ, they did not leave the same way they arrived. They returned home by another road, because an encounter with the living God always changes our direction. To come to Christ with openness is to allow Him to reshape how we think, how we see, and how we live.

This Epiphany, the invitation is simple but demanding. It is an invitation to come with trust and total surrender. If we come with open minds and open hearts, we will discover, as the Magi did, that God never disappoints. He meets us not always as we expect, but always as we need.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance: Open your ears, O Christian people	No. 546
Offertory: Lord accept the gifts we offer	No. 443
Communion 1: O Little Town of Bethlehem	No. 526
Communion 2: Praise to the Lord the Almighty	No. 583
Recession: We three Kings	No. 722

The Funeral of **Edward Walter Ramsay** takes place on Thursday, the 8th of January, at 10 AM, with a reception on Wednesday, the 7th, at 7 PM.

Let us continue to pray for those who are struggling with ill health at the moment, especially **Fr. Benedict Douglas Livingston**.

Death: *Joseph Barton, Margaret Mutter*

Anniversary: *Hugh McAleer, Elizabeth McAleer, William Mehauglan, Jim Allison, Fr. Joseph Doherty, David Bowie, Alice McWilliams, Celeste Barclay, Micheal Brown, Walter Johnstone, Maureen Arthur, Bryan McMahon*

Parish Christmas Party – Message of Appreciation

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all parishioners, families, and friends who joined us for the Parish Christmas Party on Monday, 29 December. Your festive spirit truly made the evening a joyful celebration.

We are especially thankful to those who assisted with the event coordination, music, and hospitality. May the joy we shared continue to strengthen the bonds of our parish family throughout the Christmas season and into the New Year. We pray that the peace and hope of the Incarnation remain with each of you and your loved ones.

Eucharistic Adoration schedule to resume on the 5th of January has been moved to the 12th of January.

Collections for 21/12/2025

Offertory: £678.77 **Gift Aid envelopes:** £396

28/12/2025

Offertory: £521.26 **Gift Aid envelopes:** £308.10

Christmas Collection: £1318.60 **St. Nicholas Fund:** £699.77

Thank you.