

# PARISH OF ST GEORGE

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## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5 JANUARY 2025

READINGS: MATTHEW 2:1-12

Scripture Lessons:



The Greek word Epiphany (επιφάνεια), means appearance or manifestation. Multiple revelations of Jesus as God are celebrated on this Feast of the Epiphany. First, the angels revealed Jesus to the shepherds. In the Western Church, the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, while in the Eastern Church, the Epiphany event is celebrated in the commemoration of the Baptism of Christ when the Father and the Holy Spirit gave combined testimony to Jesus' identity as Son of God.

The Church celebrates all these epiphany events on this Feast of Epiphany.



### Prayer for Christmas Season

Prayer for Christmas Season Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold His glory, and are bathed in its radiance. Amen

Today's Gospel reminds us that if God permitted the Magi – foreigners and pagans – to recognize and give Jesus proper respect as the King of Jews, we should know that there is nothing that will keep God from bringing us to Jesus if we are willing to accept him. There were three groups of people who reacted to the Epiphany of Christ's birth. The first group, headed by King Herod the Great, tried to eliminate the Child, the second group, priests and scribes, ignored him, and the third group, represented by the shepherds and the Magi, came to adore him.

### Life Messages:

Let us make sure that we belong to the third group:

- a) by worshipping Jesus at Mass with the gold of our love, the myrrh of our humility, and the frankincense of our adoration;
- b) by giving a new direction to our lives. As the Magi chose another route to return to their homes, we need to choose a better way of life, abstaining from proud and impure thoughts, evil habits and selfish behaviour;
- c) by becoming stars leading others to Jesus as the star led the Magi to Jesus – removing the darkness of the evil around us and radiating Jesus' love through selfless service, unconditional forgiveness, and compassionate care.

## MASS TIMES FOR THIS COMING WEEK

Saturday 4 January St Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious <i>We have found the Messiah.</i>	6:30pm	Margaret Allman
<b>SUNDAY 5 JANUARY</b> <b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b> <i>All Nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord</i>	9:30am 11:00am	Daphne's Intentions Ann Carr's Intentions
Monday 6 January <b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b> <i>O Praise the Lord, Jersusalem!</i>	No Mass	-----
Tuesday 7 January St Raymond of Penyafort, priest <i>Give them something to eat yourselves.</i>	No Mass	-----
Wednesday 8 January St Thorfinn, bishop <i>They saw him walking on the lake.</i>	No Mass	-----
Thursday 9 January St Adrian of Canterbury, abbot <i>The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.</i>	No Mass	-----
Friday 10 January St Peter Orseolo, hermit <i>He would go off where he could be alone and pray.</i>	No Mass	-----
Saturday 11 January St Silvanus of Amiens <i>He must grown greater, and I must grow smaller.</i>	6:30pm	Hazel Spencer
Sunday 12 January <b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b> <i>He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.</i>	9:30am 11:00am	Departed members and in-laws of Gorman family. Parishioners

**Say your Daily Rosary for God's blessings in Our families and Peace of the World.**



The work of the foodbank continues to help people who are suffering from food poverty and experiencing crisis in their lives. It continues to be grateful for the help and support it receives from our community. With its collection points in the town's supermarkets and churches, it is able to ensure that those in need are supported.

### **Readers: 5 January 2025**

Sat 6:30	Sun 9:30	Sun 11:00
Jo Williams	Richard Shrimplin	Peculiar Chinagorom

### **Weekly Collection:**

We wish to thank you for your ongoing generosity in the upkeep of the parish.

- Sunday 22 December 2024: £373.05
- Christmas Day 2024: £649.51
- Sunday 29th December 2024: £280.01
- Standing Orders: £118.25

**Confession is before or after Mass or at any convenient time you want.**

**Arrange with the Parish Priest.**

