

PARISH OF ST GEORGE

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Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, 7th January 2024 Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12



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. At Cana, Jesus revealed His Divinity by transforming water into wine. Later, in the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus revealed Himself as the promised Messiah. The Church celebrates all these epiphany events on this Feast of Epiphany.

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 MESSAGE

Let us make sure that we belong to the third group: a) by worshiping 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 behavior; 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

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

**There will be Mass in
Malpas this Sunday 7th of
January 2024. Time: 6pm**

Anima Christi:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, embolden me.
 Water from the side of Christ, Wash me.
 Passion of Christ, Strengthen me.
 O Good Jesus, hear me.
 Within your wounds hide me.

Permit me not to be separated from you.
 From the wicked foe, defend me.
 At the hour of my death, call me and bid
 me come to you.
 That with your saints I may praise you
 For ever and ever.
 Amen



Mass Times

Saturday 06 January	6:30pm	Ann Rosa & William Pendlebury
Sunday 07 January	9:30 am 11:00pm	Loreto & Mangherita Rea
Monday 08 January THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	10:00am	Marco & Maria Rea
Tuesday 09 January	10:00am	Vincenzo & Bridget Schiavo
Wednesday 10 January	Sacristy	Private
Thursday 11 January	10:00am	Sanctification of Priests
Friday 12 January	6:00pm	TIANI & Latessa Family
Saturday 13 January	6:30pm	Annamma Chacko
Sunday 14 January	9:30am 11am	Pat Cummins Parishioners

Say your daily rosary for peace in the world



FOOD BANK: 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.

CAFOD The Church relies on people getting involved. Our parish, our community, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? Could you give a bit of time to help our parish flourish. CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, is looking for people to give just a little time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, to build a better world. They also need people to visit our local schools: Training & support provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or contact shrewsbury@cafod.org.uk Or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? cafod.org.uk/walk

Mass Offering for 24th of December—£289.59
 Collection for 25th December -----£496.30
 Collection for 31st December -----£342.91

Standing orders-----£118.25

Sat 6:30pm	Sun. 9:30am	Sun. 11:00am
Roland Young	Gerard Dolan	Liz Greaves

Confession is before and after mass at any convenient time you want. Arrange with the Parish Priest

Our Parish Safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke