

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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**Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, 6 January 2019**

“We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage.”

Matthew 2, 2

Dear Parishioners,  
a brief word of thanks for your generous Christmas Offering. Thanks too to the many parishioners whose personal acts of kindness and gestures of support meant so much to me during the Christmas season. For me and for many the procession to the crib and the singing of Silent Night by candlelight was the high-point of our celebrations, and to all who contributed to that very special moment a big "Thank You." May the New Year bring you and your families many blessings.

Father Patrick

### **CHRISTMAS 200 CLUB RESULTS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mr D Porter
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mrs A Gaughan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mr J Kavanagh
- 4<sup>th</sup> Mrs T Manning
- 4<sup>th</sup> The Houghton Family
- 4<sup>th</sup> Mrs M Durnin
- 5<sup>th</sup> Mr J Woodard

Congratulations, your cheques are available in the sacristy or speak to Mary Van Den Berghe.

### **DECEMBER 200 CLUB RESULTS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mr M Offen
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Houghton Family
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs M Lennon
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs M Van Den Berghe

### **TAMIL CURRY NIGHT**

The Tamil community have generously offered to hold another curry night here in the Cenacle at 7pm on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Tickets available in advance from Edwin this weekend - £10 adult/£5 children/£25 family(2 adults, up to 3 children). One drink included. Proceeds to be split between the parish and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Open to parishioners, family & friends.

### **2019 DIOCESAN DIRECTORY**

Copies are now available from the Repository at £2.75 each.

### **GOING INTO HOSPITAL?**

On admission to Royal Berkshire Hospital all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to have Communion or see a Priest. All arrangements in RBH are "Patient Led". Hospital Chaplain - Fr JP Lyttle  
Mobile: 07391 896559 / RBH: 0118 322 7105

### **DO YOU GIFT AID YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING?**

If you have changed address recently or have stopped paying tax for some reason, please contact the parish office so that your records can be updated.

Thank you.

### **LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION**

|                 |         |       |         |
|-----------------|---------|-------|---------|
| Gift Aid        | £140.46 | Loose | £484.68 |
| Standing Orders |         |       | £484.00 |

**Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (Year C – Luke):** The twelfth day of Christmas brings the season to a tumultuous crescendo. The twelve days are book-ended by the Nativity when the shepherds, representing the Chosen People, presented themselves to the new-born Saviour, and by the Epiphany when the wise men, representing all the people of the whole world, worshipped the new-born King, their three gifts indicating clearly that these visitors from afar recognised in him the spark of the divine. Epiphany is really our Christmas, i.e. of us who do not belong to the Chosen People but who, unlike most of them, recognised and accepted the son of Mary and Joseph as the Son of God. Last year we launched a tradition from Europe which, if we repeat it this year, will become an OL & St. Anne custom. We will inscribe with chalk on the lintel of our doorposts the blessing brought by the three wise men: 20 C + M + B 19 (Caspar, Melchior & Balthasar – Christus Mansionem Benedicat – May Christ bless this house). On the last evening of our Advent Course we explored the theological significance of the Epiphany: the revelation of the Child-Jesus as king, light of the world and earmarked for suffering.

**First Reading (OT): Isaiah 60, 1 – 6:** The picture painted by Isaiah reminds us of the opening of a film, all the people, some of them in exotic attire, streaming towards Jerusalem. Here the city on the hill, where the Temple was the meeting-point between the people and their God, radiates light. Many of the Christmas cards this year depict the city, a blaze of colour and light, an exotic meeting point of peoples, cultures and traditions. The artists express this rich diversity of the city where God gathers all his people by a kaleidoscope of brilliant colours.

**Second Reading (NT): Ephesians 3, 2 – 3. 5 – 6:** The big question which preoccupied the early Church was deciding the degree to which those who converted to Christianity were subject to the Jewish law. The conversion of Paul was the decisive moment in working out a new attitude of Christians to the tradition of the Israelites. Paul made clear that the call to salvation was addressed by God to all. God gave himself as a gift in Jesus Christ to all. The Jewish law was henceforth of only relative importance. The heathens who converted to the Gospel have the same rights as the Jews of old. The wise men (hailing from the three known continents, tradition suggests) represent the whole world and, in following the star, they responded to the universal call to salvation.

**Gospel: Matthew 2, 1 – 12:** Today's gospel is one of the most beautiful and moving stories related in the New Testament. The wise men had followed a star (i.e. their inner compass, their intuition), they had inquired about the prophecies (those promised made by God to the Israelites), they had found their way – again thanks to the star – to where Mary, Joseph and the child were in Bethlehem. They must have sensed the child's divinity, the veil was lifted for an instant (Epiphany = revelation) and they worshipped him. So overcome were they by the experience, they were transformed and returned by a different way.

*The readings for today's Masses are to be found in Parish Mass Book : pp 115-117*

# Masses and Intentions

## Christmastide

Saturday      5<sup>th</sup> January      10.00      Ahmed Abba Paris RIP  
*Christmas feria*

### Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord      Year C

|                        |                          |                                       |                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Saturday               | 5 <sup>th</sup> January  | 17.30                                 | Shirley Cox          |
| Sunday                 | 6 <sup>th</sup> January  | 10.00                                 | Moira Harris         |
|                        |                          | 18.30                                 | People of the parish |
| Monday                 | 7 <sup>th</sup> January  | No Mass                               |                      |
| <i>Christmas feria</i> |                          |                                       |                      |
| Tuesday                | 8 <sup>th</sup> January  | No Mass                               |                      |
| <i>Christmas feria</i> |                          |                                       |                      |
| Wednesday              | 9 <sup>th</sup> January  | No Mass                               |                      |
| <i>Christmas feria</i> |                          |                                       |                      |
| Thursday               | 10 <sup>th</sup> January | No Mass                               |                      |
| <i>Christmas feria</i> |                          |                                       |                      |
| Friday                 | 11 <sup>th</sup> January | No Mass                               |                      |
| <i>Christmas feria</i> |                          |                                       |                      |
| Saturday               | 12 <sup>th</sup> January | No Mass or confessions in the morning |                      |
| <i>Christmas feria</i> |                          |                                       |                      |

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord      Year C

|          |                          |       |                         |
|----------|--------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| Saturday | 12 <sup>th</sup> January | 17.30 | Repose of Holy Souls    |
| Sunday   | 13 <sup>th</sup> January | 10.00 | Jim & Muriel Surman RIP |
|          |                          | 18.30 | Larry McGrath           |

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Confessions:                 | None Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> January |
| Exposition<br>& Benediction: | None Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> January |
| Evening prayer, Rosary:      | Saturday    16.45                      |