



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Deanery website: www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk
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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

(JANUARY 7, 2024)

Entrance Antiphon: **Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
And kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.**

Response to the Psalm: **All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation: **We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.**

Communion Antiphon: **We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.**

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

6.00pm (Sat) 9.00am, 10.30am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 9.30am – 10am and 5pm - 5.30pm

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Peter Vas (Anniversary)
	09.00am	Mass – Sam Dias (Intentions)
	10.30am	Mass – Joe McGrory (RIP) Tracie McGrory (RIP) Valinksha De Souza (Intentions)
Monday	NO MASS	
Tuesday	09.00am	Mass - Morissa Victoria (Intentions) Marta Fernandes & Thomas Silveira (Intentions)
Wednesday	09.00am	Mass – Robert Potter (RIP)
Thursday	09.00am	Mass - Muriel Fernandes & Jacob Gonsalves (Thanksgiving)
Friday	09.00am	Mass - Ann Connolly (RIP) Amron Vales (Intentions) Evelin Mia Fatima Gomes (Intentions)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (JANUARY 14, 2024)

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Andrea Rodrigues (Intentions)
	9.00am	Mass – Joao Fernandes (Anniversary) Constantino & Filomena Gomes (Intentions)
	10.30am	Mass – Rocco & Maria Solimena (RIP)

Church cleaning every Friday, after the Morning Mass. Your help would be much appreciated

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOU PRAYERS all those who are sick especially: Anna Tickner, Peadar Heffron, Sheila Hughes, Christopher and Cath Brown, Julia Harrison, Lena Watson, Cheryl Dawson, Louise Stacey, Irena Fliska, John Ruck, Ruth Sellars, Lucy Murray, Bill O'Donnell, Elizabeth McGill, Andrew McCarthy, Marie Lowe, Gill Young, Connor McLaughlin, Peggy Notley, Peter Hazel, Dawn Connolly-Williams, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Breda Brown, Caroline Borg, Nellie Blake, Valliton Fernandes, Andy Cavilla

THANK YOU: The Priests and Deacons thank the parishioners for the gifts and cards received at Christmas. Fr Michael thanks parishioners for their generous Christmas offering.

READERS: A copy of the readers rota for December 2023 and January 2024 is available at the back of the Church.

MARIA SANTANA VAS: Mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of Maria Vas on Saturday 13th January at 10.30am. All are welcome to attend this Mass.

DIED RECENTLY: Please remember to pray for the repose of the soul of Patrick Reardon and Nigel De Souza who has died recently.

The Requiem Mass for Patrick will be on 10th January, 12.15pm here at St Marys Church.

The Funeral Service for Nigel will be on 12th January, 12.45pm at Kingsdown crematorium.

Please also remember to pray for their families.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024: Bishop Declan will be coming to St Marys for confirmation on April 23rd 2024. Application forms are now available and can be collected after Mass.

FIRST COMMUNION 2024: Application forms for First Communion are now available. See Fr Michael or any of the Deacons. Any child wishing to make their First Holy Communion must be in year 3 or above.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE DROP-IN, 14th January : The National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR) and Great Western Hospital will come to our Parish of St Marys and will have a stand before and after both Masses on 14th January. Take a moment to talk to health care professionals, get a blood pressure check and find out how research taking place in the West of England is changing lives for the better.

PILGRIM CROSS is an Easter pilgrimage for all ages that walks every year to Walsingham - an ancient site of pilgrimage in Norfolk. We live and walk in community for one, three or seven days before spending an amazing weekend celebrating Easter in the ruins of Walsingham Abbey.

The pilgrimage is a way of celebrating Easter like no other and the friendships you make during the week last a lifetime, but what we appreciate most is the opportunity to step out of the busyness of everyday life for a week and just be. Whether you are looking to deepen your faith, find fellowship with friends or just to take some time to think, we look forward to meeting you on Pilgrim Cross. For more details contact Marguerite Holliday on 07505 368 218. Poster on notice board at the back of the Church.

THANK YOU: You will notice that all the kneelers in the Church have been restored with new covers. With many thanks to the parishioners who did the work and contributed the cost to the parish.

KNIT AND NATTERERS: Thank you to all who made donations for knitted items which came to £62.82. This will go to 'Future In Our Hands Charity' <http://fiohnetwork.org/> Registered Charity Number 1047953. The charity supports sustainable projects for women, children and the environment mainly in India, Cameroon and Sierra Leone. Many Thanks from The Knit & Natterers.

SWINDON FOOD COLLECTIVE: Many thanks to all those who contribute to Swindon food bank. Any donations can be left in the basket at the back of the Church.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The new Gift Aid yellow envelopes (for tax payers) for 2023/24 are ready to collect from the Sacristy. Please ensure you take your correct box as they are all numbered. Non-Gift Aiders (non-tax payers) please take a box of green envelopes.

GIFT AID DONATIONS: Anyone who wishes to start donating weekly/ monthly either through Gift Aid envelopes or direct debit/ Standing order/ through offertory envelope donations order may ask for a form or speak to Fr. Michael or contact the Parish Office.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER: If you want to subscribe to 'The Universe Catholic' Weekly Newspaper Contact Michelle on mobile 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

PARISH OFFERTORY: Last week the offertory collection came to £ 1440.44 and £500 in standing orders. Many thanks for your generosity.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA: The Parish statue of our Lady of Fatima is available for people to take to their home for prayer and for special occasions. For booking contact: **Natasha Vas** on Mobile 07720982226 after 4.30pm until 8pm.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you,
the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,10-13

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

Second reading

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!
We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord.