

# ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH FELTHAM

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## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Readings: Parish Mass Book Year C, Volume 1:** Page 115: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6;

Matthew 2:1-12

**Next Week: The Baptism of the Lord:** Page: 118: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 28; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### Parish Team

*Parish Priest:*

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*Assistant Priest:*

**Fr. Peter Shekelton**

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*Deacon:*

**Rev. Colin Macken**

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*Parish Pastoral Assistant:*

**Jordan Pullicino**

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*Parish Secretary:*

**Florie Fernandes**

*Parish Sisters:*

**Sr. Katherine O'Reilly, Sr. Mary O'Malley, Sr. Nora Gorman**

*Gift Aid & Planned Giving*

*Co-ordinator:*

**Frank Macken**

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The three wise men are from the East, a place generally unknown to the Jews at the time, a place that suggested a culture of strange beliefs, astrology and sciences. They are pagans. They do not know the Sacred Scriptures of Israel but rather the language of the stars. But they seek the truth and leave their own countries and lands to find it. They are intrigued and allow themselves to be seduced by the mystery of it all, they feel the need to "adore".

Their presence provokes a shock in Jerusalem. The wise men have seen a new star that somehow makes them conclude that the "King of the Jews" has been born and they have come to "adore Him". However, this particular King is not Augustus the Emperor of Rome nor is it Herod of Jerusalem. So who and where is he? This is the Wise men's question in Jerusalem.

King Herod is particularly shocked; the news does not provoke any joy in him at all. After all was it not he who had been appointed by Rome, the ruling power, to be the "King of the Jews"? It will be necessary to put an end to this newly born rival, but where is he to be found? The high priests and scribes too know the scriptures better than anyone else and know full well that the prophecy is that he be born in Bethlehem, but surprisingly they make no effort to seek him, they don't take their leave to look for him and adore him.

This is what Jesus will encounter during his short life: hostility and rejection from the ruling powers; indifference and resistance from the religious authorities; hardened hearts. Only those that seek the kingdom of God and its justice will receive Jesus.

"And falling to their knees they adored Him" A hardened heart is incapable of adoration.

The Epiphany is a feast in which we are called to "adore" the Lord who presents himself as a weak and defenceless new born. A short reflection of this simple Gospel may help us see how hard our own hearts can often be.

**Fr Peter**

**Sunday Mass: 6pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9am, 11am, 1pm (Polish) & 6pm; Weekday Mass: Monday-Friday 9.30am; Saturday 12noon; Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday 9.15am, Novena to Our Lady: Tuesdays 10am; Exposition and Benediction: Saturdays 11am; Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday 11am & 5pm**

### Protecting your Privacy:

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which became effective in May this year the Parish requires your permission to hold your data for Parish/Diocesan use. You can read our full privacy policy on [www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy).

This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT) Registered Charity No: 233699

## THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your greetings and gifts this Christmas, and to everyone who has given so much to our parish community these last few weeks; our choirs and organist, Readers, Altar Servers, Ministers of Holy Communion, flower arrangers, cleaners, those who wash the altar linens and albs, Welcomers, sacristans, Lisa and her team for the Advent workshop, the Yo! Outreach Group, Lodge Brothers for the Christmas Tree, and all those who have helped to make this season so special. Equal thanks must go to those who serve our parish so well throughout the year; to Florie in the Parish Office, Theresa, Jordan for her work with our children, young people and adults, Fr Peter, Deacon Colin, Fr Gerry, Sisters Katherine, Mary and Nora; Margaret and Sharyn our housekeepers; Bridget, our catechists, Sunday School teachers, Children's Liturgy leaders, youth club leaders, our Finance Committee, collectors and money counters, prayer group and faith sharing groups, all those who organise and help at events, our UCM and over 50's Club, Mother and Toddlers group, Early Risers, Knights of St Columba, our Missio, CAFOD and LIFE groups. Not forgetting the work of St Lawrence's School Staff, Governors and Friends of St Lawrence's. *Fr John*

*Fr Peter, Deacon Colin, Fr Gerry, Sr Katherine, Sr Mary, Sr Nora, Jordan and Florie wish to thank you all for your Christmas greetings and most generous gifts.*

## SACRAMENTS

### BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

A warm welcome to Christian Ace Cardozo who will be baptised this weekend and we offer our warmest congratulations to his family.

### TUESDAY GROUP

The classes start again on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January** at 4.30pm in the Parish Centre.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School commences again on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January** at 10am in the School Hall.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy begins again on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January**.

### CONFIRMATION

The first preparation Class for Confirmation will take place on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre. Parents are also expected to attend this first meeting.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The First Holy Communion programme begins again on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January** at 4.30pm in the School Hall followed by Mass at 6pm.

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The next meeting is on **Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. This course is designed to help you explore the Catholic faith and to become a member of the Church if you wish.

## PARISH NOTICES

### PRAYER GROUP

The St Lawrence's Prayer Group will convene on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018** at 7.30pm in the Presbytery Prayer Room. New members welcome.

### SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY

The Parish's annual Senior Citizen's "Christmas" Party will take place on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January** from 12noon to 4pm. 60 places only – the list is now full. Please put your name down on the lists in the porch if you can help. Details from Philomena Franklin.

### UCM

The UCM will meet for the beginning of the New Year on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The next meeting is on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January** at 7pm in the Presbytery.

## ST LAWRENCE'S SCHOOL

The children from St Lawrence's School will be joining us for their start of term Mass on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January** at 9.30am.

## RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSIONS 2019

The last date that Fr John and Fr Peter will be available to see families is **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January from 9.30am to 10.30am**. To make an appointment please put your name on the list on the noticeboard in the Church porch. Make sure you bring your child with you for the appointment along with their Baptism Certificate.

## REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of the souls of Eugenia Chappory RIP, Margaret Mary Murphy RIP and Christopher Chasteau who died recently. Please also remember in your prayers their families and all who mourn them.

### MARGARET MARY MURPHY RIP

Her funeral will take place here on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 10am**. Please note that this is the only Mass in Church that day.

### CHRISTOPHER CHASTEAU RIP

His funeral will take place here on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January** at 11.15am.

### EUGENIA CHAPPORY RIP

Funeral arrangements will be announced shortly.

## OTHER

### VOLUNTEERING FOR CAFOD

If you would like to be a Volunteer for CAFOD there is an opportunity to learn all you want to know on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January** from 10am-3.00pm at CAFOD Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. Nearest Tube: Lambeth North. See poster on notice board in porch.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 11.00 12.00  12.45 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Edith & Patrick Maple in Thanksgiving – (62 <sup>nd</sup> Wedding Anniversary)  Baptism of Christian Ace Cardozo Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	09.00 11.00 13.00 15.00 18.00	Piedade Mascarenhas RIP Philip & Anne Sheridan RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Mass in Ukrainian Derrick Juriansz RIP (Anniversary)
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Jacinto & Francisca Do Rosario RIP (Anniversary)
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Jackie Ryan of Charleville, Co. Cork RIP (Anniversary)
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup>	<u>10.00</u>	No Morning Prayer REQUIEM MASS – MARGARET MARY MURPHY RIP
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Eucharistic Service
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Nelson Botelho in Birthday Thanksgiving
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 11.00 12.00  17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Augustine Do Reis, Olga Ferreira and Jaime Vincent Mendez RIP  Sacrament of Reconciliation Steve Walsh RIP (Anniversary)
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Anne Webb RIP John Dennett RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) People of the Parish
		Sanctuary Lamp: Harry Haldane RIP

### Thank you for your generosity in last week's collection:

29-30 December: Envelopes £704.790 Loose £829.34

Standing Orders £888.25 **Total £2,834.79**

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO DATE: £4,697.10**

Crib Offering to date: £352.37