



# THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Samy Deacon: Rev. Terry Hum (Rtd)

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Parish Safeguarding Representative: Angela Scull, Phone: 07847611013

Parish School: St. Mary's Catholic Primary & Nursery School, Daventry Road, Southam CV47 1PS

Tel. No. 01926 812512 Head Teacher: Mr. John Brine

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



## 07 JANUARY 2024 – SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### The Revelation of Christ to the World

We join all the people of the world in worshipping the infant King of the Jews.

<b>Saturday 06</b> 5.30pm	<b>Vigil – Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</b> Montague Pendleton RIP (Birthday)
<b>Sunday 07</b> 10.00am	<b>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</b> Angela Scull & Wendy Griffin (Intentions)
<b>Monday 08</b> 9.30am	<b>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.</b> ~~~ No Mass ~~~ ~~~ <b>Ordinary Time</b> ~~~
<b>Tuesday 09</b>	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> ~~~ No Mass ~~~
<b>Wednesday 10</b> 7.00pm	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> ~~~ No Mass ~~~
<b>Thursday 11</b> 9.30am	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> ~~~ No Mass ~~~
<b>Friday 12</b> 9.30am	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> ~~~ No Mass ~~~
<b>Saturday 13</b> 5.30pm	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i> Virginia, Catherine & Elizabeth Hyam (Ints)
<b>Sunday 14</b> 10.00am	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Frances Gillespie (Intentions)

Eucharistic Adoration: None this week.

Confession: On request.

Private Rosary / Quiet Prayer: Sunday - 9.30am – 10.00am

Refreshments: Sundays 11.00am to 11.45am - parish hall.

### Welcome.

On the first weekend of this new year 2024, we gather as a worshipping community. Could we, as individuals, families, school and as a parish community possibly endeavour to make it our daily prayer to the Holy Spirit for the gift of renewal in our lives? The following prayer might be helpful.

#### Prayer to the Holy Spirit for Renewal in our lives

Father, pour out your Spirit upon your people, and grant us:

a new vision of your glory,

a new experience of your power,

a new faithfulness to your Word,

and a new consecration to your service,

that your love may grow among us, and your kingdom come.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Welcome: A warm welcome to Fr. David Hartley and Fr. Aji Alphonse from St Joseph's Whitnash and St Marie's, Rugby, respectively. They have kindly agreed to help us to celebrate mass this weekend.

Pope's Prayer Intention for January: For the gift of diversity in the Church: We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the Catholic Church.

Pax Christi: There will be a Second Collection next weekend for Pax Christi.

Canon Ed Stewart – Please remember in your prayers, Canon Stewart, as he recovers from a recent illness. Please also pray for Fr Arul as he takes a well earned break away from the parish, in his homeland. ALSO pray for Fr Chris Greaney and Fr Paul Lomas, recently deceased, of this diocese. May they Rest In Peace.

### *Wish You All*

*a Very Blessed & Happy New Year 2024.*

### A Christian Prayer for the New Year

Our Father and our God, as we stand at the beginning of this new year we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance as we face the future.

We each have our hopes and expectations for the year that is ahead of us-but You alone know what it holds for us, and only You can give us the strength and the wisdom we will need to meet its challenges. So help us to humbly put our hands into Your hand, and to trust You and to seek Your will for our lives during this coming year.

In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, assure us of the certainty of Your unchanging love.

In the midst of life's inevitable disappointments and heartaches, help us to turn to You for the stability and comfort we will need.

In the midst of life's temptations and the pull of our stubborn self-will, help us not to lose our way but to have the courage to do what is right in Your sight, regardless of the cost.

And in the midst of our daily preoccupations and pursuits, open our eyes to the sorrows and injustices of our hurting world, and help us to respond with compassion and sacrifice to those who are friendless and in need. May our constant prayer be that of the ancient Psalmist: "Teach me, O Lord, to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end" (Psalm 119:33).

We pray for our nation and its leaders during these difficult times, and for all those who are seeking to bring peace and justice to our dangerous and troubled world. We pray especially for Your protection on all those who serve in our armed forces, and we thank You for their commitment to defend our freedoms, even at the cost of their own lives. Be with their families also, and assure them of Your love and concern for them.

Bring our divided nation together and give us a greater vision of what You would have us to be. Your Word reminds us that "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12).

As we look back over this past year we thank You for Your goodness to us-far beyond what we have deserved. May we never presume on Your past goodness or forget all Your mercies to us, but may they instead lead us to repentance, and to a new commitment to make You the foundation and center of our lives this year.

And so, our Father, we thank You for the promise and hope of this new year, and we look forward to it with expectancy and faith. This I ask in the name of our Lord and Savior, who by His death and resurrection has given us hope both for this world and the world to come.

- Billy Graham

### Baptism

Baptism was not over and done with the day we were taken to the font.

We are baptised by all that happens to us in life.

We are baptised by hardship; in its turbulent waters we are purified of all that is false and useless.

We are baptised by suffering; in its murky waters we grow in humility and compassion.

We are baptised by joy; in its gurgling waters we experience the goodness of life.

We are baptised by love: in its singing waters we blossom like flowers in the sun.

Baptism is like the planting of a seed.

It will take a lifetime for this seed to grow and ripen.

Sanctuary Lamp: The Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week for the Deceased of the Jenkins Family RIP. Please pray for the repose of their souls. Dates to book Sanctuary Lamp are available from 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The cost is £4 for the week please. Contact Pat Woolston for bookings.