



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 5 January 2025 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings: Year C

Dear Parishioners

At this time of the year, many have been travelling, to shop for food and presents, to spend the festive season with family or friends, to collect relatives. As I write this newsletter, the news is popping up on my screen that snow is on its way. Will we manage to return home from London on the weekend from our annual post-Christmas city break?! Sometimes I feel that the weather forecasts have become more entertainment than fact but perhaps this time...

"A cold coming we had of it, Just the worst time of the year For a journey, and such a long journey"
T. S. Eliot's wonderful poem "Journey of the Magi" describes what that journey must have been like, travelling far into foreign, unknown and hostile territory. For what? The Magi (Wise men, not named as Kings or even three of them), had been studying the stars and the prophecies of an obscure prophet from an insignificant people, former slaves in Egypt, desert nomads and for a short time a coherent kingdom before being swallowed up by far more powerful forces around them.

"Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Something had drawn them to a farming hamlet called Bethlehem, to a stable, to...a baby. "And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother and they fell down and worshipped Him."
The Magi are the first Gentiles to receive the Revelation and they begin the transition from a particular race, the Jews, to the whole world, all mankind. The Old Covenant is finished and the New Covenant, sealed in the Blood of the Lamb, is now our norm. The new Israel is no longer an ethnic community but the Catholic, Universal Church of Christ, and this Body continues to spread the Light of the eternal Gospel throughout the darkness of the world and among false religious and secular gods.

God bless everyone

Fr Clive

Parish Notices

Masses next week Holy Trinity: 915am Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (School Mass for The Epiphany) and Rosary for Peace on Friday 3 January 2025

Masses at St Teresa's next week: 915am Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

Looking ahead to 2025...Wine Tasting 31 January 2025 – Tickets will be on sale after Mass this weekend - £20 each. We are grateful to Juliet and James Byrne for being our hosts again at their home on New Street opposite the park. **Funds raised will go towards medical research in memory of the lovely Tere Byrne.**

In January we pray with Pope Francis for the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes.

In addition to your own daily prayers please remember: All those who mourn the loss of loved ones: The repose of the souls of those who have died: People whose anniversaries occur at this time: The people of the Middle East, Morocco, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Tammy Lawson**. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.