

PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

Reg. Charity 242380

Parish Priest: Fr Cenydd Marrison: 01432 265177 or olqm@talktalk.net

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The Baptism of the Lord, Year A – 12 January 2014

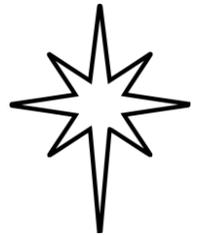
Entrance: *After the Lord was baptised the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased*

Responsorial psalm: *The Lord will bless his people with peace*

Gospel: *Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him. Alleluia!*

Communion: *Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God*

The destiny of every person is symbolized in this journey of the Magi of the East: our life is a journey, illuminated by the lights which brighten our way, to find the fullness of truth and love which we Christians recognise in Jesus, the Light of the World. Like the Magi, every person has two great "books" which provide the signs to guide this pilgrimage: the book of creation and the book of sacred Scripture. What is important is that we be attentive, alert, and listen to God who speaks to us, who always speaks to us. As the Psalm says in referring to the Law of the Lord: *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"* (Ps 119:105). Listening to the Gospel, reading it, meditating on it and making it our spiritual nourishment especially allows us to encounter the living Jesus, to experience him and his love. The first reading echoes, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, the call of God to Jerusalem: *"Arise, shine!"* (Is 60:1). Jerusalem is called to be the city of light which reflects God's light to the world and helps humanity to walk in his ways. This is the vocation and the mission of the People of God in the world. But Jerusalem can fail to respond to this call of the Lord. The Gospel tells us that the Magi, when they arrived in Jerusalem, lost sight of the star for a time. They no longer saw it. Its light was particularly absent from the palace of King Herod: his dwelling was gloomy, filled with darkness, suspicion, fear, envy. Herod, in fact, proved himself distrustful and preoccupied with the birth of a frail Child whom he thought of as a rival. In reality Jesus came not to overthrow him, a wretched puppet, but to overthrow the Prince of this world! Nonetheless, the king and his counsellors sensed that the foundations of their power were crumbling. They feared that the rules of the game were being turned upside down, that appearances were being unmasked. A whole world built on power, on success, possessions and corruption was being thrown into crisis by a child! Herod went so far as to kill the children. As Saint Quodvultdeus writes, *"You destroy those who are tiny in body because fear is destroying your heart"* (Sermo 2 de Symbolo: PL 40, 655). This was in fact the case: Herod was fearful and on account of this fear, he became insane. The Magi were able to overcome that dangerous moment of darkness before Herod, because they believed the Scriptures, the words of the prophets which indicated that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. And so they fled the darkness and dreariness of the night of the world. They resumed their journey towards Bethlehem and there they once more saw the star, and the gospel tells us that they experienced *"a great joy"* (Mt 2:10). The very star which could not be seen in that dark, worldly palace. The example of the Magi helps us to lift our gaze towards the star and to follow the great desires of our heart. They teach us not to be content with a life of mediocrity, of *"playing it safe"*, but to let ourselves be attracted always by what is good, true and beautiful... by God, who is all of this, and so much more! And they teach us not to be deceived by appearances, by what the world considers great, wise and powerful. (*Pope Francis, last Monday*)



Dates for Your Diary

Please come along and enjoy tea and coffee in the parish room after the Sunday morning Masses

The numbers drawn for week 34 were 35, 4, 7 & 49
No winner
Prize money for week 35 is £140.00 and five numbers to be drawn

Today's second collection: the recessional collection today will be for the work of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. Their stated aims are "to affirm, defend and promote the existence and value of human life from the moment of conception, and to defend and protect human life generally; to reassert the principle laid down in the United Nations 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child that the child "needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth." to defend, assist and promote the life and welfare of mothers during pregnancy and of their children from the time of conception up to, during and after birth; to examine existing or proposed laws, legislation or regulations relating to abortion and to support or oppose such as appropriate" (Taken from their website)

The Monday morning Mass: will be celebrated at 9:00am this week

Funeral Arrangements: the funeral Mass of Mr Jim Smith will be celebrated at 11:30am on Tuesday, 14th January at Belmont Abbey. Please keep Jim and his family in your prayers. *Requiescat in pace*

Tuesday Devotions: as Fr Cenydd is away on Tuesday, the usual devotions will be at Fr Roman's discretion

Bible Study: on Thursday, 16th January at 7:00pm in the parish house. All welcome, just bring a Bible

Crib offerings: the sum of **£149.58** has been sent to the Archdiocese for children in the Diocese who are in need - those living with social, familial and educational deprivation. Thank you for your kindness

Choral Evening Prayer: to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Choral Evening Prayer will be held at St David's Cathedral, Charles Street, Cardiff, CF10 2SF on Sunday 19th January at 3.00pm. All are welcome. Come and join in the hymns, prayers and psalms. It will be followed by tea & coffee at 'The Cornerstone'. For further details contact: Canon Peter Collins, Tel. 029 2023 1407

Other's poor choices: may be of great help to the parish. If you have any Christmas presents that you do not wish to keep please consider donating them to the parish for the jumble sales or our fairs. Thank you

Octave of prayer for Christian Unity: 18th to 25th January. The events for the week are as follows:

- ❖ Sunday, 19th – All Saints church at 4:00pm, a bring and share tea followed at 5:00pm by worship
- ❖ Monday, 20th – Hereford Cathedral at 12:30pm
- ❖ Tuesday, 21st – St John's Methodist church at 7:30pm
- ❖ Wednesday, 22nd – St Peter's church at 10:30am for Close House Project update, and 11:30am in the Lady chapel for Communion
- ❖ Thursday, 23rd – Friends' Meeting House at 12:30pm
- ❖ Friday, 24th – Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs at 12:30pm

"Is Christian disunity a scandal before God? Or is it something we have grown accustomed to, as though it were a creaky door that we never seem to get around to fixing? St Paul's words challenge us as we reflect upon this question. To suggest that disunity is something acceptable is declaring that Christ himself is divided – and that really is a scandal! The Churches of French Canada have chosen for us a key biblical text of the ecumenical movement, *Is Christ Divided*, and have invited us to think about what our divisions say to the world and to each other about the Christian faith." (Taken from the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland website)

Benedict and Francis: January 31-2 February; we reflect on two saints, two sons of Umbria and the vision of life and faith carried forward in today's renewal of the Church. Led by Dom Brendan Thomas at Belmont

First week of Ordinary Time

Psalter: Week I

Today:

9:30 am Alfred & Catherine Cummings
11:30 am John Young
6:30 pm

Monday 13 January 9:00 am Mass – Ruby Martin
St Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Tuesday 14 January 7:00pm Mass – Special Int (CR)
Feria

Wednesday, 15 January 9:30 am Mass –
Feria

Thursday, 16 January 9:30 am Mass – Int of Lil Green
Feria

Friday, 17 January 7:00 pm Mass – Marrison family
St Antony the Abbot

Saturday, 18 January 9:30 am Confessions
Votive Mass of the BVM 10:30 am Mass – Ernie Lomax

Sunday, 19 January (Second Sunday of OT)

9:30 am John Farren
11:30 am Anthony Moruzzi
6:30 pm Celebrated by Fr Nicholas Wetz

Please pray for:

The sick, especially Ann Morris, Brian Morris, Alice Jones, Karen Royer, Sue Watkins, Julie Martin, Katie Balnaves, Shelaigh Fawcett, Dymphna and John O'Neil, Andrew Walker, Natalie Chadwick, Leo Hornby, Sylvia Jones, Sylvia Aiello, Chris Turville, Jason Houten, Eva Zakrzewska, Pat Franklyn, John O'Donahue, Sr Catherine Jackson OP, Joe Carroll, Dorothy Dzioba, Stan Morris, Glyn Matthews, Joan Sheeran, Sam Thomson, Ian O'Donahue, Dr Mike O'Kane, Madeleine Went, Anna Foggo, Catherine Rollings, Łukasz Maziarski, Colin Reid and all in our prayer book

The recently dead, especially Harry Grafen, Simon Williams, Jeanette Harrall, Fr John Meredith, Jim Smith, Barry Britton and Janet McNamara,

Those whose anniversary falls in the month of December, including: Lillian Orchard, Walter Jennings, Kathleen Jones, Kathleen Shawcross, Marjorie Sullivan, Ellen Willis, Elizabeth Farley, Ernest Cooper, Patrick Taylor, Margaret Ryan, Jamie McGoran, Winifred Brennan, Catherine Ross, Syd Swann, Eileen Harris, Patrick Lynch, Denise McQuaid, Ronald O'Connor, Joseph Kelly, Raymond Watkins, Leslie Foulkes, Celia Methven, Reginald Sly, Shirley Walters, Irene Brennan, Jean Chappell, Angelo Moruzzi, Anthony Moruzzi, Raymond Breeze, Amelia Smith, Jerzy Schmidt, Michał Piwień, Baden Powell, Francis Seymour, Eileen Scott, William Graham, James Jones, Louise Champion and Margaret Dean

By the time Bobby arrived, the football game had already started. "Why are you so late?" asked his friend. "I couldn't decide between going to church and going to the football game. So I tossed a coin," said Bobby. "But that shouldn't have taken too long." said the friend. "Well, I had to toss it 35 times."

Church sign: 'Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will gladly take you back'
'When you pray, don't give God instructions; just report for duty!'

Rota Schedule for 17 to 23 January 2014

Flower Arrangers: L Brazewell
Cleaners: Volunteers
Ushers: 9:30am Volunteers
11:30am D Lissaman & volunteer
6:30pm C Milsom & M Netting

Readers:
9:30am T Bray
11:30am M Langley
6:30pm G McAleer

Eucharistic Ministers:

9:30am J McGowan, H Fishlock, (F Keogh)
11:30pm J Meenaghan, F Davies, D Lissaman
6:30pm C Sharland, R Jones, G McAleer

Altar Linen: M Lynch

Polish Information:

Następna Msza Św w języku polskim odbędzie się w niedzielę, 26 stycznia godz 16:00

Finance:

The collection on Sunday, 5th January came to **£520.95** – thank you

