



THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF OUR LORD & ALL SOULS



The Catholic parish of Chapelfields & Earlsdon
Kingsland Avenue Coventry CV5 8DX

A parish of the Archdiocese of Birmingham in collaboration with the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

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www.allsoulscoventry.org.uk Twitter: [@allsoulsrccov](https://twitter.com/allsoulsrccov) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556136195736>

Livestream: www.mcnmedia.tv/Camera/the-precious-blood-of-our-lord-and-all-souls-coventry

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

www.ordinariate.org.uk

We have come to

✠ **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** ✠

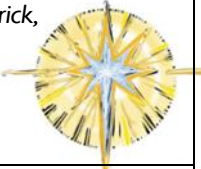
worship the King

Sunday 5th January 2025

Sunday cycle of readings: Year C

Weekday cycle of readings: I

For daily link for vespers on Zoom contact mark-niziolomski@virginmedia.com For Evening Prayer in church www.singtheoffice.org

Sun 5th	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (<i>The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles</i>)	9.30am MASS 11.15am SOLEMN MASS 5.30pm Service of Nine Lessons & Carols by candlelight (<i>followed by seasonal refreshments in the parish room</i>)	Paddy, Nora, Kathleen, Patrick, Eileen Brennan RIP The People of the Parish	
Mon 6 th	Christmas Feria	9.00am Adoration & Confessions 9.30am Mass 5.30pm Evening Prayer	Sarah Ann & Joseph Morris RIP	
Tues 7 th	Christmas Feria	9.00am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass	Dave Parnell RIP	
Wed 8 th	Christmas Feria	9.00am Adoration & Confessions 9.30am Mass 12.00pm Funeral Mass 5.30pm Evening Prayer	Delia Lovelle RIP Dorothy Richards RIP	
Thurs 9 th	Christmas Feria	5.30pm Evening Prayer 6.30pm Adoration & Confessions 7.30pm Mass (<i>Divine Worship</i>)	Kathleen Lilian Ledwick & Lorna Martin RIP	
Fri 10 th	Christmas Feria	7.00am Adoration 7.30am Mass	Dr. Peter Marius Knox RIP	
Sat 11 th	Christmas Feria	9.00am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass 10.00-11.00am Adoration & Confessions	Charlie Mullen RIP	
Sun 12th	THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	9.30am MASS 11.15am SOLEMN MASS (<i>Divine Worship</i>) 1.00pm Holy Baptism 5.30pm Evening Prayer	The People of the Parish John Cunningham RIP Ojunugwa Ariella Adaji	

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Theme of today's readings: The universal royal Messiahship of Jesus Christ

"Epiphany" means "appearance, revelation, or manifestation." Today's feast celebrates the first of three joyful wonders that signified Jesus's identity as the long-awaited Messiah. The first epiphany was the visit of the Magi, who followed a star from the East to find the newborn King to give him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The second was Jesus's baptism in the Jordan River and the first revelation of the Holy Trinity: God the Holy Spirit descended over God the Son in the form of a dove, and the divine voice of God the Father spoke from heaven. The third revelation occurred at the wedding feast at Cana when Jesus turned water into wine in his first miracle.

First reading *Isaiah 60:1-6*

The symbolism of light dramatises humanity's hope of God appearing to a world darkened by sin. This passage looks forward in time to Jesus Christ, "the Light of the world," he who drives out the darkness of sin and death (John 1:5:8:12).

Psalm 72 prepares us for the Gospel account of the visit of the Gentile Magi, promising: "All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O LORD". The Magi were the first Gentiles from among "the nations" to respond to the call to worship Christ and come to salvation in him.

Second reading *Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6*

St. Paul writes about the mystery of God's plan to deliver Jews and Gentiles through Christ's work of redemption. He tells the Ephesian Christians that the mission to bring the Gentiles to salvation began with the Gospel message delivered by Jesus's Apostles and disciples. St. Paul also wrote that Jesus specifically gave the Gospel message of salvation to him to deliver to the Gentiles as his life's mission following his conversion.

Gospel *Matthew 2:1-12*

The gifts the Magi gave the Christ-child had cultural and theological significance. They prostrated themselves in adoration, giving Jesus gifts of gold (a gift fit for a king), frankincense (incense used in worship of God and offered by priests), and myrrh (an aromatic spice used in the preparation of the dead). The Gentile Magi, who sought out the Christ-child, as opposed to Herod's chief priests who made no effort to find him, is a precursor to the rejection of Jesus by the Jewish religious leaders and the acceptance of Jesus's message of salvation by the Gentiles.

SAFEGUARDING

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is John Corroon. He can be contacted at sg.allsouls.covty@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 and safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Please take this sheet away with you for Mass times this week, upcoming events and general information.

A WARM WELCOME to Mass today, especially to anybody joining us for the first time. Please introduce yourself to the clergy and if you're able, stay for refreshments in the parish room.

PARENTS AND CHILDREN

It's a great joy to see so many young families in church. For the benefit of parents and parishioners, if young children become restless during Sunday Mass, parents are encouraged to make use of the livestreaming of the Mass on the smart screen in the parish room. Thank you. There are also some child-friendly books in the parish room – about the Mass, prayer, the saints, the Bible - for young children and parents to enjoy.

RECENTLY DEPARTED Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Madeline Smith, Dorothy Richards** (Funeral Mass 12pm Wed 8th Jan) and **Eileen Butterly** (née Mohan)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council is at 7.30pm on **Monday 20th January 2025** in the parish room. The main agenda item will be reflection on the Final Document of the recent 'Synod on synodality' in Rome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION The first session of preparation for all children in the parish who have completed an application form for First Holy Communion in 2025 is at **6.30-7.15pm on Monday 6th January 2025** in the parish room. **Children must be accompanied by a parent please.**

BEREAVEMENT GROUP next meets 2-3pm on **Monday 20th January** in the parish room.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY The next meeting is on Wednesday 8th January at 6.30pm in the parish room.

ORDINARIATE CLERGY FAMILY FUND COLLECTION

Next Sunday there will be a second collection for the Ordinariate clergy family fund, which supports those clergy of the Ordinariate with families who have need of additional financial support.

CHURCHES TOGETHER FELLOWSHIP MEAL The annual Fellowship Meal for the churches of our area is being held at 6.00 for 6.30pm on **Saturday 18th January**, in the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, at Earlsdon Methodist church (Albany Road). Tickets are available from Janet Vaughan priced £8.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025: PILGRIMS OF HOPE There are prayer booklets for the Jubilee available at the back of church. May the Jubilee Year be an opportunity for all of us to be renewed in hope in these troubled and confusing times, to experience afresh forgiveness and salvation in Jesus Christ, and to proclaim him as the Only Hope of the World.

COVENTRY PHILHARMONIC - FAURÉ'S REQUIEM As part of our centenary celebrations the Coventry Philharmonic Choir will perform Gabriel Fauré's Requiem in our church at 5.30pm on **Saturday 21st June 2025**. The concert will be followed by refreshments in the parish room. Please put the date in your diary. Tickets will be on sale soon.

HYMNS AT 9.30am MASS

Entrance 150 Offertory 166 Communion 169 Rec 170
Ps. All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you,
O LORD.

THE SACRED HEART LAMP

burns this week for

Mrs Karekla E. Nielson

THE LADY CHAPEL LAMP

burns this week for

Mrs Pickering (good health)

To request a lamp please fill out an envelope at the back of church

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

As we begin a new year it is a good discipline to look back on what has been, and to look ahead to what, with God's grace, might be.

In looking back, we should first **thank** God for all the graces of the past year: the grace of his presence with us, the grace of all the times he fed us with himself in the Holy Eucharist, the grace of so many prayers heard, the grace of his Holy Word to guide us, the grace of so many times he has washed us in his mercy.

We also need to express deep **contrition** for the graces wasted, resisted or rejected over the course of the last year, and for sins committed – things done which ought not to have been done, and things left undone which ought to have been done. We've all squandered some of the precious gift of time, filling some of it with vanities and absurdities rather than with God. For all that we regret and recognise as missing the mark, we ask, 'Lord, have mercy'.

Then we can turn to look ahead to 2025 in **hope**. The more we make an honest assessment of our life, the more we can make "spiritual new year's resolutions", acknowledging that we can't fix ourselves and the world by ourselves, but only with God's help. If we let him, God will help us this year in the *essentials* of the Christian life: how to grow in prayer; increasing our knowledge of the Word of God and living by it; entering more deeply into the prayer of the Mass; receiving God's gift of himself to us in the Eucharist and offering ourselves whole-heartedly in response; growing in docility to the Holy Spirit in our day-to-day choices; preparing ourselves to receive God's mercy more frequently in confession and with greater contrition; sacrificing ourselves more for others.

At the turning of the year, let us pray: **Past put behind us, for the future take us; Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone!**

EPIPHANY NINE LESSONS & CAROLS



Today we celebrate the great Feast of Epiphany, the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Please join us at **5.30pm** for a candlelit service of Nine Lesson and Carols, joint with St. Mary Magdalen's. Comprising a series of Bible readings and traditional Christmas and Epiphany carols and hymns, this service is an opportunity to bow down before Christ and worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. The service will be followed by seasonal refreshments.

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING At Epiphany many Catholics bless their homes by writing the letters C, M, and B and the numbers of the year on the top of their front door frame with chalk. This year, the sequence is: **20 + C + M + B + 25** This combination of letters and numbers holds a special meaning. The letters represent two different things. First, they stand for the names of the three wise men: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Secondly, they also represent the Latin blessing *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which translates, "May Christ bless this house." The crosses between each figure signify our salvation through Christ. If you would like Fr Paul to bless your house, please phone or email him. Alternatively it is possible for a member of the household to invoke God's blessing, using the prayers on the leaflet at the back of church. Blessed chalk is also at the back of church with the leaflets.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

The first of our 2025 monthly evenings of teaching on the foundations of our faith will take place on **Wednesday 29th January**, 7.00-8.30pm, in the parish room. This is open to all, with an emphasis on communicating the Church's teaching on the foundations of our Faith. Our first session will be on **Creation and the Fall**. The aim is to help us know and defend the Sacred Traditions of the Church, the sound doctrine which we need in order to understand the Word of God. The Sacred Traditions of the Church are the basis of the New Testament, without which we have no anchor to keep us from floating away in a sea of inventions that are brought about by those who prefer their own ideas than those of Jesus Christ.