



THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF *St Thomas More* and *St Joseph the Worker*



working in partnership with the Catholic Chaplaincy of Warwick University

St Thomas More

112 Knoll Drive
Stivichall
COVENTRY
CV3 5DE

stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk

Fr Simon J Baker

Parish Priest
024 7641 1900

Deacon Leo Poole

07984 071124 dcn.leo.poole@rcaob.org.uk

Deacon David Palmer

07831 726731 dcn.david.palmer@rcaob.org.uk

Deacon Pat Jeary *Retired*

St Joseph the Worker

1 De Montfort Way
Cannon Park
COVENTRY
CV4 7DU

stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk

both parishes are part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg Charity No 234216

5th January 2025

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Psalter Week: 1
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Sunday Year: C

Saturday 4 th	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	4.15pm	STM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Anthony and Bernadette Armstrong (RIP)
Sunday 5 th		9.00am	STM	Mass	Dec'd members Rutter family
		11.00am	SJW	Mass	Gerard and Phyllis Deegan
12.45pm		SJW	Mass (University)	Pro Populo	
5.00pm		STM	Epiphany Carol Service		
Monday 6 th	Christmas Feria			No Mass	
Tuesday 7 th	Christmas Feria	10.00am	SJW	Mass	Fr Gerard O'Carroll (RIP)
		12noon	STM	Mass (Newman Circle)	Celebrant's Intentions
Wednesday 8 th	Christmas Feria	11.00am	STM	Mass 'n' Mingle	Private Intention
Thursday 9 th	Christmas Feria	10.00am	STM	Mass	Patrick O'Neil (RIP)
Friday 10 th	Christmas Feria	9.30am	STM	Mass	O'Neil family and friends (Ints)
Saturday 11 th	Christmas Feria	10.00am	SJW	Mass	For peace in the land of Christ's birth
				followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	
Sunday 12 th	BAPTISM OF THE LORD	4.15pm	STM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Gordon Aspell (RIP Anniversary)
9.00am		STM	Mass	Charles Walter and Phyllis Smith	
11.00am		SJW	Mass	Peter Kennedy (RIP)	
12.45pm		SJW	Mass (University)	Pro Populo	

*Welcome to Mass today. We extend a special welcome to anybody joining us for the first time.
Please introduce yourself, and if you are able, stay for refreshments after the Mass.*

The Feast of the Epiphany is a celebration of light. Isaiah's prophecy speaks of a great light shining upon Jerusalem; a light that attracts nations and kings. It shows the presence of God and marks the beginning of a new time. This prophecy points to the coming of Jesus, the Messiah. He is the light for all people. The Epiphany is not just about an event long ago, but it reminds us that Jesus' mission is for everyone. He came for all nations and all people. The light of Jesus shines on us today, guiding us and showing us the way. This light invites us to follow Jesus and to share His light with others. The Epiphany celebrates this inclusive message. It reminds us that Jesus' grace is for everyone, no matter their background. The light of Jesus shines on all people, inviting us to be part of God's family. We are called to live out this message of unity and share the good news with others.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the Magi visiting Jesus. This is more than a story about wise men bringing gifts. It shows that Jesus is the Messiah for all people. The star guiding the Magi symbolizes God's light leading all nations to Jesus. This light is different from the power of King Herod. Herod is powerful and fearful. Jesus, though a baby, shows a different kind of kingship. He is humble and vulnerable, yet He changes the world. Matthew's account highlights that Jesus' mission is for everyone, not just for the Jews. Some think Matthew added details to show this point. But even without proof against it, this story is important in our faith. It shows that from the start, Jesus' life was marked by signs for all people, beyond Israel.

As we reflect on the Epiphany, we are reminded to follow the example of the Magi. We are called to seek Jesus, recognize His light, and honour Him as our king. Let us embrace the humility and love that Jesus shows us and share His light with the world.

STM and SJW Website: stmcov.org/wp/

Facebook: Catholic Parishes of St Thomas More and St Joseph the Worker

Livestream webcam: <https://www.youtube.com/@stmandsjtw-cov>

Coventry Catholic Deanery: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

OFFERTORIES

Collections STM: £TBC | **SJW:** £TBC

Thank you for your continued generosity

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE began on Tuesday 24th December 2024 and will continue until 6th January 2026. Let us pray that during this Holy Year, we truly will become as the theme says, 'Pilgrims of Hope' and allow this year to truly deepen our faith and our understanding of what the Lord is calling us to do.

JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

JUBILEE COMPANION BOOKS are available at the back of church. These are published in collaboration with the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The Companion Booklet is designed to help pilgrims ponder and pray, focusing on the great themes of the Holy Year: hope and forgiveness, the Apostles Peter and Paul and their Basilicas in Rome, and the key places of prayer and repentance. There are also numerous articles on being a Jubilee pilgrim, the Jubilee Icon, reflections, prayers and hymns. Please do take a copy with you.

WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF Fr Fred Sheldon, Fr Jacob Lewis, Fr Brian Boyle, Peter Kennedy (Requiem Mass on 17th January), **Mary Brownbill** (Requiem Mass on 21st January), **John Lucas** (Requiem Mass on 24th January), **Cathal Kelly, Stephen Naughton, Maureen O'Sullivan** and **Sean Ryan** together with all who have died recently. We pray for them and their families at this time. May they rest in peace.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND UNWELL: Angie Browne, Judith Cuningham, Peter Cunningham, Frank Cunningham, Carl Lightfoot, Elaine Fossett, Margaret Eason, Madge Ward, Heather Walton, Jay Veeman, Pat Farr, Phil Sands, Margaret Kelly, Joanna MacKinnon, Hilary Hanson, Debbie Colby, Monika Tokarska-Hosoi, Joan Theaker, Veronica Hammond, Alice Rowland, John Walker, Pauline Cullinane, Beatrice Upham, Peter Carvell, Sheila Jenkins, Lillian Chapman, Irena Bienek, Josie McElroy, Georgina Brannigan-Smith, Ann Kenny, Rose Warburton, Keelin Treharne, David O'Grady and Joan O'Leary, Thomas Weatherstone, Richard Healey.

MANY THANKS for the very kind and generous Christmas Offering, together with the many cards and gifts which we received from you.

MASS CARDS: If you require a card with the Order of Mass text, please ask one of the welcomers for a copy.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS are often a key topic of conversation in January and whether they will last, is an even bigger point of discussion! G.K. Chesterton, said: "the object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul." We often make a resolution 'to improve ourselves' but what about considering a New Year resolution to improve and strengthen our faith. Why not resolve to begin and end every day with prayer – something simply like the Our Father, or even the 'Jesus I trust you' prayer. Resolve to stay close to Christ in the Sacraments – why not plan to make Confession a regular part of your routine. Resolve to read the Sacred Scriptures and good spiritual books – maybe a verse or two of the Bible each day.

THE CHRISTMAS season concludes next Sunday with the Baptism of the Lord, after which Ordinary Time begins. The Christmas trees will disappear but the cribs in church will remain as a focus of prayer and devotion until the Feast of Candlemass on February 2nd.

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR to our Masses and not a Catholic, or a Catholic unable to receive, you are very welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. As you approach, please have your arm crossed over your chest, so that the minister knows to give a blessing. If you require a celiac host, please let us know before Mass.

ON SUNDAY EVENING we have our Epiphany Lantern Lit Carol Service at 5.00pm in STM. This is a chance to celebrate once more the Christmas story in word and song, so please do consider coming along. The service will be followed by refreshments in the MRR. Please do come along.

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS: The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus, which was celebrated on January 3. In the letter to the Philippians we read, 'at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth and under the earth.' Everything about our divine Lord is holy, including His Name. It was the Archangel Gabriel who first spoke the name of Jesus to His mother, "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus" (Luke 1:31). The Archangel was only a messenger, so the name of Jesus was given to Him by the Father in Heaven. There is great power in the spoken name of Jesus. Repeating His name prayerfully or speaking it aloud brings Him close and gives you strength, provided you recite His name in faith. The name of Jesus casts out fear, arouses trust, and unites your heart to His. Sadly, the Most Holy Name of Jesus is so holy that the evil one often tempts people to invoke it as a curse when angry, without even considering what they are doing. As we continue through January, let us ponder this prayer that is attributed to Saint Bernadine of Sienna, the Franciscan who spoke so fervently of Jesus' name.

Jesus, Name full of glory, grace, love, and strength! You are the refuge of those who repent, our banner of warfare in this life, the medicine of souls, the comfort of those who mourn, the delight of those who believe, the light of those who preach the true faith, the wages of those who toil, the healing of the sick. To You our devotion aspires; by You our prayers are received; we delight in contemplating You. O Name of Jesus, you are the glory of all the saints for eternity. Amen.

A PRAYER BEFORE THE CRIB: Heavenly Father may this crib remind us of the coming of your Son. Grant that all who pray here may be inspired by the example of love and humility that Christ gave to us. To all who are troubled, grant peace of mind. To all in doubt and uncertainty, grant guidance and inspiration. To all who are oppressed by sin or guilt, grant pardon and absolution. To all who are suffering in mind and body, grant comfort and healing. Above all grant to everyone who prays here in faith, the joy of spirit that the angels proclaimed at Christ's birth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CRIB DONATIONS: As has been our tradition each year, a basket will be available by our cribs for you to give a donation. This year, we have been asked to support the work of the Friends of the Holy Land.

UNIVERSITY MASSES begin again on Sunday at 12.45pm in St Joseph the Worker. Although this Mass is primarily for the University Community, parishioners are welcome to come along, if they were not able to attend other parish Masses.

FR SIMON started his new role as Chaplain to Warwick University in December last year. This means that after the 10.00am Mass at STM, Thursday's will be spent at the University. Please do remember in your prayers all the students and the staff at the University.

PARISH OFFICE is open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.30am – 4.00pm. If you have any general enquiries, please do try and call during these hours.

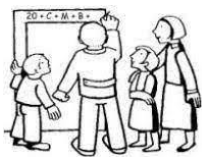
THANK YOU: So many parishioners and visitors have commented on how beautiful both the churches looked for Christmas, so a special word of thanks to all those who helped in so many ways with the decorations and preparations. Thanks also to our welcomers, readers, musicians, altar servers and anyone else, both visible and 'behind the scenes' who helped in whatever way.

DON'T DISMANTLE YOUR CRIBS JUST YET! Catholics traditionally keep the Crib in place for the forty days until 2nd February, the Feast of Candlemas (the Presentation of Christ in the Temple) as, according to the Scriptures, Mary 'kept to herself' for forty days after her Son's birth in obedience to the Law of Moses (Luke 2:22). Daily prayers at the Crib may include the Angelus and the Rosary (Joyful mysteries).

KINGDOM OF GOD PRAYER GROUP will begin again on Monday 6th January from 7.00pm – 8.45pm in the MRR. All are welcome to come along for a time of prayer, praise, reflection and refreshments.

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSINGS: It has been one of the old traditions of the Church to bless chalk at the Masses of the Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk to invoke a prayer of blessing on your home for the New Year that has just begun. These will be available at all the Epiphany Masses.

EPIPHANY BLESSING OF HOMES: It is one of the old traditions of the Church to bless chalk at the Masses of the Epiphany, and then to use the chalk to invoke a prayer of blessing on your home for the New Year that has just begun. Use the blessed chalk, which will be available at the end of our Epiphany Masses, to write above the doorway of your home **20+C+M+B+25** in the order below while saying this prayer of blessing:



The three Wise Men

(C) Caspar

(M) Melchior, and

(B) Balthasar,

followed the Star to God's Son who became man

(20) Two Thousand and

(25) Twenty-five years ago.

+ May Christ

+ bless our home

+ and remain with us throughout the new year.

+ Amen.

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. Bless this household with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your commandments. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SEVEN DAY CANDLES can now be sponsored in both STM and SJW for a donation of £5 per candle. These will be lit on a Sunday and burn for the following week. At STM candles are available for Our Lady, St Joseph, Sacred Heart and St Thomas More and at SJW they are available for Our Lady, Sacred Heart, St Anthony, and St Joseph. Please note that only one intention per candle can be booked. To sponsor a candle for a particular intention, please bring your donation to the sacristy.

FILM NIGHT at STM on Saturday 1st February after the 5.00pm Mass. More details to follow next week but please make a note in your diary.

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS for children not in Catholic Schools will begin this week. Confirmation classes will begin again on Wednesday 15th in the MRR from 5.00pm – 6.00pm. First Confession and Holy Communion classes will begin on Saturday 11th from 3.00pm – 4.30pm in the MRR. Please note that all those wishing to receive the Sacraments this year, need to have expressed interest already.

CRAFT AND CHAT will be held on Tuesday 7th in the MRR from 10.30am – 12noon. If you sew, knit, paint or have another craft hobby, you are more than welcome to come. The idea of the group is for people to be able to come together for a chat, whilst spending an hour or so on their particular craft. Please bring everything you need with you.

MASS 'N' MINGLE will resume on Wednesday 10th January at STM. This is a lovely opportunity for people to come together over a drink. If you haven't been, why not consider coming along.

RETREAT DAY FOR READERS on Saturday 25th January from 9.30am – 1.00pm at St Osburg's. This day will include Mass, Adoration, two talks and refreshments. If you are a reader at either STM or SJW we would highly encourage going along to this day.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the pupils and staff at STM Primary and Bishop Ullathorne Schools, together with all those, who this week return to begin a new term. We pray particularly for Clare Staines who becomes Acting Headteacher at STM whilst we await the arrival of the new Headteacher, Ewa Parker at Easter.

THE KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA will be celebrating their Centennial Year in 2025. They would like to hear from any former Knights. Please contact Paul on 07510 681457 or Peter 07565 766103 for more information.

KNITTED BABY CARDIGANS are required by the University Hospital for premature babies. If you, or any friends can knit any, they can be given in at church, so that the Knights of St Columba will pass them to the Coventry Clothing Charity.

CHEYLESMORE FOODHUB: It is now possible to support the work of the Foodhub through financial donations. It allows for more flexibility for the Trust to purchase foods. The required information is Cheylesmore Food Hub CAF Bank Ltd, Sort Code: 40-52-40 and the Account no: 00034145.

LGBTQ+ CATHOLIC MEETING will be held at 7.00pm on Sunday 19th January at 13 Stoney Road, CV1 2NP. For more information, please email Deacon Leo at dcn.leo.poole@rcaob.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE that Mass on Friday at STM is at the earlier time of 9.30am. There is also an extra Mass on Tuesday at 12noon for the Newman Circle gathering.

SUNDAY MISSALS were ordered in mid-December but have clearly been delayed in the Christmas post. If you have ordered one, please do check at the Piety Stalls to see if they have arrived.

DEANERY ENEWSLETTER: We have a new Deanery ENewsletter for Coventry and Nuneaton. To sign up for it, please visit www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: This year, the prayers and reflections for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity were prepared by the brothers and sisters of the monastic community of Bose in northern Italy. 2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the first Christian Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea, near Constantinople in 325 AD. This commemoration provides a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians, as expressed in the creed formulated during this council. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity offers an invitation to draw on this shared heritage and to enter more deeply into the faith that unites all Christians. The guiding biblical text for the Week of Prayer comes from John 11:17-27. The theme for the week, "Do you believe this?" (v. 26), takes its cue from the dialogue between Jesus and Martha when Jesus visited the home of Martha and Mary in Bethany following the death of their brother Lazarus.

WEEK OF PRAYER UNITY SERVICE will be held on Sunday 19th January at 2.00pm in the Chapel of Unity at Coventry Cathedral. All are welcome to come along.

ONLINE GIVING: If you were unable to give via the Offertory Collection at Sunday Mass, you can give online to either parish by scanning this QR code and following the instructions on the website.



GIFT AID GIVING: If you are a UK Taxpayer and would like to increase your weekly giving, at no extra cost to yourself, please consider Gift Aiding your donation. Through this scheme we are able to claim 25p on every £1 donated. More information available from Tony Curristan at STM and June Palmer at SJW.

HOUSE VISITS to the sick and housebound are an important part of the life of the church. Any parishioners who would welcome a visit, are asked to contact Fr Simon, Deacon Leo or Deacon David so a visit can then be arranged.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL: Anyone going into hospital, needs to be sure to tell the ward staff they are a Catholic and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain. Please also notify the Parish Clergy, so a visit, either by them or the Chaplain can be arranged.

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES: Frank Lewis, Agnes Keith, Annie Higgins, Marie Ainsworth, Bill McGivern, Bernadette Coley, Christina Murphy, Grace Brennan, Sheila Garry, Peter Barwell, Bridget Ferguson, Colm Gleeson, Joan Kendall, Elizabeth Byrne, Ann Smith, William Molloy, Elsie Flinn, Benjamin Thomason, Ron Rutter, Patrick Galvin, Margaret Gallagher, Sylvester Budkiewicz, Phyllis Smith, Christina Kelly, Kathleen Molloy, Mary Vowles, Catherine Mullen, Moira Steeley, Katherine Branski, Patrick Cully, Luigi Rigione, James Murphy, Anne Carmel Murray, Lawrence Pyle, Mary Bills, Agnes Clark, Linda Proctor, Annie Quinn, Margaret Rutter, Noel Carberry, Frank Williams, Jean Rock, Diana Cook, Margaret Gavin, Mary Jenkins, James Donoghue, Denis Parker, Lilian Corrigan, Michael Donnelly, Samuel Maxwell, Anthony Ledwidge, David Evans, James Durnien, Rosemary Walker, Catherine McKenzie, Simon Rutledge, Ellen Bell, Henry Mellon, Edward Cawley, Doreen Robinson, Marie Curristan, Walter Leigh, May Weir, Peter Keating, Michael Wynne, Gladys McIntyre, John McNaughton, Michael Hogan, William Banks, Rosina Chandler, Michael Sullivan, Dolly Parker, Tommy Snow, Elen Synott, Mary Collins, Michael McConnell, Joseph Sullivan, Heinje Casson, Maureen Griffin, Julia Quinn, Mary Verdon, James Brouder, Monique Tilson, Angela McKay, Elizabeth Ford, Bridget Reilly, Margaret Treacy, Laurence Turner, Michael Anderson, Edward O'Connell, Jeremiah Keogh, Peter Poacher, Winifred Skimming, Kevin Fitzpatrick.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 5th Epiphany Carol Service
- 7th Craft and Chat
- 11th Baptism Preparation Class at STM
- 19th Christian Unity Service
- 1st Feb Film Night at STM

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN JANUARY

- 19th Parish Development Fund at STM

READERS FOR JANUARY	STM	4 th	5.00pm	Mandy Crilly
		5 th	9.00am	Ann Fernandes
		11 th	5.00pm	Monika Rozanski
		12 th	9.00am	Catherine Smith
		18 th	5.00pm	Janet Ward
		19 th	9.00am	Joe Dore
		25 th	5.00pm	Mary Wilson
		26 th	9.00am	Debbie Middleton
	SJW	5 th	11.00am	Alanna
		12 th	11.00am	Val
		19 th	11.00am	Peter
		26 th	11.00am	Joan

SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Claire Rutter and Amanda Kelly at STM and Henry Whitney at SJW. They can be contacted using the emails below or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or email safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Parish Administrator and Room Bookings

Amanda Kelly admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk

Safeguarding Representatives

Claire Rutter and Amanda Kelly (STM) sg.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk
 Henry Whitney (SJW) sg.stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk

Giving and Gift Aid

Tony Curristan (STM) ga.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk
 June Palmer (SJW) ga.stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60: 1 – 6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all round, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13. R/cf. 11

R: All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
 to a king's son your justice,
 that he may judge your people in justice,
 and your poor in right judgement. **R**

In his days justice shall flourish,
 and great peace till the moon is no more.
 He shall rule from sea to sea,
 from the River to the bounds of the earth. **R**

The kings of Tarshish and the islands
 shall pay him tribute.
 The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.
 Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
 all nations shall serve him. **R**

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
 the poor who have no one to help.
 He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
 and save the lives of the needy. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3: 2 – 3a, 5 – 6

Brothers and sisters: I assume that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy Apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.
 We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship the Lord.
 Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2: 1 – 12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."' Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.' After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.