

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY YEAR B

7 January 2024

In the East, this Season of Christmas is called the Time of Manifestation or Showing. Today is the 'Feast of the Manifestation', or the Showing of the Saviour to the whole world, to all nations. In the wise men who travel from the East, we see all the nations other than the people of Israel being welcomed at the New Temple of the New Covenant - the newborn child in the manger. A look at the Psalm response shows this: "All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord." The same is true of the key word in the second reading: "Revelation" Remember that for the people of Israel this was to be their Messiah, come to restore their fortunes. By this feast, we proclaim God's plan was to extend his salvation to men and women of every nation, of every time and every place - including us. In many ways this is our Christmas Feast, when we celebrate the Good News of the Saviour's birth revealed at last to us.

PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

PARISH OF DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, help us never to abandon your ways. As you have loved and shown us your mercy, may we sincerely express our love for God by loving our neighbour and being merciful to them. Jesus, King of Divine Mercy, we trust in you.

2. READINGS

First: Isaiah 60:1-6 - Shine out Jerusalem, your light has come ... the nations come to your light ... everyone will come bringing gold and incense.

Psalm 71 - All nations shall fall prostrate before you O Lord / O God give judgement to your king / In his days justice shall flourish / The kings of Tarshish and the sea coast / For he shall save the poor

Second: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 - ... pagans now share the same inheritance, are part of the same body in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 - The wise men looked for the infant king, Herod summoned them. They found the place that the star was pointing to, and presented their gifts, but they did not report back to Herod.

3. CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: Thank you very much to the parishioners who volunteered to decorate our churches so beautifully for our Christmas Masses. Your work is greatly appreciated. Fr Lawrence

4. DIOCESAN SYNOD: On 15 October, Bishop John announced that as part of the Diocesan Synod we are going to come together as a Diocese for what he describes as 'The Big Listen.

Parishes are encouraged to hold Listening Sessions and there is an opportunity for individuals to respond directly to the questions being posed. As a parish we are planning to hold our listening session on **Saturday, 13 January 2024**, in the hall at Corpus Christi School from **9.30 am to 12.00 noon**. There are sheets at the back of Church where you can register your interest. We would like to encourage as many people as possible to take part in our listening event.

SYNODAL PRAYER

Loving Father, be with us as we seek new ways of being your people in our Diocese. May each new day bring us closer to your son, Jesus, as we follow his teaching and become disciples of love.

As we continue our Synodal journey, draw us closer to each other. May the truth of your Spirit enlighten us. Open our hearts, as we listen to each other and reach out in love to your people. Stay with us, Lord, on our journey. Amen. Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for us. St Joseph, pray for us.

5. SOCIAL COMMITTEE FEEDBACK: Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported all of the recent parish social events. Both Christmas Fayres were a huge success. We have had lots of positive feedback from parishioners and the community who have attended the meal at the San Rocco, the Brass band concert at Corpus Christi and our New Year Event at St Herbert's Parish Centre.

On Friday 26th January, we have our annual Ladies' Dinner at St Herbert's Parish Centre. This is a four-course meal with a glass of wine followed by dancing with Cliff's disco. This is a popular event & many ladies already have their reservation. If you have never been or would like to know more please see a committee member for details. Places need to be confirmed & paid for by Sunday 14th January.

6. CAFOD: "The Church relies on people getting involved. Our parish, our community, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? Could you give a bit of time to help our parish flourish? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, is looking for people to give just a little time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, to build a better world. They also need people to visit our local schools:

Training & support provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or contact salford@cafod.org.uk Tel 07710 094454. Or how about getting the parish together by taking part in The Big Lent Walk? cafod.org.uk/walk "

6. MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS AT CORPUS CHRISTI: Will commence again on Sunday 4th February 2024. As we are having a Parish "Listening Session" as part of the Diocesan Synod on Saturday 13th January 2024 in the Hall at Corpus Christi School From 9.30am- 12pm. (Entrance via Derby Street). Refreshments will be served!

We hope as many as possible can attend.

HYMNS

CORPUS CHRISTI: Entrance: 651; Offertory: 723, 175; Communion: 614; Recessional: 722.

ST HERBERT'S: Entrance: 144; Offertory: 651; Communion: 167, 723; Recessional: 722.

7. CORPUS CHRISTI CHILDREN’S LITURGY:

There will be a short meeting in the presbytery dining room for teaching/assistant staff after 9.30 Mass. Lessons for children will begin next week Sunday 14th January.

8. CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH CLEANING:

For the A team will resume this Monday, 8th January, please. Nick opens up at 8.45 and we finish by 9.30-45 am for Cake and a Cuppa.

9. CORPUS CHRISTI: Planned Giving envelopes start this weekend. They are free to use by anybody not paying tax.

9. SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Aelred – 12 January: St Aelred was born in 1110 and died on this day in Rievaulx (Yorkshire) in 1167. He was educated at Durham and in the King’s household in Scotland. He entered the Cistercian monastery at Rievaulx in 1134 and was eventually elected Abbot. He is remembered for his spiritual writings, above all on the gift of friendship.

11. SUNDAY SMILES FOR THE NEW YEAR

A local church held a most enjoyable social evening to welcome in 2024. The comedian had everyone in stitches with his funny, if somewhat corny, one-liners. (12)

Is it true that a New Years resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other?

Did you hear about Dracula passing out on New Year's Eve? There was a count down.

My New Year's resolution is to read far more than I do. So I am going to put the subtitles on my TV.

I was going to lose weight for the new year but then I remembered that no-one likes a loser.

A mobile phone and a firework were arrested by police one New Year's Eve. The first one was charged and the other was let off.

Did you hear about the raisin who took the prune to the New Year Ball? Seemingly, he couldn't find a date!

Do you call someone named Stephen, who is born on Dec 31, New Year's Steve!

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

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| MONDAY: | Both churches closed |
| TUESDAY: | Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 6.30 pm; Mass at 7.00 pm |
| WEDNESDAY: | St Herbert's: St Herbert's Whole School/Parish Mass in church at 10.00 am |
| THURSDAY: | Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am |
| FRIDAY: | St Herbert's: Private Prayer at 9.30 am; Mass at 10.00 am |
| SATURDAY: | Corpus Christi: Private Prayer at 5.00 pm; Mass at 5.30 pm |
| SUNDAY: | Corpus Christi: Private Prayer 9.00 am; Mass at 9.30 am St Herbert's: Private Prayer 10.30 am; Mass at 11.00 am |

CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE OR AFTER MASS ON REQUEST

MASS REQUESTS

Missa pro populo

Special Intention: Private Intention

Lately Dead: David Ogden

RIP: Michael Anthony Lally, Holy Souls in Purgatory

Anniversary: Fr David O’Kane (1st anniversary), Colin Prince

Thanksgiving: Anonymous, Mr & Mrs Conrado Apostol & Family

PRAYER FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Father, we place before you all the sick and housebound of the parish: Sheila Cavey, Agnes Conroy, Louise Whittaker, Stuart Williams, Peter Stone, Wade Stevens, Luke Burke, John McCarthy, Mary Gowran,, Edith Hamilton, David Roberts, Mrs Monica Anne Turner, Angela Delph, Dorothy Buckley, Nora Hickey, Nancy Pinto, Mrs H Fallas, Anthony McDermott, Jean Winterbottom, Maxine Bennett, Dominic Boardman, Angela Fairgrieve, Peter Wooldridge, Nikki Winnard, Pauline Powell, Phillip Lees, Andrew Lees, Mary O’Connor.



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St Herbert's RC Church, 148 Broadway OL9 0JY

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ARE YOU...

New to the Parish?

Know someone who is sick or in hospital?

Can you help the parish or us you?

Like a visit from the priest?

Please speak to Fr Lawrence after mass or at any convenient time.