
PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, Natal)

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

5th January 2014

THE EPIPHANY

*We saw his star and have come to do the
king homage.*

First Reading: Is 60:1-6
Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2.7-8.10-13
Second Reading: Ep 3:2-3.5-6
Gospel: Mt 2:1-12



THE EPIPHANY: The observance had its origins in the Eastern Christian Churches and was a general celebration of the manifestation of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. It included the commemoration of his birth; the visit of the [Magi](#) to [Bethlehem](#); all of Jesus' childhood events, up to and including his [baptism](#) in the [Jordan](#) by [John the Baptist](#); and even the miracle at the [wedding at Cana](#) in Galilee. It seems fairly clear that the Baptism was the primary event being commemorated. Christians fixed the date of the feast on January 6 quite early in their history. Ancient [liturgies](#) noted "Illuminatio", "Manifestatio", "Declaratio" (Illumination, Manifestation, Declaration); cf. [Matthew 3:13-17](#); [Luke 3:22](#); and [John 2:1-11](#); where the Baptism and the Marriage at Cana were dwelt upon. Western Christians have traditionally emphasized the "Revelation to the Gentiles" mentioned in Luke, where the term [Gentile](#) means all non-Jewish peoples. The [Biblical Magi](#), who represented the non-Jewish peoples of the world, paid homage to the infant Jesus in stark contrast to [Herod the Great](#) (King of Judea), who sought to kill him. In this event, Christian writers also inferred a revelation to the [Children of Israel](#). Saint [John Chrysostom](#) identified the significance of the meeting between the Magi and Herod's court: "The star had been hidden from them so that, on finding themselves without their guide, they would have no alternative but to consult the Jews. In this way the birth of Jesus would be made known to all." The earliest reference to Epiphany as a Christian feast was in A.D. 361, by [Ammianus Marcellinus](#). St. Epiphanius says that January 6 is *hemera genethlion toutestin epiphanon* (Christ's "Birthday; that is, His Epiphany"). He also asserts that the Miracle at Cana occurred on the same calendar day. Formerly the mysteries of the Baptism and Wedding at Cana were honoured on the Octave Day of the Epiphany but now the Baptism of Christ is kept as a separate Feast on the Sunday after the Epiphany. After this the calendar returns to 'Ordinary Time' in which we reflect on Our Lord's life and ministry.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember **Peter Eary, John Griffin, Susan Ambrose, Peter Joyce, Richard Bowen, Arthur Waite, Sr Mary Jude OP, Susan Kiff, Joan Moran, Margaret Whitty, Stella Bushell, Sheila Harpur and Canon Francis Dobson** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Julie Hillyard, Kay Smith, Halina Pieckielon, Helen Felgate, Isobel Kersey, Julie Trueman, Audrey Thurlow, Hayley Hetzel, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Hani Kyan, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Eddie Price, Anne Entwistle, Paul Britain, Audrey Hopwood** and any unknown to us.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TIPTREE – BARN DANCE: Following the success of our last effort to bring the Churches together informally for a social occasion, there will be another Barn Dance on **Saturday 8th February 2014** in **St Luke's Church Extension**, starting at **7.00 p.m.**

Tickets are £5 for adults but those aged under sixteen may attend free of charge but with a ticket as we need to know numbers. Tickets are available at the back of the Church at Tiptree. Refreshments will be on a bring and share basis.



CONFIRMATION: We now have a date for Confirmation – unless the new Bishop makes changes – **Wednesday 2nd July 2014**. Would anyone interested in receiving the sacrament on this occasion please contact me so that we can arrange preparation in due course.

FINANCE: Offertory collections for **Sunday 29th December - £656.06**.

VALENTINE GALA DINNER: Why not treat that someone special in your life. The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society invite you to join them for a fabulous evening at their Valentine's Gala Dinner, being held on **Friday 14th February 2014**, at **Stockbrook Golf & Country Club, Billericay**. With tickets priced at £45 per person to include a drinks reception, fabulous gifts, dinner, dancing, live entertainment and much more, this is an event not to be missed! Places are limited and we would recommend you book early in order to secure your tickets. Contact Julie Abbott on 01268 784544 or jabbott@bccs.org.uk

VACANCY: Person required for paid position of Housekeeper at the Diocesan House of Prayer at Abbotswick, 3-5 hours per week. Timing of work can be negotiated. If you or any of your family and friends are interested, please, in the first instance, contact **Sr Theresa** on **01277 373959** or email info@abbotswick.org for a job description and person specification. You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements and attributes of the role. Closing date for CVs/applications is **Friday 31st January 2014**.

LOURDES SUMMER 2014: The 25th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage runs from 26th to 31st July 2014. From £618 by air with full board for six days, five nights, or from £418 by coach. This pilgrimage includes an experienced medical team and plenty of help for those with mobility needs. It is also ideal for couples, individuals, and groups of friends. There is a full programme to opt in and out of, and everyone is welcome. Visit www.brentwoodlourdes.org for much more information and to order a brochure.

EASYFUNDRAISING: If you would like to be part of this fund raising venture then register www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryimmaculatetheholychangels For more details on how to register and start raising funds either pick up a leaflet from the back of the church as you leave or contact your **Parish Easyfundraising Facilitator, Agness O'Brien** on **01376 573694** or email agnessobrien@hotmail.com

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

What shall I ask the coming year.
What shall my watchword be.
What shall thou do for me, dear Lord.
What can I do for thee?

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:
Morning & Evening Prayer: Week 2**

SUNDAY 5th January <i>Epiphany</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Stella Bushell (anniversary) All Parishioners David Bartlett (anniversary)
MONDAY 6th January	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Intention Community of Our Lady of Walsingham
TUESDAY 7th January <i>St Raymond of Penafort</i>	Kelvedon	8.00 a.m.	Private Intention
WEDNESDAY 8th January	Kelvedon	7.30 p.m.	Private Intention
THURSDAY 9th January	Kelvedon Coggeshall	8.00 a.m. 7.30 p.m.	Church in Czech Republic Private Intention
FRIDAY 10th January	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Private Intention
SATURDAY 11th January	Kelvedon Kelvedon	10.00 a.m. 1.00 p.m.	Intention Deasy Family <i>Baptism: Amelia Mary Stack</i>
SUNDAY 12th January <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Andy McGonagall All Parishioners SPUC

Sacrament of Reconciliation: *Saturday Kelvedon 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction.*

Liturgical Rotas 12th January	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL	Teresa Hall Jane Crone	Gabrielle Ruiz	Edwina Abram
KELVEDON	Helena McNally Patricia Pike	Valerie Bartlett	Marie Sullivan
TIPTREE	Isobel Kersey	Michael Wigley	Celia Butt