
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

6th January 2013

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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: Eph 3:2-3.5-6
Gospel: Mt 2:1-12



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: The earliest reference to Epiphany as a Christian feast was in A.D. 361, by [Ammianus Marcellinus](#). The name is Greek and means 'manifestation' and was a general celebration of the manifestation of the [Incarnation](#) of [Jesus Christ](#), including the commemoration of his birth; the visit of the [Magi](#); 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. In the Eastern Churches the emphasis is mainly on the baptism with the blessing of fonts and outdoor areas of water. In the West these elements became the theme of the Octave (13th January) with 6th focussing on the Magi. 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."

In central Europe on the Feast of the Epiphany, the priest, wearing white vestments, will bless the Epiphany water, [frankincense](#), gold, and chalk. Chalk is used to write the initials of the three [Magi](#) over the doors of churches and homes. The letters stand for the initials of the Magi (traditionally named Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar), and also the phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which translates as "may Christ bless the house". You will also find a short form of home service for blessing the house in the red carol books if you would like to borrow one and mark your own threshold in this way.

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

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Roland Birch, Marion Simmons, Colleen Furse, Audrey Thurlow, Hayley Hetzel, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Hilda Hawes, Pam Loath, Hani Cyan, Sheila Faulkner, Karen Kelly, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Eddie Price, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Holder, Paul Britain, Audrey Hopwood** and any unknown to us. If anybody knows of names to be added or deleted from the sick list please let Fr Gordon know.

YEAR OF FAITH: 'Doorway of Faith' booklets providing daily reflections on the Catechism mid-January to the end of March are now available at the back of the Church priced £1.00. Do take the opportunity to develop your knowledge and understanding of the Faith in a painless way.

'REACH': Free copies of this quarterly paper for families with children of primary school age are also available at the back of the Church. All families with young children are encouraged to take a copy they are **FREE!**

A DAY WITH MARY: A day of instruction, devotion and intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917 takes place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 26th January – 9.45 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

COLCHESTER EMERGENCY NIGHT SHELTER CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: With gift aid the total collected for the Night Shelter was a fantastic **£509.45**. Very many thanks to everyone for your support. Anyone interested in the work of the Night Shelter or would like to be a volunteer in the evenings by helping to prepare the evening meal or help by organising a fundraising event please contact Pernille Petersen, the co-ordinator, on 01206 549885. *Teresa Hall*.

PRAYER FOR LIFE: ADORATION FOR LIFE: The monthly prayer vigil will be at 6.30 p.m. this Tuesday, followed by the weekly silent session from 7.30pm.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP: The next Youth Group meeting in Kelvedon on **Friday 1st February at 6.00 p.m.** Please come and join us for some food, fun, and games.

PARISH PRAYER GROUP: Will restart on **Thursday 17th January at 8.00 p.m.** in our Kelvedon Church. All are welcome.

ST LUKE'S 'EDWARD BEAR' GROUP: For the next couple of months starting from Friday 11th January, the sanctuary area and flooring in St Luke's Church, Tiptree, will be undergoing renovation work. They will be using St John Houghton Church for their meetings during this period on Friday mornings 9.00 a.m-12.00 noon. During the same period the Blood Transfusion Service will use our car park during their monthly sessions although the actual sessions will take place in St Luke's extension.

NEW PUBLICATION: The Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes & St Joseph, Leigh-on-Sea (1912-2012) by Father Stewart Foster. This new book, illustrated throughout in colour and black & white, has been written to commemorate the Centenary of the Catholic Parish of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. Copies cost £10 and may be ordered from: Parish History, 1 Cliffsea Grove, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1NG. Please make cheques payable to 'Our Lady of Lourdes Church'.

CATHOLIC SINGLES: Is an organisation which helps single adult Catholics of all ages meet, either one to one or through social events. Please tel. 0161 941 3498, visit the website www.catholicsingles.org.uk or email info@catholicsingles.org.uk

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: The Children's Liturgy team is appealing for new volunteers to join the team. We have a small newly formed team doing a great job as they learn. However, ideally we'd like to aim to maintain the number of volunteers between 6 and 8 people sharing the rota, and at the moment, we have two vacancies. If you would like to participate more actively in our parish life and have fun at the same time, please contact **Nuria Green (01621-810967)** or **Angie Hart (01787-224383)** for more information. Remember, NO experience or knowledge of the liturgy is needed as the sessions are all planned and organised. All you would need to do is some photocopying and enjoy helping the children to understand God's word in a simple and practical way.

FINANCE: Offertory collection for **Sunday 30th December - £663.08**.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:
Psalms for Morning Prayer: Week 2

SUNDAY 6th January <i>Epiphany</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Stella Bushell (anniversary) David Bartlett (anniversary) All Parishioners
MONDAY 7th January <i>St Raymond of Penafort</i>	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Fr Ian Dickie RIP
TUESDAY 8th January	Kelvedon Kelvedon	8.00 a.m. 6.30-8.30 p.m.	Church in Czech Republic <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
WEDNESDAY 9th January	Kelvedon	7.30 p.m.	Private Intention
THURSDAY 10th January	Kelvedon Coggeshall	10.00 a.m. 7.30 p.m.	Private Intention Private Intention
FRIDAY 11th January	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Intention Maggie Clark
SATURDAY 12th January	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	William Sheldrake RIP
SUNDAY 13th January <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Andy McGonagall (anniversary) All Parishioners Private Intention

Sacrament of Reconciliation: This Saturday; 10.30 –11.00 a.m.
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Liturgical Rotas 13th January	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL		Neville Bridgman	Clare Gallant
KELVEDON	Helena McNally Steve Smith	Elizabeth Maxted	Marie Sullivan
TIPTREE	Teresa Hall	Simon Hall	Jude Cody