

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

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## **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**8th January 2017**

### ***EPIPHANY OF THE LORD***

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

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



**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 focusing on the Magi. Now the Baptism of Christ is kept as a separate Feast on the Sunday after the Epiphany or the Monday when Epiphany is kept on the Sunday. After this the calendar returns to 'Ordinary Time' in which we reflect on Our Lord's life and ministry. The term does not mean 'uninteresting' but rather setting out in order the events of his life and ministry – this year from St Matthew's Gospel.

**PRAYER NEEDS:** Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially *Samantha Upton, Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Angelina Barber, June Jezierski, Mrs Van Stolk Senior, Denis Wood, Hayley Hetzel, Julie Trueman, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Hopwood* & any unknown to us.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember *Sr Mary Jude OP, Susan Kiff, Joan Moran, Margaret Whitty, Stella Bushell, Sheila Harpur, Canon Francis Dobson, Richard Baldock, Fred Thognett* and *Tom Heffernan* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**SPUC WHITE FLOWER COLLECTION:** The annual collection to support the work of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child will be taken up after Mass this weekend. Cards and stickers are available at the back of the Church.

**WE REGRET:** To announce the *death of a former parishioner, Anthony Brookes, and also of Miss Floyd Sullivan, sister of Bill Sullivan.*

**VOLUNTEER NEEDED!** The Children's Liturgy team **urgently** need a volunteer or two to join their rota after one of their members have to retired due to change in family circumstances. If you would like to start the year with a fulfilling new project, this is a very easy way to do it. Team members normally work one Sunday a month with the little ones during Mass following instructions from a guide book. If you would like more information, please contact Angie Hart (mahart66@outlook.com) or any of the team members on duty.

**BESTERS:** If you have one of the **BLUE BOXES** can you please return it so that Jadwiga Smith can empty and count the contents.

**APF (RED) MISSION BOXES:** If you have one of these boxes can you please return it so that Jean Mullane can empty and count the contents