

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

*Serving St Benedict's, St Mary's & St Oswald's,
Warrington*



The Epiphany of the Lord

5 January 2025

Introductory Rites

Christmas Gloria

- 1 Joyful news to you I bring:
Christ the Lord is here on earth,
our redeemer and our King:
sing with gladness at his birth.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

- 2 Joyful news to you I bring:
Jesus Christ, a living sign,
for our human ransoming
comes to us through love divine.
- 3 Joyful news we sing today:
incarnation, living bread,
passion, taking sin away,
resurrection from the dead.

Words © Paul Inwood. Magnificat Music.

Greeting & Introduction

Penitential Act

Collect

O God, who on this day
revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star,
grant in your mercy, that we,
who know you already by faith,
may be brought to behold the beauty
of your sublime glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word



First Reading

(Isaiah 60: 1-6)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

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.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

- 1 O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
he shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.
- 2 Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Second Reading

(Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

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.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel

(Matthew 2: 1-12)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

Bidding Prayers

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Carol: We three kings (170)

Prayer over the Offerings

Look with favour, Lord, we pray,
on these gifts of your Church,
in which are offered now
not gold or frankincense or myrrh,
but he who by them is proclaimed,
sacrificed and received, Jesus Christ.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, Holy – Mass of Christ the Saviour (Dan Schutte)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Our Father

Sign of Peace

Please exchange the Sign of Peace with those around you in whatever way is most comfortable for you.

Communion

Anthem: Arise and shine, the light has come!

Prayer after Communion

Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord,
always and everywhere,
that we may perceive with clear sight
and revere with true affection
the mystery in which you have willed us to participate.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Concluding Rite

Blessing & Dismissal

Final Song

The first Nowell (150) verses 1-3

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