

SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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LATEST NEWS

SUNDAY 2ND JANUARY
SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
9am Sung Parish Mass (*Pro Populo*)

Mon 3rd Jan
Most Holy Name of Jesus - No Mass

Tue 4th Jan Christmas Weekday
12.10pm Mass (Chippenham)

Wed 5th Jan Christmas Weekday
11.30am Eucharistic Adoration
12noon Mass (Corsham)

Thurs 6th Jan SOLEMNITY OF
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
12.10pm Mass (Chippenham)
5pm Mass (Corsham) (*Pro Populo*)

Fri 7th Jan after the Epiphany
12noon Mass (Corsham)

Sat 8th Jan after the Epiphany

SUNDAY 9TH JANUARY FEAST
OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
9am Sung Parish Mass (*Pro Populo*)

Confessions: After Weekday Mass

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

(Sunday Readings are available at the end of this bulletin)

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD is celebrated on Thursday 6th January. The Epiphany commemorates the visit of the magi to worship the baby Jesus as told in the Gospel of Matthew: "Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is the new-born king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'" The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek 'epiphainen', which means "to manifest," "appear," or "make known." Through the birth of Jesus, God is manifested in the flesh. The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus, the Son of God, to the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation." CCC 528 "Jesus is the Saviour of the world. He comes not just for one group of people but for all. The celebration of the Epiphany dates back to the early centuries of the Church. Originally, it included the celebration of Christ's birth. It wasn't until 336, under the reign of Emperor Constantine, that the Church began celebrating Christmas separately, on 25th December, creating the 12 Days of Christmas which continued through the Feast of the Epiphany. Mass is celebrated in Chippenham at 12.10 and in Corsham at 5pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR We wish everyone New Year's blessings, peace, joy, health, and happiness in 2022.

THANK YOU - A very big thank you to all who have worked so hard to make the Church look so beautiful for the Christmas feasts and to all who have exercised ministries over these lovely days. Thank you to Sacristans, Welcomers, Musicians, Singers, Servers, Cleaners and those who prepare the Church and to all our liturgical ministers.

FR MICHAEL would like to thank all who have sent such lovely cards and gifts over the Christmas period. They are very much appreciated.

CAFOD AFGHANISTAN Appeal -The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is deteriorating. Hundreds of thousands have fled their homes, compounding an existing crisis following drought and decades of conflict. As winter approaches, millions of people face hunger and extreme poverty. To support: www.cafod.org.uk/News/Emergenciesnews/Afghanistan-crisis

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Next meets on Thursday 13th January at 7pm in the hall.

STAYING SAFE Thank you for continuing to sanitise your hands on entering the Church, wearing a mask, socially distancing and observing our one-way system. Let's continue to keep everyone safe.

STEWARDSHIP Some parishioners have asked how they can continue to support the Parish financially whilst unable to attend Mass. The donation 'button' that has been added to the homepage of our website enables donations to be made using credit and debit cards and via Dona. Thank you.

CAFOD ARE HIRING Could you inspire Catholics to participate in the Church's mission, working to overcome poverty and injustice? Do you want to work for CAFOD and encourage support and partnership within the Church? We are looking for a Community Participation Coordinator to work in the Diocese of Clifton. Follow the link for more details and please pass on to any friends or relatives who might be interested. Closing date 9th January.

www.isw.changeworknow.co.uk/cafod/vms/e/careers/positions/cJA147YonebARldQy7yJZt

HOSPITALS If you or a loved one is going into the Royal United Hospital, please let the RUH Chaplaincy know on 01225 428331 or email ruh-tr.chaplainy@nhs.net. If you are going into hospital and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please see Fr Michael before being admitted. This does help to take the pressure of the hospital chaplains at this difficult time.

A WARM WELCOME to all who join us for Mass, especially to any visitors. If you are new to the Parish, you too are very welcome. Please introduce yourself to the priest after Mass so that we can properly welcome you!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

Recently Departed: Ann Saba. Noel de Long (Funeral Mass 12noon 14th January)

The Holy Father's January Prayer Intention: For true human fraternity: For all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; that their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Diocesan Prayer Link: All Religious Communities in the Diocese.

Christians in Corsham Prayer Link: St Patrick's Catholic Church

January – Month of the Holy Name of Jesus



January is the month of the Most Holy Name of Jesus. The feast of the Holy Name originated in the 1500s and was formerly celebrated on the second Sunday of Epiphany. It was restored in 2002 as an optional memorial on the first free day after 1st January. *“In the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth and under the earth”* (Phil 2:10). Christ’s name is chosen in heaven and the Angel Gabriel announces it when he informs the Blessed Virgin of the incarnation: *“Behold thou shall conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son and thou shall call his name Jesus”*. It is a name that has marvelous implications, for it means “saviour.” The very name bespeaks the magnitude of His mission, His infinite love, a love that will cause Him to offer Himself up for us.

**JESUS, yours is the name above all names;
We offer you our heartfelt praise and gratitude.
Deepen in us an abiding reverence
For your Holy Name.**

**Jesus, Saviour, heal the wounds within
That our sin and fear have inflicted.
Set us free from all that hinders us from
Rejoicing in your boundless love
And sharing your goodness with others.**

**Jesus, Friend, draw us ever closer to you.
We entrust all we carry in our hearts
To your abundant mercy.**

**Jesus, Lord, pour out
The Holy Spirit upon your people
That our lives may overflow with your grace,
Our days be filled with your love,
And all our actions shine with your light. Amen**

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion



My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. As I cannot receive you sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And, as You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Let me never be separated from You.

An Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease You, my God, who are so deserving of all my love for Your infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Your holy grace never more to offend You, to avoid all occasions of sin and amend my life. Amen.
I further resolve and promise to go to sacramental confession as soon as practicably possible.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Second Sunday of Christmas

Also available to download in 13 different languages at www.virc.at



First reading

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2,8-12

Wisdom speaks her own praises,
in the midst of her people she glories in herself.
She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High,
she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One;
'Then the creator of all things instructed me,
and he who created me fixed a place for my tent.
He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob,
make Israel your inheritance."
From eternity, in the beginning, he created me,
and for eternity I shall remain.
I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle,
and thus was I established on Zion.
In the beloved city he has given me rest,
and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.
I have taken root in a privileged people,
in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

*The Word was made flesh,
and lived among us.*

OR

Alleluia!

Psalm 147:12-15,19-20

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates
he has blessed the children within you.

He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

Second reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved.

That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to

bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf 1 Tim 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans;
Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:1-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but through him.
All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light
that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.
He was in the world
that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.
He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him
who was born not out of human stock
or urge of the flesh
or will of man
but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,
he lived among us,

and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth.
John appears as his witness. He proclaims:
'This is the one of whom I said:
He who comes after me ranks before me
because he existed before me.'
Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received –
yes, grace in return for grace,
since, though the Law was given through Moses,
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.
No one has ever seen God;
it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart,
who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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