

### Hymn 166

#### As with gladness men of old

As with gladness men of old  
 Did the guiding star behold,  
 As with joy they hailed its light,  
 Leading onward, beaming bright,  
 So, most gracious God, may we  
 Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped  
 To that lowly manger-bed,  
 There to bend the knee before  
 Him who heaven and earth adore,  
 So may we with willing feet  
 Ever seek thy mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare  
 At that manger rude and bare,  
 So may we with holy joy,  
 Pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
 All our costliest treasures bring,  
 Christ, to thee our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day  
 Keep us in the narrow way;  
 And, when earthly things are past,  
 Bring our ransomed souls at last  
 Where they need no star to guide,  
 Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright  
 Need they no created light,  
 Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,  
 Thou its Sun which goes not down;  
 There for ever may we sing  
 Alleluias to our King.

### Hymn 170

#### We Three Kings

We three kings of orient are;  
 Bearing gifts we traverse afar;  
 Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
 Following yonder star:

***O Star of wonder, star of night,  
 star with royal beauty bright  
 west-ward leading, still proceeding  
 guide us to thy perfect light.***

Born a king on Bethlehem plain  
 gold I bring to crown him again  
 King for ever, ceasing never,  
 over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I  
 Incense owns a Deity nigh.  
 Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
 Worship him, God most high.

## Hymns

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume  
 Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
 Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
 Sealed in a stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold him arise,  
 King and God and sacrifice;  
 Alleluia, alleluia,  
 Earth to heaven replies.

### Hymn 172

#### Songs of thankfulness and praise

Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
 Jesu, Lord, to you we raise,  
 manifested by the star  
 to the sages from afar;  
 branch of royal David's stem,  
 in your birth in Bethlehem;  
 anthems be to you addressed,  
 God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
 Prophet, Priest and King supreme;  
 and at Cana wedding-guest,  
 in your Godhead manifest;  
 manifest in power divine,  
 changing water into wine;  
 anthems be to you addressed,  
 God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest in making whole  
 palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
 manifest in valiant fight,  
 quelling all the devil's might,  
 manifest in gracious will,  
 ever bringing good from ill;  
 anthems be to you addressed,  
 God in flesh made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
 stars, shall fall, the heavens shall flee;  
 Christ will then like lightning shine,  
 all will see his glorious sign;  
 all will then the trumpet hear,  
 all will see the judge appear;  
 you by all will be confessed;  
 anthems be to you addressed,  
 God in flesh made manifest.

Grant us grace to see you, Lord,  
 mirrored in your holy word;  
 may we imitate you now,  
 and on us your grace endow;  
 that we like to you may be  
 at your great Epiphany,  
 and may praise you, ever blest,  
 God in flesh made manifest.

# Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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Oxfordshire, RG9 1HT

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Parish Priest:	Canon Paul Fitzpatrick MA. STL
Safeguarding Rep:	Jill Allen
Parish Secretary:	Vacant
Parish Hall Rep:	Vacant



## Feast of the Baptism of the Lord 9 January 2021

### A story for Epiphany: The two Wise Men and one Wise Woman.

*The reason why the wise men were called wise is that they took a woman along with them.*

Three men were drinking in The Sands End. One man went for a pee and on his way back went outside to smoke a small cigar Santa had left him at the bottom of his otherwise virtuous stocking. While puking in the gutter from the noxious combination of unfamiliar tobacco and too familiar alcohol he was caught a glancing blow from a vicar on an e-bike returning from a late pastoral visit and fell in a crumpled heap on the pavement. The vicar, being a good and holy man stopped to take sure he had suffered no lasting damage and, assured that he was OK, blessed the man, mounted his bike and returned to his vicarage, his bed, and, he hoped, his wife's loving arms. The vicar did not see the amazing bright star that had suddenly appeared in the night sky. However, the drunk man did.

"I tell you," slurred the man, back inside with his friends, as he called for a whiskey chaser to fortify his pint of Sands End Wallop, "That star spoke to me loud and clear." "And what O wise one, did your star say to its chosen earthling?" asked his friend, the one with the white beard. "It told me I must follow it now, this very night and I will find the answer." "The answer to what?" asked his other friend whose upper lip was concealed by a walrus moustache. The star-gazer pondered for a while and neither in his pint nor in the chaser was there an answer so the friends dropped the subject in favour of the vexed question of the way that the new Fulham riverside stand cast a shadow over the pitch, favouring one end rather than the other. The pub was nearer Chelsea stadium but they were Fulham supporters.

That night, when the house was silent the man went into the kitchen to phone his friends. "Have you any idea what time it is" said the first friend, the one with the white beard. "You can't possibly be serious. Anyhow you are far too drunk to drive. And so am I." And with that his friend put down the phone and went back to bed.

The phone in the house of the man with the walrus moustache rang and rang and rang and although the friend heard it ringing he turned in his bed and ignored the summons. He missed a great opportunity.

The star-gazer opened his front door and the star was blazing with a celestial intensity he could not ignore. In the kitchen he prepared a large thermos of coffee, made himself a batch of turkey sandwiches and cut a large piece of Christmas cake which he wrapped in foil. In the car, with the food and drink he put a sleeping bag and a blanket as the night was cold. His mobile phone rang. "I have seen your star and you are right. It spoke to me too. I am coming over now," said his friend, the one with the white beard. They made more sandwiches and cut more cake and the noise they made woke the lady of the house who came down to ask what in heaven they thought they were doing. "You cannot possibly drive anywhere. You are both as drunk as lords and you wouldn't get to the end of the street without crashing."

But however hard she tried she could not convince them that they were intent on a fool's errand looking for a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. So she put on warm clothes, made more sandwiches and packed the remainder of the cake, found another blanket, put down extra food for the cats which would last them a couple of days, checked that the windows were locked and went out to the car. She could see the star, it was so bright, so very bright.

The wise woman drove the two wise men from Sands End travelling west to Hammersmith and onto the M4. The star lit up the motorway like a silver river. "Look, the star is turning right," the wise man with the white beard said so she took the slip road that headed towards Henel. Coming down the hill toward the ancient bridge into Henel it seemed to the occupants of the car that the bright star was hovering above a large building by the riverside. They stopped the car. The building was closed and dark but in its grounds there was a warm soft light coming from a marquee left there from a Christmas party. When they approached the tent they saw by the light of a camping gas lantern that a young woman was holding a baby in her arms **(continued overleaf)**

Website: [www.sacredhearthenley.co.uk](http://www.sacredhearthenley.co.uk)  
 Live Streaming: <https://www.watchmcnmedia.tv/camera/sacred-heart-catholic-church>  
 Parish Office: [sh.henley@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sh.henley@rcaob.org.uk)  
 Hall Bookings: [ph.sh.henley@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ph.sh.henley@rcaob.org.uk)

 @catholichenley

Newsletter no: 2707

## Mass Times and other Services.

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup> January	6:00 pm	Mass	David Carpenter
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup> January	8.30 am	Mass	Agnes Boggis
		10:30 am	Mass	People of the Parish
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup> January	NO MASS		
Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup> January	9:45 am	Morning Prayer	
		10:00 am	Mass	Michael & Rose Farrelly
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup> January	9:45 am	Morning Prayer	
		10:00 am	Mass	Rita Good
Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup> January	9:45 am	Morning Prayer	
		10:00 am	Mass	Eugene Horellis
Friday	14 <sup>th</sup> January	9:45 am	Morning Prayer	
		10:00 am	Mass	Graham & Eijkenboom Family

### 2 Sunday of Year C

Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup> January	6:00 pm	Mass	Katie Curtis
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup> January	8.30 am	Mass	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	Mass	Francis Joseph Melling

### Offertory Collection: Thank you for your generous support.

Offertory Contactless	£ 51.00		
Website Offertory	£ 10 00	Hardship Fund	£ 160.00
Total	£ 221.00		
<b>Standing Orders for December 2021</b>		<b>£ 4,199. 00</b>	Very many thanks.

**Please pray for:** *The Sick & Housebound of our Parish Community:*  
Melene Clifford, Monica Chiasson, Jane de Souza,  
Margaret Evans, Trevor Lewis, Evelyn Lochrin,  
Tom Mannion, Georgie McArthur, Deacon Mike Walker, Elizabeth Whyte.  
*If you know of anyone who is sick, do let us know.*

*Those who have died:*

**Anniversaries that occur at this time:** Ian Ogden, Caroline Mieczkowska,  
Sandra Torlonia, Jonathan Evans, Paula Haberstick, Wilma Kench,  
Jack Mulhall, Rita Good. **May they rest in peace**

**Live Streaming of Mass:** to enable our Sick and Housebound of our Parish Community to have greater access and participation you can live stream all our services:

<https://www.watchmcnmedia.tv/camera/sacred-heart-catholic-church>

## Liturgical Responses

### Readings:

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11  
Psalm 101 *resp v 1*  
Titus 2:11-14. 3:4-7  
Luke 3: 15-16. 21-22

### Entrance antiphon:

After the Lord was baptised,  
the heavens opened,  
and the Spirit descended upon  
him like a dove, and the voice of  
the Father thundered:  
this is my beloved Son, with  
whom I am well pleased.

### Response to the Psalm:

Bless the Lord, my Soul!  
Lord God, how great you are!

### Gospel acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The heavens opened and  
the Father's voice resounded:  
'this is my Son, the beloved.  
Alleluia!

### Live Streaming:

We now know the number of  
people and places who watch our  
live-streamed Masses.

### Weekly Viewing Figures:

**31 Dec - 6 January:**

479 Views.  
12 Countries.

**Friday - Sunday 31 Dec - 2 Jan**

302 Views

**Monday - Thursday 3 - 6 Jan**

177 Views

### Countries

Finland 1, Germany 1,  
Hungary 23, Ireland 9, Israel 1,  
Netherlands 2, Portugal 10,  
Norway 1, S. Korea 1, Spain ,  
UK 428, US 2

## Parish News

### Live Streaming:

### Weekly Viewing Figures:

**17- 23 December:**

440 Views.  
12 Countries.

**Friday - Sunday 17 - 19 Dec**

291 Views

**Monday - Thursday 20 - 23 Dec**

149 Views

### Countries

Hungary 18, Ireland 10, Israel 1,  
Mauritius 1, Netherlands 4, Norway 1,  
Poland 1 Portugal 27, Spain 2,  
Sri Lanka 4, UK 368, US 1

**24 - 30 December:**

666 Views.  
19 Countries.

**Friday - Sunday 24 - 26 Dec**

522 Views

**Monday - Thursday 27 - 30 Dec**

144 Views

### Countries

France 2, Germany 2,  
Hungary 20, Ireland 31, Italy 27,  
Lebanon 1, Maldives 3,  
Mauritius 5, Netherlands 16, Norway 4,  
Philippians 1, Poland 20, Portugal 17,  
Singapore 1, S. Korea 1, Spain 2,  
Sri Lanka 2, UK 514, US 1

### Our Columbarium memorial Plaque has been updated.

*Please remember them in your prayers.*



### Thank you.

I would like to wish each of you a very happy New Year. Together with hope, faith and trust in the Lord, we can support each other and be able to receive the blessing which the Lord will shower on us.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year, but especially for your kindness and generosity at Christmas. Your messages in the Christmas cards was most appreciated.

Wishing you God's blessing - Canon Paul

and an older man was heating up some water on a small camping stove to sterilise the baby's bottles. They were wrapped up in thick clothing against the cold which penetrated the tent from the river.

"May we come in?" the friends asked anxiously. "You are welcome," the older man said, "But we can offer you nothing on this cold night. My wife has had a baby and this is the only place we can find to call our own. I am heating up the bottles for the baby's feed as my wife is very tired. The baby is very good and allows me to feed him when his mother cannot." He spoke with an accent, as though he was not a native of those parts.

"We have hot coffee and food and blankets if that would help," offered the star-gazer. So the two wise men and the wise woman brought to the tent the food they had and shared it. They brought in the extra blankets and sleeping bags from the car and after they had shared their meal with the family and because the tent was big, they settled there for the night.

At one point in the early hours before dawn the star-gazer slipped out of the tent to take a look at his star but it had gone. The wonders of the night sky were stretched above him but the bright star was gone.

The next morning the two wise men went into Henel to get everyone breakfast. "We have been talking," said the wise woman on their return, "and the family say they are asylum-seekers with nowhere to go. I hope you agree but I said they could stay with us. They could have our spare room. We can sort out the paperwork with Hammersmith and Fulham social services after the holiday. But we could do with the company and they could do with somewhere better than a tent. What do you say?"

The star-gazer agreed and after leaving a note of thanks in the tent for their stay everyone piled into the car and drove back to Fulham. It was a squash but they did it. Mother and baby thrived in their new home. Her husband taught the wise men Arabic which helped them greatly in their work. They were greatly blessed and the child grew up.

*With many thanks to Fr Bill Bowder*

*This story was written for charity.*

*We have made a donation to the charity of Bill's choice.*

### Prayers for a time of Coronavirus.

**Spiritual Communion:** Even though some may not receive 'sacramental' communion, all are united in some way by the Holy Spirit.

*'My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.*

*I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.*

*Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul, so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.*

*Amen'*