

LITURGY FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

We three kings of Orient are

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FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

GLORIA

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: *All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.*

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3:5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.



PREPARATION OF GIFTS HYMN

In the bleak midwinter (verse 1, 2, 5)

HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

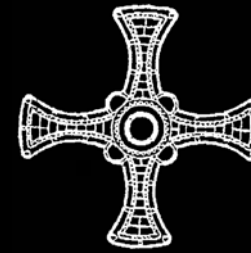
RECESSIONAL HYMN

The First Nowell

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Parish of Our Lady and St Cuthbert

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



Parish Priest: **Father Stephen G McGrattan**

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Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm. Sunday 9.30 am

Weekday Masses

Mon 7.00 pm; Thu 9.00 am, Fri 11.00 am

Celebration of the Word and Eucharist

Tue, Wed 9.00 am

Mass intentions this week:

Sat: Charles & Sarah Donnelly (Ann)

Sun: Brigid Mills (Ann)

Mon: Edward Kerr (Ann)

Fri: Rosina McGougan (RIP)

Sacrament of Confession

After Vigil Mass and when requested

Sacrament of Baptism

Forms available at the back of the church

Sacrament of Marriage

At least six months notice is required

PARISH PRAYER

Lord our God,
we the people of Our Lady and Saint Cuthbert's Parish
offer ourselves to you to be your people in this place,
to be your Church in this community,
to be agents of peace and forgiveness and love.
Help us to face what the future holds,
and to make new beginnings in your name.
Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord, make me a better person: more considerate toward others,
more honest with myself, more faithful to you.

Help me to find my true vocation in life and grant that through it
I may find happiness myself and bring happiness to others.

Grant, Lord, that those whom you call to enter priesthood
or religious life may have the generosity to answer your call,
so that those who need your help may always find it.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY 6TH JANUARY 2008

Today we celebrate the final event of Christmas with the feast of the Epiphany, a word which means "manifestation" or "showing", which refers to the presentation of the new born Saviour to the non-Jewish world. The feast has great importance, because the arrival of the three kings signifies the extension of the Lordship of Christ to the whole world- a lordship which these three kings recognise as infinitely greater than any earthly one. This new baby is not only King of the Jews, but Lord of the entire earth, indeed the entire universe. Up until now, God has revealed himself only to the Jewish nation. Now God's timing brings the infant of Bethlehem to the entire human race as Lord and Saviour.

But already the opposition of the world becomes apparent, as Herod senses the threat to his power in the birth of this small child. The kingdom heralded by the birth of Jesus values unselfish love, cares for the poor and vulnerable and works for justice and peace for all men and women, and so is invariably opposed to worldliness, selfishness and violence. As members of Christ's kingdom, we witness to his values, and not those of the world.

Items for inclusion in this newsletter should be given in writing
to David Kiltie (882644 or david.kiltie@virgin.net)

Collections: 23rd Dec £497.71;
Christmas £613.41; 30 Dec £517.97. Thank you.



THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY DAY OF PRAYER FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

On this day when we remember the arrival of the Magi who had followed the star across the known world to worship the King of the universe, we pray that the answer they found to the deepest longings of humanity may be shared with all humankind.



LETTER ON JUSTICE AND PEACE FROM BISHOP PETER MORAN

“In his days justice shall flourish, and peace till the moon fails.”

The Wise Men came to the new-born king. They came to acknowledge his dignity. But in today's Gospel we hear how the Wise Men themselves were exploited by Herod. And in last Sunday's Gospel we heard how their visit forced the Holy Family into exile. In today's world, millions of people are in exile from their own country. Some move for better wages or conditions – the migrants. Some move in desperation – the refugees. Some move because of danger and terror – the asylum-seekers.

Migrants are at risk of being exploited. If Herod could exploit the Wise Men, how much easier to exploit strangers who don't speak the language.

At Bethlehem, hardly anybody recognised the dignity of the baby in the stable: migrants today can so easily lose their dignity. We recognise that Christ child as our King. We claim to be citizens of his kingdom.

Many parishes in Scotland have Justice and Peace groups. They work for Fair Trade, for an end to the Nuclear Threat, for Justice for refugees, and other urgent causes.

Nationally, the Justice and Peace Commission promotes the same aims. Today, as its President, I appeal to you particularly for the dignity of those in exile and those who are exploited.

But what can you do?

Here are some simple but effective actions:

1. Find out more – from newspapers, magazines, or the Justice and Peace website.
2. Join a Justice and Peace group – or start one if none exists near you.
3. Give what you can to today's collection for the work of Justice and Peace.
4. Talk Justice and Peace – bring it into conversation with friends.
5. Smile to the migrants you meet working in the shops and restaurants.

Justice and Peace has to start right here among us, right now.

Thank you, and God bless you.

Bishop Peter A Moran
Bishop-President, Justice and Peace Commission



FURTHER JUSTICE AND PEACE RESOURCES

Today we celebrate Justice and Peace Sunday, which offers us an opportunity to reflect on the letter from the President of the Justice and Peace Commission, Bishop Moran. There will also be a special collection to support the promotion of justice and peace in Scotland.

The Justice and Peace Commission has an excellent website www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk and information on many of the important issues of the day. You can sign up for email updates and find information on how to subscribe to the magazine of the Justice and Peace Commission. You can also contact the Justice and Peace Commission by phone 0141 333 0238 or by post at Justice and Peace Scotland, 65 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 2BX.

This year Bishop Peter has chosen refugees and asylum as his theme. A very good web page for information and for dispelling many of the lies that are peddled in the media can be found at <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/practice/basics/truth.htm>

The Scottish dimension is well covered at <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/>
Statistics can be found at

<http://www.asylumscotland.org.uk/asylumstatistics.php>

News on current campaigns and legislation can be found at National Coalition of anti Deportation Campaigns <http://www.ncadc.org.uk/>

There is an excellent summary of the issues in the booklet *The Dispossessed: A brief guide to the Catholic Church's concern for refugees and migrants* produced by the Office for Refugee Policy of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales available to download at <http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/resource/dispossessed/thedispossessed.pdf>

For an index of recent Church statements, see <http://www.zenit.org/tag1-367-0>



Last Sunday, following a tradition of many years, the senior citizens of the parish gathered for the Christmas lunch. Thank you to all who helped organise and prepare the dinner, and to Gerry, Maeve and Niall Murphy and Alice Mackie who entertained with Christmas songs. Thanks also to PC Gray, Community Policeman, for arranging a donation from Strathclyde Police to support the Christmas lunch.

ROSINA MCGOUGAN, RIP: The Requiem Mass for Rosina McGougan will take place on Friday 11th January at 11 am in Our Lady & St Cuthbert's, then on to Maybole Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

MUSIC MINISTRY DAY: A music ministry day is being held on Saturday 19th January 2008 at St Andrew's Church hall, Dumfries, from 10 am (for a 10.30 am start) to 3.30 pm. The main part of the day will be spent looking at music for Lent and Easter. See poster for more details. Booking forms are available from Nicola Lawrence.

CAN YOU LEAVE A BABY GIFT UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE? At this time of year in the parish we collect baby gifts to give to mothers in need after bringing the best gift—the gift of human life—into this world. A representative from the 'Society of the Innocents' will be invited to receive these gifts and pass them on. Gifts can be left under the Christmas tree today or handed in to Fr Stephen on or before next Sunday. Thank you.

CATHOLIC DIARIES: 2008 diaries, personalised to Our Lady & St Cuthbert's, are now available at the back of the church for £1. They have Mass times for this parish and contact telephone numbers for all the local parishes.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS: The next meeting will be Monday January 8th at 2.00 pm.

THANK YOU: Thanks to your generous contribution to the Christmas special collection which realised £613.41. As is customary this collection will be given a worthy cause or charity. This year's collection will go to the parish building fund. Thanks also to those who kindly gave towards the cost of the flowers, so well arranged, in the church at Christmas.

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD MOBILE PHONE? Old mobile phones can be recycled to raise money for charities. Please give them to Bennett or Denis Ward.

RCIA GROUP MEETING: The next meeting will be on Monday 14th January after 7.00 pm Mass in the parish house.

150 CLUB WINNERS FOR DECEMBER: Congratulations to Ann Scobie, no 135, £25; Jeanette Connelly, no 116, £15; and Elizabeth Meek, no 22, £10. Thanks to all members and committee members for their support. Last year's 150 club fundraising realised over £3,200. This is a tremendous support to the upkeep of the parish. If you would like to become a member please speak to Dennis McCaffery, Jim McDermott or Kate Sprott.

MINISTERS FOR SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

Please arrange a substitute if you are unable to minister at a Sunday Mass. All ministers are asked to gather in the sacristy five minutes before Mass for a moment of prayer together.

	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	ALTAR SERVERS	MUSIC
Sat 5th Jan <i>Epiphany</i>	Nancy Flanagan	Jim McDermott	Margaret Reilly Maureen Hay	John Sabbatini Kate Sprott	Kyle & Ciera Campbell, Patrick & Roisin McCallum	Nicola Lawrence Choir
Sun 6th Jan <i>Epiphany</i>	Roddy Wright	Elizabeth Meek	Marian Davidson David Strang	Dennis McCaffery Tony Kerrigan	Ali Roy, Simone McCa- hill, Sam Currie, Phoebe McDowall	Maria Newlands Choir
Sat 12th Jan <i>Baptism of Lord</i>	Eileen Hamilton	Ellen Hawkes	Jim Hawkes John Malone	David Malone Alex Kelly	Niall Murphy, Kieran Porte, Ross Malone, Rachel Campbell	Nicola Lawrence Choir
Sun 13th Jan <i>Baptism of Lord</i>	Tom Dowman	Eileen Hamilton	Betty McCaffery Dennis McCaffery	Jim Campbell Cindy McEwan	Amy Malone, Connor Menzies, Ali Roy, Jona- than Lewis	Maria Newlands Choir

New rotas for January and February are available at the back of the church. Please re-member to take one if you are involved in parish ministry. Thank you for your support.