

ST MARY'S CHURCH HARVINGTON, DY10 4LR



Parish Priest: Fr Richard Sharples
Priest in Residence: Fr John Moran
Telephone: 01562 777319
e-mail: stmary.harvington@rcaob.org.uk
Website: www.stmarysharvington.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 234216 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

.....

MASSES THIS WEEK (with YEAR C Readings)

Sunday 2nd January

8.30 am
10.30am

Second Sunday after The Nativity

Mass intention for: People of the Parish
Mass intention for: Ivan Charuk R.I.P.

Monday 3 January

No public Mass today

Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

Mass Intention for: Private Intention

Tuesday 4 January

10.00 am

Christmas Feria

Mass Intention for: The Mottram family

Wednesday 5 January

10.00am

Christmas Feria

Mass intention for: Sally & Bernard Millard R.I.P.

Thursday 6 December

11.00am

Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord

Mass intention for: Alfonso & Gioconda Salsano R.I.P.

Friday 7 January

11.00am

Memorial of St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

Mass intention for: Pauline Jack R.I.P.

Saturday 8 January

10.00am

Christmas Feria

Mass intention for: Deceased members of the Grant family

Sunday 9 January

8.30am
10.30am

Feast of The Baptism of The Lord

Mass intention for: Private Intention
Mass intention for: People of the Parish

Anniversaries in January:

Rev John Morgan (1718), Thomas Mewburn Crook (1949), Charles Keeffe (1977), Margaret Steele (1978), Ronald Fry (1978), Leofric Howell (1995), Sir Robert Grant Ferris (1997), Juliet Bradley (2001), Eve Mary Smith (2001), Anne Mulroy (2004), Elizabeth Bashford (2005), Bernadette Pinfield (2007), William Eardley 2009, Thaddeus Keane 2010, Pam Taft (2011), Denis Thomas Kimberlin (2014), Ellie Tansey (2019), Ray Fogg (2019), Noel Clark (2019)

In your prayers please remember parishioners and friends who are sick:

Deirdre Brookes, Kathleen Clark, Liz and Lionel Cornish, Bob Grant, Jane and Peter Handley, Kay Hildebrandt, Ann Parry, Clare Saich



... for all your offerings and donations. They are always gratefully received.

Contributions to the Parish: 13-27 December

Regular, weekly Gift Aid Direct Debit:	£316.00
Gift Aid Envelopes:	£227.00
Loose cash:	£ 99.62
Fr Hudson's Care charity:	£ 48.40
Additional donations to the Wyre Forest Food Bank:..	£135.00
APF 'Red Boxes':	£462.08



OFFERTORY DONATIONS are no longer collected in the pews. If you wish to make a donation on **SUNDAYS** please place your offering in the 'bin' on the porch table. On **OTHER DAYS OF THE WEEK** offerings may be placed **in the basket on the sanctuary step in front of the altar**. During the Christmas Season, offerings placed in the basket by the crib will be sent to Father Hudson's Care charity.

Thank You

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS to Fr John.

Fr John wishes to express his sincere thanks to everyone for the Christmas cards, gifts and offerings you have given to him. Your generosity is very much appreciated.



WELCOME TO ST MARY'S!

We ask everyone attending our premises to take note of the following:

- When inside Church the congregation **MUST** now wear face coverings (unless you are under 11 years or medically exempt).
- If members of the congregation would like to ensure social distancing they may use a 'Please Leave Space' sign (available in the porch) and place it on the seat beside them in their pew.
- Please spread out and don't kneel if someone is sitting on the pew in front.
- Should you wish to be informed if someone who has attended your Mass has tested positive then please use the QR code displayed on the table or fill in a slip with your name, contact details and date / time and post it in the wooden box located on a porch table, and we will contact you as soon as we have been made aware.



'We stand before you, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in your name.'

WALKING TOGETHER

Are you a member of the parish of St Mary's Harvington or St Wulstan & St Thomas of Canterbury Stourport or Holy Family Bewdley? If you are, then your clergy, your bishop, your church and your pope need you!

You are warmly invited to attend a very special parish meeting on the subject of
The 'Synodal Pathway'

at

Harvington Hall

on

Wednesday 12th January 2022

7.00pm – 8.30pm

Why the meeting?

Pope Francis wants to hear from the whole Church about what is happening in local parishes in every diocese of the world.

What sort of meeting will it be?

The meeting will provide a brief overview of what Pope Francis means by the 'Synodal Pathway', followed by an opportunity for us all to listen and dialogue together in the beautiful historic surroundings of Harvington Hall.

What is the point of the meeting?

This is a first opportunity for us to get together and share our feelings and thoughts about the way in which we are church today. This meeting is the start of a process of consultation which will result in a parish report to be sent to Archbishop Bernard, who will take the findings to the Bishops' Conference and from there to Pope Francis himself.

Who should come along to this meeting?

The meeting is for every parishioner in every one of our parishes. All of us have personal experiences and opinions about the life of our church today. Let us come together in an atmosphere of mutual honesty, trust and respect, to share our heartfelt doubts and fears, as well as our most cherished hopes and dreams for the future of our church.

'Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.'



SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Though overshadowed by falling so soon after Christmas, Epiphany is one of the three major Christian celebrations along with Christmas and Easter. It commemorates the presentation of the infant Jesus to the Magi or the three wise men. In some countries, it may be known as 'Three Kings Day'.

Interestingly, the bible doesn't mention how many wise men there were - just that three gifts were given and that they came from the east. The common consensus is that there were between two and twenty wise men. They were likely to have been Zoroastrian Priests. It wasn't until about 500AD that three was accepted to be the standard number of wise men - the reasoning simply due to the number of gifts.

To further complicate matters, the wise men may not even have been men or wise. In 2004, a report by the general synod of the Church of England concluded that 'magi' gives no indication as to number, or gender, or even to the level of wisdom.

The distinct lack of Biblical detail hasn't stopped the Magi being counted, coronated and christened - the traditional names of the three kings are Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar, who are said to represent Europe, Arabia and Africa respectively.

Epiphany is derived from the Greek word 'epiphaneia' and means manifestation. In religious use, the term means the appearance of an invisible divine being in a visible form.

The celebration of the Epiphany began in the Eastern Church and included a celebration of Christ's birth. However, by the 4th century AD, the various calendar reforms had moved the birth of Christ to December 25th and the church in Rome began celebrating January 6th as Epiphany. Armenian Orthodox Christians still celebrate the birth of Christ on January 6th as their Church was established before Rome made the date change.