



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH BREWOOD

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| Parochial Administrator Fr Tomas Zuna | Permanent Deacon Rev Mr Stephen Gee Tel. 01902 782969 | Parish Secretary Teresa Blunn | Safeguarding Collette Hughes sg.smmary.brewood@rcaob.org.uk |
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| Second Sunday of Christmas | | | |
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| Saturday 1st | 4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm | Confessions Vigil Mass | Barbara Mary Barlow RIP |
| Sunday 2nd | 9.00am | Sunday Mass (in Penkridge) | Michael Starr RIP |
| | 11.00am | Sunday Mass | Eithne Quinn RIP |
| Monday 3rd | | No Mass | |
| Tuesday 4th | | No Mass | |
| Wednesday 5th | | No Mass | |
| Thursday 6th The Epiphany of the Lord | 7.00pm | Holy Mass | Sylvia Mary Gee RIP |
| Friday 7th | | No Mass | |
| The Baptism of the Lord | | | |
| Saturday 8th | 4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm | Confessions Vigil Mass | Karen Grainger RIP |
| Sunday 9th | 9.00am | Sunday Mass (in Penkridge) | Hannah Marsden RIP |
| | 11.00am | Sunday Mass | Pro Populo |

Please pray for the sick of the parish: Chris Rauchmann, Philip & Christine Elson, Bill Baker, Bernard Boyes & Gerald Kierans.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of: Sylvia Mary Gee RIP

Dear Parishioners

Merry Christmas and happy New Year once again! Many thanks again to everyone who supported our Celebration of Christmas (which is not over yet for another week). It was great to see so many people last week – parishioners and visitors alike. A personal thanks for the messages of good will and the Christmas Offering, which is much appreciated.

All being well, I am looking forward flying home to see my parents this Monday for a week. When I return I will most likely have to self-isolate for about 48h until my PCR test result is back. Please pray that all goes well. Please note that I won't be available to answer phone calls and, if there is a need for a priest in an emergency, please ring 01902341243.

Today's Second Collection – Flower collection is traditionally held before Christmas, however, with everything else going on, it has completely slipped my mind. Therefore this weekend the second collection will go towards the Christmas trees and the flower decorations that have made our church so beautiful this year.

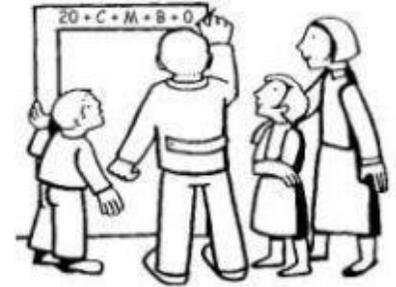
The Epiphany of the Lord – The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on 6th January and on that day we commemorate the journey of the Wise Men to adore the Christ Child. The word 'epiphany' comes from the Greek word for 'manifestation' and indeed Jesus manifests himself as the promised Messiah in the mysterious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Please make an extra effort to come to the 7pm Mass that day.

The Mass will conclude with the blessing of chalk which will then be available for you to take home. It is an ancient tradition in many parts of catholic Europe (but also increasingly now in the UK) to use the blessed chalk to invoke a blessing on our homes for the new year that has just begun. Here is how:

Epiphany Blessing of Homes

Use the blessed chalk to write above the doorway of your home **20+C+M+B+22** in the order below while saying this prayer of blessing:

- (C)** The three Wise Men
- (M)** Caspar
- (B)** Melchior, and
- (B)** Balthasar, followed the Star to God's Son
who became man
- (20)** Two Thousand and
- (22)** Twenty-two years ago.
- +** May Christ
- +** bless our home
- +** and remain with us throughout the new year.
- +** Amen.



Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. Bless this household with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your commandments. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Church Heating – Thankfully the fault on the heating has been fixed and the boilers in both the church and the hall are up and running again. Thank you once to one of our parishioners who's very kindly organised the repair. We very grateful!

Parish Christmas Raffle – Congratulations once again to the winners. There are still a few unclaimed prizes which are available from the parish hall. Please see the list at the back of the church to see whether you're one of the lucky ones.

Covid Regulations – There is now a requirement to wear a face covering (unless medically exempt) in places of worship. We therefore ask that all parishioners and visitors please wear them whilst in the church. Also, given the evidence regarding the vaccine as a prevention of serious illness, please do think seriously about getting the vaccine or booster if you are eligible, both for your good and that of your family and neighbours.