

THIS WEEK

WELCOME TO ST JOHN ON BETHNAL GREEN

Today

9.15am Morning Prayer
10am Parish Mass
5pm Christchurch London service

Monday 7th January (St Lucian of Antioch)

9am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 8th (St Julian the Hospitaler)

9am Morning Prayer
1.10pm Said Mass

Wednesday 9th (St Adrian of Canterbury)

9am Morning Prayer
7.30pm Said Mass

Thursday 10th (St Gonzalvo)

9am Morning Prayer

Friday 11th (St Theodosius the Cenobiarch)

Saturday 12th (St Aelred of Hexham)

9.15am Morning Prayer
9.30am Said Mass (Book of Common Prayer)

Sunday 13th (THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST)

9.15am Morning Prayer
10am Parish Mass
5pm Christchurch London Service

Epiphany Sonnets: 1. The Magi, by Malcolm Guite

It might have been just someone else's story,
Some chosen people get a special king.
We leave them to their own peculiar glory,
We don't belong, it doesn't mean a thing.
But when these three arrive they bring us with them,
Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;
A steady step that finds an inner rhythm,
A pilgrim's eye that sees beyond the stars.
They did not know his name but still they sought him,
They came from elsewhere but still they found;
In temples they found those who sold and bought him,
But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.
Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice
To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.



THE EPIPHANY OF JESUS CHRIST
6 JANUARY 2019

Today's Hymns - New English Hymnal: 50 (tune 338), 48, 49, 488.
Last Hymn - Bethlehem Carol Sheet: 21

Introductory Sentence

A bright light will shine to all the ends of the earth; many nations will come to you from far away, bearing gifts in their hands for the king of heaven.

The Greeting

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord of glory be with you.

The Lord bless you.

The Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah. 60. 1-6

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young

camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3. 1-12

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the church in Ephesus

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Gospel: Matthew 2. 1-12

Alleluia, Alleluia

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world. **Alleluia**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

At the Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life
and that life is the light of the world

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Post Communion Sentence

We have come with our gifts to worship the Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Acclamation

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

When the time had fully come
you sent the Sun of Righteousness.

In him the fulness of your glory dwells.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

The Dismissal

We have seen his glory,
the glory revealed to all the nations.

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Please join us for refreshments at the back of church after the service

Keep up to date with events at St John visit www.stjohnonbethnalgreen.org
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