

# SCARBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISHES



CHURCHES OF ST PETER, ST JOSEPH, ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Part of the Middlesbrough Diocesan Trust: Reg. Charity No. 233748



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Welcome  
Benvenuto

Fáilte  
Bienvenu

Merħba  
Bienvenido

Croeso  
Benvindo

Witajcie  
Benvinguts

Swagatam  
Beninguts

Mabuhay  
Wilkommen

WEEK COMMENCING 3 JANUARY 2021 - YEAR B

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

## FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD (also known as Wise Men Day or 3 Kings Day)

This year, The Feast of the Epiphany falls on **Wednesday 6 January**. Many of us were introduced to *Epiphany* through the familiar silhouetted-image of *Three Wise Men (or Magi)* bearing gifts as they followed the Great Star by night. In some cultures, Epiphany is known as the Day of the Kings (*Dia de los Reyes*), and presents are opened on that day, in imitation of the gifts brought to the Christ child. In Ireland it is known as *Little Christmas Day* (in Irish, *Nollaig Na Mban*), or Women's Little Christmas, because the men take on the household duties. It is also known as Twelfth Day or *Twelfth Night*, reflecting an old custom of giving a gift for each of the days from **December 25 to January 6 for the 12 days of Christmas**. The day has special meaning for a number of reasons. Several branches of Christianity celebrate the birth of the Christ Child on 6 or 7 January.

The word *epiphany* means **appearance** or *manifestation* or *revelation*. Use of this word carries with it the idea of being able to see something that was once hidden from view. The texts for the Sundays after the Epiphany dramatize the many ways that we people came to understand who Jesus was. But this ever-widening circle of revelation began 'outside the circle' of Judaism, so to speak, with the *Magi*. It is customary to add 3 kings to the manger scene.

**Who were the Magi?** Many versions of the Bible refer to them as the *Wise Men*. We often forget that these Magi or Wise Men were non-Jews. Older sources suggest that they were priestly descendants of one of the tribes of the Medes, known for their knowledge of the stars (astronomy) and their ability to interpret dreams. Their tomb is in Cologne Cathedral, Germany.

### 4 things we can learn from the MAGI/Wise Men

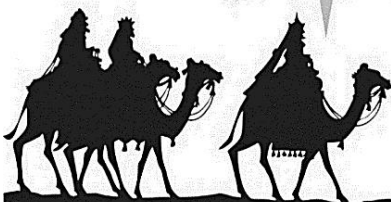
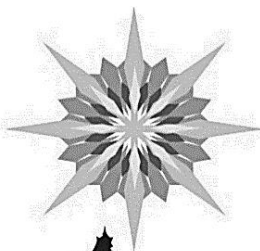
**Firstly**, the Wise Men began their journey because of their **beliefs**. It was a common belief that when a world leader like a king was born that a special stellar phenomenon would appear in the sky. The **Magi saw** something that convinced them that they had seen the long-awaited sign. Historians tell us that the Jews, the Romans, and the Persians were all watching the skies about that time, looking for signs of the birth of an extraordinary king. A few years before, around 11 BC, Halley's Comet had been seen. There were other stellar phenomena, including a bright star, Sirius, which appeared brightly in the daytime instead of at night. The Wise Men saw the star and began their journey.

**Secondly**, the Wise Men were willing to follow what they had seen into **unknown territory**. Their journey took them outside their country and their comfort zone. The Wise Men risked the consequences of disobeying Herod, who was known to behave as a madman when provoked and returned to their country by another way.

**Thirdly**, the Wise Men were **committed** to the journey - wherever the star might lead. The Wise Men set out to find a new-born King by following a star and ended up in finding a baby born to young, relatively poor parents! Not exactly what they expected and not exactly what befitted their dignity as priests.

**Finally**, the Wise Men **brought gifts**. They did the thing that people in the East or in Africa or in India would do when visiting royalty. They brought gifts: **Gold** was the kind of gift that you brought to a king. **Frankincense** was the kind of gift that you would bring to a priest. **Myrrh** was given to someone who was about to die.

On this **Twelfth Day**, or Three Kings Day, otherwise known as Epiphany, think of the gift that we will offer to God in the coming year. The gift of **time**? The gift of our **talents**? Our service in the community? Our witness and testimony? The gift of undying love and **devotion**? The greatest gift of the *Three Wise Men* comes to us in the form of a realization. **They were the first Gentiles to recognize that Jesus belongs to everyone**. The Good news is for everyone, not just a select few. In this coming year, 2021, may we look to heaven for guidance and comfort and may we accept God's blessings in whatever forms we find them, just as the Wise Men accepted that their long, expensive journey led them to a baby born to young, inexperienced parents who lived on the poor side of town.



**T**hey 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.

Matthew 2.9

**MASS TIMES WEEK COMMENCING 3 JANUARY 2021** **2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

<b>SATURDAY VIGIL</b>	2	<b>5.30pm</b>	St Peter's ( <i>LIVESTREAM</i> )	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	3	<b>9.30am</b> <b>9.30am</b> <b>11.30am</b>	St Joseph's St Peter's (Polish) St Peter's ( <i>LIVESTREAM</i> )	For Mass Intentions see printed copy
Monday	4	10am	St Peter's ( <i>LIVESTREAM</i> )	
Tuesday	5	<b>7pm</b>	St Peter's ( <i>Adoration 6.30pm</i> )	<b>EPIPHANY VIGIL MASS</b>
Wednesday	6	10am <b>12 noon</b> 7pm	St Joseph's St Edward's ** St Peter's ( <i>LIVESTREAM</i> )	<b>EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>
Thursday	7	10am	St Joseph's ( <i>Adoration 9.30am</i> )	<i>S Raymond of Penyafort</i>
Friday	8	10am	St Peter's ( <i>LIVESTREAM</i> ) ( <i>Adoration 9.30am</i> )	
Saturday	9	10am	St Peter's ( <i>LIVESTREAM</i> ) ( <i>Adoration 9.30am</i> )	

**SYRO MALABAR MASS** Next Mass - to be announced

**CONFESSIONS 10.30am to 11am Saturdays** at St Peter's; **8.45am to 9.15am Sundays** at St Joseph's  
**ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT 30 minutes** before each *weekday* Mass

**STREAMED MASSES IN OUR PARISH** <https://www.scarboroughcatholicparishes.org.uk/> click link at right of screen  
**READINGS AT MASS & Daily Prayer of the Church: QR Code** Links are available on our website & in church porches  
**POPE'S JANUARY PRAYER INT:** *that the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.*  
**OUR LADY'S SHRINE** at St Peter's church is **open every day** (*gate closed but unlocked - down steps. see the new sign on wall*)

† **ANNIVS** Paul Maslin, Anna Jaconelli, Philip Matla, Susan Taylor, Cyril Swales, Colette Bacon, Barbara Cannon, Fr Dermot Nunan, Nick Groombridge, Danielle Davey  
 † **RECENTLY DEAD:** NV George (*India*), Agnes White  
**MASSES RECEIVED FROM:** see printed copy  
**ATTENDANCE** St Peter's Vigil **20**; St Joseph's 9.30am **42**; Polish **92**; St Peter's 11.30am **67**; **Total 221**  
**NEW YEARS DAY MASS ATTENDANCE** 10am = **47**; 11.30am = **52**; **Total = 99**  
**OFFERINGS** Loose plate **£425**; Gift Aid envelopes **£367**; Polish **£30**; Av. Standing Orders **£614**; Total **£1,436**  
**PLANNED GIVING** To sign up for *Offertory Envelope or Standing Order giving*, contact the Parish office.

**A NEW YEAR PRAYER** *Lord, thank you for the new year, for all the potential it holds. Help us daily to walk in your presence. Fill us with the light of Christ. Bless with good health, patience and gentleness, kindness & help us keep your commandments Amen.*

**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** Normally a Holy Day of Obligation, but the obligation is currently still suspended. Try to make it to one of the Masses listed above.

**BLESSING OF HOLY WATER** at the Feast of the Epiphany Masses. Take some Holy Water home and bless your homes and family in this beginning of the new year. **CHALKING OF THE DOOR** Place the blessing at the bottom of this page above your door and say the blessing to bless your home and all who enter it in the coming year.

**2ND HAND FRIDGE and COOKER needed** by a needy family. Contact the Parish Office on 360358.

**PARISHES 2021 CALENDARS** order yours by email or phone. **£1 each. Proceeds to the Rainbow Centre.** Lots of photos from the past year. There is a sample copy at the back and a list to add your name and how many.

**DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2021** on Sale **£1.** Useful information about parishes and schools etc in the diocese.

**7 DAY CANDLES OF REMEMBRANCE:** Light one for loved ones at New Year. **£3** at Our Lady's Altar

**APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA** Retiring collection at all Masses this weekend - see basket with AOS sign on it.

**HANDS/ FACE/ SPACE.** Continue to cooperate with our Ushers and Stewards so that our churches remain safe places for Mass.

**NEXT SUNDAY IS THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD** On this Feast Day we usually invite all baptised in the previous year. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions this is not possible this year, but we will have a roll call of all baptised in 2020.

**CHALKING OF THE DOOR** The **Catholic custom** at Epiphany of asking God's blessing on our home for the coming year, and on all who enter. The letters are the initials of the customary names of the Three Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. They also abbreviate the Latin words, "**Christus Mansionem Benedicat**": "**May Christ bless the house**"

**EPIPHANY BLESSING OF A HOME** *Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless our home and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



**“CHRISTUS MANSIONEM BENEDICAT”**  
**20 + C + M + B + 21**  
**“MAY CHRIST BLESS THE HOUSE”**  
 C = Casper; M = Melchior; B = Balthasar