

## REFLECTION Star, at the Beginning and End

The journey of the wise men or magi is one of the favourite stories of the gospel. It's a story of the journey of life, of guidance on the way, of delight in finding faith and God, of the intrigue of a greedy and jealous king, and of the good beating the bad. We like the end of the story when the wise men outwitted Herod.



The star started them on the journey and then guided them to the end. Like our faith. The star which shone at our baptism is the promise of God to guide us through life. Faith grows through the ordinary events of life. What can seem ordinary happenings can be extraordinary grace – the birth of a child in your family, the first time you fall in love, the people you meet who make a big difference in your life, success in a job, becoming a grandparent, an aunt, an uncle, anything creative in your life is a gift of grace from God.

The presence of your star may strike you when on a retreat and you learned to pray, a time you felt in vocation or any other way you really helped some people, or really listening and talking with someone and you realise you're not the only one in life with problems.

At bad times when the star seemed dim but people helped – bereavement, crime in the family, addiction to drugs or drink, involved in suicide or abuse, illness – all the small and big awful things that darken life and dim the star. But still can you ask then – what was and what is your star? The light of faith is bright in the good and bad times of life. The word of God and the help of another is the star lighting your journey.

Each of us has our own personal star guiding us – the star of prayer, love, friendship, support...the star has a different name at different times. Be grateful for your star – and be grateful that you have been a star for others. In the book of God, each of us is a star.

***Guide us, O God, and protect us kindly now, and at the hour of death. Amen.***



**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD YR C  
CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC  
CHURCH, HEALD GREEN**

**Saturday 5th January 2019**

**(Vigil Mass) 5.30pm**

**Sunday 6th January 2019**

**Mass 9am & 11am**

**(Children's Liturgy at 11am)**

				<i>Intentions</i>
Sat	5th Jan	The Epiphany of the Lord	Vigil Mass 5.30pm	Gerard McAndry RIP
Sun	6th Jan		Mass 9am Sung Mass 11am	Fr John Sergeant Parishioners
Mon	7th Jan	after Epiphany	Celebration of the Word and Communion 10am	Derek Spencer RIP
Tue	8th Jan	after Epiphany	Mass 10 am	Winifred Hagan RIP
Wed	9th Jan	after Epiphany	Mass 10 am	Margaret Dwan RIP
Thu	10th Jan	after Epiphany	Mass 10 am	A couple with marriage difficulties
Fri	11th Jan	after Epiphany	Mass 10 am	Joan Fletcher RIP
Sat	12th Jan	after Epiphany	Mass 10am Vigil mass 5.30pm	Josie Jepson Bert Legg RIP

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Fr. Paul will be in the confessional on Saturday 11.30-12 noon and 5-5.20pm.

OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

#### **CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Finney Lane, HEALD GREEN Cheadle, SK8 3DY

Priest: Fr. Paul R. Lomas

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**Next Week : THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD:**

**Saturday 12th January 2019 Vigil Mass 5.30pm and**

**Sunday 13th January 2019 Mass at 9am & 11am**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY COFFEE & CAKES IN THE HALL THIS SUNDAY

### RETIRED PRIESTS FUND COLLECTION 12/13TH JANUARY

The annual collection for the Retired Priests builds up the fund to help meet the needs of our sick and retired priests.

Available in the porch are Special envelopes for you to use. And a leaflet about the fund explains how to make a regular donation by standing order or how you can make your donation by cheque. It also explains how to gift aid these donations. If you prefer. You can donate on line via Paypal [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund)

### PARISH MEETING TUESDAY 15TH JAN

Please come along at 7.00pm in the meeting room to have your say on parish matters.

### SERRA MEETING

Serra Meeting. On Thursday, 17th January, Pauline Lloyd will give a talk on the Churches in Northern England. Everyone is very welcome. The meetings are in the Parish Hall, Christ Church. Mass is at 7.30pm followed by a light supper and the talk. Please ring Gerry Lanigan (428 9103) early in the week, if possible, for catering purposes.

### FATHER PAUL'S 65th BIRTHDAY TEA

To help Father Paul celebrate his 65th  
**On Saturday 19th January 2019**

there will be  
Mass at 12 noon followed by afternoon  
tea in the hall.

For catering purposes please put your name on the list in the porch if you wish to attend

### CHILDRENS NATIVITY COSTUMES

If anybody has costumes from the Children's Nativity play could they please return them to Christine or any of the Catechists as soon as possible We need them for next year.

### FIRST SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN, IN YEAR 3, WHO ATTEND NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:

The Preparation Sessions will be starting on Wednesday 30th January 2019 for those children who are seven who wish to receive preparation from the Church to make their First Sacraments of Forgiveness and Holy Communion. To register their child for the preparation classes, each weekly class will be from 6-7pm, in the church meeting room, will parents please contact the church office/Fr. Paul to give the following information: Full name of child; their age and date of birth; their Baptism date and where baptized.

### PARISH DRAW NUMBERS

Thank you to those who have bought shares. We have 164 shares, which is down on last year but we have kept the first prize at £70, second prize is £12. Half the shares, £984 will be sent to Concern

The list of your numbers is on the "This Week" notice board, by the office. The numbers are listed by Surname alphabetically; please check for your number

### THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELP KEEP THE CHURCH MAINTAINED AND FUNCTIONING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

The parish computer is 'poorly' and needs someone who knows how to fix it to offer some of their time to help us, PLEASE.

### HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

The New Years Eve party was enjoyed by many so why not join us next year. We received a donation of £220, thank you.

THANK YOU FOR THE DONATION OF £30 from the Holly Wreaths at the Christmas Fair.

### FAIR TRADE

YOUTH LEADER'S TRAINING



A reminder that we are a Fair Trade Church so we should be using fair trade products in the hall and church as much as possible.

### SHREWSBURY YOUTH

#### MISSION TEAM

Youth leaders training

**What:** A parish youth leaders training day ideal for Parish Youth Leaders, Clergy, Staff with a care for Catholicity and Young Adults with an interest in Youth Ministry.

**When:** Twilight training - Wednesday 30th January @Shrewsbury Cathedral, 6pm - 8pm  
Saturday 9th February @St Hugh & St John, Timperley, 10am-2.30pm

**How to book:** Please email [youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) to book your place.

**Did you know you can watch our masses via your computer if you are unable to attend? Go to [www.Catholicmass.org.uk](http://www.Catholicmass.org.uk) and click on "Find a Church", then click on Shrewsbury Diocese, then Christ Church Heald Green. There is also a link on our website.**

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND



May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration

ROSARY Monday to Friday at 9.30am.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH is prayed prior to 10 am weekday Mass or Service of the Word & Communion.

### DIVINE MERCY GROUP

This group meet each Monday at 2pm in the Meeting Room but **will not now meet until the 7th January**

### BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Andrea Lomas will be available on Tuesday evenings 7.30-8.30pm for anyone wishing to discuss arrangements

### HOLY WATER

Please note *Holy Water* is available from the stone jar on the altar steps near the Baptismal Font.



### CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR YOU

Please don't forget to check, **regularly**, the box in the porch for any cards left by your fellow parishioners for you. The box will be cleared away on the 7th January.

### LOST PROPERTY

Please check in the box in the porch for any items you are missing.

### FREE IN THE PORCH

#### MISSION TODAY CALENDAR

2019 DIARIES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PORCH.

PLEASE TAKE ONLY ONE PER FAMILY UNTIL WE KNOW EVERYONE HAS ONE. THANK YOU