

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

39 Duncan Terrace London N1 8AL

Clergy: Mgr Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr Martin Plunkett

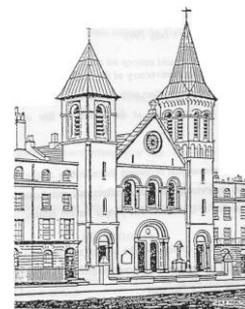
Also in residence: Fr Larry Milby

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Parish Office opening times: Tue - Fri, 10am - 2pm



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

05 JANUARY 2014

WISDOM WITHIN



There's something magical about the story of the three kings following the star to Bethlehem. In fact, it's so magical that there's a danger we read it like a piece of Post-Christmas romanticism, complete with Herod, the pantomime baddie and the mysterious dream that sends the wise men home by a different road leaving Herod duped. We don't really know who the three kings in this story were. We can't be sure that there were just the three of them or even that they were kings. What we can be sure of, is that they were men of science who spent their time studying the sky. We can also be sure that they were spiritual men seeking for meaning and truth. When the three kings saw a new star behaving strangely, they allowed the sign in the sky to guide their intellect and their spiritual curiosity. Their quest for truth is rewarded when the star stops over the place where the baby Jesus is. Could this baby born into poverty really be the new leader predicted by the prophets? The wise men certainly believe in Jesus. Why else would they have opened their treasure chests and left valuable gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Herod, the power crazed dictator also believes the message the star brings. His answer is to search for the baby and kill him!

So how is the wise men's story our story too? We too have to seek truth and integrity in our lives. We too need to allow ourselves to be guided not just by our intellect, but the signs the Holy Spirit leaves in our path. Crucially we have to know our quest in life. It's telling that not many of us can actually answer this question very well. Are we seeking a life rich with love, understanding and fulfilment, or do we allow ourselves to be corrupted by today's Herods. Do we like Herod live in fear of the unknown? Do we like Herod cling to power, money and territory either as individuals or as a nation?

We admire the three wise men, but their story could be our story too if we put our minds to it. Wisdom isn't just the domain of the educated or the intellectual. Wisdom is within all of us waiting to be put to good use.

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU: To everyone who helped out over Christmas and for those who donate sandwiches for the homeless, it is much appreciated.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK 2014: We have five left on sale from the parish office for £4.50. They contain details of every church, school and organisation in the diocese. Limited stock so buy now!

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next course will be on Tuesday's 7th and 14th January 2014 at 7pm in the Church. Registration forms are on the table in the Vestibule.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Tony Jones who will be undergoing a Kidney transplant on Tuesday 8th January. Please pray for him and his family.

HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: A reminder that the next lesson for children is on Sunday 12th January after 10.30am Mass. **Please collect your children at 12.30pm.**

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DIARY

LEGION OF MARY: We return back to our normal meeting time of Wednesday 8th January 2014 at 7pm. All of course

In an event of a fire or a fire drill taking place, please remain calm, and follow the safest exit routes that will be co-ordinated by the Church Fire Wardens, who will lead you to the designated assembly point.

welcome. Christmas Blessings from Our Lady Queen of All Saints.

PRAY TOGETHER ISLINGTON: Will be held on Wednesday 22nd January at New Wine Church, The Ringcross Centre, Lough Road, N7 from 8.30am with light breakfast to follow.

NOTICES

SUNDAY COLLECTION 29 DECEMBER: Envelopes £439.05/ Loose £507.87

MARRIAGE: The Diocese asks that couples who are hoping to marry should give **six months** notice to their Parish Priest. Please do not make any arrangements for your wedding date and reception before meeting with your Parish Priest.

LEGACY OFFICER WANTED: The Apostleship of the Sea is looking to appoint a Legacy Officer to join its team based in central London. The purpose of this role is to manage the charity's legacy programme to sustain the charity's work supporting seafarers. Applicants should have a minimum of two years experience of working in legacy fundraising. This post is part-time, salary depending on skills and experience. For more information contact John Green johngreen@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk applications close: 24th January 2014. Interviews: 4th February 2014.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

REST IN PEACE: Please pray for those who have died, and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, Thomas Healy, Valerio Martinez, Bridget Lynch, Gina Barca and Emma Barca.

HEALING: Please pray for parishioners and their relatives / friends who are ill, especially: Lisa Ip, Helen Hallissey, Sr Beatrice Immediata, John Sampson, Frances Jennings, James Rooney, Jerry Waldron and Tony Jones.

THE WEEK AHEAD			
DATE	TIMES	INTENTIONS	READINGS
Sat 04 Jan	6pm	Intentions of Sr Eugenia	Matthew 2:1-12
Sun 05 Jan EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	9am	Mr Correa RIP	
	10.30am	Trudy Rogers RIP	
	12noon	Pat Yearly RIP (5 th Anniv)	
	6pm	Mass for Parishioners	
Mon 06 Jan Christmas Feria	10am	Intentions of Cormac Family, Frances, Breda, Patricia & Christine	Matthew 4:12-17.23-25
Tue 07 Christmas Feria	10am	Jean Bryan RIP	Mark 6:34-44
Wed 08 Jan Christmas Feria	10am	Henry Jordan RIP	Mark 6:45-52
Thu 09 Jan Christmas Feria	10am	Kathleen Coleman RIP	Luke 4:14-22
Fri 10 Jan Christmas Feria <i>Friday abstinence</i>	10am	Philip Enright RIP	Luke 5:12-16
Sat 11 Jan Christmas Feria	10am	Intentions of Lisa & Family	John 3 :22-30
	10.30-11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	Matthew 3:13-17
	10.30-11.30am / 5.15-5.45pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	6pm	Ronan Duffy RIP	
Sun 12 Jan THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	9am	Norman Yearly RIP (Anniv)	Matthew 3:13-17
	10.30am	Mass for Parishioners	
	12noon	John & Rose Galigan RIP (Anniv)	
	6pm	Estanilao Correa RIP	