#### From Sunday's Gospel

Some wise men came from the East and asked King Herod 'Where is the child born to be king of the Jews?' Herod summoned his own wise men and asked then where the Christ was to be born. 'In Bethlehem' they told him. So the king sent the wise men to Bethlehem and told them to let him know when they had found him so that he too could 'do him homage'. The wise men followed the star which stopped over

the place where Jesus was. They did him homage and left their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, but they were warned not to report back to Herod., but to return to their own country by a different route



Pope Francis writes: "If we listen to the Holy Spirit, he teaches us the way of wisdom!" This weekend we are invited to journey with the wise men

from the East who were seeking to find the 'Infant King of the Jews'. They had the wisdom to follow the star, and not to follow King Herod's instructions to let him know where the baby was born. Instead they returned home by a different route.How might we grow in wisdom? Can we spend some time listening to God's Word? Do we pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit of which Wisdom is the first?

<u>Ministers</u>	January 8th
Liturgy of the Word	Liturgy of the Eucharist
6.00pm L.Anderton	S.Dyson
8.30am J.McMaohn	S.Crewdson/M.Booth
10.00am Sunday School Family	M.Kehoe/M.Farmer
	January 15th
6.00pm P.Redshaw	S.Dyson
8.30am C.Ivatts	S.Crewdson/M.Booth
10.00am A.Kirkman	G.Leggat/C.Hall

#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First: £390.78 Second: £167.29 Thank You Shop closed until January 10th Christmas Offerings: £125.00 Thank You

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING CHEQUES

If you are making out a cheque please make it payable to DIOCESE OF LEEDS— SACRED HEART



# Sacred Heart & St. William

31 High Street Uppermill OL3 6HS web: www.sacredheartparish.org.uk

## The Epiphany January 8th 2017 Year A (Matthew's Gospel)

#### Times of Masses & Intentions

Saturday Vig	il 6.00pm	Honorah Kenyon
Sunday	8.30am	Mary Howell
	10.00am	People of the Parish
		Refreshments after Mass
Monday	9.30am	Service of the Word & Holy Communion
Tuesday	9.30am	Service of the Word & Holy Communion
8.00pm Taizé Prayer group		
Wednesday	12.00 noon	Service of the Word & Holy Communion
Thursday	9.30am	Service of the Word & Holy Communion
Friday	9.30am	Jill Bickers
Saturday	10.00am	Fr Michael O'Reilly
Vigil	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	8.30am	Louisa Keogh
	10.00am	Johanna Friedrich
		Sunday School

Confessions: After the 10.00am Mass on Saturday and on request Exposition: 40 minutes before Mass each weekday When there is A Service of the Word & Holy Communion there is NO Exposition

Telephone Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Fr Bernard Bickers Tel: 01457 872603

Permanent Deacon: Revd Peter Rudd Tel: 01457 876559

Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Tessa Spalding Tel: 01457 873515

Mrs Michelle Moore Tel: 01457 829895



This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany which, this year, brings the Christmas season to an end. On Monday 9th 'Ordinary Time' begins with The Baptism of the Lord. The Feast reminds us that people journey to the Lord in different ways, from different starting places, at different times and at different speeds. All of us are on that journey which is another way of saying that all of us belong to the Church—

the **Pilgrim People of God**. Today we are invited to reflect on the many gifts and blessings we have received from God and also, in the spirit of the visitors from the East, what gifts we want to give back to God. **'What can I give him, poor as I am, if I were a Shepherd, I would give a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my** 





**CRIB OFFERINGS:** 

This year, at the request of Bishop Marcus, our parish will be donating crib offerings to **Friends of the Holy Land**. Every penny will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing initiatives. Friends of the Holy Land is apolitical and

ecumenical. (This weekend will be the last opportunity to make an offering at the Crib.)



#### Opportunities to deepen prayer in 2017

Week of Accompanied Prayer in the Parish Monday February 6th—Friday 10th Individually Guided Retreat—Old Colwyn Residential Sunday 7th May—Friday 12th Please see the back of church for more information and for booking forms etc.

Parish Residential Weekend—The Loreto Centre—Llandudno Friday October 27th—Sunday October 29th



Sunday School

This Sunday after the 10.00am Mass there will be the first Sunday School of 2017 when the children will meet in their groups and the parents in church. The Epiphany is a wonderful feast to explore and deepen our faith.

## The Charity Shop



After a very well earned Christmas and New Year break the shop re-opens this coming Tuesday, January 10th. Last year was hugely successful thanks to the great generosity of so many people who brought in goods and to the faithful service of those who prepare the shop and those who serve

in it. As well as making much needed funds for the parish it provides a meeting place for people and in this way helps to build up relationships. If you are having a New Year 'Clear Out' please do think of bringing things to the Charity Shop. Thank You.



## CAFOD Quiz

This year's quiz has, unfortunately, had to be put back a little so it will take place on **Friday March 10th**—please make a note of it in your diary—tickets will be available very soon.



### Postage Stamps

Many thanks for all the stamps you have donated to the RNIB over the last year. We are well on the way to helping them achieve their £25,000 target. Please continue to bring used stamps to church. Many thanks, Susan



Jesus asks us to believe that forgiveness is the door which leads to reconciliation. In telling us to forgive our brothers and sisters unreservedly, he is asking us to do something

Thought for the week

utterly radical, but he also gives us the grace to do it. Pope Francis