

**We are a  
Live  
Simply  
Parish**



**... and we are  
a Fairtrade  
Parish**

# CORPUS CHRISTI

**ST. ALPHONSUS AND ST. MARGARET RC CHURCH**

Margaret Road, Headington, OX3 8AJ

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH**

Crown Road, Wheatley, OX33 1UL

[www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk](http://www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk)

Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees, Registered Charity No. 234216

**Pope Francis Prayer Intention  
January 2024**

*Let us pray that the Spirit helps  
us recognize the gift of different  
charisms within the Christian  
community, and to discover  
the richness of different ritual  
traditions in the heart of the  
Catholic Church.*

## The Epiphany of the Lord



The Adoration of the Magi, Gerard David circa 1515, Oil on oak panel; National Gallery, London

### From today's Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' ...

The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

### Reflection on painting

This is a day where we too can bring our gifts to the Christ Child: the gift of music, the gift of writing, the gift of playing sports well, the gift of family life, etc.... All the things we enjoy, we can bring in front of Christ, in the realisation that they came from Him in the first place anyway. Many of us in these past days will have been giving and receiving Christmas gifts. Isn't it often a better feeling to give something, than to receive? But the ultimate gifts we can bring to Christ are our trust, our love and our worship. These are gifts that are far more valuable than gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Like the Christ Child in our painting, He would receive them with open arms.

## Masses for week beginning 7 January 2024 CYCLE Year B

**Parish Priest: Rev. Canon Mervyn Tower** 88 Wharton Road, Oxford, OX3 8AJ. 01865 762433

**Parish Administrator: Mrs Leti Gomes** e: [corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

### Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Ruth Kennell.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times.

Ruth can be contacted at [sg.corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk). Alternatively contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 ([safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk)) if you have any concern.

St Joseph's Primary School; 01865 763357.

[www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

Greyfriars Secondary School; 01865 749933.

[www.greyfriarsoxford.org.uk](http://www.greyfriarsoxford.org.uk)

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**7 JANUARY 2024**

**Saturday 6.00pm @ Our Lady of Lourdes: People of the Parish**

**Sunday 9.00am Patrick Kelly**

11.00am Nicky Rose

6.30pm Tina Smith

### Weekdays

### Cycle B; Breviary week 1

|         |         |                                |                         |
|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mon 8   | 9.15am  | Joao Pereira Madalena          | The Baptism of the Lord |
| Tues 9  | 9.15am  | Maria Angela Anjo              | Feria                   |
| Wed 10  | 9.15am  | Jose Vicente-Domingos Carvalho | Feria                   |
|         | 5.00pm  | Requiem - Bridie Nicholson     |                         |
| Thur 11 | No Mass |                                | Feria                   |
| Fri 12  | 9.15am  | Sue Cownes de Restrepo         | Feria                   |
| Sat 13  | 10.00am | Thoman Thomnanon               | Feria                   |

### 2nd Sunday of ordinary time

**14 January 2024**

**Saturday 6.00pm @ Our Lady of Lourdes: People of the Parish**

**Sunday 9.00am Pat and Peggy Hull**

11.00am John Billington

6.30pm Terezia Chochlikova

### A personal message from Fr Mervyn

**A**t the beginning of this calendar year and throughout 2024, I pray that the Lord lift up the light of his face on you all and fill you with his blessings of peace.

**T**hank you for all your generous cards, offerings and gifts to me personally this Christmastide.

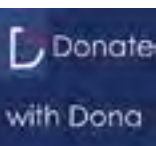
*Fr. Mervyn*

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 10.30 am to 11am and on call.

**BENEDICTION:** most Fridays after Mass.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - SATURDAY 7 January after 10am Mass. First Saturday in the month after morning Mass.**

**HONOUR OUR LADY:** After 9.15am Mass and the Rosary, we pray the Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. This beautiful Novena honours Our Lady in prayer and in songs.



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## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

The Epiphany (showing forth) celebrates the revelation to the gentiles, represented by the Magi. The whole of the rest of Matthew's Gospel spells out this manifestation of Jesus among his people (Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12). Jerusalem is a magnet of light drawing all nations to its splendour (First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6). St. Paul proclaims that the revelation of the mystery (Christ) is precisely that the Messiah is for the gentiles as well as for the Jews (Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6).

## Scripture Readings for the week ahead

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Isaiah 55:1-11; Isaiah 12; Mark 1:7-11       |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 1 Samuel 1:9-20; 1 Sam 2; Mark 1:21-28       |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 1 Samuel 3:1-10,19-20; Ps 39; Mark 1:29-39   |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Ps 43; Mark 1:40-45         |
| <b>Friday</b>    | 1 Samuel 8:4-7,10-22; Ps 88; Mark 2:1-12     |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 1 Sam. 9:1-4,17-19;10:1; Ps 20; Mark 2:13-17 |

**Responsorial Psalm meditation: "He shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless" (Psalm 71/72:12)**

## Prayer for the Preparation of Mass

**G**od our Father, you call us to gather for this Sunday Mass. Help us to draw strength from the Holy Scriptures and from the Holy Eucharist, so that we deepen our love for you.

**M**ay we be enlivened by the Holy Spirit to mirror the words and actions of your Son Jesus Christ and become more clearly your instruments of mercy to others.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PARISH NEWS

Dates for your Diary  
[CLICK HERE](#)

### Pope at Mass: Let us entrust the New Year to the Mother of God

In his homily at the New Year's Day Mass celebrating the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Pope Francis calls on us to "entrust this coming year to the Mother of God" and consecrate our lives to her. With her "tender love...she will lead us to Jesus." On this day the Church also marks the World Day of Peace.

[CLICK HERE for report](#)



[Click Here for short \(1 minute\) video](#)

### Women in Scripture

Listen to Jane Lavery on the Syro-Phoenician Woman in Mark's Gospel.

[CLICK HERE](#) to go to the podcast or click on the image to the right to download Fleur Dorrell's description of a modern painting of the Syro-Phoenician woman by the artist Michael Cook.



### NEXT Journey of Faith meeting

**Monday, 8 January, at 7.30 pm, at 202 London Road**

All are welcome - baptised Catholics who want to develop their faith, those who want to find out about Catholicism or people who just want to explore the idea of faith. The intent is to help our faith grow and develop. Information from Sharon and Martin at [martin.taylor@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:martin.taylor@merton.ox.ac.uk) or [CLICK HERE](#)

Rediscover  
**GOD'S LOVE**



**CCFC COUPLES FOR CHRIST SOUTH CHAPTER**

Invites you to join our  
*Christian Life Program*

**Starts: Sunday 4 Feb, 12-5pm**

**Corpus Christi Parish Hall**  
**Register & more Information**  
**Jan 07880 209224**  
**Jong 07712 474505**

**Epiphany chalk:** for writing the traditional blessing on the lintel of your front door: 20 C+M+B 24

Take (blessed) chalk (of any colour) and mark on the lintel of your front door **20 + C + M + B + 24** saying as you write each letter: "The three Wise Men", "Caspar" write **C**, "Melchior" write **M**, "and Balthasar" **B** "followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand" **20** "and twenty-four years ago" **24**. "May Christ bless our home" ++ "and remain with us throughout the new year" ++. "Amen."

**Chalking the Door - Click for VIDEO**

**C M B above the door, also stands for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, Latin for "May Christ Bless this House."**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

**the sick and the housebound:** Anthony Adkins, Archie Allen, Antony Ayton, Fr. John Baggley, Patricia Barfield, Marian & Roger Biss, Margaret Bond, Alan & Rita Booker, Christopher Browne, Pedro Busette, Ranjith Dhan, David Diggins, Maureen Felix, Philomena Garvey, Yvonne Goonesekara, Antoinette Harvie, Sue Holbrook, Joanne Kay, Mario Kim, Joan Knatt, Theresa Johnson, Cynthia Lobendhan, Victoria Maceda, Carmel McGarry, R.J. Matava, Averil Nathaniels, Melani Parana, Celine Peiris, Eardley Perera, Peter Perera, Maxwell Rogers, Angela Scott-Smith, Rachel Smith, Alba Thorning, Aileen Vangramberg, Diana Walden, Mary Wallace, Liz Ward, Mai Wick, Louise Williams, Dorren McDonald, Nalen Vuddamalay,

**those who have died:** Anna Lucia Bianchini, Bridie Nicholson

**those whose anniversary occurs this week:** Florence McLnerney Josephine Tierney, June Dewhurst, Margaret McCarthy, Michael Carrol.

**anniversaries week beginning 1 January:** Andrew J McMahon, Carmela Di Paula, Peter Cummings.

All those in the sick list must actively agree to their inclusion. The prayer list will be reviewed regularly - if names can now come off the list or if new names should be added please send an email to: [corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com](mailto:corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com).

### Pope at Angelus: Love opens paths for peace, never suffocating others

At the Angelus prayer on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Pope Francis recalls that love should be filled with kindness and respect, never seeking to dominate those we love.

[CLICK HERE for account](#)



[Click Here for video of Angelus, 1 January 2024](#)

### Could you make 2 litres of Soup for the Homeless?

The Gatehouse supports adults aged 25+ who are homeless, vulnerably housed, on low income and/or looking for company and community.



Holy Trinity will again be providing soup for the Gatehouse.

**Are you able to make one or more batches of 2 litres of vegetarian soup by Sunday 15 January?**

If so, contact Monika Blackwell ([mdblackwell@hotmail.com](mailto:mdblackwell@hotmail.com) or 07880 797009). On Sunday 7 January she will leave some freezer bags, labels and instructions outside her house at 1 York Road, Headington, OX3 8NW. If you are unable to collect them please let her know and she will drop them off. This nourishing and warming soup is very welcomed.



**Thank you video 2023 from CAFOD**

[Click here to play the video](#)

### It's not too late to send messages of support

#### New Year Campaign 2024

#### Action by Christians Against Torture

For this campaign please write a simple card or greeting to the individual saying, for instance, that you are thinking of them and/or perhaps urging them not to lose hope (or words to that effect). A picture postcard is always welcome and cheapest to send. You can include your name and address if you wish **but DO NOT mention ACAT or include a religious greeting or motif (even a Christmas tree!)** if so advised, since communication from a foreign organisation can endanger the prisoner.

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS AND NAMES AND ADDRESSES](#)



### Oxford Community Emergency Foodbank is running out of Food!

There is a box at the back of Church to receive donations of

**Tins of meat, fish, vegetables, soup or puddings, Jars of jam or sauce, Long life milk or fruit juice, sugar, and Essential toiletries.**

Donations can also be taken to the foodbank:

**Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 11.20am – 1.30pm behind St Francis Church, Hollow Way.**

[Click here to make financial donation](#)