

20 * C + M + B + 24

Parish of St Nicholas, Boldmere.

Pope Francis reminds us:
'Jesus loves you and walks with you each day'

Above you can see the traditional Epiphany Blessing chalked over the lintel on the inside of the front door of a family's home as a blessing for the New Year.

You might like to write it above your front door at home.

- The '✱' symbolises the star that led the wise men to Jesus.
- The letters 'C', 'M', and 'B' signify the traditional names of the Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.
- The three crosses signify the Holy Trinity made known to us through the Incarnation.
- Encompassing them all is the year we have just entered into: '2024'.
- The initials, C, M, B, can also be interpreted as the Latin phrase "*Christus mansionem benedicat*" which means "Christ bless this house".)

It's a nice devotion for Epiphany – great for families — and, throughout the year, an active reminder for us all, (including visitors to our homes) of the wonder of Christmas.

In choosing to be born for us, God chose to be known by us. He therefore reveals himself in this way, in order that this great sacrament of his love may not be an occasion for us of great misunderstanding.

Today the Magi find, crying in a manger, the one they have followed as he shone in the sky. Today the Magi see clearly, in swaddling clothes, the one they have long awaited as he lay hidden among the stars.

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die...

Today Christ enters the Jordan to wash away the sin of the world. John himself testifies that this is why he has come: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world...

Today Christ works the first of his signs from heaven by turning water into wine. But water [mixed with wine] has still to be changed into the sacrament of his blood, so that Christ may offer spiritual drink from the chalice of his body, to fulfill the psalmist's prophecy: How excellent is my chalice, warming my spirit.

St Peter Chrysologus. Fifth Century



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

Address: 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US

Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk

E-mail: stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk **Telephone:** 0121 354 1763

Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **Deacon:** Rev John Garvey

Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

JANUARY 2023: PARISH MASSES

Sa	6	6pm		For the parish
Su	7	9am 11am	EPIPHANY	For health of Josie Philpot (Drozd) Jack Murphy RIP (Newstead)
M	8	10am	Baptism of the Lord	Sarah Broom (Green)
T	9	10am		Bridget Broom RIP (Broom)
W	10	10am		Jenifer Cummings RD (Teresian Assoc)
Th	11			
F	12	7pm		Jenifer Cummings RIP (Redmond)
Sa	13	6pm	2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Jenifer Cummings RIP (Foster)
Su	14	9am 11am		Decsd of Drozd and McGee families For the parish

Anointing of the Sick: Next celebration is 26th January at 11am

Sacrament of Confession: Friday 18.30-18.55; 19.30 (after Mass), until 20.00; and Sat 5.30-5.45 — and by appointment

RESOURCES FOR PRAYER.

1. Parish prayer on Zoom (links on parish website homepage)
Morning Prayer: Mon to Sat at 8.30am; **Rosary** Mon at 7pm.
2. Readings of the day and much more at Universalis.com
3. Resources for the Year of Prayer: <https://bit.ly/47kMBYS>

Please pray for those who are sick including Theresa Monteiro; Craig Brooks, Paul Craig, Fr Michael Ho, Brenda Davies; Stephen Burke; Lesley Devlin & Jean Lawlor. **Please pray** for Dorothy Baker who died recently and for Ken Hearne, Ronald Astley, Marian Long, Peter Murray, Mary Vargus, Doris Johnson and all others whose anniversary at this time.

WEEKDAY SOCIAL. Tuesdays after 10am Mass. All are welcome.

PARISH CAR PARK Free parking for 1 hour is available for anyone at anytime in our carpark. Automatic free parking permits are issued to cover all parking on **Sat** from 5.30pm to 7.30pm; on **Sunday** from 8am to 2pm; on **Mon, Tues, Weds** from 9.30am to 11.30am and **Fri** from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. *At other times, if on site for parish meetings and the like - to park for more than 1 hour, please scan the QR poster in the church or Benedict Room to extend your 'free' parking time.*

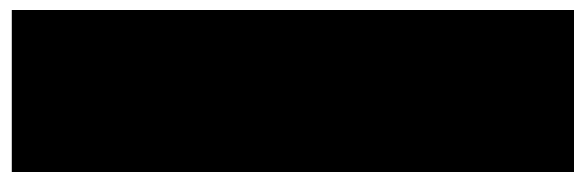
The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory **Safeguarding** Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mary Rose. She can be contacted at: sg.stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Retrouvaille – Do you need help in your marriage? Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Their next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or there is a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

The 'Year of Prayer'

2023-24 has been designated the Year of Prayer by Pope Francis, with a particular emphasis on the *Our Father*. It will help us prepare for the Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope". It presents our Church with a significant opportunity to revisit the basics of prayer, and for us to become even more a people of prayer.

Each week during this year a teaching about prayer related to the readings of that Sunday is posted on our parish blog (address above) This resource has been prepared by Fr Rob Taylerson, Spiritual Director at Oscott College.



The Introductory Rites
Opening Song

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious God, may we
evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly cradle-bed,
there to bend the knee before
him whom heav’n and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
at that cradle rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin’s alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav’nly King.

Gloria



We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Glory to God...

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand,
of the Father, have mercy on us.

Glory to God...

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God... Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night
still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

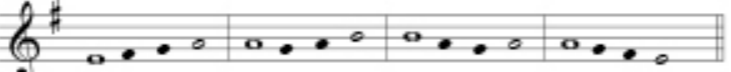
Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory
appears. The nations come to your light and kings to
your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling
and coming towards you, your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throb-
bing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to

you, the wealth of the nations come to you; camels
in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian
and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing
gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,10-13



O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king’s son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth’s bounds.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by
God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by
a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mys-
tery. This mystery that has now been revealed through
the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was un-
known to any men in past generations; it means that pa-
gans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts
of the same body, and that the same promise has been
made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star as it rose and have
come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea dur-
ing the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Je-
rusalem 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.’ When King Herod heard this
he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem.
He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of
the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was
to be born. ‘At Bethlehem in Judaea,’ they told him ‘for
this is what the prophet wrote: ‘And you, Bethlehem,
in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among
the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him pri-
vately. He asked them the exact date on which the star

had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. ‘Go
and find out all about the child,’ he said ‘and when
you have found him, let me know, so that I too may
go and do him homage.’ Having listened to what
the king had to say, they set out. And there in front
of them was the star they had seen rising; it went for-
ward, and halted over the place where the child was.
The sight of the star filled them with delight, and go-
ing into the house they saw the child with his mother
Mary, and falling to their knees they did him hom-
age. 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.

Homily

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

All: Through our lives and by our prayers,
your kingdom come.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

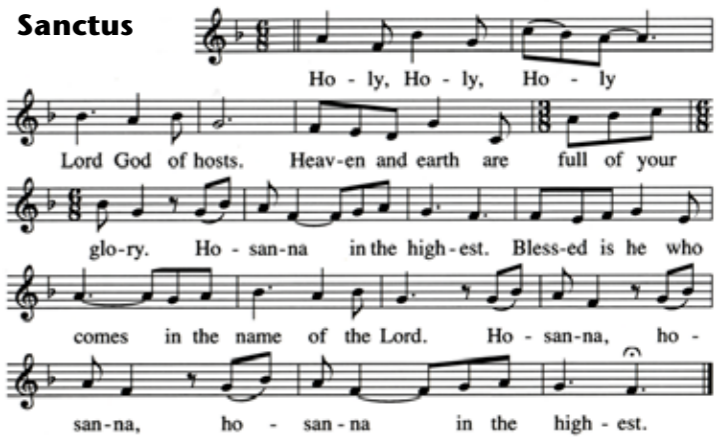
The Offertory NB Our next collections for the Bethany
Food Bank are 21st January and 4th February.

Be still for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here.
Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy one is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him;
Be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

Sanctus



The mystery of faith



The Communion Rite

Communion thanksgiving

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor the earth
sustain
heaven and earth shall flee away,
when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim
thronged the aire.
But only his Mother in her maiden bliss
worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part,
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rites

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