



Welcome to St Margaret's Church Ifield
Loved as you are



Sunday 7th January 2024
The Epiphany of the Lord

Everyone is welcome to St Margaret's. In this service of the Eucharist, we remember with thanksgiving the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and his self-giving for the sins of the whole world. As the bread and wine are offered, symbols of that self-giving, so we offer ourselves to God and receive at communion the life of Christ. So nourished, we are enabled to go out into the world to live in the service of God.

As we gather before the service, we speak to God. During the service, we let God speak to us. After the service, we speak to each other.

THE GATHERING

As we gather together

Chorale William J. Mathias 1934-1992

Processional Hymn

**The First Noël the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping
their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
*Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.***

**And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from
country far.
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever
it went.
*Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.***

**They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond
them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day
and night.
*Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.***

**This star drew nigh to
the northwest,
Over Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where
Jesus lay.
*Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.***

**Then entered in those wise
men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence,
Their gold and myrrh
and frankincense.
*Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.***

**Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and
earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind
hath bought.
*Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel.***

Words: Trad Cornish 13th Century Music: Transcribed 1823 William Sandys 1792-1874

THE GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be
with you.
and also with you.

WORDS OF WELCOME

THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from
whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and
worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour
Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.
Let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and
against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence,
through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died**

for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE GLORIA

**Glory be to God on high!
All heaven with praise is ringing.
Angels fill the Christmas sky,
And 'peace to earth' are singing.
GLORIA!
Hosanna in excelsis!**

**Christ, our rescuer from sin
and from eternal danger,
our salvation comes to win
and lies in Bethlem's manger
GLORIA.....!
Hosanna in excelsis!**

**Praise you, God of Heaven above!
You've shared our human story.
To you, Trinity of love,
We sing our song of 'Glory'
GLORIA.....!
Hosanna in excelsis!**

Words: Fr Russel Stagg,

Music: Jehan Tabourot, aka: Thoinot Arbeau 1520-1595 from his Orchésographe 1589

THE COLLECT

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words, 'Let us pray.'
The Collect is said, and all respond, **Amen.***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit

First Reading

Isaiah 60.1-6

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3.1-12

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Chorale: 'In his days justice shall flourish, fulness of peace for evermore'

Ps 72 Stephen C Horsman b. 1961

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 2.1-12

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please remain standing until the preacher has introduced the Sermon

THE SERMON

Please stand

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to
come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayers for the Church, the world, and for all human need. After each petition the following response is used:

Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy hear us

and at the end of the prayers:

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Please stand

The priest introduces the sign of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
All may exchange a sign of peace.

The Presentation of the Gifts

During the Offertory hymn the bread and wine and the collection are brought to the altar and the altar is prepared

During the Preparation of the Table

**We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.***

**Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a Deity nigh,
prayer and praising, all are raising,
worship him, God most high.
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.***

**Born a King on Bethlehem plain,
gold I bring, to crown him again,
King for ever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.***

**Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.***

Glorious now behold him arise,
 King and God and sacrifice.
 'Alleluia, alleluia!'
 Earth to heaven replies.
*O star of wonder, star of night,
 Star with royal beauty bright,
 Westward leading, still proceeding,
 Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Words and Music: John Henry Hopkins 1822-1900

At the end of the Blessing of the Gifts we respond

Blessed be God forever

Please sit or stand

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

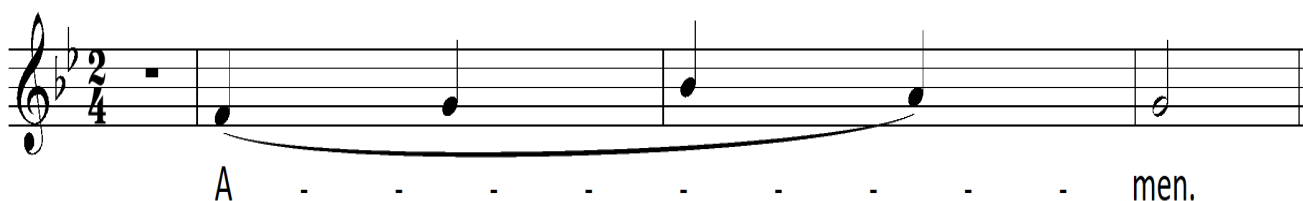
The priest praises God for his mighty acts and at the end we sing

4
 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of po-wer and might,
 10
 Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry; ho-san-na
 17
 in the high est. Blessed is he who comes in the name
 26
 of the Lord Ho-san-na in the high est.

The priest continues with the prayer which recalls the Last Supper, after the elevation the priest says, 'Great is the mystery of Faith'



The prayer continues and concludes with the doxology where we respond,



THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Lamb of God you take a - way the sins _____

6 of the world, have mer - cy on us.

12 Lamb of God you take a - way the

16 sins _____ of the world, grant _____ us peace.

The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,

But only say the word and I shall be healed.

Draw near with faith. Receive the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his Blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Please sit and wait to be directed for Communion.

During the distribution of Communion

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern BuxWV

How Brightly shines the morning star

Dietrich Buxtehude 1637-1707

Reflection:

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

Bow down before him, his glory proclaim; with

Gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,

Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
High on his heart he will bear it for thee,
Comfort thy sorrow, and answer thy prayerfulness,
Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
Truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness,
These are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept for the name that is clear,
Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim; with
Gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!**

Words: John S Monsell 1811-1875 Music: Johann Heinrich Rheinhard 1727-1787 MS, Üttingen, 1754

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Priest prays the post-communion prayer followed by

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

NOTICES

Please stand

THE BLESSING

The priest gives the blessing
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

We go into the world to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love,
and to reflect God's glory.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Final Hymn

**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 manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before him whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy-seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare at the manger 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 heavenly King.**

**Holy Jesu, every day keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.**

Words: William Chatterton Dix 1837-1898

Music: Tune: Conrad Kocher 1786-1872 adapted: William Henry Monk 1823-1889

Postlude

Fantasia in C Major BWV 570 *Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750*

Bach was a staunch Lutheran and his belief permeates his music. His scores would begin with the words, 'Jesu Juva', meaning, 'Jesus help' and ending with the letters SDG, 'Soli Deo Gloria', to God alone be the glory'. This Fantasia in C major, BWV570 was probably written on two staves. The long pedal points suggests similarities with the toccatas of Pachelbel and, after a brief opening, reminiscent of certain French

models, the piece is dominated by the figure—quaver and two semiquavers—heard first in the sixth bar and then developed throughout the rest of the piece. Harmonic interest is maintained through brief chromatic excursions and chains of suspensions. A brief postlude, marked by a rising semiquaver figure, balances the introduction.

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The Ordinary is A New People's Mass, Dom A. Gregory Murray OSB 1905-1992

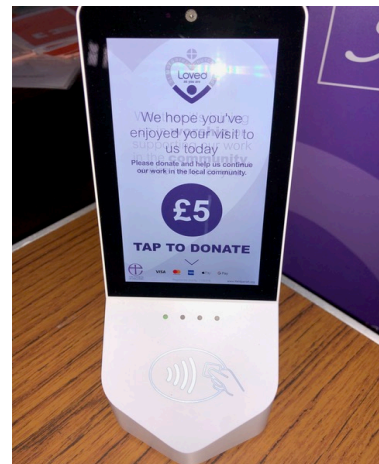
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Notices

Service next Sunday:
Epiphany 2

Parish Communion (9.30 am)

FIISH Service (11.00 am)

and on Facebook and the parish website www.ifieldparish.org
