

The Parish Church of St. Peter, Chorley

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Sunday 5th January 2025

The Feast of the Epiphany

Today, we celebrate how a star led the Magi, also known as the Three Kings or the Wise Men, to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born.

'Epiphany' comes from the Greek word meaning 'to reveal', as it is when the baby Jesus was 'revealed' to the world.

COMING UP AT ST PETER'S

Sun 5 th Jan Epiphany	08:00 am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Parish Eucharist
Weds 8 th Jan	10.00 am	Holy Eucharist
Sun 12 th Jan (Parade Service)	08:00 am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Service of the Word

NOTICES & DATES FOR THE DIARY.

- Starting from January 2025, the 10 am Parade Service will be a **Service of the Word** on the second Sunday of every month. There will be No Eucharist during that service; however, there will be some activities for Children. The **First service of the Word** will be the next Sunday, 12th January, at 10 am.
- A three-week **Christianity Explored** course on hope will run in January. Everyone is welcome. The sessions will be on Wednesdays 8th, 15th and 22nd January at 7 pm. (See Fr. Cornelius or send him a message or email).

A message from Chorley and District Support for Ukraine.

A huge **thank you** to the parishioners of St Peter's for your generous donations of gifts and toys which you kindly donated to our Ukraine appeal.

All the donations went on their way before Xmas.

- Placement:** From 13th January Fr Cornelius will be on a three-week placement in another parish as part of his IME2 training. Fr Neil is off-duty until 14th January. If there is an urgent pastoral matter, please

CONTACT DETAILS

Emergency requiring a priest - Fr. Neil on 07980 872203

Priest in charge: Canon Neil Kelley, 01257 266037

Email: chorleystpetersvicar@gmail.com

Curate: Fr. Cornelius Asghar 07592 838726

Wardens: Ronnie Hunter: 01257 271992

Eric Crompton: 01257 794372

Safeguarding: Nicola Pilkington 07736 312859

contact the Church Warden, Ronnie Hunter, for clergy arrangement.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, Sudan, and all places affected by warfare, violence or state oppression.

Those who have asked for our prayers:

the Rev'd Mo Baldwin, Pam McLoughlin, Dorothy Kerr, Margaret Heald, Beryl Diggles, Dot Bolan, Roy Wilding.

all recently departed, especially those known to us;

those who we remember at this time:

Pearl Christie, Cyril Thornett, Lily Beesley, Raymond Jeszke, Mona Booth, John Walkden, Raymond Kendall, Arthur Hargreaves, Kenneth Okyley, Edgar Wynne, Jack Bretherton, Fred Jolly, Peggy Dornan, Betty Fisher

To allow for privacy, names are not added on to the sick or departed lists unless requested and permission from the person named is given.

To add a name onto our prayer or memorial lists, please email chorleystp.office@gmail.com

THE LYCIG PRAYER FOR CHURCH GROWTH

GOD OF MISSION, WHO ALONE BRINGS GROWTH TO YOUR CHURCH: SEND YOUR HOLY SPIRIT TO GIVE VISION TO OUR PLANNING, WISDOM TO OUR ACTIONS, AND POWER TO OUR WITNESS. HELP OUR CHURCH TO GROW IN NUMBERS, IN SPIRITUAL COMMITMENT TO YOU, AND IN SERVICE TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN

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HYMNS

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Collect

Let us pray

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

We sit to attend to the scriptures

Liturgy of the Word

The Reading | Isaiah 60.1–6

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

All stand for the Gospel

The Holy Gospel | Matthew 2.1–12

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations; and believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory be to you, O Lord

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born

king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post-communion prayer

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Please join us for refreshments after the service.