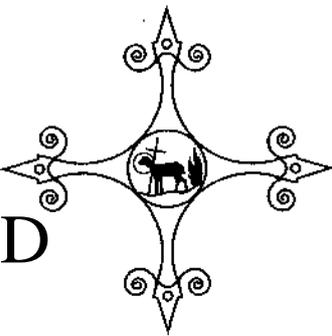




SAINT HELEN'S PARISH
SEASON OF ADVENT~CHRISTMAS
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7th January 2018



"We Saw His Star and Have Come to Do Him Homage."

THE WORD THIS WEEK

In the East, this Season of Christmas is called the 'Time of Manifestation', or Showing. Today is the 'Feast of the Manifestation', or the Showing of the Saviour to the whole world, to all nations. In the wise men who travel from the East, we see all the nations other than the people of Israel being welcomed at the New Temple of the New Covenant - the new born child in the manger. A look at the Psalm response shows this: "All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord." The same is true of the key word in the second reading: "Revelation". Remember that for the people of Israel this was to be their Messiah, come to restore their fortunes. By this feast, we proclaim God's plan was to extend his salvation to men and women of every nation, of every time and every place - including us. In many ways this is our Christmas Feast, when we celebrate the Good News of the Saviour's birth revealed at last to us.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: (*Psalter: Week 1*)

Isaiah 60: 1 – 6.

Above you the glory of the Lord appears.

Response: Psalm 71.



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.

It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance.



Acclamation for the Gospel:
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!
We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!

Matthew 2: 1– 12.

We saw his star and have come to do the king homage.

Prayer of the Faithful: R/. Lord, let your glory appear.





MASS AND SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Sat 6 th January	6.30pm	THE EPIPHANY of THE LORD Renee Marie Kelly
Sun 7 th January	10.30am	THE EPIPHANY of THE LORD For the People of the Parish
Mon 8 th January	6.45pm 7.00pm	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Evening Prayer of the Church Iolanda + Charlie Rossi (LA)
Tues 9 th January	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church McGowan + Robinson Family (CMcG)
Wed 10 th January	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Betty Shaughnessy (MS) Adoration 2 to 4 pm & 6 to 8 pm
Thurs 11 th January	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Carmel Periera (TT)
Fri 12 th January	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Patrick + Judy O'Callaghan (Sister J)
Sat 13 th January	5.45 – 6.15pm 6.30pm	The Sacrament of Reconciliation 2nd SUNDAY of the Year For the People of the Parish
Sun 14 th January	10.30am	2nd SUNDAY of the Year For Peace



THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 5.45pm to 6.15pm, or at any time by arrangement with the priest.

CELEBRATING STEPS ALONG THE JOURNEY OF FAITH

CATECHESIS – SHARING FAITH

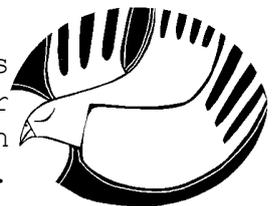
CATECHESIS – SHARING FAITH

A CHILD FOR BAPTISM? The Parish **PREPARATION for BAPTISM** continues on Wednesday evening. If you have missed this series, please take the (green) form 'Your Child and Baptism' available in the porch, fill it in and return it to book in to the next Preparation.



Preparing for COMMUNION: Parents and Children who celebrated Reconciliation for a first time on the Saturday before Advent are now invited to think about the call to Communion. We will start on Tuesday 16th January, 6.30pm in the Hall. Meanwhile we pray for all our children and families to respond to their baptismal call into the Communion of the Church with the readiness of the virgin Mary. Particular thanks to the 'Prayer Partners' keeping the children before God.

PREPARING for CONFIRMATION: The Parish Preparation starts up again on Thursday 18th January. We continue to pray for our young people as they work to discern and take on their Christian vocation. May the young virgin Mary inspire their 'Yes' to God.



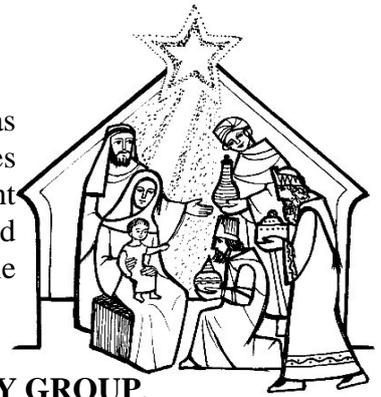
JOINING THE CHURCH AS AN ADULT: To learn more about the Catholic Faith, please come along to the Hall every second Wednesday at 7.30pm for 'Catholicism, an introduction'. The next gathering will be on January 3rd, in the hall. Come and see.

MARRIAGE At least 6 months notice (preferably 12 months) must be given, by Church law. *Before making any arrangements please see the priest to avoid any disappointments.*

Bereaved? BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT provides a safe place to enable you to come to terms with your grief. One-to-one and group support available. For details contact 02920 863450.



BACK TO SCHOOL, work, routine, everyday life! The main Christmas celebration of God's revealing of his self in the birth and growth of Jesus finishes with the Epiphany. But the Church keeps a Christmas tinge to its liturgy right through to Candlemas, 2nd February, as we see the light of revelation growing and spreading through our community, and our own lives: How will we each grow the light in our hearts, and our family, and our neighbourhood?



On Monday the **S.V.P.** meet to resume work, and on Wednesday the **LITURGY GROUP**.

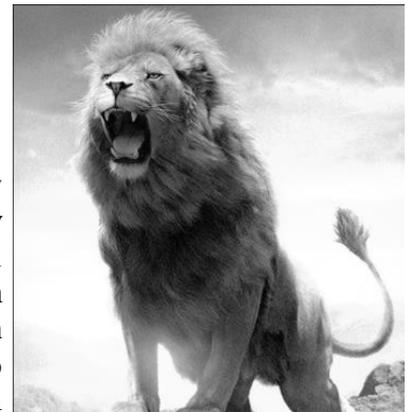
A LIVE CONCERT this Friday in our hall: An evening with **Mike StJohn**, singer and entertainer, this Friday 12th January, 7.00pm. Tickets £5, on sale this weekend. The bar will be open, with the usual very competitive prices. Don't miss a great night out.



Next Sunday is **PEACE SUNDAY** for which the Pope has given us the theme "**Migrants and Refugees – Seekers of Peace**".

THE LION'S ROAR

Are you looking for something for you and your family to do on a Saturday in those dark afternoons after Christmas? Well look no further. On **Saturday 27th January** we will be running an afternoon for all the family. There will be workshops looking at the **Lion's Roar: Mark's Gospel**. The afternoon starts at **2pm and ends at 5:15pm**. There will be sessions for small children up to age 9; a youth drama session for young people from 10 to 16 and two separate workshops for adults. There's something for everyone even refreshments! Put the date in your diary and keep watching this space. There will be announcements giving more details at Mass in the coming weeks.



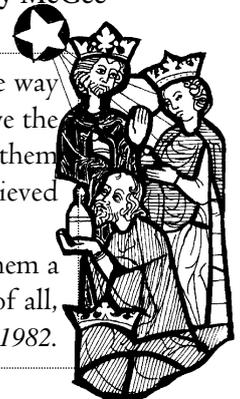
.....oh, and by the way it's **FREE**

PARISH PRAYER LIST: In our prayers we are asked to pray for all who are sick or housebound, and those who care for them, including:

Pamela Griffiths	Teresa Meade	Sheila Harris	Gerry Phenis	Graham Jenkins
Sandra Bray	Jean Kerrigan	Lloyd Jones	John Maguire	Cecelia Mawby
Pat Emanuelli	Dorothy Warmsley	Isobel Cummins	Pauline Richards	David Mabey
Valerie Donovan	Paul Costigan	Margaret Jones	Carol Morrissey	Claris Howell
Tess Thomas	Grace Donovan	Mary Camwell	Wilson Brown	Alice Jones
Mary + Bill Morrissey	David Warmsley	Yvonne Grandon	Mike Joselin	Danny McGee

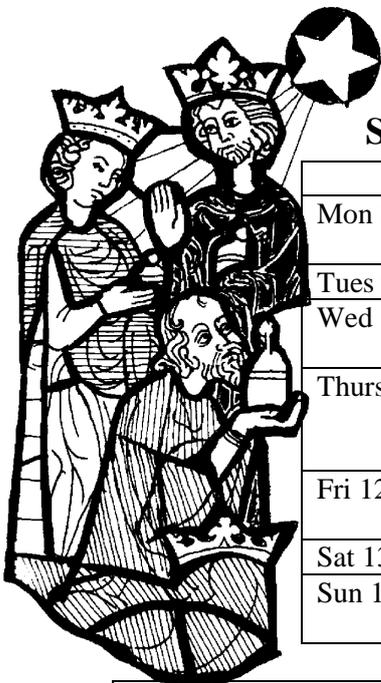
"The direction marked out by the crib is different from the one inspired by our ambition. It is the way that gives life and not death. It is the way of truth, not deceit. The Kings change direction and save the life of the child, because beforehand the child saved them from the deceit of Herod by showing them in their own lives how to change direction. The Kings are the archetype of faith because they believed more in the kindness of God incarnate in the Child than in the surface glamour of power. The Kings put aside all reason in order to give the best of themselves to the one who had given them a priceless gift; that of faith. Faith and piety become indissoluble faced with the greatest kindness of all, 'the Creator (who) made himself a human being'."

Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 1982.



A note from Father John: **THANK YOU** for the very generous Christmas Offerings and for the many other thoughtful Christmas gifts, bottles, cheeses, biscuits, panetone, gift cards, garden-centre tokens, and a car windscreen cleaner (never before in the Twelve Days of Christmas gift list!)





SAINT HELEN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE – THIS WEEK:

Date	Time	Event
Mon 8 th January	9.30am 7.30pm	Parents & Toddlers S.V.P. (s.m.r.)
Tues 9 th January	10.30am	Music Appreciation
Wed 10 th January	9.30am 7.00pm	Parents & Toddlers Liturgy Group
Thurs 11 th January	9.30am 2.00pm – 4.00pm 6.30pm	Parents & Toddlers Sunshine Club Youth Club
Fri 12 th January	1.00pm 7.00pm	History Group Concert: Mike St.John
Sat 13 th January	9.30am – 12.30pm	Dance
Sun 14 th January	11.30am 6.00pm	Tea, Coffee, & Biscuits The Night Shelter

OFFERTORY COLLECTION	3st December 2017
Gift Aid Weekly	£ 121.60
Non Gift Aid Weekly	£ 103.33
Gift Aid Standing Orders	£ 502.04
Non Gift Aid Standing Orders	£ 65.00
Loose	£ 218.09
TOTAL	£1010.06 Many thanks

Attention all Gift Aiders!

We now have the letters from the Archdiocese regarding your contribution for 2016-17. If you would like yours, for tax or other purposes, please leave a message with Father John.

LOTTERY BONUS BALL CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of the Bonus Ball for 27th December (No. 50) Mavis Bevan and Theresa Connibear. A total of £80.00 was made for parish funds. No winner on the third sheet. For 3rd January (No. 44) Sandra Williams, Luigi Antoniazzi, and Keith Griffiths. A total of £56.00 was made for parish funds. **TRY YOUR LUCK AGAIN THIS WEEK.**

CHRISTIAN PRAYER.

Section Two: **The Lord's Prayer: 'Our Father'** Article 3: **The Seven Petitions.**
 V. 'And Forgive Us Our Trespases As We Forgive Those Who Trespass Against Us'.
 ...as we forgive those who trespass against us

(2842) This 'as' is not unique in Jesus' teaching: 'You, therefore, must be perfect, *as* your heavenly Father is perfect'; 'Be merciful, even *as* your Father is merciful'; 'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even *as* I have loved you, that you also love one another.' (Cf. *Matthew 5: 48; Luke 6:36; John 13.34.*) It is impossible to keep the Lord's commandment by imitating the divine model from outside; there has to be a vital participation, coming from the depths of the heart, in the holiness and the mercy and the love of our God. Only the Spirit by whom we live can make 'ours' the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. (Cf. *Galations 5:25; Phillipians 2: 1, 5.*) Then the unity of forgiveness becomes possible and we find ourselves 'forgiving one another, *as* God in Christ forgive' us. (*Ephesians 4: 32.*)

Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992

Parish Directory

Priest: Revd. John Kelly 20883192;

Church Student: Elliot Hanson: 20883192;

Bereavement support: 20863450

Music: Brett Pugh 07971848734.

Cafod: 20861930

Hall: 20883192

Chair of Parish Council: Graham Taylor 20860919

Safeguarding Officer: 20864112

SVP: 20866838

Marriage Care: appointments@marriagecare.co.uk

Piety shop: Norma Bromily 20862998

Saint Helen's School: 20852532

Cardinal Newman School: 01443 494110

Newsletter items: 20883192

Calendar Additions: calendar@sthelenscaerphilly.com

Parish@sthelenscaerphilly.com

www.sthelenscaerphilly.com

Website Additions: Website@sthelenscaerphilly.com

