

# *The Liturgy of the Word.*

## **Collect:**

Gracious 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.**

## **A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.**

**60. 1-6**

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.**

## **Psalms 72. 10-15**

### **Response: May all nations be blessed in him**

The kings of Tarshish and the isles render him tribute,  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.  
May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service. **(R)**

For he delivers the needy when they call,  
the poor and those who have no helper.  
He has pity on the weak and the needy,  
and saves the lives of the needy.  
From oppression and violence he redeems their life;  
and precious is their blood in his sight.  
Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be given to him.  
May prayer be made for him continually  
and blessings invoked for him all day long. **(R)**

## **A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians**

**3. 1-12**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and

prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Hail, Christ the light of the world! Listen to him. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.**

**2. 1-12**

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.**

# Church News

**Our Church groups begin again  
After the Christmas break  
Everyone is welcome to come and join us.  
Details below:**

<b><i>Mothers' Union</i></b> The Mothers' Union COFFEE MORNING Takes place on Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome.	
<b><i>Community Dance Group</i></b> Meet each Monday at 10.30am at St. Margaret's Church. All are welcome!!	<b><i>Bargoed Community Choir.</i></b> We meet each Thursday, during term time, at St. Margaret's Church, Gilfach – 10.00 to 11.30 am. All are welcome!!
<i>Everyone is welcome to join us for any of our groups and social meetings.</i>	

## DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

parishofgelligaer.org.uk      Parish of Gelligaer Facebook page  
llandaff.churchinwales.org.uk      churchinwales.org.uk

S. Catwg      7<sup>th</sup> January 2024      S. Margaret



District of Gelligaer

Priest: Fr Gary Powell

Reader: Carolyn Corbin

## THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Dear friends,

I hope that you are all well and that you have all had a good week. We extend a warm welcome to everyone. Please join us for worship. Please keep this newsletter and see our parish website and parish Facebook page which for information of our weekly services and forthcoming events and devotional aids.

This week we enter the season of Epiphany as we celebrate the visit of the Magi to the child Jesus. As the Magi come into the presence of Jesus we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles revealing that he is to be the Saviour of all. Throughout this season, the truth of Jesus the Messiah is gradually revealed to us in the words of scripture as we celebrate the dawning of the Light of the World and the hope he brings.

Your friend and priest, Fr Gary Powell.

## WORSHIP THROUGH THE WEEK

### S. Catwg's Church Gelligaer

Sunday 11.00am

Sung Eucharist

Thursday 10.00am

Holy Eucharist

### S. Margaret's Church, Gilfach:

Sunday 9.30am

Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 10.00am

Holy Eucharist

*Everyone is welcome to join us for worship during the week  
and our social groups and meetings.*

*Further details on the back of this newsletter.*

Priest: Fr Gary Powell, The Rectory, Church Road, Gelligaer, CF82 8FW

Telephone: 01443 832119

*Please do not hesitate to contact Fr Gary in the event of sickness or other need.*

*For enquires regarding Baptisms and weddings or spiritual guidance please*

*contact Fr Gary. **We are here to help.***