



CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
BIGGIN HILL AND WESTERHAM
NOTICES



“That in all things, God may be glorified.”

westerhamcatholic.com

st-theresas-bigginhill.weebly.com

The Epiphany of the Lord

6th January 2019



This is the first Sunday of the New Year. The New Year brings in new beginnings. New beginnings can be unsettling but as Christians we see an opportunity in every new beginning. An opportunity for growth, maturity, and new horizons. The wise men undertook a long and perilous journey to seek the Christ child. The journey of our life is also perilous and long, however, many times, we do not seek the Christ but ourselves. We become self centred rather than Christ centred. Let us follow the example of the Wise Men: the holy Church and her teachings are our guiding star. They lead us to the feet of Jesus being offered to us by Mary. Let us allow Christ to form and shape us so that we may become Christ-like. The wise men offered their best to the Christ and laid before him gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh. What can we offer to the Christ child? How can we give him our best? One of the ways is to ensure that all we do, however insignificant it might seem to be in our eyes, we do for the glory of God who revealed himself fully in Jesus. The New Year is also a time for making resolutions. How great it would be if we resolve to attend the adorations offered weekly in our churches, and make it a part of our lives to spend time adoring the Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament. There at his feet we may lay our own gifts to him and allow him to transform our lives in silence and profound love.

Happy New Year!

HYMNS at BIGGIN HILL

<i>Introit:</i>	Bethlehem!	79
<i>Off:</i>	O Worship	560
<i>Comm:</i>	As With	55
<i>Rec:</i>	We Three	788

HYMNS at WESTERHAM

<i>Introit:</i>	Bethlehem!	167
<i>Off:</i>	O Worship	169
<i>Comm:</i>	As With	166
<i>Rec:</i>	We Three	170

COLLECTION

30th December - *Thank you!*

Biggin Hill

Cash: £169.67 Gift Aid: £99.50

Standing Orders: £100.00

Christmas Offering: £1397.45

Westerham

Cash: £370.77 Gift Aid: £98.00

Standing Order: £295.00

Christmas Offering: £4089.93

MASS TIMES

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday 5th January

Confessions: 5:00pm Westerham
Fatima Devotions: 5:15pm Westerham
Mass: 6:00pm Biggin Hill
Mass: 6:00pm Westerham

Sunday 6th January

Mass: 9:00am Westerham
Mass: 10:00am Biggin Hill
Sung Mass with Sunday School: 10:30am Westerham
After all Masses, chalk will be blessed.

Monday 7th January
St Raymond of Penyafort, OP

Mass: 9:30am Westerham
Rosary: 7:30pm Hazel Room, Biggin Hill

Tuesday 8th January
Feria

Mass: 8:30am Biggin Hill

Wednesday 9th January
Feria

Mass: 7:30pm Westerham

Thursday 10th January
Feria

Mass: 8:30am Biggin Hill
Adoration: 6:30pm- 7:30pm Westerham
Walsingham Apostolate 7:30pm St Joseph's Room Westerham

Friday 11th January
Feria

Mass: 9:30am Westerham
Adoration: 10:00am - Noon Westerham

Saturday 12th January
Feria

Adoration: 9:00am-10:00am Biggin Hill
Mass: 10:00am Biggin Hill
Confessions: 10:30am Biggin Hill

The Baptism of The Lord

Saturday 12th January

Confessions: 5:00pm Westerham
Vespers: 5:30pm Westerham
Mass: 6:00pm Westerham

Sunday 13th January

Mass: 9:00am Westerham
Mass: 10:00am Biggin Hill
Sung Mass with Sunday School: 10:30am Westerham



*O Mary, conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to you.*

Please note the changes in the venue for the daily Mass. Can we help each other out with transport if required?

Particular notices will be available on the notice boards of the respective churches.

We are all adjusting to this new way of being Catholics in both Biggin Hill and Westerham. Please let us be patient and generous with each other as we adopt this Mass schedule until we await the process of discernment that the Archdiocese will lead us into.

During the week we have three Masses in Westerham, and three in Biggin Hill. There will be no other services of Holy Communion from the reserved Sacrament when the Mass is not scheduled on that day. The times of adoration have remained unchanged. Apart from the advertised times for Confessions, they can also be heard by appointment.

One of our joyful duties is to offer prayer for those who are unwell. Please keep on sending to Fr Ivan the names of those you would like to be prayed for by name. Sometimes, names are given and they end on the list for a very long time. If people need it we will pray for them for as long as it takes; however, if you think the names can be removed please let Fr Ivan know.

Epiphany has its own customs. Two of them are being offered in our churches today. The first is the solemn proclamation of Easter after the Gospel. This is to show the link between Christmas and Easter: Christ was born to die and rise again to grant us a new rela-

to proclaim that the story we have celebrated so far continues.

**AFTER THE GOSPEL REMAIN
STANDING AS THE CHURCH
ANNOUNCES TO US
THE GREAT FEAST DAYS OF 2019:**

Know, dear brothers and sisters, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Saviour. On the 6th of March will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season. On the 21st of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the 30th of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the 9th of June the feast of Pentecost. On the 23rd of June the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. On the 1st of December the first Sunday of advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Also, in many countries chalk is blessed after communion. We take a piece of this chalk and bless our homes:

BLESSING YOUR HOME

*Using the blessed chalk write 20 + C + M + B + 19 on the lintel of your front door (front porch step or other convenient location) while saying: **May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.***

*Then offer the following prayer: **Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. Amen.***

2019 is the Year of our Lord, proclaiming him as king of all ages. CMB represents the names of the three wise men and also Christus Mansionem Benedicat: May Christ bless this home.

Parish Clergy

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Deacon Roland Gooding OBE
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Safeguarding

Biggin Hill: Angela Ireland M: 07947 070322
Westerham: Marie Price M: 07940591067

Hall Bookings

Biggin Hill: Ann Venosi M: 07817 319026
St Joseph's Room, Westerham: Jenniffer Tang
E: jenniffertang@yahoo.com.sg

Sick Calls, Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Contact Fr Ivan (6 months notice is required for weddings)

Gift Aid

Biggin Hill: Edwin Rodrigues T:01959 573958
Westerham: Claudia Aquilina M:07985645405
E: westerham@rcaos.org.uk

Leader of Finance Committee

Biggin Hill: Austin Barradell
Westerham: Deacon Roland Gooding OBE

SUNDAY PLUS

Little and loved

Little and transforming



by Catherine Pepinster

The prophet Isaiah foretells the gifts that the Wise Men will bring to the child Jesus in Bethlehem: gifts of “gold and incense”, he says, the most luxurious items that they could bestow on a king, as well as the frankincense mentioned by Matthew. But this is an unexpected king – a baby. Indeed, everything about the scene is unexpected. God has become human. A virgin has borne a child. This king lives in poverty. And this stable has room for everyone to worship this king: rich and poor, Jew and Gentile. Even Herod is perturbed when the Wise Men tell him they have come to see the infant king. Nothing here is predictable.

It is unexpected, too, that the shepherds might have come into the presence of Jesus

before the Magi. Shepherds were amongst the lowest in society at the time, outsiders who scraped a living and lived among their animals. The Wise Men have to take their turn.

But for all of them who come to the stable, the moment is one of epiphany, or revelation. Life cannot be the same again. The Wise Men go home by a different way, warned in a dream not to go back to Herod to tell him what they have seen. But the different journey also symbolises a new life. This birth has turned the world upside down. It is not money, or power, or influence that matters in that Bethlehem stable. It is a tiny child, loved by those who visit him, and who brings a message of love.

Catherine Pepinster is a former editor of The Tablet and the author of The Keys and the Kingdom – the British and the papacy from John Paul II to Francis, published by T&T Clark.

Little and gifting

by Gerlinde Symons

At our weekly prayer group in the prison chapel, we sit together in a circle, with a lighted candle in the centre. It's there to remind us that God is present with us and that he is the light in our darkness. At the end, I ask the men to go back to their wings or workshops and be that light to those who are struggling. Prison is a place of great suffering where many struggle with guilt, fear, loneliness and hopelessness. So there are many opportunities for the group to bring God's light and his love to those who are suffering.

In our Gospel reading today, we hear how the Magi followed the star that led them to the infant Jesus, where they knelt down and worshipped him. They had an “epiphany” because they realised that Jesus was the Son of God, who was

making himself known to the world.

On this feast of Epiphany, may you, like the Magi, be guided by the light and be a light to those around you.

Gerlinde Symons is a lay Catholic chaplain in two UK prisons.

Lord, the Magi travelled long distances to find you. It sometimes feels as though my journey is long and bumpy before I find you waiting for me at the end of the road. Help me when I feel a bit lost and in need of your guiding star. Amen.

Justified joy

by Liam Sheridan

Parents love to show off their children. There is something about a new baby that can prompt total strangers to engage in conversation. It cuts across barriers and draws people in. For the Magi, overjoyed at the Christ-child, it led them on a journey they would never forget and which we celebrate today.

So too, God's love has a habit of cutting across the divisions that so entice and entangle us. In the Old Testament, Israel's light was not only for her benefit but the surrounding nations.

Now, supremely in Christ, says Paul, all are heirs together; members of one body together; and sharers in the promise, together. Think about your church. Are there old disagreements or unforgiven wrongs that need healing?

Is God calling you to restore a relationship? We have been shown the way. Our challenge is to follow God's example by making the first move: towards restoration.

Liam Sheridan is a lawyer and father of three.

“**Contemplating the baby Jesus, with his humble and infinite love, let us say to him, very simply: ‘Thank you for doing all this for me!’**

Pope Francis

Today:
Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

Monday:
1 John 3:22 – 4:6
Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday:
1 John 4:7-10
Mark 6:34-44

Wednesday:
1 John 4:11-18
Mark 6:45-52

Thursday:
1 John 4:19 – 5:4
Luke 4:14-22

Friday:
1 John 5:5-13
Luke 5:12-16

Saturday:
1 John 5:14-21
John 3:22-30

Next Sunday:
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22