

THIS WEEK

Sunday 8 January - The Epiphany

8.00am **HOLY COMMUNION**, page no 65

President: The Canon Precentor

8.30am Breakfast with the Bible, led by *The Dean*

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

President: The Canon Precentor

Preacher: The Canon Theologian

11.15am **CHORAL EUCHARIST with incense**

President: The Canon Theologian

Preacher: The Canon Precentor

3.30pm **CHORAL EVENSONG**

Address: The Dean

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 15 January - Second Sunday of Epiphany

8.00 am **HOLY COMMUNION**, page no 67

President: Revd Kate Moore

9.30 am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

President: The Dean

Preacher: Heike Prentice

11.15 am **CHORAL EUCHARIST**

President: The Dean

Preacher: Revd Kate Moore

3.30 pm **CHORAL EVENSONG**

Address: The Vice Dean

Daily Prayer through the Week (Mon to Sat):

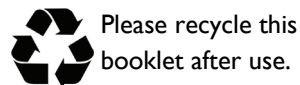
Morning Prayer: 7.45 am

Holy Communion: 8.15 am (also Wed at 12.35 pm & Thurs at 10.00 am)

Midday Prayer in St Cedd's Chapel

Evensong/Evening Prayer: 5.15 pm (sung on Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri,
said on Wednesday & Saturday)

On certain Saturdays Evensong is sung by a choir
– please check the Music & Services list for dates



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CATHEDRAL LIFE WEEKLY

Epiphany, 8 January 2017



A New Year Message from the Bishop of Chelmsford



“RING out the old, ring in the new!” goes the saying – as though the old year was something to be chucked into the nearest rubbish bin.

Of course the New Year gives us a chance to plan and hope for what it may bring. But we all know that nothing mystical happens at the stroke of midnight. Nothing removes the challenges we may need to face, the world we witness in its brokenness as well as its beauty, with all its separateness and disunity as well as its love and togetherness.

Might there be another way of looking at the old year? Instead of just throwing it away, perhaps we should try sorting the items from the past that can be recycled into a separate bin so that we help make a better future.

So as well as a time of looking forward, the New Year can also be a time to pause, reflect and take stock

of what has gone before. A time when we can think about our own personal share in building a better place to belong, when we can pray for peace, act to end suffering and show friendship with each other, our families and the communities we live in.

Then as the New Year dawns, we can be refreshed and rejoice in celebrating our own contribution to building a better place for all God's creation.

And, if we place God at the heart of our reflections, we will be strengthened in our resolve: “I can do everything through Him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13).

Wishing you a peaceful and blessed New Year.

+ Stephen Chelmsford

Contact us at:

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01245 294 492 (Emergency out of hours contact: 07518 124858)
and visit our website: chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk
Facebook: /chelmsfordcathedral Twitter: @CCathedral
Safeguarding Officer: Elizabeth Marshall 07717043202



Diocese of
Chelmsford

Study Notes on the Sunday Gospel

Matthew 2: 1-12

Introduction & Context

Matthew, in writing "In the time of King Herod", sets a *late date* for the birth of Jesus: Herod the Great, puppet king of Judah, died in 4 BC. "Wise men" (Latin: *magi*) were members of a Persian caste of astrologers and interpreters of dreams. For the star, see Numbers 24:17-24.

Herod's fears are aroused because his dynasty may be ended. He consults the religious experts to find out where the magi should look for the Messiah. They quote Micah 5:2 and 2 Samuel 5:2.. The maximum age of the children to be killed in Herod's edict (v. 16) tells us the "exact time" (v. 7) that he learnt from the wise men. V. 8 is classical political duplicity. The star guides them to Bethlehem, where they are "overwhelmed with joy" (v. 10). The gifts are extremely generous.

Once you are settled and are ready to go:

- Read the passage slowly and reflectively
- Note anything that particularly strikes you and refer to the notes if they are helpful
- Spend a few moments in quiet reflection
- If you are a group, share your reflections in pairs or as a whole group (remembering that each person will have different perspectives and views on the passage)
- Read the passage for a final time and give thanks to God for the gift of his holy word.

Next Sunday's Readings - 15/1/17 : Epiphany 2

9.30 am & 11.15 am:

Isaiah 49: 1-7

Psalms 40vs 1-12

I Corinthians 1: 1-9

John 1: 29-42

3.30 pm:

Psalms 139vs 1-5, 12-17

I Samuel 3: 1-20

John 1: 43-51

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 9 January

6.00 - 8.00pm

Youth Group (YMCA)

6.00pm

Becoming a Spiritual Companion - First Steps!
(Diocesan Office - see previous newsheet for details)

Wednesday 11 January

9.30am

Parent and Toddler Group (Chapter House)

12.35pm

Eucharist

1.00-3.00pm

Welcome on Wednesday: coffee and cake in the North Transept

Thursday 12 January

10.00am

Eucharist

10.45am

Faith and Fitness (North Transept)

12.30 for 1pm

Mothers' Union New Year Party (Chapter House)

Friday 13 January

12.30pm

Lunchtime Concert - Christopher Strange (organ)

Saturday 14 January

7.15pm

Cathedral Ball

Rose Hudson-Wilkin who is chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons (amongst her other roles). She delivered a Keene Lecture back in November 2013 and those fortunate enough to be there (when the heating had failed) will remember a very entertaining and pertinent commentary on the way we welcome visitors. All volunteers are greatly encouraged to attend. Additionally, **any other members of our congregation** will be most welcome; we do **all** have a responsibility to welcome newcomers to our Cathedral! Coffee and tea will be served at 9am, the presentation will begin at 9.30am, questions at 10.30 - all finishing at 11am. To give me some idea of numbers, please tell your

team leader if you are intending to be with us or call me direct on 01245 697970.

Andrew Duke
Volunteer Coordinator

Saturday 28 January 6-10pm **Swedish Meal Fundraiser**

Being held in the Cathedral to raise funds for the Youth trip to Sweden. Tickets, costing £20 per person are available from Steven Conroy or Tim Leeson.

Sunday 29 January 3.30pm
The Christingle Service will take place in the Cathedral. Please come along and encircle the Cathedral in light with your Christingle.

NOTICES & DATES FOR THE DIARY

A very warm welcome to Chelmsford Cathedral especially if you are a visitor or here for the first time. Everything you need for the celebration is contained in the service booklet. Please ask one of the welcome stewards on duty at the doors if you have any questions.

Junior Church meets today, starting at 9.30am in Chapter House. The theme for this week is 'The visit of the Wise Men'.

Yellow Envelopes If you are a UK tax payer, please use a yellow Gift Aid envelope (available at the doors) to increase the value of your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. Remember to fill in your name, house number and postcode and the date.

Confirmations

There will be a Confirmation Service in the Cathedral this April. Any adults wishing to be confirmed (or baptised and confirmed) should please contact Canon Edward Carter on 01245 294486 or edward.carter@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk for information about preparation sessions this Spring.

For young people (11-25) interesting in exploring faith, and potentially confirmation, Tim will be running an introduction to Christianity course, starting in January. For details, please contact him on tim.leeson@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

Sunday 15 January

There will be a cake sale next Sunday between the services to raise funds

for the Christingles for the service being held on 29 January. Christingle collecting candles will be available from Sunday 8 January onwards.

Sunday 15 January 12.45pm

Meeting Point Lunch at Côte
Book with Penny tel: 07872 942625

Monday 16 January

The Salvation Sculptures arrive in the Cathedral: six life-sized sculptures by Iranian artist Salomeh Asgary will be on display. Please do come and visit this free exhibition and invite family and friends. There will be information displayed alongside each piece.

Tuesday 24 January

1pm - 5pm

Chalkwell Auctions of Southend on Sea are hosting an Antiques Valuation Roadshow in the Chapter House. Their team of highly experienced valuers will provide sound advice and an opportunity to offer your items to a worldwide audience. For details tel: 01702 613260

Wednesday 25 January 8pm

Theological Society

'Christian Concern for Justice: defending and delivering access to justice today'. A talk by Andrew Caplen, Past President of the Law Society of England and Wales. The meeting is being held in Chapter House, entry is £3.50 payable on the door and all are welcome.

Saturday 28 January 2017

Ministry of Welcome Volunteers' Presentation

We are pleased to welcome back Rev

Daily Gospel Readings for this week, to use in your daily prayer:

Sunday: Matthew 2: 1-12

Thursday: Luke 12: 32-37

Monday: Matthew 3: 1-13

Friday: Mark 2.1-12

Tuesday: Mark 1: 21-28

Saturday: Mark 2.13-17

Wednesday: Mark 1: 29-39

Sunday: John 1: 29-42

You can find a simple 10 minute reflection at: www.pray-as-you-go.org

Thought for the day

If the Magi had come in search of an earthly King, they would have been disconcerted at finding that they had taken the trouble to come such a long way for nothing. - *John Chrysostom*

Please pray for:

- Judith Allen, Margaret Beverley, Sue Cockett, Rosemary Duffin, Antoin Irtelli, Julie Liney, Janet Wallace; all those receiving home communion and all in need of our prayers
- The staff of the Cathedral, the events to be held here and for all those who will visit during the coming year. Give thanks, too, for all who generously give of their time as volunteers.
- The Diocese of Kuching (South East Asia)
- Oasis Church, Moulsham

English for Women

MANY of you have supported and followed the story of our project 'English for Women'.

Since moving into the 2nd floor of Threadneedle House we have grown significantly, and what started out as an Afghan language group has now become a truly international drop-in centre. Over the last few weeks we have welcomed women from Ecuador, Tunisia, Afghanistan, Algeria, Romania, Hungary, Egypt, Peru, Albania, Iran, Turkey, Bangladesh, China, Colombia, Brazil, Libya, Pakistan, France and Spain. If you consider that our volunteers past and present come from the UK, Ireland, USA, Germany and South Africa you can imagine just how international we have become. Whatever their background, all appreciate having the opportunity to practise their English with our friendly

volunteers and to learn about British culture.



Some of the women bring their pre-school children, who enjoy the professionally equipped playgroup area, and watching their progress over the months has been extremely rewarding. Many are frightened and insecure when they first arrive, but after a few weeks they happily join in with the other children, with nursery songs and fun activities, such as foam games and craft activities.

Word about this wonderful project is spreading gradually, and more and more women are finding us, who would otherwise remain isolated or at least not know how and where to integrate. The other



day a wonderful Iranian lady came up to me and hugged me to say thank you. She has lived here since 2008, but had hardly any English at all. She is now making good progress and her smile each day says it all.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to know more about the project, please contact Heike.prentice @chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk



Faith and Fitness

The BBC came to film Faith and Fitness for their Songs of Praise programme. Members of the group were interviewed and the Thursday morning fitness class recorded. It is due to be broadcast this month.

