

**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**

Reading Cycle C

Page 115 in the New Mass Book

Psalter Week 1

Sunday 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025

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[www.stpatrickscardiff.co.uk](http://www.stpatrickscardiff.co.uk)**MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK**

SAT		FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY	6.30pm	Deceased members of the Desmond Family
SUN			10.00am	Phyll, Abbe, and Alex Cohen R.I.P Ben Foday R.I.P
MON		NO MASS		
TUES		Weekday in the Octave of Christmas ★	10.00am	Deceased members of the Hall and German Families
WED		SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD	10.00am	Special Intention for the Well being of Angela Swafield
THURS		MEMORIAL OF ST BASIL THE GREAT	10.00am	Tina and Leon Figueri on their Wedding Anniversary Agnieszka Klos R.I.P
FRI		Friday before the Epiphany	10.00am	Ted Spillane R.I.P
SAT	4 <sup>TH</sup> JAN	SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY	6.30pm	Eddie Hall R.I.P
SUN	5 <sup>TH</sup> JAN		10.00am	Emilio Forte R.I.P Lu and Pat Mooney + R.I.P

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, ANNIVERSARIES AND THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:**

We pray for those in our families or in our Parish Community who may be sick, housebound, worried or in need. We ask that the love of the Lord be with them during the coming week. To all our parishioners who are indisposed we ask that they may receive every grace and blessing.

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of Sascha Hippolyte, Malcolm Osbourne, Martin Jones and Jim Boyce. May they rest in peace**

We also pray for John Smith, Sheila Harding, Mary Carroll, Ivy Davies, Margaret Stevens, Michael O'Brien, Albert Petrelli, Ann Salter, Peter Levy, Dorothy Brahim, Angela Reilly, Brenda Wilson, Kenneth Stevens, Aneurin Ward, Bert Payne, Kenneth Collins, Pauline Flowers, Ted Spillane, Kevin Smith, Agnieszka Klos, Eileen Forrester, Alice Northcote, Genette Hughes, Patricia Price, William Timothy, Emilio Forte, Carole Hoddinott, John McCluskey, Joan Smith, Raymond Howells, John Thompson, Jeannette Paxton, Fr Denis Tourney, Fr John Meredith, FR Martin Delaney, Fr John O'Regan, Fr Michael Martin, Fr Liam Doyle, Fr Marshall Gibbs and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**CANDLES** You can buy a 7 day candle (£5.00) which will be left at the Sacred Heart or Our Lady's Altar for the duration of a week. **This week's candles will be lit for Peggy Palmer, Ceri Johnson and Fran Johnson, and a Special Intention**

**PIETY STALL SALE:** Large Boxes of Christmas Cards reduced to £1.99 and small boxes/packs 99p. Stock up for next Christmas.

**DECEMBER NEWSLETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP MARK** available on the Parish Website.

**UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES:** Chris and Wendy – Nos 231-235 also 831-835

**LIFE CHARITY** : has a National Helpline that answers the calls of women, men and families facing unexpected pregnancy. In cases where abortion is a risk, having someone qualified and non-judgmental to talk to can make all the difference.

Find out more on their website or donate to their appeal for counselling sessions this Christmas: [appeal.lifecharity.org.uk/](http://appeal.lifecharity.org.uk/)

**BISHOP ROBERT BARRON'S 'THE MASS'** videos well worth watching. Links are on the Parish Website.

**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:** Candidates please meet after Mass by the Our Lady Altar so you can have your attendance sheet signed. If you have any queries please e-mail Chris German [Cge7618946@aol.com](mailto:Cge7618946@aol.com) or through the Parish Website

**OLD SPECTACLES/ GLASSES:** **THE KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA** are collecting any old prescription spectacles/glasses (no cases) to be sent overseas to Third World Countries. There is a box at the back of the Church to put your old items in. Also the Knights are going to be meeting on the fourth Sunday of every month. Please see Patrick McCarthy for more information. This is an all male organisation and they are looking for new members. The next meeting will be in January.

**MASS INTENTIONS** At the back of the Church there are envelopes for you to put your donation and the details of when you would like a Mass and for whom. Please indicate if the person is deceased. Please put your envelope in the Offertory Bag or the Brown Box at the back of the Church.

**NEW TO THE PARISH?** If you have been coming to St Patricks for some weeks and would like to be listed as a new Parishioner please complete the proforma at the back of the Church and give it to one of the priests.

**SAFEGUARDING:** Helplines and Information on the Parish Website Homepage. A First Aid Box is kept in the Sacristy.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** Please let the Hospital know that you are a Catholic and would like a visit from the Chaplain. If you are a relative and would like the Catholic Hospital Chaplain to make a visit please leave the name of the person you want them to see and the Ward details if possible. When you ring the Chaplaincy 02921 843230 please leave your contact details so that they can contact you.

**HOUSEBOUND COMMUNIONS:** If you know of a parishioner wishing to receive Holy Communion please contact Frs Valentine

**CHURCH COLLECTIONS:** DEC 21<sup>st</sup>/ 22<sup>nd</sup> £510.02

### **WEEKLY MESSAGE**

Most of us will have spent some of Christmas with family members. If that was not possible we probably will have made contact with family members either by phone, or e-mail or letter. Christmas is very much a family feast. People travel in great numbers to be with their families at Christmas time. The centrality of the family at Christmas time is perhaps because, at some deep level, we are aware that at the heart of this feast of Christmas is a family, what we call the holy family, whose feast we celebrate today. When we refer to the holy family we think of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Yet, when Joseph, Mary and Jesus spoke of the family, it is likely that they had in mind a much larger group than themselves. They would have thought of the extended family of grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces. Elizabeth and her husband Zechariah and their son John were part of Mary and Joseph's family, along with many others. It was within this wider family that Jesus, in the words of the gospel reading today, 'grew to maturity and was filled with wisdom'.

Today, the feast of the holy family, is a good day to remember our own families within which, to varying degrees, we grew to maturity and were filled with wisdom. In remembering our families, we think not only of our parents, our brothers and sisters, but also of grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins. We may have mixed feelings about our family. It is rare that someone is totally positive about the family into which they were born and in which they grew to maturity. None of our families are all that we would wish them to be. They are imperfect communities because the people who compose them are not perfect. Amid all the good memories of family life, it is likely that we will also have some bad memories, some painful memories. And sadly for a minority, the memory of their family of origin will be more bad than good.

Today is a day to give thanks for all that is good in our families. We give thanks for the care that nurtured and nourished us when we were too weak and vulnerable to take care of ourselves, for the many sacrifices that were made so that we might have better opportunities in life than earlier generations, for the sense of home that was created and that gave us a feeling of security as we negotiated the tricky journey from childhood to adolescence and from adolescence to young adulthood, for the love that was free to let us go when we needed to move on, while always ready to welcome us home. Today's feast is also a good day to ask the Lord to help us to forgive what needs forgiving in our experience of family, a day when we ask him for the freedom to let go of whatever resentments may be oppressing us, a day when we pray to him for the healing of any hurts that family members may have inflicted on us.

The New Year gives us a chance to make new choices, to restore broken relationships both with family and with God. Maybe we haven't even thought of God as part of our family, and that we are part of His. When we were Baptised we became just that, part of the family of God.

As the New Year Begins let us remember the words spoken by King George VI, King Charles' Grandfather. The World was in turmoil with the start of the Second World War. No hope or future, a war bringing misery and despair. So on the eve of 1940 he spoke these words trying to inspire and energise a fearful and depressed nation, taken from a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins:

**“ I said to the Man who stood at the Gate of the New Year  
“ Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown”.  
and he replied  
“ Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be better than light, and safer than a known way”**

