

The Parish Clergy:
The Reverend the Vicar and Surrogate
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Regional Dean For Southwark Forward in Faith
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The Churchwardens:
Mrs Cecelia Okrafo-Smart Mrs Diane Bartlett
The Churchwardens Emeriti
Mr Reg Martin Miss Betty Stroud



O GOD,
who by the leading of a star
didst manifest thy
only-begotten Son
to the Gentiles;
Mercifully grant that we,
who know thee now by faith,
may after this life
have the fruition
of thy glorious Godhead;
through the same thy Son
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Welcome to our Church today, after the Parish Mass refreshments will be served at the back of Church. Please join us and make yourself known to one of the clergy.

This ancient church has been a place of Christian worship of Almighty God for well over 1,000 years; as we enter the third millennium of our salvation it is salutary to remember that Christians have gather here on this spot since the first millennium.

If you would like to pray, the Lady Chapel is set aside as a place of quiet, where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved or you might like to light a candle at one of the many shrines around church.

THE PARISH AND ANCIENT CHURCH OF SAINT NICHOLAS, PLUMSTEAD

WELCOME TO OUR CELEBRATION TODAY



Induction loop fitted Sound reinforcement



Ramp available for access

A Forward in Faith parish under
the Episcopal Care of the Bishop of Fulham,
The Right Reverend Jonathan Baker,
we are a Eucharistic community
who is worshipping in the present,
upon the Apostolic Truths of the past,
in the hope of finding our future salvation
in God's Heavenly Kingdom.

The Mass is offered daily

Sunday	8:00am
	11:00am
Monday	8:00pm
Tuesday	7:30pm
Wednesday	9:30am
Thursday	7:00pm
Friday	12:00pm
Saturday	10:00am



Exposition of the
BLESSED SACRAMENT or ADORATION
half an hour before Mass every day except Sunday.

The ROSARY of the Blessed Virgin Mary
is said after Mass on Friday and Saturday

STATIONS OF THE CROSS, after the Mass
on Tuesday evenings in Lent

Confessions:

Monday 7:30-8:00pm. Tuesday 7:00-7:30pm,
Thursday 6:30-7:00pm, or by appointment.

Please turn off



all mobile 'phones

PLEASE LET FR. ANDREW KNOW OF ILLNESS
OR OTHER NEED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET HOME

The word of the Lord

Psalm 71

Throughout the Old Testament, we are given glimpses and clues of what would come in the Incarnation. With the coming of Jesus the Christ, a new covenant would be instituted – a covenant in which all people of faith would be called to redemption. In today's Psalm, we encounter the glorious images of the coming kingdom which would be realised in Jesus. The kings of far off lands come to fall prostrate before the king,

In this kingdom, justice will flourish, and people will be called from all corners to adore and pay tribute to the king. And in his kingdom, the poor and the weak are given safety, shelter and redemption. This would not be redemption for a select few. The offer was extended to all, and many come to our Lord, regardless of background. At the Epiphany, we see the vision of this Psalm come to fruition. The wise men came from far away to adore Jesus and to pay him tribute. Their king – and ours – had come into the world to call all of the nations to him.

Saint of the Week

Why do we do what we do at Baptism?

The three main actions at a Baptism can easily be remembered using the word OWL – Oil, Water, Light. The first action is that the person to be baptised is anointed with oil in the sign of the cross.

This marking with the cross is a sign of the protection of God in our lives. In the time of Jesus oil would have been used for its healing properties and also used by those running long races so they could not be caught. The oil then prepares us for our race through life under the protection of the cross. The second action is the use of water; either poured over the candidates head or sometimes the candidate is immersed fully in water. Water is a symbol of life and a sign of the new life we live in Christ. We are symbolically washed of our sins. Powerfully when the candidate is immersed in the font we see how we die to our sin and rise again with Christ.

The final of the three signs is the giving of a lit candle. The candle is usually lit from the Paschal Candle which we bless at the Easter Vigil. This is a sign that Christ is the Light of the World and that we are to shine in the world as a sign of Christ's love for all people. At our baptism we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit and called by God to serve him as Christians.



Forward!

Welcome to our celebration today

5th January 2014

Epiphany

Manifestation

'God in Man made manifest!' So runs the chorus of the Epiphany Hymn by Christopher Wordsworth. The



three signs or manifestation of the Epiphany Season each reveal something of Jesus who is 'God in Man'. In the manifestation of the star this Man is revealed as God of all people whose light will 'lighten the gentiles.' In the manifestation of the Holy Spirit at his Baptism in the Jordan this Man is revealed as the anointed one, the Christ, the only son of the Heavenly Father. In the transformation of the water into wine at the wedding at Cana this Man is revealed as the author of a new creation, of the herald of a new covenant. This is the God whose will is revealed only to the servants and whose co-worker is Mary his Virgin Mother.

All these are a converting experience to those who witness them. The Magi became those who adored him, at his baptism John the Baptist saw the fulfilment of his deepest hope and desire, and at Cana all the guests were blessed by the simple obedience of the few. God in Man brings light, knowledge and Joy. This is the Good News of Epiphany!

The Epiphany

The Word, the Christ, the cause of our being – for he was in God – as also of our well-being, has now himself appeared to man. He alone is both God and man; he is for us the source of all good. From him we learn the good life and are brought to the eternal life.... This is the 'new song', the Epiphany, which has now shone out among us, of that Word who was in the beginning, and who was before the beginning. And now, quite recently, has been manifested the Saviour who was before

The Rota for Reading and Intercessing

DECEMBER	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Intercessions
Sunday 1 st	Y. Stevens	D. Stevens	T. Agin
Saturday 7 th Feast of St Nicholas	T. Agin	Deacon	G. Agin
Sunday 8 th	B. Scott	E. Crawley	A. Davies
Sunday 15 th	P. Alexander	E. Buhl	B. Scott
Sunday 22 nd	S. Obubo	Stephanie O	S. Jahans
Tuesday 24 th Midnight Mass	G. Agin	R. Barzey	R. Martin
Wednesday 25 th Christmas Day	D. Martin	R. Martin	Fr. Andrew
Sunday 29 th	R. Barzey	B. Stroud	T. Agin
JANUARY 2014			
Sunday 5 th	D. Stevens	Y. Stevens	G. Agin
Sunday 12 th	E. Crawley	B. Scott	A. Davies
Sunday 19 th	P. Alexander	E. Buhl	R. Martin
Sunday 26 th	B. Stroud	R. Martin	B. Scott

Sancte Nicolae, Ora pro nobis



All-powerful God,
you made
Saint Nicholas
a bishop and leader
of the Church
to inspire your people
with his teaching
and example.
May we give fitting
honour to his memory
and always have the
assistance of his prayers
We ask this
through our
Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
who lives and reigns
with you and
the Holy Spirit,
one God,
for ever and ever.
Amen

Christus, Heri, Hodie, Semper

S. NICHOLAS CHURCH

FLOODLIGHT: LIGHT THE CHURCH

We all realise how important it is to support our Church, more so in these days of rising costs; well here is a good way of supporting it and enjoying it personally.

Floodlight the building by day £2.25 or by the week £14.50, for that personal event: a birth, Baptism, Birthday, an Anniversary, Wedding or Years Mind of a loved one, in doing this you will remember and at the same time help pay the electricity bill. The price is reasonable and shows this building in all its glory after sunset, it does enhance this fine building. Reg holds the diary, to be sure there are no double bookings, it is yours for the day or week.



The Epiphany of the Lord

The Angelus will be sung at the Epiphany Crib

HYMNS

Introit:	NEH	52
Gradual:	NEH	27
Offertory:	NEH	56
Communion:	NEH	31
Post Communion:	NEH	46

PALM CROSSES:

Jessica Roberts in thanksgiving for the life of her Father

THE PASCHAL CANDLE:

Flavia Kisambira in thanksgiving to God for his
Greatness and Mercy

THE SEVEN DAY SHRINE LIGHTS FOR JANUARY

The Blessed Sacrament:

Lilian Osedumme: For her husband and her family.

The Sanctuary:

Lilian Osedumme

Our Lady by the Lady Chapel:

Joy & Stephen Jahans: for Joy's Recovery

Our Lady of Walsingham:

Lilian Osedumme

Our Lady of Fatima:

Murray Smallbone: For the repose
of the soul of John Beck 30-7-1937 - 8-10-2008

S. Nicholas:

Lilian Osedumme: For her husband and her family

S. Francis:

Lilian Osedumme

THE SUNDAY SHRINE LIGHTS FOR JANUARY

Our Lady by the Tower:

Gwen Pearce

The Immaculate Heart of Mary:

Henry Aguh

Our Lady of Sorrows:

Christina Agin:

S. Joseph:

Paul Pangrace

S. Augustine

Lilian Osedumme: For her husband and her family

S. Martin:

Lilian Osedumme

Sacred Heart of Jesus:

Azuka Agun

S. Dunstan:

Lilian Osedumme: For her husband and her family

S. Anthony: S. Teresa:

Motunde

S. Thomas More:

Margaret Mendes: in thanksgiving

The Icon of Christ:

Lilian Osedumme

FLOODLIGHT:

INTRODUCTION

The feast of the Epiphany of the Lord celebrates the revelation that the infant Jesus is not only the newborn king of the Jews – his origins are divine and his destiny is to suffer and die for the salvation of all people.

Today's Readings

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is a beacon of hope, not only drawing the exiled Jews back to their home but also attracting all the nations to worship the Lord.

Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

The revelation given to Paul is that the pagans share with the Jews the same inheritance and the same promise through the Gospel.

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men from the east follow the light of a star to find the newborn king of the Jews so that they can worship him and offer him their gifts.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We have been brought together by the light of our faith in Jesus. Let us turn to God, the source of all life, believing that we will receive all that we ask in faith.

We pray for the Church: that she may continue to be a beacon of hope in the darkness of our world.
Lord, hear us.

For all those who continue to bring the good news of Jesus to those who have not yet heard it; for missionaries and all those who support them.
Lord, hear us.

For scientists and all who are exploring the mysteries of creation: that their discoveries may help us to live better lives.
Lord, hear us.

For artists and storytellers: that they may help us to a new appreciation of the world around us.
Lord, hear us.

We pray for those struggling in the darkness of doubt and unbelief: that the light of the Gospel may give them a new vision for life.
Lord, hear us.

Loving God, we thank you for the continuing revelation of your love in our lives today. Help us to keep on searching for you until we come to know you fully in heaven, through Christ our Lord.

THOSE PREPARING FOR BAPTISM

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED

*Sunday 29th September 2013:
Kai Kwabena Osei Goodensimms*

THOSE ADMITTED TO HOLY COMMUNION

Charlene Namuleme Kaddu

THOSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

THOSE PREPARING FOR HOLY MATRIMONY

*Saturday 28th June 2014 at 2:00pm:
Ian William Bentley & Karen Ann Gladwell*

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN MARRIED

*Saturday 24th August 2013 at 4:00pm:
Scott Edward Parker and Maria Betsy Side*

SPECIAL INTENTION

Joy wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes for her and her family

FLOWERS IN MEMORY

S. Joseph:
Carol Ann McCartney

BURIAL OF ASHES

Sunday to be confirmed:
John Barry Gant
Sunday to be confirmed:
Jack Brunt

THE DEPARTED

Brian Goulding
Morgan Sheen
Fermina de Araujo
Ken Grounsell

YEARS MIND

6th Derek Aburn
9th Mary Ward
10th Frances Emily Kate Heard
11th Ernest Mooney



FOR YOUR DAILY INTERCESSION JANUARY

General Intention:

That all may promote authentic economic development that respects the dignity of all peoples.

Missionary Intention:

That Christians of diverse denominations may walk toward the unity desired by Christ.

BIRTHDAYS

6th Zack Alexander
7th Jordan Nzante
10th Victor Barzey

PRAYER FOR HEALING

Murray Smallbone Russell Sabat
Andreas Poplopdous Christina Agin
Ruby Arthurs John David Cook
Stanley Lewis Pat Wenham Hazel Clark
Cloe Gibson Mary Cook Roy Richards
Walter Mann
Eve Cocklin Helen Thorpe
Ruth Kabeba Stephen Katu
Pauline Alexander Eric Buhl
Kirsty Forrester Terry Hayward Pat Hayward
Janet Hole John Hole
Kathy Fincham Bill Baker
Iris Agin Shirley Bristow
Jennifer Fairweather Emma Clifford
Brian Joseph Bill Scott
Rosamond Nash Isabel D'Alvarez
Fr Grahame Stephens Elisabeth Wright
Karen Bryan Firth Joyce Moore
Barbara English Alison Scott-Holt
Alex Fernandes Dee Hodges
Dianne Fulbrook
Joanne Johnson (nee Davies) Michael Somer
Barbara Sleigh Jaq Pearce
Win Pinn Horace Thompson
Christian Towner Rosemary Rowan
Nicky Dacies Heather Goulding
Muriel Taylor Elizabeth Huddleston
Fr Derek Robinson Stephen Jahans Jr
Vivian Rogers Pat Hayward
Joy Frances Jahans John Cotton
Katherine Higgins Jason Baker
Darren Knight Rosina Cochran
Irene Beatrice Watkins
Mick Martin Pat McFarlane
Harry Everson Maggie

IN THANKSGIVING

Rebecca Huddleston Alison Abrey
David Jahans Elisabeth Wright
Pat Hayward

If you are celebrating
a BIRTHDAY or ANNIVERSARY
and would like to share it with your Church Family
A £15 DONATION
covers the cost of Sherry
(You may if you wish provide wine of your own choice)
to be enjoyed at the back of church after Mass
Please see Gwen or Christina Agin!

Sunday Readings: Year A
Psalter Week 2

JANUARY 2014

England, Wales, Scotland and other countries where the Solemnity of the Epiphany is observed on this Sunday:

*	5	Su	W	<p>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, Sol DO2 MP:40(128) EP:38(126) Mass pr, Gl, LI 161, Cr, Pref Epiphany, Eucharistic Prayer I pr R1: Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 71:1-2,7-8,10-13 R2: Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6 Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12</p>
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*The Epiphany Preface is said daily unless noted otherwise.
Ad lib: One of the Prefaces of the Nativity may be used as an alternative.*

6	M	W	<p>FERIA AFTER THE EPIPHANY DO5(2) MP:40(128) EP:38(126) Mass pr, LI 164, Pref Epiphany or Pref Nativity I, II or III</p>
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7	T	W	<p>FERIA AFTER THE EPIPHANY DO5(2) MP:40(128) EP:38(126) Mass pr, LI 166, Pref Epiphany or Pref Nativity I, II or III</p>
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or:

W	<p>S Raymond of Penyafort Pr, Mem DO4(2) MP:188(324) EP:188(324) Mass from Com of Pastors: for One Pastor, LI 166, Pref Epiphany or Pref Nativity I, II or III</p>
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8	W	W	<p>FERIA AFTER THE EPIPHANY DO5(2) MP:40(128) EP:38(126) Mass pr, LI 168, Pref Epiphany or Pref Nativity I, II or III</p>
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9	Th	W	<p>FERIA AFTER THE EPIPHANY DO5(2) MP:40(128) EP:38(126) Mass pr, LI 171, Pref Epiphany or Pref Nativity I, II or III</p>
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10	F	W	<p>FERIA AFTER THE EPIPHANY DO5(2) MP:40(128) EP:38(126) Mass pr, LI 173, Pref Epiphany or Pref Nativity I, II or III</p>
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11	S	W	<p>FERIA AFTER THE EPIPHANY DO5(2) MP:40(128) Mass pr, LI 175, Pref Epiphany or Pref Nativity I, II or III</p>
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W	<p>EPI of foll DO3(3) EP:38(130)</p>
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Nothing this year of S Aelred of Rievaulx

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.*

COLLECT

O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks to be God.

PSALM Psalm 71

RESPONSE: *All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.*

1. 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. **R.**
2. 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. **R.**
3. 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. **R.**
4. 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. **R.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks to be God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. "Where is the infant king of the Jews?" they asked. "We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. "At Bethlehem in Judaea," they told him "for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. "Go and find out all about the child," he said "and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage." Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour, Lord, we pray, on these gifts of your Church, in which are offered now not gold or frankincense or myrrh, but he who by them is proclaimed, sacrificed and received, Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord, always and everywhere, that we may perceive with clear sight and revere with true affection the mystery in which you have willed us to participate. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The marking of doors with blessed chalk demonstrates our willingness to offer shelter and hospitality to the Magi on their journey to the Christ Child. This, of course, symbolises our willingness to receive all who love or seek Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The chalk is taken home after the Epiphany Mass and the doorpost or lintel of the house are marked in one of two ways: either using the initials of the Magi, or where possible, using their full name and asking their intercession.

The lintel of the main door of the house (and other doors as well) is marked by a senior member of the household in the following way:

20 + K + M + B + 1 (year)

While saying the following prayer

The three Wise Men

K	Kaspar
M	Melchior
B	and Balthasar
	followed the star
	of God's Son who became man
20	two thousand,
1-	and.....years ago.
++	May Christ bless our home
++	and remain with us through the new year.

If others are present, the following may be added:

Almighty God, incline your ear.
 Bless us and all who are gathered here.
 Send your holy angel
 who will defend us and fill with grace
 all who dwell here.
 Amen.

The alternative way, if there is sufficient room near the main door, is to write the names of the Magi in full, followed by "Orate pro nobis" (Pray for us) and to decorate the names with three crowns.



**YOU HAVE APPEARED, O CHRIST, THE
 LIGHT OF LIGHT! TO YOU THE MAGI
 BRING GIFTS! ALLELUJA - ALLELUJA!**



Dear brothers and sisters,
 the glory of the Lord has shone upon us,
 and shall ever be manifest among us,
 until the day of his return.
 Through the rhythms of times and seasons
 let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall the year's culmination,
 the Easter Triduum of the Lord:
 his last supper, his crucifixion,
 his burial, and his rising
 will be celebrated
 between the evening of the 17th April
 and the evening of the 19th April.

Each Easter - as on each Sunday -
 the Holy Church makes present the great and saving
 deed by which Christ has for ever conquered sin and death.

From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.
 Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, will occur
 on the 5th of March.

The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated
 on the 29th of May.

Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter,
 will be celebrated on the 8th of June.

On the 19th of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and
 Blood of Christ will be kept.

And this year the First Sunday of Advent will be on the 30th
 of November.

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the passover of Christ
 in the feasts of the holy Mother of God,
 in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints,
 and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come,
 Lord of time and history, be endless praise, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.