

The Parish Church of All Saints Peterborough



Stations of the Epiphany

Sunday, 10th January 2021

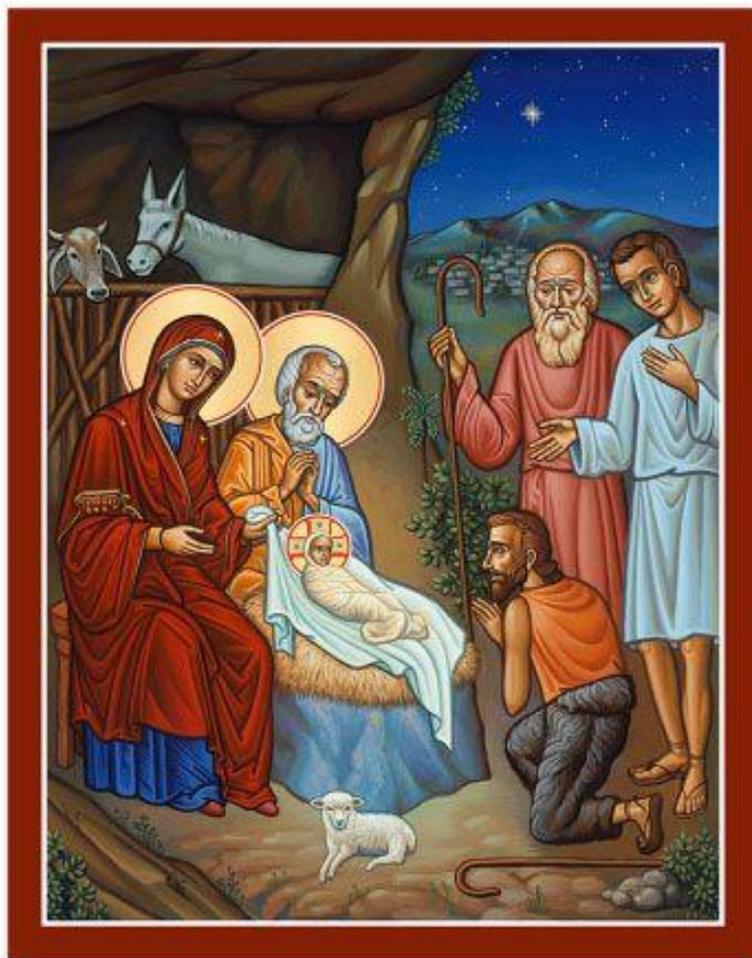
Welcome to All Saints' Parish Church for this service of music, readings and reflections for the Epiphany season. We'll think about the Shepherds at the manger, the Naming of Jesus, the visit of the Magi, the flight into Egypt and the Massacre of the Innocents.

Greg Roberts, Parish Priest

Gathering Music: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Welcome

First Station: Shepherds at the Manger



We adore you of Christ and we bless you

Because by your glorious nativity you have given us new birth

Reading Luke 2: 15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken

place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Second Station: Naming of Jesus

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Reading: Luke 2:21

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Third Station: Visit of the Magi



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Choir: We three kings

Reading: Matthew 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.”³ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Fourth Station: Presentation of Christ



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Reading: Luke 2: 22-35

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

Said hymn: 360 Faithful vigil ended

Fifth Station: Flight into Egypt



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Reading: Matthew 2:13-15

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

Sixth Station: Massacre of the Innocents



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Reading: Matthew 2:16-18

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

“A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

Seventh Station: The Return to Nazareth

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Reading: Matthew 2: 19-23

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

Intercessions

The magi came from the east to worship your Son:
Father, grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration ...
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:
Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds...
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer**

The kingdoms of this world have become
the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ:
Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world ...
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:
Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless,
and all who suffer ... Lord of glory, **hear our prayer**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth:
Father, protect in your love our neighbours,
our families and this community of which we are a part ...
Lord of glory, **hear our prayer**

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels,
the magi, the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and all the faithful departed.
In your unfailing love for us and for all people, hear and answer our
prayers through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The Collect

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Blessing

Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and
offered gifts, reveal to you his glory and pour upon you the riches
of his grace; and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**