

BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

KNUTSFORD ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 1JE

SERVING: LATCHFORD, GRAPPENHALL AND THELWALL
IN THE SOUTH WARRINGTON AND LYMM LPA

DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY REG CHARITY 234025



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Weekly Bulletin

31 DECEMBER 2017 PAGE 105 YEAR B

The "epiphany" of Jesus, his revelation to the world, was accompanied by the offering of three gifts, each of which symbolized a different aspect of the divine/human saviour.

🕯️ Frankincense is offered to Jesus, the Son of God, the eternal Word of the Father who is worshiped with the Father and the Spirit.

🕯️ Gold is offered to Jesus the King of the human race, the summit of creation.

🕯️ Myrrh is offered to the divine/human saviour of the world who suffered and died for the salvation of all.

Jesus is revealed in our own day and in world:

🕯️ He is revealed as the Word of God speaking to us in the marvellous workings of nature, in the achievements of the human spirit, and in the dialogue between Church and world.

🕯️ He is revealed to us as King in every victory over ignorance, alienation and powerlessness.

🕯️ He is revealed to us as Suffering Messiah in the heart and face of every poor person, every stranger, every wanderer living in a back alley or under a bridge, every person victimized by others.

Jesus perfected revelation by fulfilling and manifesting himself: through his words and deeds, his signs and wonders, but especially through his death and glorious resurrection from the dead and final sending of the Spirit of truth. Vatican II, Constitution on Divine Revelation, 1965:4

Gerald Darring



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Our Parish

Pope Francis has a very positive attitude towards parishes. In his encyclical *The Joy of the Gospel* he writes: *"The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. While certainly not the only institution which evangelizes, if the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptability, it continues to be "the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters."* (EG. 28)

This is a quietly revolutionary understanding because, like any institution or community a parish can be very set in its ways and rely on standard practices that sometimes fail to capture the imagination. So Francis encourages us to think creatively; but not for its own sake. His big hope is that creative thinking will help parishes reach out to those who maybe don't yet think of themselves as members of the parish.

Without resting on our laurels, I think it is fair to report that visitors frequently comment on our welcoming and friendly atmosphere. This is a big plus and provides the soil in which other creative engagement with a wider circle of people can take root.

So to those already involved in groups like the SVP, the Legion of Mary and the Christian Life Community, not to mention the many social and charitable outreach activities we support, I say thank you for the contribution you make often very discretely to improve the lives of others. And to those looking to get involved in the parish in any way please feel free to share any thoughts or ideas you have. If they offer something new and attractive, they might well add to our collective sense of mission.

And to those who quietly get on with their own voluntary support of parish life in all kinds of ways, let me say that your contribution is vital, appreciated and it is the very bedrock of any community. So, thank you. And may God bless and guide us in the year now begun.

THIS WEEK	EVENT	TIME & PLACE
Sat 6 Jan	Refreshments - Team A	After 5.30pm Mass
Mon 7 Jan	Baptism Preparation Meeting	7.00pm
Wed 10 Jan	CLC	2pm - 4pm - Narthex
COMING UP		
Sun 14 Jan	Refreshments - Team A	After 9.00am Mass
Wed 17 Jan	SVP	7pm

Priests' Retirement Fund Collection

Parish priests generally retire at 75 often having given 40-50 years of service to the people of the Diocese – well beyond the retirement age of many people. Priests receive a minimal wage during their years in active ministry, and so most only receive the basic state pension upon retirement. The Retired Priests' Fund seeks to help sick and retired priests with their basic living needs, providing a pension, accommodation etc... Our priests rely on what the Fund provides after devoting their lives to furthering the mission of the Church and bringing people closer to Christ.

Your donation will provide valuable help for our sick and retired priests. **Envelopes are available for your contribution.** These can be returned over the next couple of weeks. Please give as generously as you can. THANK YOU.

AID FOR REFUGEES Due to a backlog and the lack of volunteers to sort out the clothing, Care UK are not taking clothes until further notice but would ask that you keep up the donations of food, toiletries, baby products and women's hygiene, e.g. toothpaste, shampoo etc. Thank you once again for your generosity in helping relieve this tragic situation.

MONEY MATTERS

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity No. 234025

Collection Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses - £995.95

(Plus £278.20 in Standing Orders)

Crib Donations - £20.00

200 Club Winners 24.12.17 and 31 12.17 to be advised.

Please note that cheques for Mass Offerings, Donations etc should be made payable to *Blessed John Henry Newman Parish*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY

TO THE PARISH, ITS CLERGY AND TO THE CHARITIES WE SUPPORT



Mass Times and other Services

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD		
Sat 6 January	5.30 pm	Tony Riley RIP
Sunday 7 January	9.00 am 11.00 am	Billy O'Callaghan RIP (Anniversary) Joan Fitzmaurice (Birthday)
Mon 8 January	8.45 am 9.00 am	Morning Prayer Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion
Tues 9 January		No Service
Wednesday 10 January	8.45 am 9.00 am	Morning Prayer Cecelia Barnett RIP
Thursday 11 January	<u>13.30 pm</u> 6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Funeral Service for Harry Howard RIP Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Ints. Rosalie Ideson (Very Poorly)
Fri 12 January	<u>11.00 am</u>	Funeral Mass for David Sullivan RIP
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
Sat 13 January	5.30 pm	Angela Settle RIP
Sunday 14 January	9.00 am 11.00 am	Alf Brown RIP A. Fred Gatley RIP B. John Henry RIP

Kindly remember to pray for: Arthur Miller and Terrence Mannion who died recently; all the faithful departed, those living with or recovering from illness or undergoing medical treatment including: Vera Allen, Marc Bailey, Mary Birks, Amanda Bradbury, Vera Bradbury, Kath Bradley, Dawn Brindle, Archie Brocklehurst, Jack Child, Ethan Connolly, Catherine Coyne, Josie & John Daintith, Monica Dixon, Fr Stephen Dwyer, Jimmy Evans, Larry Finn, Claire Hogan, Laurie Gilfedder, Maureen Gingell, Teresa Glover, Jamie Graham, Joan Grant, Chris Haynes, Vera Hewitt, Leon Hoey, Helen Holdbrook, Mary Howard, Graham Hutson, Rosalie Ideson, Joan Johnson, Lilly Kelly, Wendy Kirkpatrick, Fulvia Large, Esther Lloyd Jones, Maria Mahon, Elaine Manuel, Renaldo Marcella, Bernadette MacConkey, Abigail McNicholas, Eileen Moyse, James O'Hara, May O'Rourke, Charles Pendry, Margaret Pickup, Tony Potter, Fionuala Price, David Prince, Margaret Quinn, Christine Rowe, Shelley Scott, Darcie Sharp, Fred Simpson, Hazel Sudell, Canon Harry Stratton, Michael Swift, Howard Tomlinson, Coen & Zion Unruh, Pamela Verdon, Cecily Waite, Ben Watson, Ann Weiss, John Williams & Colin Wright.