

Roman Catholic Diocese of
Clifton - www.cliftondiocese.com

Clifton Diocese (a company limited by guarantee)
Registered Charity No. 1170168



Church of the Holy Ghost, Yeovil

Parish Address: 73 Higher Kingston, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 4AR

Also serving

Church of St Michael, Lightgate Road, South Petherton, TA13 5AJ

Chapel of Our Lady and St Augustine of Canterbury, HMS Heron Royal
Naval Air Station, Yeovilton, BA22 8HT

Parish Office Email: yeovil.holyghost@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Telephone: 01935-423549

Served by the Missionaries of St Francis de Sales (Fransalians - MSFS)

Parish Clergy: Father Jean-Patrice Coulon MSFS; Father Jose
Maliekal MSFS

Priests resident in the Parish: Father David O'Regan; Father
Peter Clarke (Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham)

Parish Administrator: Sue Chant (Monday, Wednesday and Friday
mornings)

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Awaiting Appointment. The Diocesan
Safeguarding Office can be contacted at 0117-954 0993

ROSARY: before weekday Masses at Yeovil, and before Sunday Mass at South
Petherton. All welcome.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 9.15–9.45am; 4.15pm–4.45pm

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: On request. Please inform one of the clergy if you are
going into hospital. If possible, please seek anointing beforehand.

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Adults seeking to know more about the Catholic Faith
should speak to the Parish Priest, and/or come to the Journey in Faith (RCIA) sessions.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Six months notice for weddings.

HOLY ORDERS: Any man considering a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent
Diaconate should speak to one of the clergy.

CRIB OFFERING: as usual goes to the diocesan sponsored **Clifton Children's Society** which aims to find adoptive parents for children. The Crib, together with the other Christmas decorations will be taken down after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord next Sunday, which marks the end of Christmastide.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019: There will be a meeting for parents who have already enrolled their children for the First Holy Communion **Wednesday 9th January just after 3:30pm** (change of date) in the School Library at St Gildas School. The first class for children will be on **Wednesday 23rd January** at the same time of 3:30pm.

CONFIRMATION 2019: There will not be the Sacrament of Confirmation in our Parish this year but there will be in our Deanery at the Church of St Luke and St Teresa, Wincanton on **Wednesday 12th June 2019 at 7:00pm**. Any young parishioners in Year 7 or above are welcome to receive the Sacrament: if they wish to do so please contact Father Jean-Patrice at your earliest opportunity.

Catholic Prayer: Roman Ritual: Blessing of Chalk on Epiphany

It is traditional for parish priests to bless chalk for each family so that they may mark the names of the three Magi over their doors, in the blessing of homes as a witness of their faith and protection against evil. This blessing is from the 1952 version of the Roman Ritual, translated by Philip Weller.

The chalk is a type of *memento mori* or literally, *Memento homo* ("Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return.") image, a reminder of the dust of the earth from which man was made. See Genesis 3:19.

Note that any colour of chalk is valid for this blessing.

Prayer:

P: Our help is in the name of The Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Bless, + O Lord God, this creature chalk to render it helpful to men. Grant that they who use it in faith and with it inscribe upon the entrance of their homes the names of thy saints, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, may through their merits and intercession enjoy health of body and protection of soul. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

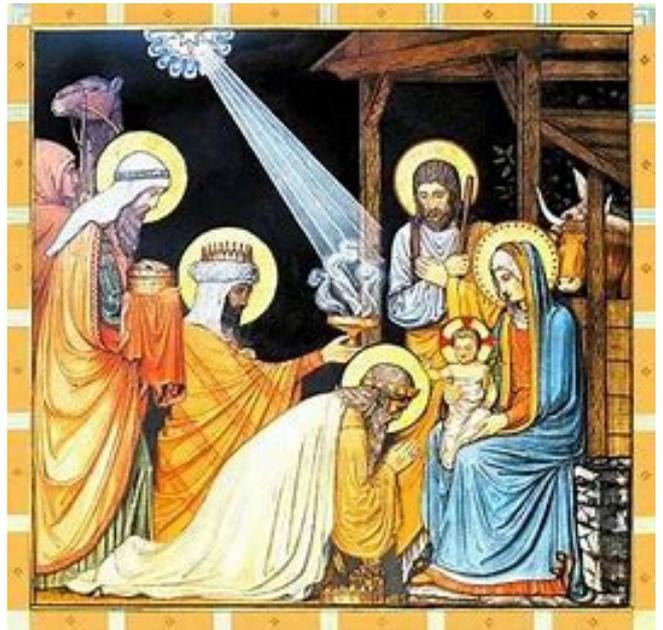
The chalk is sprinkled with holy water.



THE MEANING OF EPIPHANY:

For many years in the English speaking world the feast of Epiphany has been overshadowed by that of Christmas. But unless we realize the significance of this great day, we see only one side of the mystery of the Incarnation. Now after contemplating the staggering fact that God has become a human child, we turn to look at this mystery from the opposite angle and realize that this seemingly helpless Child is, in fact, the omnipotent God, the King and Ruler of the universe. The feast of Christ's divinity completes the feast of His humanity. It fulfills all our Advent longing for the King "who is come with great power and majesty." We see that whereas Christmas is the family feast of Christianity, Epiphany is the great "world feast of the Catholic Church."

Epiphany is a complex feast. Originating in the Eastern Church and formed by the mentality of a people whose thought processes differ sharply from our own, the Epiphany is like a rich Oriental tapestry in which the various themes are woven and interwoven — now to be seen in their historical setting, again to be viewed from a different vantage point in their deep mystical significance. In this brief introduction four of the main ideas of the Epiphany will be outlined.



Divine manifestation: The Epiphany takes its name from the Greek *epiphania*, which denotes the visit of a god to earth. The first idea of the feast is the manifestation of Christ as the Son of God. "Begotten before the daystar and before all ages, the Lord our Saviour is this day made manifest to the world." The feast unites three events in the life of Christ when His divinity, as it were, shines through His humanity: the adoration of the Magi; the baptism of Christ in the Jordan; and the first miracle at the wedding feast of Cana. Moreover, at Epiphany the Church looks forward to the majestic coming of Christ on the "youngest day" when His manifestation as God will be complete. The Gospels of the baptism and the marriage at Cana are read on the Octave Day and the Second Sunday after Epiphany, and later Sunday masses in the Epiphany season continue to show the divine power of our Lord in some of His most striking miracles.

Royal kingship: A second important idea in Epiphany is the extension of Christ's kingship to the whole world. The revelation of Christ to the three kings at Bethlehem is a symbol of His revelation to the whole of the Gentile world. Epiphany presents to us the calling of not merely a chosen few, but all nations to Christianity.

Your Light is Come: Closely linked to both these themes of divine manifestation and world kingship is a third idea running through the Epiphany feast: that of light. During Advent, the world was in darkness, and we prayed and waited in the spirit of the Jewish nation which lived in expectation of the Coming Light during thousands of years. At Christmas the Light shone forth, but dimly, seen only by a few around the crib: Mary and Joseph and the shepherds. But at Epiphany the Light bursts forth to all nations and the prophecy is fulfilled: "The Gentiles shall walk in Thy light, and kings in the brightness of Thy rising." The mysterious star of Epiphany, "flashing like a flame," is still another facet of the light-motif, a symbol capable of being interpreted in a dozen different ways.

How much food for thought and reflection is contained in just these three ideas, and what a significance they have for our own time! Epiphany lifts our eyes from the family celebrations and demands that we should include in our vision "all the ends of the earth." It demands that, like the three wise men, we should have the courage to follow the light of the star we have seen, however hazardous the journey; that the light of our faith, like that of the wise men, should be so strong that we are able to see and recognize our Lord and Ruler in however unexpected a way He may present Himself to us; and that having recognized Him, we should bow down and adore Him, offering Him our total loyalty.

Moreover, Epiphany demands that like these kings we should return to our own countries a different way, carrying to all those we meet the light of Christ. "For behold, darkness shall cover the earth," says the Epistle of the Epiphany Mass, "and a mist the people: but the Lord shall arise upon Thee, and His glory shall be seen upon Thee. And the Gentiles shall walk in Thy light. . ." These words may be applied to us, upon whom the light of Christ has indeed risen, and who have the responsibility to radiate that light in the darkness of our own world. It is clear how much the feast of Epiphany must mean to all who are engaged in the apostolate and are striving to extend the kingdom of Christ.

The royal nuptials: Besides the important ideas outlined above, there is still another great theme threaded through the Epiphany feast—the theme of the royal nuptials, the wedding of Christ with humanity. It is an idea on a completely different level from the historical events which the Epiphany celebrates, yet inextricably bound up with them; for example, the historical marriage feast of Cana is used by the Church to suggest the setting for Christ's nuptials with the Church; the wise men represent not only the three Persian Magi adoring the Babe 2000 years ago at Bethlehem, but also the Gentile world hurrying to the wedding feast at the end of time when mankind's nuptials with the divine Bridegroom will be celebrated; the gold, frankincense and myrrh are not only tokens for the little Baby King in the stable, but royal wedding gifts for the mystical marriage feast of heaven.

The Epiphany antiphon for the hour of Lauds brings out strikingly this theme of the divine marriage of Christ with humanity, and at the same time shows the deep mystical significance behind the historical events surrounding the feast. Perhaps nowhere more clearly than in this antiphon do we see that on Epiphany we do not commemorate a set of historical facts as much as we celebrate a great mystery: "This day the Church is joined to her heavenly Spouse, for Christ has cleansed her crimes in the Jordan. With gifts the Magi hasten to the royal nuptials, and the guests are gladdened with wine made from water." *Activity Source: Twelve Days of Christmas, The by Elsa Chaney, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN, 1955*

SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING: The next Social Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday 16th January at 7:00pm in the Presbytery. Everyone is very welcome. Please can all members of the Parish Community send a representative. We look forward to seeing you.

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE - The Year of Prayer: Epiphany

On this Feast of the Epiphany we hear how King Herod summons the wise men to see him privately 'and sent them on to Bethlehem.' Herod points the wise men in the direction of Jesus but he does not go there himself. In celebrating the birth of the Lord we must be careful that our lives are not like that, pointing the way to Christ but not making the journey ourselves. In the Year of Prayer we are called to draw near to Jesus, to make the journey, as the wise men did, which leads us to kneel and adore the Christ child who has himself journeyed from his Father's side to bring us salvation.

We remember in our prayers: The Parish of English Martyrs, Chard with Ilminster and Crewkerne. The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for January: **Young People and the Example of Mary** - That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world. For the safety of Asia Bibi, and for all Christians persecuted for their faith. For Peace, Happiness and Joy in the New Year to come.

Last Sunday's Offering: Many thanks for your generosity.

Polish Mass: Every Sunday at 4.30pm.

The Traditional Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite: Every Friday at 6pm (except August).

Mass in the Syro-Malabar Rite: Second Sunday at 2.30pm.

Mass at RNAS Yeovilton: Every First Thursday at 12.15pm (except August).

Ecumenical Prayer Group: First Monday of the month at the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.

If you have any items for the Bulletin please send to Sue Chant by Tuesday evening at email: yeovil.holyghost@cliftondiocese.com.

Mass and Service Times for the Week Ahead

Saturday 5th January - First Mass of Sunday

5:00pm Catherine Page RIP (*The Mills Family*) Holy Ghost

Sunday 6th January - **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

9:00am Derek Davies RIP (*Mr and Mrs N Ryan*) St Michael's

10:30am Maria George RIP (*Mrs C Joby*) Holy Ghost

6:30pm Pro Populo Holy Ghost

Monday 7th January - Memorial of Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

10:00am Wally and Kath Sales RIP (*Mrs H Farmer*) Holy Ghost

Tuesday 8th January - Tuesday after Epiphany

10:00am Intentions of Patricia Kinniard (*Miss P Histon*) Holy Ghost

Wednesday 9th January - Wednesday after Epiphany

10:00am **No Mass today** Holy Ghost

Thursday 10th January - Thursday after Epiphany

10:00am Patrick Murphy RIP (Second Anniversary) (*Mrs T Novak*) Holy Ghost

10:00am Celebrant's Intention St Michael's

12:15pm Intentions of the Personnel RNAS Yeovilton

Friday 11th January - Friday after Epiphany

10:00am **No Mass or Adoration this morning** Holy Ghost

FERIAL MASS OF THE EPIPHANY

6:00pm Veronica Spender RIP (Birthday) (*Miss B Spender*) Holy Ghost
Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite

Saturday 12th January - Our Lady in Christmas Time

10:00am Holy Souls (November List) **22** Holy Ghost
First Mass of Sunday

5:00pm Neil Pamplin RIP (*The Mills Family*) Holy Ghost

Sunday 13th January - **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

9:00am Holy Souls (November List) **23** St Michael's

10:30am Ewelina Karkut RIP (*Mrs M Kobos*) Holy Ghost

6:30pm Pro Populo Holy Ghost