



**The Parish  
Eucharist  
on the feast of  
The Epiphany**

*3 January, 2021*

*9.00am*



# Welcome to this morning's service

The President and Preacher is  
**The Dean**  
*The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones*

The cantor for the service is  
**Gary O'Neill**

## **Prelude**

Marche des Rois Mages  
(March of the Magi)

*François-Clément Théodore Dubois (1837 -1924)*

## **The Gathering**

*Please stand as the ministers enter.*

*The hymn is sung by the cantor alone.*

## **Processional**

Brightest and best of the suns of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining;  
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
maker and monarch and Saviour of all.

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,  
odours of Edom, and offerings divine,  
gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
vainly with gifts would his favour secure:  
richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the suns of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

*Text Reginald Heber (1783-1826) alt.*

*Tune Epiphany*

## The Greeting

*The president greets the people*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The president introduces the celebration*

## The Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God,**  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Prayers of Penitence

Lord of grace and truth,  
we confess our unworthiness  
to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:  
**forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.  
Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:  
**forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour was born in poverty in a manger.  
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:  
**forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.  
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned:  
**forgive and heal us.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw you to himself,  
that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
and be cleansed from all your sins,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## The Collect

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept – please remain standing*

O God,  
who by the leading of a star  
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we,  
who know you now by faith,  
may at last behold your glory face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*Please sit down*

# The Liturgy of the Word

*Please remain seated for the psalm which is sung by the cantor alone*

## **Psalm**

(72.1-9)

*Ev'ry nation on earth, ev'ry nation on earth,  
ev'ry nation adores you, Lord, yes, ev'ry nation on earth.*

Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the king's son,  
this one shall be the hope of the needy,  
the hope of the poor and oppressed.

May he reign while the sun endures,  
for as long as the moon lights the sky.  
Fresh as the rainfall that waters the earth,  
gifting his people with peace.

He shall reign from sea to sea  
to the farthest ends of the earth.  
All of the nations shall praise and adore,  
all peoples will bring him their gifts.

*Music by Marty Haugen*

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## **New Testament Reading**

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

*(Ephesians 3.1-12)*

*Read by Jane Hollins-Gibson*

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain seated for the hymn which is sung by the cantor alone*

## **Gradual Hymn**

Bethlehem, of noblest cities  
none can once with thee compare;  
thou alone the Lord from heaven  
didst for us incarnate bear.

Fairer than the sun at morning  
was the star that told his birth;  
to the lands their God announcing,  
hid beneath a form of earth.

By its lambent beauty guided  
see the eastern kings appear;  
see them bend, their gifts to offer,  
gifts of incense, gold and myrrh.

Solemn things of mystic meaning:  
incense doth the God disclose,  
gold a royal child proclaimeth,  
myrrh a future tomb foreshows.

Holy Jesu, in thy brightness  
to the Gentile world displayed,  
with the Father and the Spirit  
endless praise to thee be paid.

*O sola magnarum urbium Prudentius (348-410) tr. Edward Caswall (1814-78).*

*Tune Stuttgart*

*Please stand for the Gospel reading*

## **The Gospel**

*(Matthew 2.1-12)*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, Magi 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.' 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 Magi 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*The Dean*

*There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection.*

*Please stand with the president for*

## **The Creed**

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

*Led by Mihaela Mladin*

*Please sit down or kneel for the prayers.*

*This response is used*

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*Please stand with the president for the peace*

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*The president introduces the Peace and then says*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**and also with you.**

*Please do not physically pass the peace and please do not move from your seat.*

While we are still following the safety protocols concerning the pandemic, no collection will be taken at this point.

If you are a UK tax payer and not a member of the Cathedral Stewardship Scheme, please use and sign the blue gift aid forms provided by the collection point near the entrance to the building.

*Please feel able to sit for the hymn which is sung by the cantor alone, and then stand for the Eucharist prayer*

## Offertory

'Glory to God!' all heaven with joy is ringing;  
angels proclaim the gospel of Christ's birth -  
'Glory to God!', and still their song is bringing  
good news of God incarnate here on earth.

Lowly in wonder shepherds kneel before him,  
no gift to bring save love of heart and mind.  
Come like those shepherds, sing his praise, adore him,  
a babe so weak, yet saving humankind.

Humble, yet regal, wise men kneel before him,  
gold, incense, myrrh, their gifts to Christ they bring.  
Come like those Magi, sing his praise, adore him,  
a babe so poor and modest, yet a King.

Though now no crib or cradle is concealing  
Jesus our Lord in that far-distant shrine,  
Christ at each eucharist is still revealing  
his very self in forms of bread and wine.

*John E Bowers (b.1923). © J E Bowers. Used By Permission.*

## Preparation of the Table

*[This was completed before the service began]*

### Taking of the Bread and Wine

Lord, accept your people's gifts,  
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

*Please stand*

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:  
for at this time we celebrate your glory  
made present in our midst.

In the coming of the Magi  
the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism  
Jesus was revealed as the Christ,  
the Saviour sent to redeem us.

In the water made wine  
the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.  
Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

*The cantor alone sings:*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power,  
Lord God of might, Lord God of power and might.  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed, blessed, blessed, blessed is he who comes in the name,  
who comes in the Lord's own name.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

*Bernadette Farrell.*

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them saying,  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember now his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
and as we look for the coming of his kingdom,  
we make with this bread and this cup  
the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise;  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
and nourish us with the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may grow into his likeness  
and become a living temple to your glory.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in God's presence here among us,  
as we join our prayers with those of the Church Universal, so  
we say, in our own language, the prayer our Saviour taught us,

**Notre père, qui es aux cieux ... Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...**  
**Vater unser im Himmel ... Padre nostro, que estais nos céus...**  
**Padre nostro che sei nei cieli ... Ojczy nasz, któryś jest w niebie...**  
**Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ... الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ...**  
**Têve Mūsų, kuris esi danguje! ... Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd...**  
**Tatal nostru care esti in ceruri ...**

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying:*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## **The Giving of Communion**

*The president says*

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

The body of Christ.  
**Amen.**

*Please stay standing in front of your chair and communion will be brought to you.*

*Once you have received communion, or if you do not wish to receive on this occasion, please sit down.*

Communion is in one kind only,  
and no words of administration or reply are used  
– communion takes place silently.

*The hymn during communion is sung by the cantor alone.*

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,  
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,  
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,  
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:  
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness  
he will accept for the name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

*Text J.S.B. Monsell (1811-75). Tune Was Lebet.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek:  
may we who with the Magi  
have been drawn by your light  
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,  
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

*Please stand*

## **The Dismissal**

*The president pronounces God's blessing*

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The president and ministers will leave immediately.

Please follow them without sitting down, unless you are listening to the voluntary,  
in which case please remain in your place until it is finishes,  
but please do not talk with other people.

We are discouraging people from gathering in groups outside after Sunday worship  
so the clergy and ministers will not wait around.

## **The Organ Voluntary**

**Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern**  
(How brightly shines the Morning Star)

**BWV 739 J. S. Bach (1685-175)**

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## Monday 4 Jan

8.30am Morning Prayer

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 47

## Tuesday 5 Jan

8.30am Morning Prayer with Eucharist

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 50

## Wednesday 6 Jan **The Epiphany**

8.30am Morning Prayer with Eucharist

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 60

## Thursday 7 Jan

8.30am Morning Prayer with Eucharist

5.00pm **Choral Evensong**

*Sumsion in D*

*A New Year Carol - Britten*

Responses *Sumsion*

Psalm 62

## Friday 8 Jan

8.30am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.00pm **Choral Evensong**

*Sumsion in G*

*Ave Maria - Lindley*

Responses *Sumsion*

Psalm 38

## Saturday 9 Jan

9.00am Morning Prayer with Eucharist

4.00pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 66

## Sunday 10 Jan **The Baptism of Christ**

9.00am **The Parish Eucharist**

10.30am **The Cathedral Eucharist** (*Girl choristers*)

*Ireland in C*

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day - Hudson*

Psalm 29

4.00pm **Choral Evensong**

*Sumsion in A*

*There shall be a star - Mendelssohn*

Responses *Sumsion*

Psalm 46

We are taking every care to follow appropriate social distancing good practice in this act of worship.

We now have the option to use either the NHS Test and Trace QR codes that are available in the building OR fill in a card registering your presence.

- There are cards and pens in the back of each chair; if you need to, please fill one in and place it and blue pen in the slot in the welcome desk. You can also take one home ready for your next visit.
- Face masks should be worn and the two-metre 'rule' applies.
- Please go straight to a seat and remain there for the service.
- If you have arrived on your own today, please take a single chair. Double chairs are for partners and bubbles.
- There will be no corporate singing – there will be some solo singing – please do not join in!
- If you missed the point for the collection, please give as you leave.
- The communion table is prepared before the service begins.
- Communion will be in one kind only.
  - Please remain standing to receive if you are able or remain sitting to receive and extend your hand. No words are spoken.
  - After receiving please sit down.
- After the blessing and dismissal please remain standing, and follow the clergy and ministers out of the building, immediately.
- We are now discouraging people from gathering in groups outside after Sunday worship so, sadly, the clergy and ministers will not wait around.

*Please be in touch if you need us.  
Thank you.*

*Keep safe.*

