

# St Bride's - Parish Bulletin

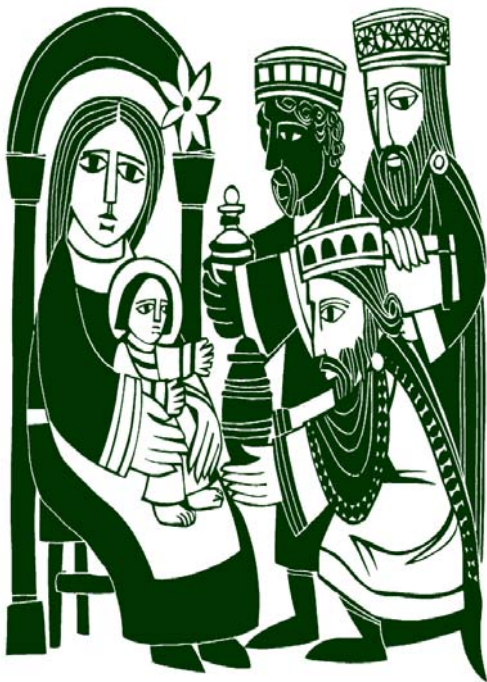
"A child is born for us, a son is given to us" (*Is 9:5*). What Isaiah prophesied as he gazed into the future from afar, consoling Israel amid its trials and its darkness, is now proclaimed to the shepherds as a present reality by the Angel, from whom a cloud of light streams forth: "To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord" (*Lk 2:11*). The Lord is



here. From this moment, God is truly "God with us". No longer is he the distant God who can in some way be perceived from afar, in creation and in our own consciousness. He has entered the world. He is close to us. The words of the risen Christ to his followers are addressed also to us: "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (*Mt 28:20*). For you the Saviour is born: through the Gospel and those who proclaim it, God now reminds us of the message that the Angel announced to the shepherds. It is a message that cannot leave us indifferent. If it is true, it changes everything. If it is true, it also affects me. Like the shepherds, then, I too must say: Come on, I want to go to Bethlehem to see the Word that has occurred there. The story of the shepherds is included in the Gospel for a reason. They show us the right way to respond to the message that we too have received.

**Pope Benedict XVI Christmas 2009**

**Epiphany © Year of the Priest 3rd January 2010**



## **Christmas & New Year Masses**

Thank you for all the help given at the Christmas & New Year Masses: Readers; Eucharistic Ministers; Servers; Organists; Cantors; Pass-keepers; Cleaners; Florist; Altar Linen; Cleaning of the vessels and altar; Sacristan; MC; Hall helpers; SVDP; Money Counters; Staff in the house.

## **Christmas Collection**

Please help with the Christmas collection. If you do not have Gift Aid envelopes, please put money in an ordinary envelope. £1750 donated by parishioners.

## **Crib - St Margaret's**

The amount raised so far comes to £411.

## **New Year**

A happy new year to all parishioners - we pray for a peaceful and good new year for all.

## **Directory**

Catholic Directories are at the parish stall with times of Masses in all the parishes.

### **Diocesan Youth Team**

Taize: Prayer Evening (every first Sunday of the month at 7pm) Carfin

Alma: Volunteers for Lourdes youth helpers contact 01698 269114

Topical Tuesday: discussion forum every Tuesday at Diocesan Centre 7.30 pm

### **Pastoral Centre**

- *Exploring and living Adult Faith: 8th May 2010 (£7)*
- *Advent Meditations: 2nd December (£2.50)*
- *Lenten Meditations: 24th February & 3rd March 2010 (£2.50)*

Contact: 01698 385397

### **India 2010**

Trip to India in November 2010.

### **Father O'Hara**

Please remember Father Jim O'Hara in your prayers (parish

priest of St Mark's) who is ill in hospital.

### **Website**

Thank you to our parishioner, David Clark, for his work on our website. David has made a number of changes over the past month.

### **Parish Diaries**

There are parish diaries still available in the stall - cost £1.

### **Windows**

Thanks for the help given for the church windows.

### **Carers**

The Dementia Carers group will resume on Tuesday.

### **Toddlers**

Resumes after break this week.

### **Tuesday Club**

Meets again on Tuesday afternoon.

### **Epiphany**

The proclamation of the date of Easter on Epiphany originates from a time when calendars were not readily available. It was necessary to make known the date of Easter in advance, since many celebrations of the liturgical year depend on its date. The number of Sundays that follow Epiphany, the date of Ash Wednesday, and the number of Sundays that follow Pentecost are all computed in relation to Easter.

Although calendars now give the date of Easter and the other feasts in the liturgical year in advance, the Epiphany proclamation still has value. It is a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year.

## Cubs & Beavers

As advertised in the parish bulletin over the last few weeks, I hope to start a cub & beaver pack in the parish in 2010. Beavers will be for the age group 6-8 and Cubs for the age group 8-10. You may not be aware of it, but scouting is now for boys and girls and consequently the groups will be open to both. We plan to start the new groups on 4th February - Beavers at 6-7 pm & Cubs 7.15-8.30pm. I am pleased that a number of people have come forward to help, if you wish further information - contact Jim & Teresa Stewart 646 2573. **We are having a meeting in the parish house on 6th January at 7 pm for all who would like to help - please come along!**

*Died: Mary Murphy Christmas Remembrance : Patrick (Sen& Jnr), Elizabeth, Thomas, William, John, Edward, Eric, Gerard, Rose & Rachel Quinn; Frank Finnigan; Helen McDermott; Betty & Jack McAdams; Rev Jack Brady; Monsignor Alex Devanney; Con & Martha Clark; John Cunningham; Andrew;, Sarah & Marion Findlay; Sarah McGinley; Helen, Patrick & Willie Reilly; John McSherry; John & Mary Morgan; Thomas & Annie McCafferty; Michael & Elizabeth Morris; Catherine & Edward Clark; Robert Torley; Con Doherty & Doherty family; Jane Nugent; Patrick Quinn*



<h1>Christmas ©</h1>	
<b>Monday</b> <b>Christmas season</b>	Mass: 10am Toddlers 9.30 am Exposition 10.30am-7 pm Evening Prayer 7 pm SVDP 7.30 pm
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>Christmas season</b>	Mass: 10 am Tuesday Club: 12-3pm Dementia Carers 7 pm Youth Drama Group 6.30 pm
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>Christmas season</b>	Morning Prayer 9.45am Mass 10 am Cubs & Beavers 7pm Legion 7 pm
<b>Thursday</b> <b>Christmas season</b>	Mass: 10am Exposition & Confession 7-8pm AA 8 pm
<b>Friday</b> <b>Christmas season</b>	Toddlers: 9.30am Mass: 10 am Novena: 10.30 am
<b>Saturday</b> <b>Christmas season</b>	Mass: 10 am Confessions after Mass
<b>Baptism of Our Lord</b>	Masses: 5.30 pm (Vigil) 10 am & 12 noon & 6pm 3.30 pm (Indian)