

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though the night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; the wealth of the nations come to you;

Camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praises of the Lord.

**Psalm response:**

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

**Eph. 3: 2-3.5-6**

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you and that is was by a revelation that I was given knowledge of the mystery. The mystery that has now been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
We saw his star as it rose  
and have come to do the Lord homage.  
Alleluia!*

**Matt. 2: 1-12**

After Jesus had been born in Bethlehem in Judea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and scribes of the people and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you Bethlehem in the land of Judah you are by no means the least of the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked the exact date on which the star had appeared and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find the child,' he said, 'and when you have found him let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary and falling on their knees they did him homage. Then opening their treasures they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and returned to their own country by a different way.



*We saw his star as it rose  
and have come to do  
the Lord homage.*

**Our Lady and St. Peter**

15 Cromwell Avenue  
Woodhall Spa LN 10 6TH

Tel. 01526 352245  
e-mail catholic.church.woodhallspa@gmail.com  
www.catholicchurchwoodhallspa.org

*Parish Priest Fr. John O'Donnell*

Sunday 6th. January 2019  
The Epiphany of the Lord  
Eucharistic Prayer 2  
Psalter Week 2

<b>SAT.</b> 5th.	<b>6.00 pm.</b>	Mass	Private Intention
<b>SUN.</b> 6th.	<b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	People of the Parish
<b>MON.</b> 7th.	<b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	Walter Schultz RIP
<b>TUES.</b> 8th.	<b>10.00 am</b>	Mass	Bob Buchanan RIP
<b>THURS.</b> 10th.	<b>7.00pm.</b>	Mass	Deceased Relatives/ Friends
<b>FRI.</b> 11th.	<b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	Fr. John McMahon RIP
<b>SAT.</b> 12th.	<b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	Cathleen Stainton RIP

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday 13th. January 2019  
Baptism of the Lord

<b>SAT.</b> 12th.	<b>6.00pm.</b>	Mass	People of the Parish
<b>SUN.</b> 13th.	<b>10.00 am.</b>	Mass	Private Intention

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Woodhall Spa - Sat. 10.30 am. - 11.00 am.  
Horncastle Sat. 5.30 pm. - 5.50 pm.  
or on request.

Baptism : By arrangement with the priest.  
Marriage: Six months notice - at least.  
The sick : Please tell the priest if a member of your family is seriously ill.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Anne Woolman, Muriel Clough, Gladys Wall, Alan Padley and those whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Our sympathy to Arthur on the death of his sister, Christine, last weekend. May she rest in peace.

Finance:

Envelopes: £127.64      Loose: £190.49      Standing orders: £78.92  
Total: £397.05 Thank you.

Collection for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund as you leave Mass on 19/20 January.

There have been several complimentary comments about the floral decoration of the church at Christmas – well done and thank you to those responsible.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity commences on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January through to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. An Ecumenical Service will be held in the Methodist chapel, Woodhall Spa, at 3.00pm on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup>. Please do try to attend.

**“Churches Without Walls”**  
**Centering Prayer & Contemplative Meditation: Open to All**

We meet from 7.00pm till 9.00pm. on **Tues. 22nd. Jan. 2019** and thereafter every 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> (not 5<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month, at the **Lions Den, 26A, Silver Street, Coningsby, LN4 4SG. Free parking** available in Silver Street Car Park. Coming out onto Silver Street, driveway entrance to Lions Den bungalow is across the road, between Ginger Cow Coffee Shop and Doctor's Surgery.

**“Come and see!” (Jn 1:39,46;4:29)**

**“Churches Without Walls” : Programme.**

We are exploring “Centering Prayer”, “Lectio Divina”, and “The Cloud of Unknowing”, in relation to each other, leading into a **silent** session of “Contemplative Prayer”.

For more details, and any questions or enquiries, etc, please contact Rev Sue Allison email: [susan.333allison@btinternet.com](mailto:susan.333allison@btinternet.com)) and/or Rev Deacon James Hunter email: [james.hunter200@btinternet.com](mailto:james.hunter200@btinternet.com)

*Thought for the week:*

We must be willing to let go of the life we have planned, so as to have the life that is waiting for us.

*E. M. Forster 1879 -1970*

***Catholic paper snippets:***

- The Thistles Shopping Centre overturned its self-imposed ban on displaying a nativity scene after a group of protestors staged a living nativity in the premises and spoke to Christmas shoppers about the controversial ruling. *All the papers (21/12)*
- Catholic leaders in Kenya applauded a presidential order requiring education ministry officials to return to churches all of the schools that religious denominations surrendered to the Government five decades ago, as well as returning the land the schools occupy. President Kenyatta's order comes amid persistent calls for more Church involvement in schools. *The Catholic Times (23/11)*
- Pope Francis welcomed Israeli President Reuven Rivlin to the Vatican for a private discussion that included the importance of building greater trust between Israelis and Palestinians. *The Catholic Times (23/11)*
- US bishops have criticised President Trump for ending financial assistance to six hospitals in East Jerusalem, including a maternity hospital and the Catholic St. Joseph hospital. The hospitals provide 'invaluable medical care for the most vulnerable populations, including Palestinians living in East Jerusalem, Gaza and the West Bank,' said a statement from Catholic, Lutheran and Episcopalian leaders. The bishops said the hospitals are 'integral parts of our common commitment to ministry in the Holy Land. It is difficult to understand why this humanitarian assistance is being brought to a halt given that lives are being threatened unnecessarily.' *The Catholic Herald (23/11)*
- A new report by Aid to the Church in Need says that the threat to religious freedom from Muslim fundamentalists is rapidly becoming a global phenomenon. Extremists have increased their violence in Europe, Africa and South East Asia since the defeat of Daesh/Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, where the situation has improved with Christians and other faith refugees are beginning to return. In places where good relations between Muslims and Christians have been cultivated, Muslims come to the defence of Christians when attacked by extremists. There is particular concern about India, a democracy with a fast-growing economy with strong ties with the West. In India, Hindu nationalism is growing in political strength marginalising religious minorities. *The Universe & The Catholic Herald (30/11)*
- Pro-lifers expressed their relief after MP Diana Johnson's radical plan to increase access to abortion failed to pass its second reading in the House of Commons. It sought to impose abortion on Northern Ireland and to remove many of the current safeguards around its provision in England and Wales. Life charity's director described Ms Johnson's Ten-Minute Rule Bill as 'backward and dangerous' and would place the health and welfare of women at risk and significantly increase the number of abortions. *The Universe (30/11)*
- An Australian senator has declared himself, as the law permits, to be a female so he can no longer be criticised for speaking out on abortion. Barry O'Sullivan, who is a Catholic and pro-life, said he was fed up with the 'vomit' and 'vitriol' he received when raising the issue. *The Catholic Herald (30/11)*
- 6% is the proportion of Britons who say they pray every day! This compares to 55% in the US. *The Catholic Herald (7/12)*