

## SECOND SUNDAY OF AFTER CHRISTMAS YEAR B

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year and of course still a Merry Christmas until next week, the Feast of The Baptism of the Lord. Thank you for all the kindnesses that you have bestowed on me and the parish with your generosity both fiscal and the giving of your time and help. We continue to thrive in a somewhat different mode of being and hope for improvement in living and lifestyle. I think of you all and pray for you especially when I hear news of anyone struggling with the present situation. Please keep me in your prayers as well.

Thank you for the generous response to the Foodbank appeal, almost 200 kilograms of food and basic essentials were gathered. We also had a group of carol singers present to cheer the atmosphere around the collection encouraging people to have a listen and quick word with one another. Life almost felt normal for a short while. Thank you for being “Good King Wenceslaus!”

Please note that the coming Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, is the Feast of the Epiphany when the Three Wise Men come to visit Jesus with gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. It is a recognition of the love of Christ being a gift for the whole world, the whole of humanity. Let us be humble in our need to develop our love for one another as guided by Jesus the new born babe.

The Masses for the Epiphany are 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. You can book places at these Masses whenever you wish, leave a phone message but note until you receive a reply, we cannot guarantee a place. You can email, but at the moment the general high demand has meant the responses are often too late as the site can be down and therefore not very reliable. The 7 p.m. Mass will also be a streamed Mass.

Again, a big thank you to everyone who helped stream the Christmas Masses and help prepare, organise and take part. The three Christmas Masses will be held on site until the end of the Christmas period.

Please watch yourselves if you go out and about. The pavements have become very icy and we all wish to avoid accidents. Let us hope that as the weather improves so too the general situation going forward.

Finally, please pray for the repose of the souls of our faithful departed especially those of Patricia Rawlin, John Cooney, Harold Haynes, Alan Doorbar and Sam Griffiths. May they rest in eternal peace!

God bless and stay safe!

***Father Anton s.c.j.***

**Our Lady & Saint John the Baptist, Ashley  
and  
Our Lady & Saint Werburgh, Clayton**

*The parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216*

**Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ  
Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023**

**[Parishes Office Hours: Wed/ Thur/Fri/Sat 10.00 am – 1 pm]**

**Chaplain's Office for inpatients at the Royal Stoke: 01782 676400**

Website: [www.ourladyandstwerburgh.org.uk](http://www.ourladyandstwerburgh.org.uk) Email: [catholics.clayton@btinternet.com](mailto:catholics.clayton@btinternet.com)



**Sunday 3rd January 2021  
Second Sunday After Christmas Year B**

**The Angelus**

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto  
Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
The Lord is with Thee;  
Blessed art thou among women,  
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
Pray for us sinners,  
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to  
thy word.

Hail Mary. . .

And the Word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary. . .

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of  
Christ.

Let us pray:  
Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace  
into our hearts,  
that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son  
was made known by the message of an angel,  
may by His Passion and Cross be brought  
to the glory of His Resurrection.  
Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen

**Epiphany Prayer**

*“Lord Jesus may your light shine our way, as once it guided the steps of the Magi: that we too may be led into your presence and worship you, the Child of Mary, the Word of the Father, the King of nations, the Saviour of mankind; to whom be glory for ever. Amen.”*