

The feast of the Epiphany brings the celebration of Christmas to an end with the message that the 'good news' (the Gospel) is for the whole world. The Shepherds, who were the first to hear the Good News, represent the Jewish nation. The Magi represent the non-Jewish world: God's love is for all – Jew, Palestinian, Christian, Muslim, Atheist... the whole world and all that is in it, is loved by God.

And a happy New Year to all. As we begin a new year we wonder what it will bring – and hope that it will bring happiness for us all. We all have personal hopes for this new year. We pray that the Lord will help us realise them.

Thank you to all who made our Christmas celebration at Weldbank so special. To all who shared our Christmas masses, parishioners and visitors alike... to the crib builders in the church, and on the roadside, to the choir and organists (who led us so joyfully through all the Christmas services) to the sacristy group (with our biggest tree ever!)... and to you all for a wonderful celebration of Christ's birth. May the star that shone from our church tower cast the light of Christmas over Weldbank this coming year... and thank you for your cards, gifts and warmest good wishes. And thank you for your continued generous financial support for the Parish and its work (the Christmas collection amounted to £1,942 .. and a very special thanks to the children for their lovely gifts for the children of Romania.. Thank you, one and all.

Sunday 3rd January

9.30am Vincent Hoole
11.00am Madge and Bill Critchley
6.30pm Frank Smith

Weekday Masses

Mon. 8.30am Richard&Elizabeth Fishwick & family
Tues.8.30am Doreen & Harry Ainscough
Wed. 8.30am Thomas & Jane Calderbank (A)
Thur. 8.30am Terry Boyle (LD)
Fri. 8.30am Maureen Turner
Sat. 8.30am Kathleen Swarbrick

Sunday 10th January

9.30am Dorothy Mulkeen
11.00am Andrew Evans (A)
6.30pm The Sick in the Parish

Please note Morning Mass at 8.30am.

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters

Jayne Hodge · Kathleen Reynolds · Bridget Cain · Hazel Lee · Mary Patten · Agnes Martindale · Robert Stretton · Hilda Haworth · Mildred Bridge · Margaret and Fred Wood · Harold Sutton · Josie Down · Mary Campbell · Margaret Bower · Thomas Moss · Winifred Marshall · Gerard Baker · Hugh O'Daly · Margaret Dearden (who finally has left hospital and is now living in Springfield in Coppull) · Maureen Jackson · David Woods · Frank Morris · David Lynch · Dorothy McDonald (Howarth) · John Lilley

Please remember Janet Critchley's sister, Christine (61) who died suddenly before Christmas – we offer our sympathy and prayers to Janet and all her family - and Winifred Smalley whose funeral service we will celebrate on Wednesday at 11.00am. May they rest in peace.

Offertory Collection

Thank you for the last Sunday's collection of £925.

A birthday

Mary Ellison celebrated her 90th birthday on the 25th – a belated happy birthday, Mary and wishing you continued good health and every happiness.

And thanks

Sincere thanks from me, Fr Patsy, and of course Canon Firth, for your good wishes, gifts and cards at Christmas. Thank you very much. Fr Firth is in good form and sends his greetings to all.

200 Club

The winners for the December draw are Amy Barton (3rd prize £20), Janine Denham (2nd prize, £30) and Agnieszka Ufnal (1st prize £50)

Ministering to the Assembly

Counters (4th January) Derek and Celia Birchall

Rotas (10th January)

S.A.S. Sandra Donnelly, Madge Martin, May West

Readers Bill Hogan

Ministers Chris Huddy

Richard Jackson

Phil Southworth

Linda Walmsley

Clare Meredith

Nick Mather

Bernard Hargreaves

Alex Duxbury

Caroline Straw

Dial a Ride