

The Parish of Malone
The Church of St John the Evangelist



SUNDAY FIRST & HOLY BAPTISM

The Epiphany
Sunday 8th January 2023

THE GREETING

The Lord of glory be with you.

The Lord bless you.

Hymn 201

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.



*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King for ever, ceasing never
over us all to reign. **Refrain**

Frankincense to offer have I:
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, gladly raising,
worship him, God Most High. **Refrain**

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **Refrain**



Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
heaven sings alleluia; alleluia
the earth replies. **Refrain**

THE CHRIST IS REVEALED TO THE MAGI

Arise, shine; for your light has come
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Nations shall come to your light
and Kings to the brightness of your dawn.
They shall bring gold and frankincense
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

(Isa. 60:1, 3, 6)

The Wise Men / Magi are placed in the Crib

What gifts are fitting for Christ our Lord?

Bring gold for the King of the nations
who rules us in justice and peace.

Bring frankincense for the Son of God
who reveals the Father's love.

Bring myrrh for the Son of Man
who shared our sorrows and died for our sins.
Blessed be God for ever.

PENITENCE

The story of the Wise Men challenges us about our commitment to God:

When we have grown tired of searching for truth or seeking God's will,
Lord, have mercy.

When we have strayed from the command to love and serve our neighbour,
Christ, have mercy.

When we have offered less than the best in our worship and service of God,
Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

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.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³ Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,* because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall

come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Matthew 2: 1-12

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men ^{*} from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.’ ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah ^{*} was to be born. ⁵ They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ “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.” ’ ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men ^{*} and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.’ ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, ^{*} they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

ADDRESS:

Hymn 204

When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon.
but as his Father's Son.
He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.
So when the Dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.



Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make,
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.

THE RESPONSE
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH



Let us affirm our faith in God:

Do you now, at the start of a New Year, renew your allegiance to Christ?
We do, and with God's grace we will follow him as our Saviour and Lord.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one
for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us
and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of
God and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

HOLY BAPTISM – SEE YELLOW SHEETS

Hymn 202 – during which the collection will be received

What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne, for me, for you:
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh
The babe, the son of Mary!



So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high!
The virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

PRAYERS: INTERCESSIONS

The Wise Men offered gold to Christ, the King of all. Father, we pray that you would give wisdom and integrity to all who lead, that their service will promote justice, peace and human well-being.

Your Kingdom come,
your will be done.

The Wise Men offered frankincense to Christ, the Son of God. Father, we pray for the Church's life of worship and prayer, and for all who lead, teach and minister among us ...

Your Kingdom come,
your will be done.

The Wise Men offered myrrh to Christ, the Son of Man. We pray for all who suffer from the injustices and frailties of human life ...

Bring deliverance to those who are trapped in grinding poverty, terrifying conflict or brutal oppression ... Be close to all who suffer from pain or ill-health ... Grant healing and hope to them all.

Your Kingdom come,

your will be done.

(Other special thanksgivings and prayers ...)



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering up all our petitions to serve the needs of the world we pray as our Saviour Christ has taught us:

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.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts, reveal your glory to us, pour down the riches of your grace, and strengthen us to serve you in all the world.

Amen.

BLESSING

Hymn 195 (*Collection*)

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus shine,

Fill this land with the Father's glory;

*Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.*

Flow, river flow,

flood the nations with grace and mercy;

Send forth your word, Lord,

and let there be light.



2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.*

*Flow, river flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.*



3. As we gaze on your kindly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me. **Refrain**



God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

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

Notices: Wednesday 7:30pm Zoom Compline

Thursday 10:30am Eucharist with prayer for those in need

Next Sunday 15.1.23 Epiphany 2 9am Eucharist; 10:30am Family Eucharist

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