



Sunday Service
Sunday 10th January 2021

The First Sunday after Epiphany

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, who led the wise men by a star to worship the Christ child; enable us through your Holy Spirit to worship the risen Lord in our prayers, praise and lives now and always, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

Bible reading

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.'

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2 : 1 - 12

Talk : Follow the star

- The star which challenges
- The star which leads
- The star that shows us the Son

Follow the star. What does it mean for us?

"When they saw the star, they were overjoyed." Matthew 2 : 10

Prayers

Loving God, this New Year guide our feet, comfort our hearts and strengthen our wills; so that through your Holy Spirit the world may see our love for You and our neighbours in our lives, for the glory of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Lord of all time and eternity, you left the splendour of heaven to be the Light of the world. We pray that you would help us to bring your light in these dark days and, through the gift that you have given us, to seek out the hurting and the lost and bring your joy and peace to our communities in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

Final Blessing

And now may Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill us with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us now and for ever more. Amen.