

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**  
**Epiphany of Our Lord/ Plough Sunday**

There will be tea and coffee in church after Mass – please stay  
11.15 Procession of Plough concluding at King's Head where Paul is giving us drinks. 12.30pm Shared Lunch in Church. Welcome to all and our East Suffolk Morris Men. Christmas decorations and crib removed today/tomorrow.  
This week Divine Office - Psalter week 1

- Mon: Baptism of Our Lord (Feast)**  
9.30am Mass (Is 42 v1-4,6-7; Matt 3 v13-17)  
Int: All preparing for Baptism
- Tues:** 9.30am Requiem Mass January anniversaries  
(Is 35 v3-6,10; Matt 14 v22-23)
- Wed:** 9.30am Mass (Heb 2 v 14-18; Mark 1 v 29-39)  
Int: The Ministry of Deliverance
- Thurs:** 10.30am Funeral of Andy Triscott - burial in churchyard extension.  
1.30-2.25 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament for silent prayer  
2.30pm Mass and Laying on of Hands for anointing for healing  
Int: Sick & Ministry of Healing (Heb 3 7-14; Mark 1 v 40-45)
- Fri: St. Hilary**  
9.30am Mass (Heb 4 v1-5; Mark 2 v 1-12)  
Int: Ministry of Reconciliation
- Sat:** 10.00am 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday Int: Our Bishops  
3.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Next Sunday :** 2nd Of Year A  
9.30am Parish Mass and Address  
Is 49 v 3,5-6; Cor 1 v 1-3; John 1 v 29-34

- Notices:**
1. Today we conclude our sock box for the homeless and our Crib for Christian Aid, so far it has raised £977.14
  2. Thanks to all who have helped in any way for our Christmas festivities.
  3. There are some Shrine Lamps that need to be endowed.
  4. Blessing of House with Chalk: The three wise men Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who became man 2023 years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us through the new year.

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**C+M+B**  
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**Theme :** Today we celebrate the fact that the birth of Christ brings the Light of God's revelation to all people. We are all called to discover the presence of God.

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** 24v.1 **Blessing of Epiphany House & Chalk** Hymn 24 vv 2-4

**Procession of Plough**

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, when we have not acknowledged you as the Star which lights up our way. Lord have mercy.

**People** (sing) **Kyrie Eleison** (*Ukrainian setting*)

**Celebrant :** Forgive us, Lord, for failing to acknowledge you as truly Son of God and Son of Mary. Christ have mercy. **People: Christe Eleison**

**Celebrant :** Forgive us, Lord, when we have not offered you our talents and our lives. Lord have mercy. **People : Kyrie Eleison**

**GLORIA – to tune 'Infant Holy'**

**OPENING PRAYER :** *Let us pray that we will be guided by the light of faith.* Father you revealed your Son to the nations by the guidance of a star. Lead us to your glory in heaven by the light of faith.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**1st Reading: Isaiah 60 v 1-6.** This reading contains the great promise that one day God's dwelling among His chosen people would bring a great in-gathering from among all the nations of the earth.

*Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though 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; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, 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 praise of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:- Ps 71**

**® All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

O God give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, That he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement®

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from the sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. ®

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. ®

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. ®

**2nd Reading:** Ephesians 3 v 2-3a & 5-6. Here we have the vision that all barriers between the peoples of the earth are overcome since they all share the same promise in the body of Christ.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through 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 Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

**Gospel Hymn:** 24 v 5

**ALL: Alleluia! alleluia! We saw His star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 2 v 1-12. Matthew tell us the story of how the wise men from the East followed their star and found God.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea 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 the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among 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 them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about 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 to 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.

**ADDRESS Blessing of Plough.**

**Morris Dancing** - welcoming the **East Suffolk Morris Men.**

**CREED:** Apostles (*p 8 of Hymn Book*)

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

**Celebrant :** Today we celebrate the revelation of the Son of God to the whole world. Let us pray that people everywhere will come to recognise Him.

**Reader:** Let us pray for all who travel: may God protect them on their journeys.

Let us pray for ourselves as we journey towards God: may we be open to His word and have the courage to follow where He directs us.

We pray for all who are called to leadership in our local community, at national or international level. May those who lead others have the wisdom to value each person as God values them.

Let us pray for all Christians involved in the study of natural sciences. As they grow in knowledge of the universe may they grow in wonder at God who creates it.

Gold, frankincense and myrrh were the gifts of the wise men. Let us pray that we may offer God the gift of our daily lives and work.

Let us pray for kings and queens and all who rule over nations, that they may be guided by the Star who is King of kings. We pray especially Charles our king

We pray for those who begin this year in sadness because of sickness or bereavement. May they come to know the peace of Christ in their hearts; especially Julie Gray, Lucy Muskett, Jan Ross, Jan Robinson, Marjorie Rousseau and all prayed for at Shrine prayers.

King of Heaven, hope of all who trust in you; give to the departed the wonders of your salvation especially: Brenda Thiebes, Roger Perry, William Webb, Reginald Jackaman, Lorna Giles, Eva Jackaman, Frank Ward, Dean Scruby, Florence Elliott, Olive le Grys, Philip Barker, Arthur Battley, Fr John Upton, Glenys Wyatt, Gertrude Gardner, George Thorpe, Mary Butlin and Bridget Goodall, whose anniversaries are this week.

Let us ask Mary, the Mother of Jesus, to pray for us: **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**

SILENCE

All: **God our Father, we thank you for the guidance you give us. May the worship we give you be not only in words but in generous use of all the gifts that you have given us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Offertory Hymn:** 349 v 1 & 2      **Offertory Prayers**      Hymn: v. 3 - 5

*Mass continues page 9 of the hymn book*

**Sanctus:** tune Iris (*Angels from the Realms*)

**Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ, in the most Holy Sacrament. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in excelsis.**

*Mass continues on page 11 of the hymn book.*

**Agnus Dei:** tune Rocking

*Communicants of other denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you are not a Communicant and would like a blessing come to the altar holding a hymn book.*

**Hymn at Communion:** 84, 99

**Hymn at Ablutions:** 'Glory to God' on sheet: tune: 'O Strength and Stay'

**Post Communion Prayer      Angelus      Notices      Blessing**

**Recessional Hymn:** 110