



The parish of St Margaret, Holyrood, Prestwich

St. Margaret's, Prestwich & St. George's, Simister

Sunday 4th January – Epiphany



Collect

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah

Stephanie Vant

Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more. Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord: they shall come back from the land of the enemy; there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country. **31.15-17**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 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.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 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.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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.' 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. **2.1-12**

Welcome to St Margaret's & St George's. Postcards with service times and clergy contact details are available at the back of the church. Take one for yourself or for a friend.

HYMNS

Introit	259	Hail to the Lord's anointed
Gradual	85	Brightest and Best
Offertory	BCS 6 omit v4	The First Nowell – omit v4
Communion	750	God's Surprise
Recessional	BCS 26	We Three Kings

Events Happening This Week

Wednesday 7th January **10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's followed by coffee**
5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers

Sunday 11th January **Baptism of Christ**
8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's
9.45 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's with Laying on of
Hands in the Baptistry area during Communion
11.15 am Holy Communion at St. George's

Please pray for: -

The Sick: Jill Dodge, Brian and Barbara Faulder, Sue Goergen, Ruby Hewitt, Alan and Michaela Jones, Joan Knott, Iain Marshall, Andrew Olive, David Porter, Gail Tyldesley, Florence Webb.

Ongoing Prayers for Healing & Wholeness: Celia Barnett, Monica Barron, Becky, Mike Chadwick, Ros Cope, Audrey Dalton, Philip Dawson, Rev Christine, Charlie Heywood, Hilda Hyde, Brian Jones, Robert Lyne, Ella McConville, Peter North, Carol Olive, Peter Owen, Rev Pauline, Mike Richards, Pierce Smeaton, Barbara Southworth, Rev Keith Trivasse, Brian Wareham, Alice White.

Recently Departed:

Anniversaries of Death: Annie Cage, Graham Heywood, Ronald Mitchell, Evelyn Preston, Cyril Priest, Gwyn Lewis.

Columbarium Flowers: Gwyn Lewis Jan 7th.

NOTICES:

The first of this year's **Church Magazines** are now on sale. Still at the bargain price of 60p a copy. Distributors, please take your copies and the payment for the 12 months is £7.20. Thank you.

The full version of the **BBC Carol Service** including contributions from our choir is now available at <https://bbc.in/4978cag>

Porch Boxes: St Margaret's Church will be open between **9.30 am and 11 am** on **Thursdays** for donations. Many thanks.

All notices for next week's **Service Sheet** to be sent to David McConville no later than Tuesday. please send to: wardendm@stmargaretsprestwich.com



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