



**Ss Joseph & Teresa Parish, Wells,**  
**(Also serves St Michael, Shepton Mallet)**  
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C.C.D.T.R.. Charity No. 233977  
 Parish Priest: Fr Philip Thomas



**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**  
**(Year B)**

<b>Worship in Wells &amp; Shepton</b>	
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	6.00pm Vigil Mass & Te Deum for the Old Year ( )
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	9.00am Solemn Mass (Michael Lucas RIP) 11.00am Mass in Shepton (Pro Populo) 6.00 Mass in All Hallows School
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	<b>Ss. Basil and Gregory</b> 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC in Shepton 9.30am Mass ( )
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	<b>Christmas Feria – The Holy Name of Jesus</b> 9.15 am Mass in Shepton Mallet 9.30am Mass ( )
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Christmas Feria</b> 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC in Shepton 9.30am Mass ( )
Thu 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Christmas Feria</b> 9.15 am Mass in Shepton Mallet 9.30am Mass
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Christmas Feria (Old date of the Epiphany)</b> 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC in Shepton 9.30am Mass ( )
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6.00pm Traditional Latin Mass of the Epiphany <b>Christmas Feria – St Raymond of Penyafort</b> 9.00am Mass ( )
Next Week:	EPHANY OF THE LORD
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6.00pm Vigil Mass ( )
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.00am Solemn Family Mass ( <i>Pro Populo</i> ) 11.00am Mass in Shepton 6.00 Mass in All Hallows School
<b>Confessions</b> These are normally heard on Saturdays, From Noon to 12.30pm in Shepton & from 5.00pm to 5.30pm in Wells.	

There is no second collection this week.

**PARISH DIARY**

Sat 7 Jan After 6pm Mass **Epiphany Bring and Share Supper**  
Church

Sat 14 Jan 10.15am Church **PARISH ASSEMBLY**



**PRAYING INTO SILENCE** The next opportunity to join a small group of parishioners for half an hour's contemplative prayer in church will be Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 4.15pm.

**'DEVOTION OF THE BROWN SCAPULAR AND THE FIRST FIVE SUNDAYS'**

2.30pm on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January** at St Benet's Church at Stratton-on-the-Fosse, there will be an introduction to this devotion by Tomothy Tindal-Robertson, National President of the World Apostolate of Fatima followed by enrolment in the Scapular Confraternity. The devotion will take place in our church, led by Fr Philip, on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April next year. It is a way of connecting to our Carmelite past. The picture shows Our Lady of Mount Carmel with Ss John of the Cross and our own Teresa of Avila



**LOST:** The extension lead for the Hoover, coiled on a blue dispenser, appears to have walked. I expect it is shulking some place. Anyone know where? A note please in Pigeon-hole F please if you do. *Francis Floyd*

**Found** An instruction leaflet on an **Acer Projector**. It is on the table in the lobby.



**TO REFLECT ON DURING THE WEEK - LUKE 2:16-21** And the shepherds went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw him they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

**Question of the Week:** *Like Mary, do we treasure in our hearts the wonder that God was born as a vulnerable human baby and lived among us?*

**A THOUGHT FOR THIS WEEK** It may seem superfluous to celebrate the Divine Motherhood of Our Lady on New Year's Day, when she had a fairly prominent and increasing part in Advent. However, as the Rorate Mass was meant to make clear, in Advent we see her as the Daughter of Israel and part of the faithful remnant to whom the prophets refer, that small portion of Israel that was always true to God and His promises. As such, we looked at her as an Old Testament figure, the Tower of David, the Ark of the Covenant (according to the Litany of Loreto).



On the Octave Day of Christmass, we look upon Mary as the start of the New Testament, the place where God and Man are united in the single person of Jesus Christ. So many of the dogmatic truths of Mariology are bound up in this great overarching fact. She gave birth to the One Who is Truly God and Truly Man. She is preprepared to the the Mother or Birthgiver of God by the gift of her Immaculate Conception. She is exalted to heaven after death, without knowing the corruption of the grave because her body contained the Divine Word. Her closeness to Christ in the spiritual as well as the physical sense lies behind our invoking of her prayers.

The religious sisters, who looked after Fr. McAuley and Fr. Philip whilst they were students at the Pontifical Beda College in Rome, are called the Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood. Your priests recall their support and hard work with much affection and gratitude. You may care to remember them in your prayers as well.

## NEWS

### EPIPHANY BRING AND SHARE

#### SUPPER

Next Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January

### *THREE KINGS CELEBRATION*



*6.00pm Mass and 7.00pm Bring-and-Share Party for all the family*

*Following the traditional customs of France and Spain. If find the treasure in the cake and be king or queen for the evening. Bring friends and family and enjoy yourself! You do not have to be at Mass to attend the party*

**PARISH DISCUSSION GROUPS** At a recent gathering of most of the parishioners who have belonged to groups over the past year it was clear that the experience has been very positive. We shall be continuing to meet next year and our project is to discuss *Already Within* by Fr Daniel O'Leary (published in 2007). New members are always welcome so do in touch with Gill Baxter (674234) or Barbara Lewis (676963) if you would like to join one of the six existing groups – or start your own. The book's emphasis is on the compassionate presence of God in the ordinary moments of people's lives. It is divided into monthly sections and is linked to the liturgical year. We will provide questions to help focus discussion. The book will be available from Waterstones shortly at a discounted price.

## A VERY IMPORTANT INVITATION

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 10.15am

### PARISH ASSEMBLY TO EXPLAIN AND DISCUSS THE CHURCH'S FINANCES

The Great Roof Appeal is going well, but what about the parish under that roof?  
What does it cost to run it?  
How can we increase our income?  
What savings should we make?

Everyone is invited

Please come along

**TRAIDCRAFT** Joy lies at the heart of the Christmas story and joy is what so many of our producer partners experience as the fruits of fair trade begin to transform their lives and those of their families and communities. Kenyan tea farmer Margaret Wanjiku is typical of them. On only three quarters of an acre, thanks to training from Traidcraft, she has learned how to grow enough to feed her family and have a small surplus to sell in the market. "I never knew this plot was enough for my family," she says. "I used to buy food and now I am comfortable. I am able to feed my family and sell." It is your support that makes this sort of achievement possible, so on behalf of everyone at Traidcraft, thank you for helping to make joy real. Sharon Haigh

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK** Charles Harris (2001), Helen Kerley (1998), Krystina Bartlett (1993), Miriam Dowell (2004), Nancie Hordern (1997) *Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. O Lord, grant them eternal rest and may perpetual light shine upon them*

#### PRACTICAL MINISTRIES – ROTAS FOR NEXT WEEK

<b>CLEANING</b> <i>Week beg 9<sup>th</sup> Jan</i>	<b>COFFEE</b> <i>Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Jan</i>	<b>FLOWERS</b> <i>Fri 6/Sat 7<sup>th</sup></i>	<b>WELCOMING</b>
Angelina Raso, Helen Phillips, Katri Healy	Frankie Lambert & Andy Boothroyd	Louise Wynne & Elvira Raso	Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Chris Wherton Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Barbara Duncan

#### SUNDAY MASS MUSIC 9.00AM

Mass setting – Schubert Mass (on sheet)

Hymns  
Entrance  
Offertory  
Communion  
Recessional

#### PARISH MINISTRIES

The following new rotas are now in pigeon-holes:

**BIDDING PRAYERS** (white) – **CHURCH CLEANING** (blue) - ( **SACRISTANS** (green) -**FLOWERS** (yellow)

Thank you to the many people who work in different ways for our parish.

We hope over the coming year to continue to celebrate and support the different ministries by holding get-togethers which will combine a social occasion with 'refreshers' on what is involved.

