

## The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

We pray for all who live and work in this city and community and all who serve its needs. We remember all former residents of Mother and Baby Homes, particularly those who lived in Bessborough. We ask that they may find justice, peace and healing. At this time of pandemic, we pray for all who maintain essential services and who support the most vulnerable. Give us such love for you that we may offer our time and talents in the service of others and in building community life.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are facing ill-health or old age, disability, or personal tragedy and for all who work in our health service and hospitals at a time of unprecedented challenge. Grant them encouragement and give grace to all who bring care and healing. We pray for a speedy and equitable distribution of vaccines in this country and throughout the world. May all people exercise caution and responsibility that, as a society, we would do all in our power to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember with thanksgiving the faithful departed who by following Christ have passed with him through death to life. Grant us with them and with all the saints a share in your eternal Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

HYMN 597 - *Take my life and let it be (verses 4 & 5)*

### A CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, redeemer, friend and brother: may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. **Amen.** (*St Richard of Chichester*)

### BLESSING

Go forth joyfully. God is with you. Bring peace and hope to all you meet. May God's eternal love shine through you and the blessing of God.... **Amen.**

### GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### INTRODUCTION

*The 'Epiphany season' began on 6 January when we celebrated that Christ was revealed to the Wise Men as the King of all nations. During the following four weeks, the Sunday readings remind us of the different ways Christ's glory was revealed to other people of his time. Last week we thought about Jesus' baptism. This week we focus on the call of the first disciples.*

May God be gracious to us and bless us, **and make his face to shine upon us:** That your way may be known upon earth, **your saving power among all nations:** Let the peoples praise you, O God: **let all the peoples praise you.** (*Psalm 67:1-3*)

### PRAYER

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden;**  
**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**  
**that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;**  
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### PENITENCE

During the season of Epiphany, let us seek the renewal of our lives in the light of God's love for us, revealed by Jesus Christ:

God be merciful to us and bless us, and make his face to shine on us.

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known upon earth, your saving power to all nations.

Christ have mercy, **Christ have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations.

Lord have mercy, **Lord have mercy.**

## ABSOLUTION

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

*HYMN When love is found*

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

Almighty God,

in Christ you make all things new:

Transform the poverty of our nature

by the riches of your grace,

and in the renewal of our lives

make known your heavenly glory;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### **The Gospel: John 1:43-51**

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

## SERMON

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We affirm our faith in God.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,**

**his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*HYMN 597 - Take my life and let it be (verses 1-3)*

## INTERCESSIONS

God, our heavenly Father, we give thanks that through your Son, Jesus Christ, new life and light, forgiveness and grace, have pierced the darkness of the world. We pray for his Church, especially for Paul our Bishop and all who minister among us in the Diocese... Send the Holy Spirit to unite us in worship, nourish us with truth, and strengthen us as witnesses of Christ in our daily lives.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who take authority: our President and government and the leaders of other nations... Enlighten the minds of those who lead, that their decisions may bring justice for the oppressed, peace for those at war, and the well-being of all.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**