A Thought

The Wise men are known as astrologers or philosophers from the East. They were certainly 'seekers,' looking to the skies for signs and guidance; their hearts and minds set on finding God. These Wise Men embarked on an amazing journey, determined.

For Herod, the thought of a new King who might threaten his reign forces him to call together all those considered to have authority on religious matters. He must find out who this King is. Herod is concerned with his power structures; the possibility of a new King is too much. In contrast to this, the Wise Men are humbled before these leaders and genuinely seek to learn from them. They are open. We are told that the sight of the star 'filled them with delight'.

This story has much to say to us today as we 'seek' out new insights or fresh manifestations of God. As the Wise Men go 'into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage'.

This scene describes a moment of great joy, of grace and is in total contrast to the scene of Herod frantically calling the religious leaders together. God is found in the simple spaces.

The Wise Men represent all peoples, all cultures, a clear message that God is for all regardless of nationality, culture and even faith. Today let us recall our own journeys to moments of epiphany, moments that lead to a new grace in our life, a new stage of spiritual growth. What 'star' had brought us there? What gifts did we leave there? What gifts did we receive?

There will be a **Funeral Service** for **Douglas Lawton RIP** on Monday 6th January at 10.00am at St Robert Bellarmine's Church

May he rest in peace

A blessed New Year to all Parishioners of St Robert Bellarmine's and visitors during the holiday season.

Thank you to all those who helped to prepare the Church for Christmas.

Also, a very sincere thank you for all your cards, gifts and good wishes from Fr Barry

Synod 2020

The second Synod Theme is **'Sharing the Mission of Jesus.'**

Our Parish meeting to discuss this theme will be held on **Sunday 5th January 2020** from 12.00 noon and will last for 1 hour.

Please join us in the George Inch meeting room after Mass to reflect on the questions and make our proposals.

Synod 2020 Talks

The fourth talk 'Faith in The Family' takes place on Monday 13th January at LACE at 7.30pm. Tea and coffee from 7.00pm.

What does Scripture teach about faith and family? What does it mean to call home 'the domestic church'? What foundations for faith can be laid in the family? More details can be found on the poster at the back of church.

Offertory Collection

£382.93

Christmas Offering

£1129.57

Cafod

£11.00

Many thanks for your kindness and generosity

Exposition and Holy Hour at St Elizabeth's Church will not take place on Friday 10th January but will resume on Friday 17th January from 6.00pm to 7.00pm.
All are welcome.

ROSES

Could you please check your Rose Memorial Label is still attached to your rose, and if it is missing please let Delia know.

As all the roses are now planted, pruning, feeding and spraying will be done in the spring under the supervision of Tom O'Connor, our gardener.

If you have any questions, or for more information, please speak to Delia

Any donations of tea, coffee, soup or biscuits would be gratefully received by The Whitechapel Centre.
Please leave your gift at the back of Church.
Thank you

Alpha	St Robert Bellarmine Church 52 Orrell Road Bootle L20 6DZ **Parish Priest: Fr Barry McAllister** Tel 0151 922 1352 or 0151 922 3820 Fax 0151 933 7941 Registered Charity No 232709 **4th January 2020 – 12th January 2020**	Omega

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY (YEAR A)

THE FIRST MASS OF THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Geoff Gavan (Anniversary Remembrance)**
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Phillip Johnson (Recovery)**
Monday	9.00 am	No Mass Today
Tuesday	9.00 am	No Mass Today
Wednesday	9.00 am	No Mass Today
Thursday	9.00 am	No Mass Today
Friday	9.00 am	No Mass Today

THE FIRST MASS OF THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM

SATURDAY	**6.30 pm**	**Parishioners Intentions**
SUNDAY	**11.00 am**	**Thomas Breen (Birthday Remembrance)**

Confessions – St Elizabeth's – Saturdays -11.30 – 12 noon and on request

Please pray for the following who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.
Please remember the sick and those who care for them.

Lately Dead: Douglas Lawton, Pat Benbow, Flo Wilson, Roy Boyle, Les Mee

Anniversaries: Len Delamere, Geoff Gavan, Wayne Robinson, Eugene Callaghan

Sick; James Roche, Daniel Harden, Robbie Pennington, Bill Sainsbury, Amanda Fessey, Christopher Brown, Joyce Sainsbury, Jonathan Noble, James Johnson, Philip Shepherd Eleanor McCaffrey, Sheila Thompson, Jacqueline Johnstone, Peter West, Julie Machell, Katie Rushton, Sandra Dryhurst, Thomas Smith, Dorothy Corris, Eddie Swarbrick, Ann Mardell, Colin Faulke, Richard Potts, Poppy Jessop, Mary (Traynor) Hemmings, Gerald Culligan Snr, Ann & Joe Johnson, Chris Parkes, Gerard Burke, Cayle Royce, David Morgan, Tom Niblock, Jose Howard, Michael Hanton, Hilda Prince, Roisin Dooley, Baby Lucy Hand, Ethan Hand, Ann Bretherton, Thomas Bainbridge, Mary Wild, Karl McGee, Arthur Snellgrove, Seanie Jones, Ann Bailey, Susan Neary, Jimmy Doyle, Mary Simpson, Doug Faulke, John Rimmer, Mike Keelan, Phil Jones.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

6.30pm – J Rehm, S Jolley, M Murphy
Reader – J Jones

11am – D Faulke, P Faulke, M Wildman
Reader – T Wainwright