



## FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINTS

**The Very Reverend  
Andrew Asbil**  
RECTOR & DEAN

Dear Friends,

What I remember most was trying desperately to follow in my father's footsteps. The snow was so deep. The path that he cut through the white covering was difficult to follow, because his stride was too long. My older brother followed quickly on his heels. He shortened the distance between holes, so that my six year old legs had a chance to land safely. When the memory of it surfaces now, I can't help but think of the telling of Good King Wenceslas.

Mark my footsteps, good my page,  
Tread thou in them boldly;  
Thou shalt find the winter's rage  
Freeze thy blood less coldly.

We meandered through the woods on the family farm, north of Montreal, in search of the elusive tree. We stopped from time to time to survey this tree or that one. They were too tall or too small or too narrow or too wide. We traipsed around in circles for what seemed an eternity to me. I remember my freezing feet and hands, and whining against the cold day.

Before too long we found the right one, all covered with snow, it was the perfect height and size. My older brother and I stood at a safe distance while my father swung the axe at the base of the tree and it soon toppled over. Following the same path that we used on the way in, we dragged our tree out of the woods, the trail swept with the brushing of the needles.

I don't remember the ride home, but I do remember the tree going up in the corner of the living room. The remnant pieces of snow melting and dripping on the floor and the smell of pine emanating throughout the house. I remember having a real sense that "now Christmas is coming!"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

### Inside »

Learning & Growing  
at St. James Cathedral ..... 2

The season in review ..... 2

The breath between us ..... 3

Different gifts ..... 4

A branch of the wonderful ..... 5

Upcoming dates ..... 6

Sunday school update ..... 6

Epiphany: the way of wisdom ..... 8

IMAGE: "THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI"  
BY JAN BRUEGHEL THE ELDER

# THE SEASON IN REVIEW



## LEARNING & GROWING AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

*Parishioner Victoria Jamieson spoke before the 11:00am service on November 26 about her experiences growing up at St. James Cathedral.*

My name is Victoria Jamieson. I am 17 years old and am in my final year of high school. I have been coming to St. James' since I was very little. It really is an honour to be a part of this congregation and beautiful community; the Cathedral has been, and always will be, a very important part of my life.

I believe my first incredible experience at church that I can remember is being in Sunday School with Ms. Nancy Mallett. Ms. Mallett is an incredible, selfless, beautiful person who has truly inspired me, since my early childhood, to make a difference wherever I can. I began to understand how important it is to be aware of the struggles and needs of others, as well as to be forever thankful for all that we have. Ms. Mallett, thank you for inspiring me to help those who are less fortunate than I and for teaching me the value of gratitude.

As I got older, I began to take more active roles within the Cathedral, such as volunteering for Doors Open Toronto, playing the bells after Sunday services, and joining the incredibly dedicated sidesperson team. Being more active and involved in the Cathedral has made me realize the outstanding number of individuals who make St. James such an extraordinary place. I am very grateful for all the opportunities I have been given and encourage you all to volunteer and get involved in all the wonderful work this church does for its community.

- Victoria Jamieson

ABOVE: NANCY MALLET AND VICTORIA JAMIESON.  
PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON.



## THE BREATH BETWEEN US

Calling all artists! From fabric artists, to watercolour painters, to block printers, to quilters, and more. We are delighted to announce that St. James we will be holding a display of community art pieces in the Cathedral during the season of Lent.

On Wednesday, February 21 we will hold a special evening to open the Lenten Art display, and we need your creativity to make this possible. The intention of this exhibit is to encourage the creative exploration of the themes of Lent, and then, with the help of our Archives department, create an exhibit within the Cathedral that can aid in ushering others into the spirit of the season. The show will be titled “The Breath Between Us.” The title was chosen by our Dialogues for Living Committee, and reflects the Lenten theme of opening ourselves to the Spirit of God, who breathes life into the dry corners of our lives. We call upon the artists of this community to generate pieces based on the exhibit’s title and this inspirational quote:

*“The Spirit of God breathes everywhere within you,  
just as in the beginning, filling light place and dark...  
green earth and dry...”*

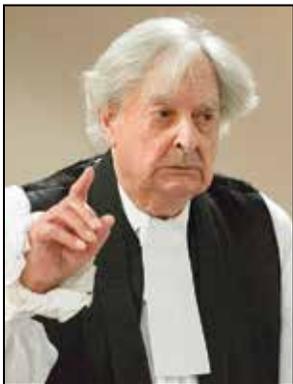
*God’s love grows, fullness upon fullness,  
where you crumble enough to give what is most dear.  
Your earth.” - Joan Sauro*

We encourage you to let this theme and quote speak to you, and create something new. If you have never created art before, perhaps use this as a way to explore a new medium. This exhibit is open to everyone, from new to experienced art practitioners. This exhibit will also run in conjunction with our educational series for Lent, titled “The Breath Between Us: The Spiritual Practices of Listening, Silence, and Storytelling.” This series will run on Wednesday evenings, from 6:00-9:00pm, on February 28, March 7, and March 14. This series will highlight themes of connection, communication, spiritual practice, and intimacy with God and others. As we look to the year ahead, we anticipate answering the call to a Holy Lent together. For more information contact The Reverend Leigh Kern at [lkern@stjamescathedral.ca](mailto:lkern@stjamescathedral.ca).

*- The Reverend Leigh Kern,  
Assistant Curate*

*Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord*

- July 26 Professor Willard Piepenburg
- August 4 The Reverend Canon  
Campbell Alexander Russell
- October 5 Kevin Patrick Rooney



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT:** THE SEVENTH GENERATION OF KINGSMILLS TO ATTEND ST. JAMES, MAITLAND WALTER KINGSMILL, HANNA NICOLE KINGSMILL, AND THEIR FATHER CHRISTIAN KINGSMILL LAY THE REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATH. MAITLAND, HANNA, AND CHRISTIAN ARE DESCENDENTS OF LT. COL. WALTER BERNARD KINGSMILL, AND LT. COL. NICOL KINGSMILL. | THE DEAN RECEIVES THE COLOURS OF THE ROYAL REGIMENT OF CANADA AT THE SERVICE FOR REMEMBRANCE | ELIZABETH AND GRAHAM LANG, JOHN RAMMELL, RHONDA YEARWOOD, BARBARA LANDON, AND JOAN NORTHEY AT THE BISHOP STRACHAN COMMEMORATION | JOHN RAMMELL, PLAYING BISHOP STRACHAN AT

THE BISHOP STRACHAN COMMEMORATION | THE ROMAN MISSAL, ONE OF THE MANY IMPORTANT LITURGICAL WORKS ON DISPLAY DURING THE REFORMATION EXHIBIT | VISITORS AT THE OPENING OF THE CRÛCHE EXHIBIT | MEMBERS OF THE 157TH REGULAR SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF TORONTO GATHERED ON NOVEMBER 24 AND 25 IN RICHMOND HILL | PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON.

# DIFFERENT GIFTS

*“We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.”*

- Romans 12:5-8, NIV

As the calendar year draws to an end, I’d like to take the opportunity to offer thanks to the many individuals at St. James Cathedral who so willingly offer their gifts of time, talent and treasure to the glory of God each and every day.

Sincere thanks to:

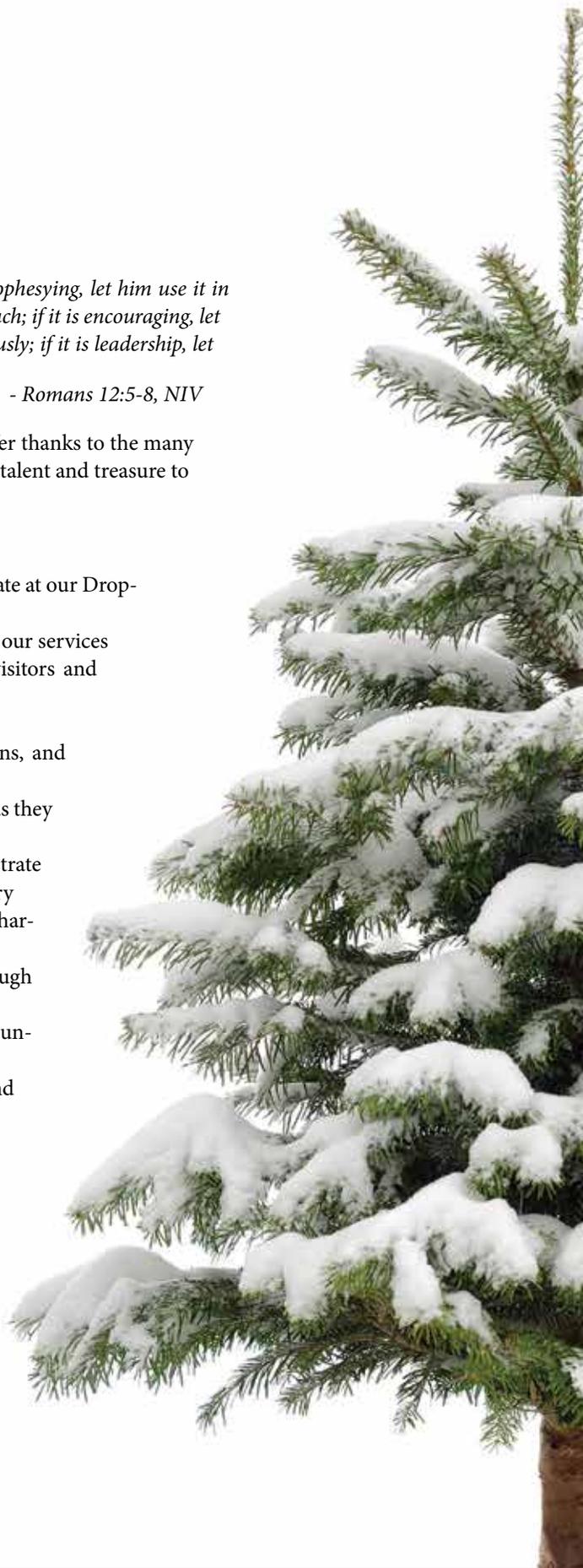
- The many volunteers who give of their time to care for the less fortunate at our Drop-in and Foot Care Clinic
- The Servers and Sacristans who faithfully show up to assist at each of our services
- The Sidespersons and Stewards who warmly welcome and assist visitors and congregants
- The members of our choirs who share their beautiful gift of music
- The individuals whose hands polish our silver, clean our altar linens, and arrange our flowers
- To the members of the Refugee Committee who support newcomers as they build a new life in Canada
- Those who assist in the Archives whose research and exhibits demonstrate the role the Cathedral has played in the history of our city and country
- The many individuals who sit on committees and advisory groups, sharing their wisdom and experience
- The people who generously support the many ministries offered through regular donations
- The staff whose expertise keeps the Cathedral and Cathedral Centre running and open each and every day
- Our clergy: Andrew, Louise, Leigh, James, our Pastoral Associates and Honorary Assistants, and our guest speakers, who support, guide and inspire us on our journey of faith and help us to hear and understand God’s call

*Thank you for sharing your gifts.*

I look forward to the coming year and further opportunities to stand alongside of you as we spread the message of God’s love to the wider community.

Merry Christmas!

- Bob Hart,  
People’s Warden



# A BRANCH OF THE WONDERFUL

Each January the director of the choir of King's College Cambridge places a tome of public feedback in the vestry. This anthropological document forms the by-product of Christmas broadcasts which reach over 40 million people. "*That commissioned modern carol was disgusting, I am repulsed by the lack of taste and cavalier disregard for proper musical traditions,*" makes many appearances, as does "*O why do you insist on trotting out those old dusty carols, which form nothing but a guffcloud of second-hand nullity. These dirges should be condemned to the dustbin of history.*" The positive feedback is always less memorable, hence the aphorism "*Happiness writes in white ink on a white page.*"

Perhaps the surest sign a person has genuine taste is that they are uncertain of it, but at Christmas is it natural to crave predictability after a roller-coaster 2017? Nevertheless the work of liturgical choirs must be considered Christian art offered AMDG—that is, for the glory of God. Music with a pastoral function, however, is no simple proposition to sustain. Saul Bellow rightly commented that "*the cruelest, most deformed part of our species tells us what 'our art' is called upon to do.*" Neither should a Cathedral choir become a musical Switzerland: Tolstoy was also right when he condemned neutrality as inartistic.

As Anglican musicians put on the armour of light this winter, the psalms will fill them with a spirit to sing unto the Lord a new song, and St. Paul will urge them to hold fast to that which is good. Once the sparkle of Christmas Eve has receded, the jewel of Choral Evening prayer continues in January. If you find music to be your doorway to God, attending weekly Choral Evensong will nourish you. Though not referring to Evensong, Bellow's words still ring true in the cultural landscape:

*"Artistic traditions, like weights, may be picked up and moved aside. But having moved them out of the way, what have we achieved? In literature we have reached such a degree of liberation that we are threatened by nudity, barrenness, and weightlessness. For a long time we found the wonderful in tales, poems, and in music. Now it is found in miraculous technology.*

*But isn't there a branch of the wonderful into which technology cannot lead us?*

*How shall we know it? We shall recognize it by its power to liberate us from the tyranny of noise and distraction."*

Listen again at [soundcloud.com/sjctoronto](https://soundcloud.com/sjctoronto).

- Robert Busiakiewicz,  
Director of Music

# UPCOMING DATES

Two weekly recitals are offered year-round,  
Sundays at 4:00pm and Tuesdays at 1:00pm.  
For more information visit [stjamescathedral.ca](http://stjamescathedral.ca).

JAN  
1

## The Naming of Jesus; New Year's Day

**12:30pm** Holy Eucharist  
**1:30-2:45pm** The Archbishop's Levee  
**3:00pm** Festive Music  
**3:30pm** Choral Evensong & Presentations  
of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto

JAN  
2

## Bilingual Taizé Service (Mandarin/English)

**7:00pm** in the Cathedral

JAN  
7

## The Epiphany of the Lord

LITURGIES AT 8:00, 9:00, 11:00AM AND 4:30PM

JAN  
10

## "The Light of Christ"

### A Lecture with Bishop Kevin Robertson

"THE MEANING OF THE WREATH" SERIES, PART 5

**6:00pm** Service in the Cathedral  
**6:30pm** Light Supper in the Cathedral Centre  
**7:00pm** Lecture in the Cathedral Centre

JAN  
14

## The Baptism of Jesus

LITURGIES AT 8:00, 9:00, AND 11:00AM  
HOLY BAPTISM AT 11:00AM

## Trinity College Service

**4:30pm** Choral Evensong

JAN  
18

## Fear & Hope: Living in Difficult Times An Interfaith Panel

WITH MUSLIM CHAPLAIN IMAM DWYER, ANISHNABE ELDER DR. DANARD, AND MENNONITE PEACE-BUILDER PETER HARENAPE

**6:00pm** Service in the Cathedral  
**6:30pm** Light Supper in the Cathedral Centre  
**7:00pm** Lecture in the Cathedral Centre

JAN  
19

## The Splendour of Notre Dame Concert

ORGANIST DAVID BRIGGS AND THE CHOIR OF ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL. TICKETS: \$30 ADVANCE, \$35 AT THE DOOR

**7:00pm** Pre-concert talk with David Briggs  
**8:00pm** Concert

JAN  
21

## Sunday in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (JANUARY 18-25)

### Collation of Archdeacons and Installation of Honorary Canons of the Diocese

**4:30pm** in the Cathedral

JAN  
25

## Catechism begins

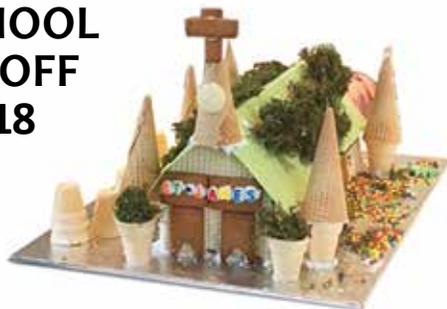
A Thursday evening course running until April.  
See website for details.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS KICKED OFF FOR THE 17/18 YEAR!

Sunday Mornings at 11:00am, a group of children have been hearing and responding to the various lectionary readings for the year. But what exactly have we been doing from when we leave after the collect and return for Communion?

Well the simple answer is that we are doing what happens in the Cathedral in an age specific way for children and preschoolers. We gather ourselves, sing together, hear a story or a reading from the lectionary readings, and then explore what that story teaches us through crafts, drama, activities, or reflection. We wrap up with prayer and one more song before returning to join our families for the Eucharist.

Yes, there are crafts, crayons, and markers; but what we do parallels what is going on in the Cathedral during that time of



worship. We are learning through the Parables and the lessons of Jesus, we have explored some of the words of the prophets and the letters of the new Testament. We are asking tough questions about what it means that Jesus is King, and we are growing together in song and prayer. We make a loud joyful noise with percussion instruments, and spend time quietly in thought and reflection. We spend time wondering, exploring, and learning together.

Excitingly, our learning and growing extends beyond the classroom, into the pews and in common spaces of the Cathedral. Throughout the fall it has been a joy to watch relationships form, and see families connect. The Sunday School brunch provided an opportunity for us to connect and we are looking forward to continuing to grow together as a community through other events throughout the year.

Does this sound like something that you are interested in getting involved in? Do you have hidden talents of storytelling, music, crafts, or other creative activities? Do you have an interest in being involved with children or with youth? My hope is to share this joy with you and learning environment with you! If you want to volunteer, send me an email, or speak with me in person and I would be excited to get to know you and help see where you can help this ministry of the Cathedral.

**JAN 27** **Amnesty International Action Circle Meeting**  
**1:00pm** in the Board Room  
 ALSO MEETING FEBRUARY 24, MARCH 24

**JAN 29** **Anglican 101 Series begins**  
 JAN 29: HISTORY; FEB 5: MUSIC; FEB 12: WORSHIP  
**6:00pm** Light Supper  
**7:00pm** Talk

**FEB 2** **Candlemas at St. Bart's, Regent Park**  
**6:15pm** Solemn Mass & the Blessing of Throats  
 509 DUNDAS STREET EAST, STBARTSTORONTO.CA

**FEB 4** **The 66th Anniversary of the Accession of Her Majesty The Queen**  
**4:30pm** Choral Evensong in the Cathedral  
 THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN ATTENDANCE

**FEB 7** **Truth & Reconciliation Lecture with Nancy Rowe: "Lessons from the Earth"**  
**6:00pm** Service in the Cathedral  
**6:30pm** Light Supper in the Cathedral Centre  
**7:00pm** Lecture in the Cathedral Centre

**FEB 14** **Ash Wednesday**  
**7:30am, 8:30am, 12:30pm, 5:15pm, 6:30pm**  
 LITURGIES WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES

**FEB 14** **Ash Wednesday Cathedral Exploration Day**  
**9:00am-3:30pm** Event for Children and Youth of the Diocese ages 6 -14; Registration and details available online.

**FEB 21** **The Breath Between Us: Lenten Art Display Opening**  
 FOR DETAILS, SEE "BREATH BETWEEN US," PAGE 3

**FEB 25** **The Annual Meeting of Vestry**  
**1:00pm** in Snell Hall

**FEB 28** **The Breath Between Us: Lenten Lecture Series Listening, Silence, and Storytelling**  
**6:00pm** Service in the Cathedral  
**6:30pm** Light Supper in the Cathedral Centre  
**7:00pm** Lecture in the Cathedral Centre  
 SERIES CONTINUES MARCH 7 AND 14

**MAR 8** **York Group Speaker Meeting for International Women's Day**  
**1:00pm** in the York Group Lecture Room

**MAR 21** **Indigenous Spirituality & Art in the Public Square with Chief Lady Bird (Nancy King)**  
**6:00pm** Service in the Cathedral  
**6:30pm** Light Supper in the Cathedral Centre  
**7:00pm** Lecture in the Cathedral Centre

It has been a great joy this fall leading the Sunday school! I have been challenged, and inspired and taught throughout the process and I am excited to see where we continue to grow in the winter!

- Andrew Kuhl,  
 Children & Youth Coordinator

ABOVE AND LEFT: A GINGERBREAD CATHEDRAL MADE BY THE CHILDREN AT THE CHILDREN & FAMILIES BRUNCH, NOVEMBER 5. PHOTO: THE VICAR.

## FOOTSTEPS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Putting up a tree, stretching out the lights, wrapping gifts, writing cards, decorating the house, setting the table, reaching out to family and friends, are all little footsteps we take in preparing the way, setting the stage for Christmas to come. And yet we are called to go deeper still.

In his master's step he trod,  
 Where the snow lay dented.  
 Heat was in the very sod  
 Which the Saint had printed.

In the rush toward Christmas, in the busyness of the season it is easy to lose ourselves and simply be swept up by the motion of it all. And yet as a people of faith we are invited to set our feet on the ground printed by the saints who have gone before us.

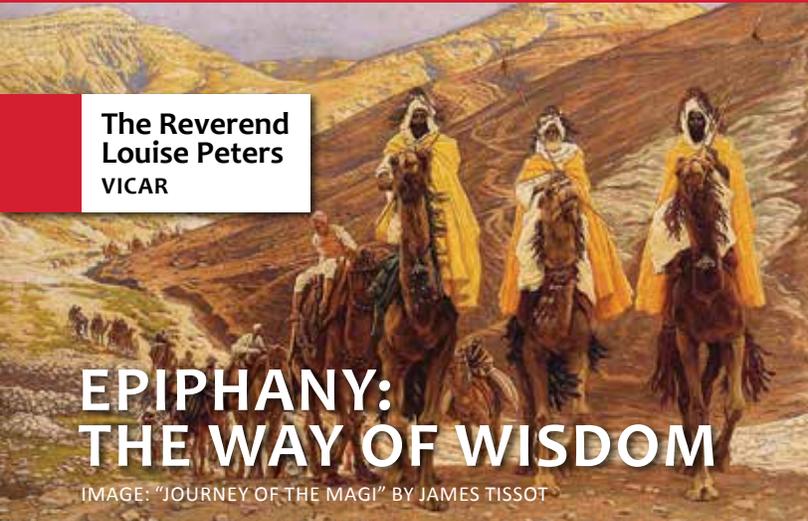
We are called to be as still as the Shepherds, watching their flocks by night so as to hear the crackling sounds of angels breaking in. We need to pay attention to the signs of the times like the magi and bring our very best gifts to the moment. We must be conscious of what it means to walk in our Father's footsteps, and to follow in the path that puts flesh on compassion, love and hope. We need to remember the poor and the lonely, by being conscious of our own loneliness and poverty. We need to forgive and let go of the hurts we hold and drag along with us so that room might be made for the Christ child to be born anew in us.

May God bless you this Christmas with warmth in your home, love in your family, compassion with your neighbours and hope for peace on earth.



THE VERY REV'D  
 ANDREW ASBIL,  
 RECTOR & DEAN





**The Reverend  
Louise Peters  
VICAR**

# EPIPHANY: THE WAY OF WISDOM

IMAGE: "JOURNEY OF THE MAGI" BY JAMES TISSOT

Epiphany is the season that follows the 12 days of Christmas and is commemorated with the story of the astrologers from the East (modern day Iraq) who followed a celestial light that brought them to the birthplace of the Christ Child. They came to pay the new born king homage, and presented him with gifts. However, first they did as most dignitaries would: they met with the ruler of the area, Herod, to find out about the birth of the new King and to proceed with Herod's permission to make this visit in foreign territory. Herod encourages them to proceed, and upon finding the child, invites them to return to share the news with him. Herod's motives are sinister, as we hear later in the story that he plans to kill the child, this new political threat to his authority.

These astrologers, the magi, or as history has named them through centuries of telling the sacred story, the Wise Men, are the ones who seek, who journey from a far and foreign place to honour someone they in their insight know to be important. Why have we labelled them wise? Perhaps because they were learned, but more likely because they reveal in their important part of The Story, the way of wisdom.

They follow what they know: the star. *Following the light is a wisdom way.*

The Wise Ones continue to follow the star, which leads them to the newborn child. "When they saw where the star stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy" (Matthew 2:10).

They know when they arrive, and are open—completely overtaken by joy. *Knowing when to stop and being overwhelmed with joy is a wisdom way.*

After they paid their tribute to the Child and presented their gifts, warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went to their home country by another way. (Matthew 2:12).

*Listening to dreams  
is a wisdom way.*

The magi—these ancient foreign travellers teach us the path to wisdom as we continue on our journey with Christ. As we celebrate, God made manifest revealed in the Holy Child Jesus, may our way be wise. May we follow the light. May we know when to stop. May we allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by joy. May we listen to dreams.

Trust in the gift that God has given to the World and to you again in Christ. Practice wisdom as you carry this new fragile life and light into the world.

Blessings and peace.

Your Vicar,

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

**MAR  
25**

**The Sunday of the Passion  
with the Liturgy of the Palms**

LITURGIES AT 8:00, 9:00, 11:00AM AND 4:30PM  
PROCESSION AT 11:00AM

**MAR  
26**

**Monday in Holy Week**

7:00pm The Way of the Cross  
ALSO ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

**MAR  
27**

**Tuesday in Holy Week**

10:30am The Chrism Mass:  
Renewal of Ordination Vows & Blessing of Oils

**MAR  
29**

**Maundy Thursday**

7:00pm Institution of the Lord's Supper,  
Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altars,  
Watch at the Altar of Repose until 10:00pm

**MAR  
30**

**Good Friday**

**The Three Hour Devotion**  
12:00 noon Choral Mattins  
1:00pm Ante-Communion  
& Reading of the St. John Passion  
2:00pm Choral Evensong & Veneration of the Cross

**MAR  
31**

**Holy Saturday: In The Holy Night**

9:00pm The Great Vigil of Easter

**APR  
1**

**Easter Day**

8:00am Said Eucharist  
9:00am Sung Eucharist  
11:00am Procession & Choral Eucharist  
4:30pm Choral Evensong