6 January 2024 The Epiphany of the Lord Yr B

OUR LADY OF WINDERMERE & ST HERBERT AND MATER AMABILIS, AMBLESIDE

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> Masses and Intentions 6 Jan 2024 – 14 Jan 2024

MA= Mater Amabilis, Ambleside
OLW = Our Lady of Windermere & St Herbert

The Epiphany of the Lord (Yr B)

Sat 6 10.30am (MA) Confessions

5.30pm (OLW) (Sung) Vigil Mass

Sun 7 9.30am (MA)

11.15am (OLW)

Wed 10 9.10am Rosary Mass 9.30am (OLW)

2 Sunday of the Year (Yr B)

Sat 13 5.30pm (OLW) (Sung) Vigil Mass

Sun 14 9.30am (MA) 11.15am (OLW)

For those who are sick: Please pray for Tony and Myra Daly, Tony Cook, Ruth Gajdowska, and Margaret (Meg) Wood ,who are sick. Please pray also for Julie Pomfret (neè* Fleming) who is recovering in hospital after a stroke. We hold in our prayers all parishioners who are sick at this time, and those caring for them. Anniversaries. Of your charity, please pray for the souls of: Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Hayes, Rev Deacon John Kennedy, Alice Baillie, Frances Harrop, Anna King, Helen Jeffery, James Masterson, Gillian Kirkpatrick, Agnes Scott, Wilfrid Goodwin, Thomas Waters, Alice McAvoy, Ada McCann, Mrs Grave, Phoebe Frith, Mary Hornyhold-Strickland, James Baldwin, Canon B Keily, Fr E Smith, Fr S Whiteside, and all whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Your prayers are asked for Brendan Drury and his family at this time, who are mourning the loss of their daughter, Andrea, in a car accident in France.

May all our deceased loved ones rest in peace and rise in glory.

Hymns at OLW Vigil Mass: 156, 166, 418, 170

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Confessions usually take place at Mater Amabilis, Ambleside on the First Saturday of the month at 10.30am. At Windermere Confession is every Friday after Mass at 10.00am. Check the newsletter, as there will be no Confession at Windermere if, for some reason, there is no Mass on that Friday.



We now have a card machine for donations at Windermere! Please see the Stewards in the church entrance as you come in or leave. This can be used for your weekly offering, or for special collections or the Roof Fund.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM FATHER AJISH

Thank you to all of your for your very generous Christmas gifts and donations. During the short time I have been your parish priest, I have been overwhelmed by your generosity and enthusiasm in support of me and your parish community and your churches.

May Our Lord Jesus, the Christ Child, visit you, your families and all those whom you love, with His Almighty Love and His manifold blessings.

Father Ajish will be away visiting India from 9th Jan-13th Feb – back in time to celebrate Ash Wednesday with us – yes! Easter really is going to be early in 2024!

During his absence, weekend Masses at both churches will be offered by visiting priests of the diocese. There will be **no** weekday Masses at Ambleside, and weekday Mass on **Wednesday only** at Windermere.

CHURCH CLEANING

Father Ajish thanks all the parishioners who took up their mops and dusters, for their kind efforts in cleaning the church at Windermere in preparation for decorating for the Christmas celebrations. And also thank you to everyone who decorated the church, put up the Christmas tree and prepared the crib. It looks splendid!

Thought for the Week

This weekend, we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, when the three Magi visited the child Jesus in Bethlehem. The word 'epiphany' is Greek and means, 'showing forth'. It marks the moment when the infant Christ is revealed to the Gentiles, that is, to all nations, because He is the Saviour not just of the Jewish people, but of the whole human race. No wonder then, that in the Orthodox church, Epiphany is more important than Christmas itself, and in popular culture, the three wise men are the ones bringing gifts to eager children, just as they did to the Christ Child.

But in the Western world, it's often seemed to me that the Magi are like VIPs invited to a splendid party, but because they are not very good at directions, arrive late to the feast, only to find that most people have left, and they are reduced to sampling leftovers in the kitchen and having strange conversations with the few partygoers still hanging around. (Though it has to be said that these can sometimes be the most interesting people!). By the time of their coming, the secular world has moved on, Christmas is over and everyone seems geared up for the next big event. This year I even noticed Cadbury cream eggs being sold in petrol

stations on Christmas Eve! All the joy and anticipation takes place before Christmas, and has exhausted itself by New Year's Day.

But in the spiritual world, Christmastide is with us for several weeks more. Our mediaeval ancestors observed Advent with prayer and fasting - and all with that same joy and anticipation – and once Christmas arrived, the festivities burst into flower, to be observed until Twelfth Night and beyond until the Feast of the Presentation/ Purification on 2nd February.

So while the weather is wet, cold, and featuring much rain and wind, let us remind ourselves with prayer and carols, joy and thanksgiving, that Christ is made Man, and lives among us, today and every day.

Parish News

DID YOU KNOW?

Father Ajish built and is still supporting, a home in India for poor and needy children. He will be spending a week of his forthcoming visit there. Father provides the regular expenses for 47 children to have food, lodging, medicine, education etc. Father Ajish says: "If anyone would like to give a little donation towards this noble cause, they are welcome to do so as I will take it directly to the beneficiaries on my visit."

Currently, donations for refreshments at Mater Amabilis are given to the support of the children.

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES

Did you buy a raffle ticket for the December coffee morning, either at the event, or at church that weekend? A list of winning numbers is in the church entrance, and three prizes have yet to be claimed!! Contact ****** to collect.

NEW PARISH WEBSITE ADDRESS

We have changed our parish website address to: www.ourladyofwindermere.org Same website, just a slightly different address!

AND BACK TO THE WINDERMERE CHURCH ROOF

We've had a break over Christmas with so much charity fundraising, but the bad weather sends us a timely reminder that the church roof at Windermere still needs fixing!

Thanks to all the fundraising efforts we have currently raised just under £10,000!! Check out the Fund Thermometer in the church entrance to see how far we have got, and how far we have to go to reach our target of £120k.

This year, 2024, is the Jubilee Year of the church. Wouldn't it be great to use this anniversary to secure our House of God until the next Jubilee? With your help, we can do it! Our Church was built in 1962 and while the roofs have served us well up to now, they are showing wear and tear and the flat roofs, of which there are six, are failing dramatically.

Donations will be collected after every Mass, and for your convenience we have a credit card machine for those preferring to make a card donation. Every contribution, regardless of the amount, will be greatly appreciated and help us to reach our goal.

Your generosity will enable our church to continue serving our community and visitors for many years to come. We want to express our gratitude for your support and thank you for your contribution.

Donations may also be made by Bank Transfer. Here are the details:

ACC Name: Parish of Our Lady of Windermere and St

Herbert

Sort code **40-27-02** Acc Number: **41335588**

VERY IMPORTANT! Please put 'ROOF' as your

reference. Thank you.

If you would like to Gift Aid your donations, please fill in a gift aid envelope (available in the church), write 'ROOF' on the envelope and pop in the black wall box in the church entrance, also marked ROOF. Thank you again!!

COMING SOON!

ANNUAL PARISH 'CHRISTMAS' & NEW YEAR' LUNCH

Following the success of last year's event at the Craig Manor Hotel, the organisers are in discussions over arrangements for our 2024 Parish Lunch.

The date and place will be confirmed shortly. There will be a raffle (of course!), with any monies raised going towards the Roof Fund. So, this is your chance to declutter, and pass on any excess-to-requirements Christmas gifts! Details will follow in future newsletters.

CINEMA CLUB (Churches Together Ambleside & District)

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Wednesday, 10th January, when we will be watching *One Life* starring Anthony Hopkins. It tells the true story of Sir Nicholas Winton, who rescued 669 children from the Nazis in the months leading up to World War II. The film is being screened in Fellini's at 5.40pm – please meet there at 5.25pm. Our meal will be served afterwards in Zeffirelli's. This is the Early Bird one course meal deal - pasta or pizza. The price including the film is - £19.95, which you pay after the meal. Drinks or additional dishes are extra. If you would like to attend, please let Anne Corin know by 12 noon Monday 8th January. (annecorin@btinternet.com) or 015394 33944.

Items for the newsletter should be sent to the Editor: Deadline Wed lunchtime.

Email: greetingsolw22@gmail.com