

Kincasslagh Parish Newsletter, January 2nd, 2022

Tel: 074 954 2006 - 086 230 0620 - Email: kincasslagh@raphoediocese.ie - [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kincasslaghparish) Kincasslagh Parish - Web: www.kincasslagh.ie - SVP 087 050 7895

Schedule of Masses

St. Columba's Church

Monday & Tuesday @ 10.00 a.m.

Thursday @ 10.00 a.m. Epiphany

Friday @ 10.00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass @ 6.30 p.m.

Sunday @ 11.30 a.m.

St. Mary's Church

Wednesday @ 7.00 p.m. Epiphany Vigil

Friday @ 7.00 p.m.

No Saturday Vigil Mass

Sunday @ 10.00 a.m.

Anniversaries and Masses

St. Columba's = SIC St. Mary's = StM

John Annie Ann Boyle, Burtonport, Saturday 1st Jan, SIC

Eugene Ward, Kerrytown, Sunday, StM

John Coyle, and his son Mark, Meenmore and Glasgow, Sunday, SIC

Madeleine and Joe Boyle and Hudie O'Donnell, Monday, SIC

Charlie Ward, The Glen, Kincasslagh, Wed, StM

Fanny Forker & Annie Boyle, Thursday, SIC

Joe O'Donnell, of the Evelyn Marie, Friday, SIC

John Sharkey, Mullaghduff, Kincasslagh, Friday, StM

Denis O'Boyle, John Teague, Months Mind, Acres, Sat, SIC

Sheila Devine, Months mind Mass, Sunday, StM

Mary Ward, Milltown, Sunday, SIC

Recent Deaths

Jack Daniel, 15, who passed away this week

Seamus Lenihan, Sligo

Tully Coll, Arranmore, father of Michelle O'Donnell, Sheskinarone

Anniversaries

Jim Doogan, Gortnasade

Congratulations



Michelle Ní Bhaoil who teaches in Keadue NS tied the knot with Cathal Bohan at a lovely ceremony in St. Mary's Star of the Sea, Annagry on Wednesday last. They look deservedly proud of themselves!

Epiphany

The magi followed the star and found Baby Jesus.

This feast commemorates the mysterious visit of the magi to the Baby Jesus.

The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his

baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.

In the magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation.

The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations.

Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Saviour of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament.

The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs", and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel") [CCC 528].

Why is Epiphany connected with Jan. 6?

It is hard to say how far back the beginnings of the Christmas feast go. It assumed its definitive form in the third century.

At about the same time the feast of the Epiphany emerged in the East on January 6 and the feast of Christmas in the West on December 25.

The two feasts had different emphases because of the different religious and cultural contexts in which they arose, but essentially their meaning was the same: the celebration of the birth of Christ as the dawning of the new light, the true sun, of history.

Why did the magi come to see Jesus?

They apparently had material of a prophetic nature (some have suggested that they got it from an eastern Jewish community, such as the one in Babylon) that allowed them to identify the birth of the new "king of the Jews" astronomically.

They may have been especially motivated to come see *this* king of the Jews since there was an expectation at the time that a universal ruler would shortly come from Israel.

We know from [the Roman historians] Tacitus and Suetonius that speculation was rife at the time that the ruler of the world would emerge from Judah.

Why did they go to Herod?

Probably, because they assumed the new-born king would be a son of Herod — the current "king of the Jews."



What was the star?

It is hard to know. Some question whether the star was a natural phenomenon at all, pointing out that it seems to lead the magi to Jerusalem, disappear, and then reappear and hover over the house in Bethlehem.

But this isn't what Matthew says. He does not say that the star led them to Jerusalem. They merely report that they had seen the new king's star "in the east" (Matthew 2:2; that is, back in their homeland), which is why they came to Jerusalem.

What he does say is: When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was [Matthew 2:9].

This does not necessarily mean that the star appeared to move in the sky in a way that stars don't ordinarily.

Departing from Jerusalem at night, they may have noted on the short (6 mile) trip to Bethlehem that the star was in front of them in the sky. Then, when they got to the house, they noticed it was directly over the house.

With the emergence of modern astronomy, developed by believing Christians, the question of this star has been revisited. Various proposals have been made, including for rare astronomical phenomena like the conjunction of certain planets in certain constellations, or supernovas.

The Irish Catholic



Pour money into education not wars, Pope pleads

The Irish Catholic on Sale @ €2.50

For those who are sick, at home or in Hospital
For Sadie McDermott in Scotland