

**Sunday 2 January 2028**  
*The Epiphany (Year C)*

**First Reading - Micah 4.1-3**

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The time will come  
when the mountain  
of the temple  
of the Lord  
will be established  
as the greatest  
of all mountains,  
high above the hills.  
People of all nations will say,  
'The teaching of the Lord  
comes from Mount Zion,  
and the word of the Lord  
from Jerusalem.  
So let us go up  
to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house  
of the God of Jacob,  
to learn there  
how to walk  
in the right path.'  
Then the Lord  
will bring justice and peace  
to the nations.  
They will take their weapons of war,  
their swords and their spears,  
and they will re-work them  
into ploughs  
and pruning-hooks.  
No longer  
will nation  
lift up sword  
against nation;  
neither will they  
learn war  
any more.  
This is the word of the Lord.

**Second Reading - Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

By the grace of God,  
I have been commissioned  
to make known to you  
a glorious truth  
that was unknown  
to former generations.  
But now, by the Holy Spirit,  
this glorious truth  
has been revealed  
to God's apostles and prophets:  
that people of all nations  
are our brothers and sisters  
in Christ Jesus -  
members of the same body,  
and inheritors  
of the same promise.  
This is the word of the Lord.

**Gospel - Matthew 2.1-12**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

In the time of King Herod,  
after Jesus was born  
(in Bethlehem of Judea),  
Magi from the East  
came to Jerusalem,  
saying, 'We are looking for the child  
who is born  
to be king of the Jews.  
For we observed his star, at its rising,  
and we have come to pay him homage.'  
When King Herod heard this,  
he was troubled,  
and all Jerusalem with him.

He called together  
the chief priests and the scribes,  
and enquired of them  
where the Messiah  
was to be born.  
They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea;  
for it is written in the prophets:  
"You, O Bethlehem,  
in the land of Judah,  
are not the least  
amongst the ruling cities  
of Judah; for out of you  
will come a leader, who is  
to shepherd  
my people Israel."'  
Then Herod called secretly for the Magi,  
and learned from them  
the exact time  
at which the star had appeared.

Then he sent them to Bethlehem,  
saying, 'Go and search for the child;  
and when you have found him,  
bring me word,  
so that I may also go  
and pay him homage.'  
So the Magi set out;  
and there, ahead of them,  
went the star  
which they had seen  
at its rising;  
until it stopped  
over the place  
where they would find the child;  
at which  
they were filled with joy.  
On entering the house, they saw the child,  
with Mary his mother,  
and they knelt down, and paid him homage.  
Then, opening their treasure-chests,  
they offered him gifts of gold,  
frankincense, and myrrh.  
And having been warned in a dream  
not to return to Herod,  
they left for their own country  
by another road.  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.