



St Katharine, Blackrod - Sunday 4th January 2026

## EPIPHANY

### The Parish Eucharist

Welcome to St Katharine's Church today



#### READINGS AND PRAYERS

##### THE COLLECT for Epiphany

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

##### FIRST READING Isaiah 60. Verses 1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

##### PSALM 72. Verses 10-15

###### **Response: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice**

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts. All kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall do him service. For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, the needy and those who have no helper. He shall have pity on the weak and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

###### **Response: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice**

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight. Long may he live; unto him may be given gold from Sheba; may prayer be made for him continually and may they bless him all the day long.

###### **Response: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice**

##### SECOND READING Ephesians 3. Verses 1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles, for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to

humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

##### GOSPEL READING Matthew 2. Verses 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."' Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed 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.

##### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

##### SERVICES AT ST KATHARINE'S THIS WEEK

Monday	9.00am	Wiggle Worship
Tuesday	9.30am	Holy Communion
Thursday	1.00pm	Funeral: Stephen Sumner
<b>Sunday 11th January 2026 - Epiphany 1</b>		
	9.30am	All Age Worship Service

**St Katharine's Church**  
Registered Charity No: 1144084

##### CONTACTS

**Vicar:** The Revd Angela Wynne,  
St Katharine's Vicarage, Blackhorse Street,  
Blackrod, BL6 5EN  
**Tel:** 01204 468150 **Email:** Revawynne@gmail.com

##### Churchwardens:

Sheila Kinrade 01204 695642  
Chris Skinner 01204 691097

## What's on .....

### PRAYERS

For those who are sick:

**Sheila Edwards, Rachel Lowe, Josie Woods  
Pat Morris, Brian Inglis, Steven Hyatt,  
Annie Shaw, Lauren Reid, John Green  
Damian McCabe, Margaret Martinez**

*Pray for all those with Covid to make a full recovery.*

For those who have died:

**Stephen Sumner**  
(Funeral on Thursday 8th January at 1pm)

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

**Maggie Banks**

Let us know? If anyone is aware of someone sick or in hospital, wishing to be included on the Prayer List, please notify the Vicar, or the Churchwardens.

Please ensure you have the permission of the person, or their family, before asking for their name to be added. Thank you.

### Please Pray for Ukraine

#### Today's Hymns - Sunday 4th January

- 94 As with gladness men of old
- 96 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning
- 105 We three kings of Orient are
- 88 What child is this, who, laid to rest
- 95 Bethlehem, what greater city
- 99 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
Great David's greater Son! (*Omit verse 5*)

### BLACKROD MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

#### **AGM and Quiz on Friday 9th January**

For further details please contact our Chairman, Rob Long [robertlong55@live.co.uk](mailto:robertlong55@live.co.uk)

**Home Communion** If you are unable to get to a service at St Katharine's and would like to receive communion at home, please get in touch with Revd Angela, or the churchwardens. And please get in touch if you would like a visit from either the clergy or one of our team of licensed Lay Eucharistic ministers.

If you wish to make a donation to support St Katharine's, you can use this QR code. Thank you.



### SAFEGUARDING

As part of the Manchester Diocese, St Katharine's Church follows the safeguarding guidelines, the national legal and procedural framework for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, and the Church of England policy and practice.

**Safeguarding Officer:** Janet Hollick 07514041611



**Coffee Morning**  
**St Katharine's Church**  
**Saturday 17th January**  
**10am to 12 noon**

**Brew & Toast**  
**& Prize Raffle!**



**All Welcome**  
Blackrod Community Choir sing 10-11am



**SPECIAL BIG BOOK SALE!**  
**All Sorts, all Subjects**  
**Paperback & Hardback**  
**And Jigsaws!**

**Supporting St Katharine's Church, Blackrod**

### Afternoon Matinee

**Wednesday 14th January at 1.30pm**  
**(Doors open 1pm)**

**Showing: "A Haunting in Venice"**

Directed by and starring Kenneth Branagh (2023)  
£3 for refreshments. All welcome  
No need to book- just come along.

### LADIES WHO LUNCH

**Wednesday 21st January @ 12 noon**  
**At Goose & Gander, Blackrod**

Contact Janet 07514041611 to book a place.

## Fire Action



**Raise the alarm**



**Leave the building by the nearest exit**



**Report to assembly point**

**CAR PARK**