

### COLLECT

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 60:1-6*

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

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 *Psalm 72:1-9. 10-15*

**R** Kings bow down before him;  
all the nations do him service.

Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the king's  
son;  
that he may rule your people  
righteously  
and the poor with justice;  
that the mountains may bring  
prosperity to the people,  
and the little hills bring righteousness. **R**

He shall defend the needy among  
the people;  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the  
oppressor.  
He shall live as long as the sun and  
moon endure,  
from one generation to another. **R**

He shall come down like rain upon the  
mown field,  
like showers that water the earth.  
In his time shall the righteous flourish;  
there shall be abundance of peace  
till the moon shall be no more. **R**

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
shall pay tribute,  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba  
offer gifts.  
All kings shall bow down before him,  
and all the nations do him service. **R**

For he shall deliver the poor who cries  
out in distress,  
and the oppressed who has no helper.  
He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.  
He shall redeem their lives from  
oppression and violence,  
and dear shall their blood be in his  
sight. **R**

### SECOND READING *Ephesians 3:1-12*

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.*

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 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 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 *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, 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.

### POST 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.