



Tel : 01792 415222

Email: manseltonurc@gmail.com

WEEKLY LETTER – 1 JANUARY 2023

The Word became flesh, and the
world changed

John 1.1-18

Without the birth of Jesus Christ, what would you be believing today? What would you be worshipping? And what would you value above all else? Had God not chosen to come down to us, none of us could ever have known the gifts that are given to all creation thorough His Son.

So perhaps, at the beginning of the New Year, you may like to remind yourself of all that Christ has offered and given you? As St Paul writes, “we have received the one Spirit of this world, but the Spirit that comes from God, to help us understand the numerous gifts God has given to us”. If you sense this is true, might this be an opportunity for you to write down the gifts you have been given because of the Word becoming flesh?

Today, let us continue to pray that God will teach us to see his presence and his beauty in the life of the Universal Church; to see his daily presence in the world, and especially in the people we meet.

Stephen

**Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom, at 10.30 am will be led by Rev David Salsbury
We will celebrate Communion.
Bible Reading: Matthew 2.1-12**

Cycle of Prayer in the Swansea Region – we will pray for Temple, Gowerton.

Tea and Chat/Winter Hub in Christ Well - Tuesday, 4th January 2023 – 2 pm.

Friday - 6th January – Epiphany

Every City

(Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 60.1-6: Psalm 72-1-7, 10-14: Ephesians 3.1-12: Matt. 2.1-12)

Lord help us,
help us to make every city
a city of sanctuary.
Help us to make every city a place
where people are asked,
How are you?
before they are asked,
Where are you from?
Just as wise men from the East travelled with their gifts
that they presented to the Holy Family,
help us to both recognise and value the gifts
of those people who travel to our cities
sometimes not out of choice
but out of desperation,
not just looking for work
but maybe escaping persecution
or the ravages of war that have destroyed their homelands.
Help them find a welcome
and be a gift to wherever they are welcomed.
We ask it through Christ our Lord
who, with his family, experienced exile in a foreign land.

Johnny O'Hanlon (URC Prayer Handbook 2023)

