



## Church News for

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021 **The Epiphany**

Following the success of PhoneChurch during the first lockdown and with Covid-19 rates rising once again in our area, a discussion was held at an emergency meeting of the 6 Parishes. After reviewing the options, the PCC's opted to revert to PhoneChurch during January. This will be reviewed at our meeting on the 13th January, with a view to reopening for gathered worship on Sunday 7th February 2021. To join in simply call 03300 945 940 then at the prompt Room number: 55017514 # and use Guest PIN: 3885 # please see below for more detailed information

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January **The Epiphany**

09:00 Epiphany Holy Communion - With Chalking of the Doors

**Readings** Isaiah 60.1-6, Ephesians 3.1-12, & Matthew 2.1-12

**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.

**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.

#### **During the week**

09:00 Morning Prayer - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

### **Blessing our Homes**

At Epiphany, you can bless your house by remembering the Wise Men who faithfully followed the star to find Jesus lying in a manger.

Take the chalk and mark on the lintel or doorstep of your front door **20 + C + M + B + 21**

Then say the words in Bold. The symbol in brackets show how the words are represented in chalk

**The Three Wise Men, Caspar, (C) Melchior (M) and Balthasar (B) followed the star of God's Son who became human Two thousand (20) and twenty one years ago (21)**

**May Christ bless our home (++) and remain with us throughout the new year Amen (++)**

**May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us, that same Jesus who was made flesh; and may we seek and serve him, in everyone we meet, now and forever. Amen**

**God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten One to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Saviour. Amen**



## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January **The Baptism of Christ**

09:00 Morning Prayer

10:00 Holy Communion

16:00 Evening Prayer – Zoom (Taizé Music)

**Readings** Genesis 1.1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19.1-7, & Mark 1.4-11

**Evening Readings** Psalms 46, Isaiah 42.1-9  
Ephesians 2.1-10

**Collect** Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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.

**Post Communion** Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**During the week**

09:00 Morning Prayer - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 Holy Communion - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> - Hilary of Poitiers, 367

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January **Epiphany 2**

09:00 Prayer & Praise

10:00 Holy Communion (**Plough Sunday**)

16:00 BCP Evensong Sr Dora

**Readings** 1 Samuel 3.1-10, Psalm 139.1-5,12-18\*, Revelation 5.1-10, & John 1.43-51

**Evening Readings** Psalm 96, Isaiah 60.9-22, Hebrews 6.17 - 7.10

**Collect** Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.

**Post Communion** God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**During the week**

09:00 Morning Prayer - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 Holy Communion - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Richard Rolle, 1349

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January **Epiphany 3**

09:00 Holy Communion

10:00 BCP Morning Prayer

16:00 Simply Together in the Afternoon – Zoom

**Readings** 1 Samuel 3.1-10, Psalm 139.1-5,12-18\*, Revelation 5.1-10, & John 1.43-51

**Evening Readings** Titus 2.1-8,11-14

**Collect** Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.

**Post Communion** Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**During the week**

09:00 Morning Prayer - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 Holy Communion - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>



## Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January Epiphany 4

10:00 Holy Communion

**Readings** Deuteronomy 18.15-20, Revelation 12.1-5a, & Mark 1.21-28

**Collect** God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of 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.

**Post Communion** Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

### During the week

09:00 Morning Prayer - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

09:00 Holy Communion - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb

**PhoneChurch** is working well, but please remember it is live and unless you mute the microphone on your phone everyone can hear anything that is happening at your end of the line. We are still learning how to best use this system and whilst responses during the service are working well, communal singing is causing problems - so for the moment please just listen to the music as it plays rather than singing along.

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## Weddings Baptisms & Funerals

Weddings can take place with 15 people present. Funerals 30 people present. There continue to be complex restrictions and procedures in place and these services will look and feel very different to what you might be used to so please do talk with Rev'd Chris at the earliest opportunity to avoid disappointment. **For the latest update from the Church of England please visit**

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

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## Meetings

We continue to hold phone discussions for Churchwardens, PCC Secretaries, & worship leaders every other Wednesday. Our next meetings are on 13/01/21 & 27/01/21 at 16:15 on the PhoneChurch number.

Rev'd Chris will be taking Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> as his rest days.

Our monthly Wensley Deanery Prayer meeting is on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 via Zoom

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## Lisle's Limericks

**Rev'd Lisle** has offered us the following reflections on the Christmas Story

When astrologers travelled from afar  
they were led from the east by a star.  
Through King Herod they sought  
the infant King at his court  
to pay homage with gifts such as myrrh.

King Herod reacting in fury  
having asked scribes and priests was sure he  
knew just where he'd be found.  
So the Magi profound  
under the star found the babe securely.

Bowing before him they offered their gifts,  
gold frankincense and myrrh as befits  
Jesus the suckling King.  
Then homeward returning  
far away from King Herod's raging fits.

Herod discovering that he'd been deceived  
ordered the slaughter of boys to proceed  
in Bethlehem town  
and the region around,  
leaving their parents so deeply bereaved.

But Joseph with Mary to Egypt flew  
to keep Jesus safe until they knew  
king Herod was dead.  
Relieved of their dread  
they returned, making prophecies come true.

### *Matthew 2*

By the Jordan people came out to John  
to be baptised and cleansed of all wrong.

"Now all you Pharisees

who warned you to flee

from God's wrath. To him you cease to belong."

When Jesus came out to be baptised  
John did confess that he was surprised.

Rising from the river  
a dove came down thither.

"This is my Son with whom I'm well pleased."

### *Matthew 3*

One of Lile's Limericks has now been set to sound and is very much worth listening to - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JppbkElKhJ4&feature=youtu.be>

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## **Come and join us on Zoom for a time of Lectio Divina**

Friday afternoons at 16:00 - Lectio Divina is a contemplative way of reading the Bible. It dates back to the early centuries of the Christian Church and is a way of praying the scriptures that leads us further into God's word. It is listening with the 'ear' of the heart that allows scripture to speak to us in new ways while also deepening our relationship with the Living God.

For further information and the Zoom link please contact:

Penny Johnson: 01677 450082 [pennyj.johnson5@gmail.com](mailto:pennyj.johnson5@gmail.com) or

Sue Bianco: 01677 450009 [susanbianco54@gmail.com](mailto:susanbianco54@gmail.com)

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## **And Finally**

*From Rev'd Chris*

It still seems strange to me how some posts on social media are 'successful' and others not

So may I repeat what I shared at the end of the year

**Happy New Year**

**Id like to Thank you 2020, but  
in truth I'm happy to see the  
back of you!**

None of us knows what 2021 holds for us, but my prayer is for a happy and safe year as we continue to grow together in the Kingdom.

**Comfort**  
and Joy

