

Wykeham Benefice Pew sheet

The Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday January 7th 2018

Collect

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isaiah 60:1-6

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.

Ephesians 3:1-12

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 see² 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.

Matthew 2:1-12

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.

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.

The Week Ahead

Mon 8th 9am Morning Prayer in Epwell
Tue 9th 9.15am Morning Prayer in Broughton
10am Holy Communion in Tadmarton
Wed 10th 8.45am Morning Prayer in Sibford
9.30am Holy Communion in Epwell
10.10am School Assembly
Thu 11th Ronald's Day Off
Fri 12th 9am Morning Prayer in Swalcliffe
12noon funeral of June Poole at Oakley Wood.
Sat 13th 9am Morning Prayer in Shutford.
Sun 14th Second Sunday of Epiphany
8am BCP HC@ Sibford
9.30am HC @ Shutford(BCP) and Swalcliffe and 9.45am Morning Praise @ Epwell
11am HC@ Broughton and Tadmarton and Methodist Service @ Sibford
1pm Baptism of Lauren Hemmings @ Sibford
Weds 17th **7.30pm Wykeham Benefice Council meeting** in Sibford SMALL Hall. All PCC members encouraged to attend, and everyone else warmly welcomed.

For Prayer

The peace of the world; Yemen, Israel/Palestine, Iran, Syria

St. Mary's Banbury;

Philip Cochrane, Louise Adey-Huish, Jeff West, and Roger Verrall (LLM);

For Banbury town centre; the local businesses; the health of our town

For all who enforce the law, especially the local police, and the magistrates court.

For the Citizens' Advice.

The sick

Erica Wimbush, Sue Colquhoun, Doreen Pratt, Frank Scouse, Pauline, Linda Nunneley

The Departed

June Poole, Nellie Comfort, Tony Wright

CHRISTMAS seems a very long time ago now, although 12th night was only yesterday. I would like to say a heartfelt "Thank You" for your contribution to services and events throughout the Wykeham Benefice. I guess in excess of 1000 people crossed our thresholds and were met with warmth, clean churches, sparkling brass, beautiful flowers, lovely music, refreshments, kindness and real hospitality. Taxis services ran, friends welcomed, and the love of God was made real. Thank you for your part in this joint ministry.

BEATITUDES We managed the first study session just in that snowy week before Christmas. I propose offering sessions 2 and 3 on Weds 24th and 31st January. 7.30pm. Chez moi. And if you missed this the first time round, we'll offer it during Lent too.

LENT Please do book the Wednesday evenings in Lent for our Benefice Learning Course "**Widen Your Horizons**" to be held at 7.30pm Venue TBC. Feb 21st Manvir Singh – Sikhism; Feb 28th Ansar Hussain – Islam; March 7th Naomi Perry – Judaism; March 14th Why the Middle East is as it is – Canon Richard Cook; March 21st Christianity – Andrew and James Taylor. These are sessions with interesting speakers for anyone and everyone who wants to learn and grow and widen their horizons. Please invite friends to come along with you. There will be refreshments, and there are toilet facilities. Bring a cushion!