

Sunday 4th January 2009 - Epiphany

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00am Holy Communion BCP (St Mary's)
10:15am Family Service (St.Nicholas, Hinxworth)
10:45am Service of the Word - Family Service (St Mary's)
 Hymns: 537, 53, 394, 372.
6:30pm Choral Eucharist (St Mary's)
 Hymns: 41, 113, 394, 491, 175.
 Anthem: Lift up lightly - Merrick

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday 11th: Baptism of Christ
8:00am Holy Communion BCP (St Mary's)
9:15am Parish Eucharist (St.Nicholas, Hinxworth)
10:45am Parish Eucharist (St Mary's)
6:30pm Choral Evensong (St Mary's)

For your Prayers this week:

Please pray for those who are sick including:
**Stan Aldridge, Gill, Brian Wheeler,
 Derrick Haig, Andy and Barbara Nye**

And pray for the family and friends of those who have recently died

Stan Revels, Mick Forster and Les Revels



† Stan Revels' Funeral Service
 Will be on Tuesday 6th at 10:30am
 at St. Mary's Ashwell. All Welcome.

† Mick Forster's Funeral Service
 Will be on Friday 9th at 2pm
 at St. Mary's Ashwell. All Welcome.

† Les Revels' Funeral Service
 Will be next week on Thursday 15th at 2pm
 at St. Mary's Ashwell. All Welcome.

Soup Lunch
 This Wednesday:
 12:00 - 1:30pm
 Parish Room.



St Mary's Church Cleaning
 this Wednesday
 after the
 Soup Lunch.
 Many helping hands needed !



Diary

As you plan your church and village events for next year check the on-line diary at www.stmarysashwell.org.uk and then please enter your event, or contact the office, to ensure that we don't have any clashes - Thanks Simon.



Baptism Anniversaries for January go to Sophie Shackell and Robert Clarke on their 5th anniversaries. Please pray for these children and their parents and Godparents as they continue to grow in faith.

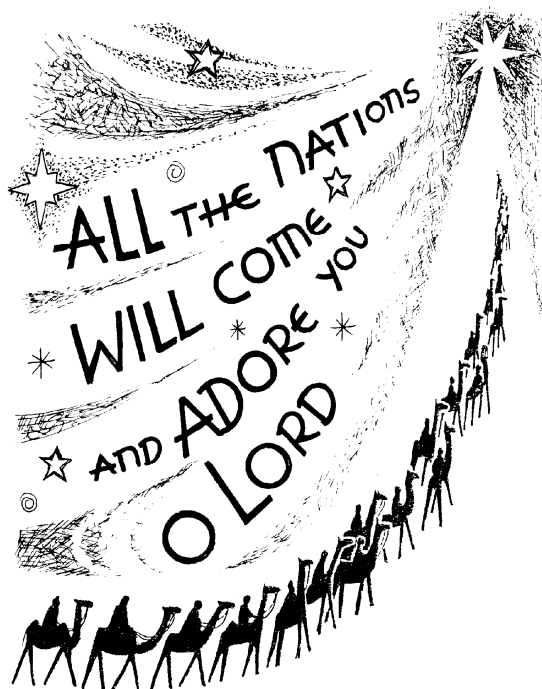


If you would like something added to this pew sheet or to the parish website, please let Antje in the office know using the contacts at the bottom of this sheet.

THIS WEEK'S DIARY:

Monday 5th
 9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)
Tuesday 6th:
 9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)
 10:30am Funeral - Stan Revels (St Mary's)
 3:00pm Rosary Group (St Mary's)
Wednesday 7th
 9:30am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)
 10:00am Midweek Communion (St Mary's)
 10:00am Visiting Ringers (St Nicholas)
 Noon-2:00pm Soup Lunch (Parish Church Room)
 2:30pm Church Cleaning (St Mary's)
 8:00pm Youth worker meeting (Recotry)
Thursday 8th
 9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)
 10:30am-Noon Tudor School (St Mary's)
 8:00pm-9:00pm Bellringing Practice (St Mary's)
Friday 9th
 9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)
 10:30am-Noon Tudor School (St Mary's)
 2:00pm Funeral - Michael Forster (St Mary's)
 7:00pm-7:45pm Junior Choir Practice (St Mary's)
 8:15pm Senior Choir Practice (St Mary's)
Saturday 10th
 9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)

Please take this sheet home with you, and use it in your prayers during the week.



"Where is the Child who has been born king of the Jews? For we have come to pay him homage."

Matthew 2.1-12

4 January, 2009 - Epiphany

Collect of the Day

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. **Amen.**

First Reading

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.

Psalm

Psalms 72.1-9

- 1 Give the king your¹ judgements, O¹ God, ♦
and your righteousness¹ to the¹ son • of a¹ king.
- 2 Then shall he judge your¹ people¹ righteously ♦
and your¹ poor¹ with¹ justice.
- 3 May the mountains¹ bring forth¹ peace, ♦
and the little hills¹ righteous • ness¹ for the¹ people.
- 4 May he defend the poor a¹mong the¹ people, ♦
deliver the children of the¹ needy and¹ crush • the
op¹pressor.
- 5 May he live as long as the sun and¹ moon en¹dure, ♦
from one gene¹ration¹ to an¹other.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the¹ mown¹ grass, ♦
like the¹ showers that¹ water the¹ earth.
- †7 In his time shall¹ righteous • ness¹ flourish ♦
and abundance of peace till the¹ moon shall¹ be no¹
more.
- 8 May his dominion extend from¹ sea to¹ sea ♦
and from the River¹ to the¹ ends • of the¹ earth.
- 9 May his foes¹ kneel be¹fore him ♦
and his¹ enemies¹ lick the¹ dust.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3.1-12

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

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 Prayer

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.**