



The Feast of the Epiphany

3 January 2016

SERVICES TODAY

10.15 **Sung Parish Eucharist** **The Vicar**

Services and events for this Week

Monday to Friday: Morning Prayer will be said at 09.00

4 Mon	09.30	Said Eucharist
	10.00	Monday Munchkins in Church Hall
	19.30	Bell-ringing Practice
5 Tues	10.00	Healing Eucharist
	19.30	PCC Meeting
6 Wed	14.30	'Be Still' Meditation Group in Church
7 Thur	09.30	Said Eucharist
	19.30	Choir Practice
8 Fri	09.30	Reconciliation Eucharist

NEXT SUNDAY 10 January is The Baptism of Christ

10.15 **Parish Eucharist** **The Vicar**

Welcome to All Saints today

If you are new or just visiting, please do stay in Church after the service for coffee and fellowship.

Please note that wherever indications for posture are given in this booklet, they are for guidance only. Should it suit you better to adopt an alternative posture please feel free to do so.

Large Print Copies are available, as are Gluten Free Wafers. Please speak to a steward.

Introduction to the Season

In the western churches, the Epiphany ('manifestation') became an occasion to celebrate one element in the story of Christ's birth, the visit of the far-travelled Magi, understood as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Matthew's account speaks simply of 'wise men from the east'; later tradition fixed their number at three, made them kings, and recalled their resonant names – Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. In this perspective, Epiphanytide is an apt season to pray for the worldwide mission of the Church. The feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, appropriately falls in the Epiphany season, as does the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In the eastern churches, the Epiphany is, rather, the celebration of Christ's baptism at the hands of John, when the heavens were opened, and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved son. The miracle of Cana in Galilee, where Jesus 'first manifested his glory', follows immediately:

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding-guest,
In thy Godhead manifest. *(Christopher Wordsworth)*

The arrangement of the first Sundays of Epiphany in the Revised Common Lectionary deliberately draws out these aspects.

The season of joyful celebration which begins at Christmas now continues through the successive Sundays of Epiphany, and the festal cycle ends only with the Feast of the Presentation, or Candlemas (2 February or the nearest Sunday). The child who has been manifested to the Magi at his birth is now recognised by Simeon and Anna when he comes to be presented in the Temple according to the Law of Israel. He is both 'a light to lighten the Gentiles' and 'the glory of God's people Israel.' But the redemption he will bring must be won through suffering; the Incarnation is directed to the Passion; and Simeon's final words move our attention away from the celebration of Christmas and towards the mysteries of Easter.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like to know more of what is happening in your parish, please visit the calendar on the parish website
www.stivesparishchurch.org.uk
or contact one of the following:

Vicar: (Revd Mark Amey)

please telephone 01480 384334 or 07905 122090 or email
vicar@stivesparishchurch.org.uk

General Enquiries and items for inclusion in the weekly sheet
should be directed to the Parish Office
office@stivesparishchurch.org.uk

Requests for Baptisms and Marriages, including Banns

Application forms for these can be found online at
<http://www.stivesparishchurch.org.uk/services-events/baptisms-weddings/>
or alternatively contact the Parish Office as above.

Churchwardens

Simon Kershaw: 01480 381471

Gary Evans: 01480 466109

churchwardens@stivesparishchurch.org.uk

For Musical queries such as joining the choir or to discuss music for your wedding

please contact the Director of Music: Martin Everett
music@stivesparishchurch.org.uk

For queries relating to the Flowers flowers@stivesparishchurch.org.uk
For queries relating to the Bells bells@stivesparishchurch.org.uk

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EPIPHANY BLESSING OF CHALK

It has been a tradition in the Church to bless chalk at Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year. The home blessing uses the following format:

Use the blessed chalk to write: above, or alongside the doorways:

20+C+M+B+16 [20 + 16 represents the year; C, M, B for the 3 Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, Latin for 'May Christ Bless this House.']

And underneath if space permits: *Orate pro nobis* (pray for us) [you may also decorate 'C, M & B' with crowns if you wish.]

As you are writing, pray one or more of the following prayers:

May all who come to this home this year rejoice to find Christ present within; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son 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 Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, incline your ear. Bless us and all who are gathered here. Send your holy angels to defend and fill with grace us and all who dwell herein. Amen.

¶ *The Gathering*

¶ Please stand when the bell is rung to sing **The Processional Hymn**

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most gracious God, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
To that lowly manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek the mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.

Holy Jesu, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down:
There for ever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837—1898);
Tune *Dix*: from a chorale by Conrad Kocher (1786—1872),
adapted by William Henry Monk (1823—1889)

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Invocation and Greeting**

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord of glory be with you.

The Lord bless you.

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Prayers of Penitence**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May your ways be known on the earth,
your saving power among the nations:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Dismissal

We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Ella Nairn, Mick Bacon, Cheryl Cook, Anna Mogford, Ethel Cooper, Gary James, Sophie Phillips, Cyril Whitfield, Elaine Bunnett, Anne Spencer, Audrey, Philip, Muriel, Christopher, Paul, and Fr Jeff Vaughan

THE DEPARTED: Pamela Norman.

YEAR'S MIND: Patricia Bonny (4th), Ron Smith (4th), Ellen Wheeler (7th), Marjorie Fisher (8th), Joan Nicholls (10th),

NOTICES

Mothers Union Instead of a meeting in January, The Mothers' Union at All Saints will be celebrating the induction of Chris Holt as Branch Leader by serving drinks and finger food to the congregation after the Epiphany Service on Sunday morning, 3 January 2016. The meeting on 4 February will be in Church at 2.30 p.m. Our speakers will be Revd and Mrs Charles Dixon 'Two Weddings and an afternoon in prison'

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
Mirrored in thy holy word;
May we imitate thee now,
And be pure, as pure art thou;
That we like to thee may be
At thy great Epiphany;
And may praise thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

.Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)
Tune *St Edmund*: Charles Steggall (1826—1905)

Solemn Blessing

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Please bow your heads and pray for God's blessing

May God the Father,
who led the wise men by the shining of a star
to find the Christ, the Light from light,
lead you in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,
give us a place with the saints in light
in the kingdom of his beloved Son. **Amen.**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
shine in your hearts and fill our lives with his joy and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
† the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Gloria in Excelsis**

Setting: *Mass of S Thomas*: David Thorne



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est.
(Last time) A - men, A - men, A - - - - - men.

Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Amen, amen, amen.

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Collect**

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son
you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word,
and shown us the fullness of your love:
help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love
that we may know the fullness of his joy;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

Final Hymn

¶ *Please sit for The First Reading* (Isaiah 60: 1—6)

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¶ *Remain seated for The Second Reading* (Ephesians 3: 1—12)

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¶ *Please stand for The Gospel Acclamation*
and turn towards the Gospel reader

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord
homage.

All: Alleluia (*as above*)

¶ *Remain standing for The Gospel Reading* (Matthew 2: 1—12)

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the Gospel the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

¶ *Please sit for the Sermon*

The Rev'd Mark Amey, (Vicar)

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar;
Branch of royal David's stem
In thy birth at Bethlehem;
Anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana, wedding guest
In thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the heavens shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
All will see his glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confest,
God in man made manifest.

Mothers Union Prayer

Loving Lord,
We thank you for your love
so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world.
Bless the work of the Mothers' Union
as *we / they* seek to share your love
through the encouragement,
strengthening and support of
marriage and family life.
Empowered by your Spirit,
may we be united in prayer and worship,
and in love and service
reach out as your hands across the world.
In Jesus' name.
Amen

The Blessing of Chalk on the Feast of the Epiphany

† Our help is in the name of the Lord.
Who made heaven and earth.

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit

Lord God, among the gifts of creation you have given chalk to be of benefit to us all. We call on your holy name to bless + these pieces of chalk. May those who take them and write with them on the doors of their houses the names of your holy Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, be aided by their intercession and have a share in their merits; may their bodies be healthy and their souls saved. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The chalk is sprinkled with Holy Water. It should be made available for the people to take at the end of the Eucharist.

¶ Please stand for **The Profession of Faith**

from the Athanasian Creed

God, of the being of the Father, the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world; **fully God and fully human; human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father, as human he is less than the Father.
Although he is both divine and human he is not two beings but one Christ.

One, not by turning God into flesh, but by taking humanity into God; **truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead, but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being so the one Christ is both divine and human. **The Word became flesh and lived among us; we have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

¶ Please sit or kneel for **The Intercessory Prayers**

Let us worship the Saviour with joy
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

To the bidding Lord of Glory
Please respond by saying **Hear our prayer.**

*The priest announces a period of silence
after which he offers the concluding prayer:*

...Amen.

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Welcome of the Newly Baptised**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Peace**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
since as members of one body you are called to peace.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

¶ *Remain standing to sing* **The Offertory Hymn**

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his Name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
High on his heart he will bear it for thee,
Comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
Truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
These are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783—1826)
Tune *Epiphany*: Joseph F. Thrupp (1827—1867)

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Prayer after Communion**

The Priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words
Let us pray.

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.

¶ *The Dismissal*

Notices

Commissioning of our New Mothers Union Branch Leader

Admitting a new member to the Mothers Union

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Invitation to Communion**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Distribution of the Sacrament

Anyone who has been baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and wishes to receive the love of the Lord Jesus in their life, is welcome to come forward to receive communion at this service.

Alternatively you may wish to come for a blessing: please keep your hands down and your head bowed as an indication that this is your preference.

¶ *Please join in singing* **The Communion Hymn**

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
Odours of Edom and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would his favour secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept for the Name that is dear;
Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his Name!

Words: John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811—1875)

Tune *Was lebet, was schwebet*: from the *Rheinhardt Manuscript*, Uttingen, 1754

¶ *Remain standing for* **The Prayer Over the Gifts**

Lord, accept your people's gifts,
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,
but hearts and voices raised in praise
of Jesus Christ our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

¶ *Remain standing throughout* **The Eucharistic Prayer (B)**



The Lord be_ with you **And al - so_ with you.**



Lift__ up your hearts **We lift them to__ the Lord.__**



Let us give thanks to__ the Lord__ our God



It is right to give thanks_ and praise.__

