

Heart of England Group of Parishes



HEART OF
ENGLAND
PARISHES

Notice Sheet for Sunday 24th January 2021 Epiphany 3

ALL OUR CHURCHES ARE NOW CLOSED AND LIVE SERVICES SUSPENDED DURING THE NATIONAL LOCKDOWN PERIOD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Collect for today:

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good
news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the
oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our
Lord.
Amen

Services this Sunday:

**A video recorded
“Service of the Word” with a
sermon from
Archdeacon Barry Dugmore**

**An online service from the
Church of England.**

**Links can be found on our
websites.**



**Worshipping God
Making new Disciples
Transforming Communities**

For your prayers this week:

- All who are unwell, especially Joanna Cotterell, John England, Michael Godfrey, James Hawkyard, Dorothy Johnson, Chloe Lambert, John Lawrence & Sue Short; Rhiannon Simmons, Rose Turner, Alex Waring, Laurence, Roger Webb, Alan (Margaret's son), Joan (Peter Walker's mother-in-law), Steve (a fireman), Phil Dalby, Alan & Sarah Edwards and all the families, carers and medical staff who treat them
- all who mourn the loss of loved ones and especially Debi Harrison and her family as the funeral for her mother, Gwen Hill takes place on Monday
- All who are feeling lonely, anxious or depressed
- The Alpha course starting this week
- Preparations for the interviews for House for Duty post at St Matthew's early next month
- All NHS workers and those working to administer the vaccination programme
- President Biden as he begins his presidency of the USA

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.”
Isaiah 12.2

<u>Readings:</u>	24th January	31st January	7th February	14th February
1st Reading	Genesis 14.17-20	Malachi 3.1-5	Proverbs 8.1,22-31	2 Kings 2.1-12
2nd Reading	Revelation 19.6-10	Hebrews 2.14-18	Colossians 1.15-20	2 Corinthians 4.3-6
Gospel	John 2.1-11	Luke 2.22-40	John 1.1-14	Mark 9.2-9



St Matthew's Foodbank has started again and further donations of non-perishable foodstuffs are now needed. Contributions can be made by bringing them to the church on Thursday mornings at about 11am when there will be someone there to receive them. **THANK YOU** for supporting this wonderful project. **Please contact Sarah or Roger to arrange delivery/collection.**



The Alpha course seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. It is described by its organisers as "an opportunity to explore the meaning of life".

In conjunction with The Barn in Bidford, we are running an online Alpha course starting on

Tuesday 26th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

To book a place on this course or for more information please email: alpha@thebarn.org.uk

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Email enquiries to: admin@heartparishes.org.uk

Group website: www.heartparishes.org.uk
St Laurence's website: www.stlaurencebidford.org.uk
St Matthew's website: www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk
Parish Office: Birch House, Grange Lane, HARVINGTON, WR11 8NL

Collect & Readings for 24th January — Epiphany 3

Collect:

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Amen

1st Reading: Genesis 14.17-20

¹⁷ After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).

¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, ¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.

²⁰ And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.' Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

2nd Reading: Revelation 19.6-10

⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: 'Hallelujah!

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.'

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)

⁹ Then the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' And he added, 'These are the true words of God.'

¹⁰ At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, 'Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus.'

Gospel Reading: John 2.1-11

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.³ When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no more wine.'

⁴ 'Woman, why do you involve me?' Jesus replied. 'My hour has not yet come.'

⁵ His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from eighty to a hundred and twenty litres.

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water'; so they filled them to the brim.

⁸ Then he told them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.'

They did so,⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside¹⁰ and said, 'Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.'

¹¹ What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.