



23rd January 2022: Third Sunday of Epiphany

Season: Epiphany, a season in the church year running until Candlemas (2nd February, but kept on 30th January this year) where we remember the many manifestations, or appearances, of Christ to all people.

Liturgical Colour: White **Why?** White symbolizes purity, light, glory, and joy.

8am Holy Communion (no hymns) in the Lady Chapel
President and preacher: Revd Tim

9.30 am Parish Eucharist
President: Revd Tim Vickers
Deacon and Preacher: Anne Edwards
Reading: I Corinthians 12.12-31a
Reader: Michael Readman
Intercessions: Bryan Coventry
Music Setting: Mass of St Thomas (Thorne)
Hymns: 2, 36, 691i, 441, 430i, 742i

10.30am Parish Coffee in the Church Hall

4.00pm Christingle Service
(meet from 3pm to help make Christingles)

CHILDREN AT ST JOHN'S

All children are very welcome at St John's. We are still looking to find a way to resume our Junior Church (we need some help co-ordinating). Until then, this might help:

- Please don't be afraid to sit at the front – children can see what is going on better.
- There are books and bags at the back of church as well as colouring in packs (updated each week).
- Please make use of the church as you need to, and don't worry about making noise.
- Join us in the hall for refreshments after the service.

GIVING AT ST JOHN'S

At St John's we rely on the enormous generosity of our congregation to support our ministry, so that we might live God's love to our Parish. If you are in a position to support us, there are a number of ways you can give, either as a one-off or on a regular basis:

- Collection plate – both cash and contactless either before or after the service
- Set up a direct debit
- Join our Parish Giving Scheme

Envelopes to donate for the collection where gift aid can be claimed are available. For more information contact Andrew Poppleton on Andrew.poppleton@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk

SUNDAY READINGS AND PRAYERS

The Collect

Let us pray.

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.

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it

any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4.14-21

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.” ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all

in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Post-Communion Prayer

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
Amen.

IMPORTANT PARISH CONTACTS

Revd Tim Vickers, Vicar of St John’s (usual day off Friday)
vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk 01582 469343

Churchwardens, Jane Donati and James Hillman
wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk

Parish Office, Julie Birkett parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk
01582 712776

Safeguarding, Jane Donati safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk

IN OUR P R A Y E R S

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
www.stalbans.anglican.org/faith/daily-prayers

Deanery of Ampthill and Shefford

Sunday:	Parish of Maulden
Monday:	Parish of Meppershall
Tuesday:	Parish of Millbrook
Wednesday:	Parish of Milton Bryan
Thursday:	Parish of Pulloxhill
Friday:	Parish of Ridgmont
Saturday:	Parish of Shefford

For those preparing for First Communion:
Clemency & Phyllis Venner, Harry Evans, Luella Buckle, Sophia Neville

In our Parish for the sick:
Graeme, Claire, Sue, Christine, Hermione, Karen, Chris, Paul,
Pat, Tamsin, Mike, Miriam, Daniel, Pat, Barbara Chris and all whose
names are entered on our St Luke's Cell Prayer List.

For the dearly departed:
Richard James Franklin (known as Jim), Joan Allen

In their year's mind:
Jennifer Ashley (23rd); Pauline Oswald (27th); Peter Walters,
David Griffiths, Donald Stevenson (28th).

For the homes and families in

Sunday	Green Lane Close, Greenway
Monday	Grove Avenue, Grove Road
Tuesday	Hadleigh Court, Hammondswick
Wednesday	Hatching Green, Hatching Green Close
Thursday	Hawsley Road, Hawthorn Close
Friday	Heath Close, High Elms
Saturday	High Firs Crescent, Highfield Avenue

Please let Tim know if we can pray for you.

NOTICES

THIS WEEK

Epiphany Christingle. We will be holding an Epiphany Christingle on Sunday 23rd January at 4pm. All are welcome to join us, with craft and activities from 3pm.

T@3 on Friday 28th January. T@3 returns this Friday with our normal selection of cake and tea, and a guaranteed warm welcome. Extra help always welcomed – let Julie in the Office know.

First Communion next Sunday. Next Sunday at 9.30am we will be welcoming 5 young people to communion. Do please join us so we can celebrate as a Church family together!

PASTORAL

Prayer list Revision. We are preparing to take an update our our prayer list. If there is someone you know on the prayer list who you would like to remain on the prayer list, please let Julie in the office know. The new list will be valid from 6th February (but names can be added at any time)

COMING UP

Calling all cooks! St John's is launching a cook book to raise money for the new Parish Centre. But we need your recipes! So do not delay, send your recipes in today. Deadline 18th April. More details can be found here. <https://stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/cook-book>

Volunteer Fair. We are planning to hold a Volunteer Fair on Sunday 6th February, after our All Age Parish Eucharist. If you are looking for new ways to be part of our church or want to try something new – this is the perfect opportunity to see everything that happens at St John's.

Spiritual Well Being Survey. We know that the last 2 years have had a variety of effects on our lives and particularly our relationship with God. To help us as we move forward, it would be really useful if you could complete a short survey so that we can find out what the last few years have meant for you and your spiritual well being. It's completely anonymous, unless you want to talk directly to the Ministry Team or wardens. Link: <https://stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/surveys>

Next steps in faith... The last 18 months may have raised questions about faith and God. For some, you may be thinking would like to confirm, or even explore, for yourself the promises made on your behalf at baptism. For others, you maybe interested in going back to some of the essentials of the Christian Faith and have some question to ask!

Eco Church tip: At Christmas many of us get large plastic tubs of chocolates, sweets and biscuits. Greene King are running the 'Tub2Pub' recycling scheme for these tubs, and raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support in the process. Simply take your (clean and empty) tub to a Greene King pub or restaurant, from Jan 1st-31st, for example, *The Inn on the Green*. See <http://www.tub2pub.co.uk/tub2pub/> for more details. This raises money for charity and recycles the plastic, saving it from going to landfill.

Date for your diary: Our Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday 20th March, after the 9.30am Parish Eucharist. Please put this date in your diary as it is when we celebrate everything we have achieved and look to the future with hope.

Decisions made by PCC at the meeting on 18th January:

- Agreed for a specification and plan to replace the sound system and install a permanent livestreaming system.
- Affirmed our commitment to Project Phoenix as the right vision for our Church. Thank you to all who have enabled and supported the project so far, and look out for information about how we will get this project back on track.

PARISH DIARY

Tuesday	10.00 am	Little Acorns in the Parish Hall
Friday	3.00 pm	T@3 in the Church Hall.
Saturday	10.00am	First Communion Preparation

NEXT SUNDAY

8am Holy Communion and 9.30am Parish Eucharist, Presentation of Christ in the Temple Readings: NT: Hebrews 2.41 - end; Gospel: Luke 2.22-40

Weekday Morning and Evening Prayer (in the Lady Chapel)

Morning Prayer: 9.30 am, Monday to Thursday and

Evening Prayer: 5 pm, Monday to Thursday

Eucharist, 10.30am every Wednesday in the Lady Chapel.

Sign up to our Newsletter:

We also send out a weekly newsletter. If you would like to receive it, please get in touch:

<https://stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/about-us/newsletter/>

For arrangement of baptisms, weddings & funerals contact the Parish Office or talk to the vicar after the service



St John's Church, 5 St John's Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1DJ
Parish office 01582 712 776

Want updates on Covid exposures?



We report these in our newsletters.

Want to know quicker?
Don't get our newsletters?

Register your details:



stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/trace

(or speak to a Church Warden at the back of Church)

We won't use the data you provide for any other purposes and will delete it soon after the exposure risk has passed.