

# *In & around the Benefice....*

*6th January | Epiphany*



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## **Worship in our churches.....**

### **Today...**

8.00am	Whiston	BCP Holy Communion
9.00am	Denton	Holy Communion
11.00am	Grendon	All Age Holy Communion
4.00pm	Yardley Hastings	Worship For All

### **Next week 13th January, Second Sunday of Epiphany...**

9.00am	Yardley Hastings	Holy Communion
11.00am	Castle Ashby	Holy Communion
4.00pm	Denton	Worship For All

### **Midweek Services**

Weds	9.30am	Grendon	Holy Communion
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### Weekly coffee mornings in the benefice:

**Wednesdays** 10am, Grendon,  
see church noticeboard for venue

**Thursdays** 10.30-11.30am

URC, Yardley Hastings

**Fridays** 10am-12noon,  
St Margaret's, Denton



## **Please hold in your prayers this week...**

- ◇ Our Bishops Donald, John and Ed
- ◇ Our Christian brothers and sisters of every denomination celebrating the birth of Christ
- ◇ Those who are persecuted for their faith and unable to worship freely
- ◇ All who grieve, are lonely or feel isolated and forgotten this Christmas season
- ◇ Our politicians and government - may God's guidance and wisdom be with them
- ◇ Those in residential care and the housebound, among them: Gwen Brimacombe, Audrey Desborough, Tom Stocks, Ruth Williams and Gwen York
- ◇ Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them: , Delsie Greasley, Daniel Rouffaud, Michelle, Nicholas Vaughan, Ashleigh Loach, Betty Eyre
- ◇ The recently departed, among them Guy Miller, and all who grieve at this time

To add events to the benefice website, email [yardleyhastingsbeneficewebsite@gmail.com](mailto:yardleyhastingsbeneficewebsite@gmail.com)

To add events to the benefice newsletter, email [yhbeneficenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:yhbeneficenewsletter@gmail.com)



## **Dates for the Diary...**

Weds	9th	7.45pm	Benefice Choir Practice, St Andrew's Yardley Hastings
Thurs	17th	6.30-8pm	Youth Group, St Mary's Grendon
Fri	18th	3.30pm	Messy Church, URC Yardley Hastings
Sat	19th	10-noon	Coffee morning, Lower Barn, Shop Lane, Yardley Hastings
Thurs	31st	10.30am	Castle Ashby Community Coffee morning, The Buttery, Castle Ashby
Thurs	31st	6.30-8pm	Youth Group, St Mary's Grendon

## The Collect

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**

(or)

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. **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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 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 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 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

*Matthew 2: 1-12*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord**

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## 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. **Amen**