

Psalm 72 vs10-15

O The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; *
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.

**11 All kings shall fall down before him; *
all nations shall do him service.**

12 For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, *
the needy and those who have no helper.

**13 He shall have pity on the weak and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

**15 Long may he live;
unto him may be given gold from Sheba; *
may prayer be made for him continually
and may they bless him all the day long.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now & shall be for ever.
Amen.**

Old Testament: 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.

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."

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:

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are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
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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 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.

Collect Prayer: 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 the glory of your face, through Jesus Christ you Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.**

Myanmar Outreach Support

As you will be aware our Harvest Appeal last Autumn has been for the work of the Anglican Church in Myanmar, Hpa-an diocese. Thank you to all who have given to the 'Pig project' and to the work of the church in its mission area on the Thai border (where the people are prevented from selling their products in Thailand) and to support internally displaced families because of the recent political upheaval. At the end of December our parish treasurer has transferred the money that you have so generously given to Hpa-an Diocese. This amounted to £1350. We look forward to hearing how the project is developing in the coming months. This will come as a wonderful Christmas present for the people of the church there and is sent with our love to people who are confronted with many challenges including Covid-19 but without the state support mechanisms that we take for granted here in the UK.



St. MARY THE VIRGIN ~ HOLY TRINITY ~ St. PETER

Part of the Marden Vale Team Benefice - including Christchurch, Derry Hill, St Martin, Bremhill, St John the Baptist, Foxham

Sunday 2nd January 2022 - Epiphany Yr C gold/white

Enquiries: calnepcc@gmail.com /01249 816522/812340 Parish website: <http://www.parishofcalneandblackland.org.uk>

A warm welcome to all joining our worship today

2nd January - Epiphany

8.00am Eucharist at St Mary's
10.00am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

Next Sunday 9th January - Sunday after Epiphany (Baptism of Christ)

8.00am Eucharist at St Mary's
10.00am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

As you will be aware the Government has re-introduced restrictions and offered guidance for mitigation for the spread of the latest omicron variant of Covid 19. Face masks are now mandated in public buildings including churches (unless someone has a medical exemption). The Church of England has left decisions about how to operate through this latest phase of the pandemic to the local church. The PCC has agreed that we continue to maintain the principles of social distancing as we have been doing throughout. God Bless, Bob and Teresa

Parish Finance — We're grateful to those who give by Standing Order and in other committed ways. If you'd like to find out more about this please contact our parish treasurer Graham Spencer

gs_spencer@btopenworld.com Please remember you can give via our parish website www.parishofcalneandblackland.org.uk

St Edmund Oak: Calne in Bloom and Calne Tree Planting Partnership have launched its first Tree of the Year Competition. You can nominate a tree for 2021. Bob has nominated St Edmund's Oak in St Mary's churchyard which was planted in 1981 honour of St Edmund of Abingdon (Vicar of Calne from 1222-1233). Why don't you nominate it too?! You can do so online: <https://www.calne.gov.uk/tree-comp/>

Stamps for RNIB: (Calne Partnership of Churches) Please continue to collect stamps for in support of the RNIB, but remember to leave a centimetre of envelope or packaging around each stamp. Collections can be passed to Adrienne Darts or posted to Broad Acres, Charlcott, Calne, SN11 9HL.



A message from Eve Townson: "Many thanks to all who contributed items for sale on the FOSM stall in the Town Hall during the postponed Calne Festival of lights on 4th December. Thank you also to all who looked after the stall on the day. It was a terrific effort! FOSM raised the amazing sum of £325.75. Special thanks go to the hard work of Mary Barker and Rosemarie Berry."



Please pray for David Bevan, Gloria Elcock, Jennifer Fenton, Alex Grenfell, John Frimpong, Alice Keighley, Cheryl Keaton, John Keller, Nicola Rigby, Henry Wonham, Thomas, Christopher, Connor, Curtis

Please pray for the recently departed and for their families. Please pray for Mary Patrica Lockley, Ruth Gauntlett, Denise Humphries, Daphne June Lambourne, Robert Sheppard, Norman Harding, Jane Ross and all who have died during the Pandemic. We also give thanks to God for the moral courage and spiritual leadership of Archbishop Desmond Tutu who died this past week.

Please Note that the Parish Office will be closed during Christmas and the New Year and will re-open on 5th January. You can contact the clergy and members of the benefice team during this period (please see below for contact details)

January

Weds 5th 10.00am Eucharist at St Mary's church
Weds 12th 10.00am Eucharist at St Mary's church
7.00pm PCC Standing Committee (Zoom)
Thurs 13th 7.30pm AGM Calne Partnership (Zoom)
Thurs 20th 7.30pm PCC meeting (Zoom)
Fri 28th 11.00am Funeral of late Mary Patricia Lockley

Christmas out of the bag!

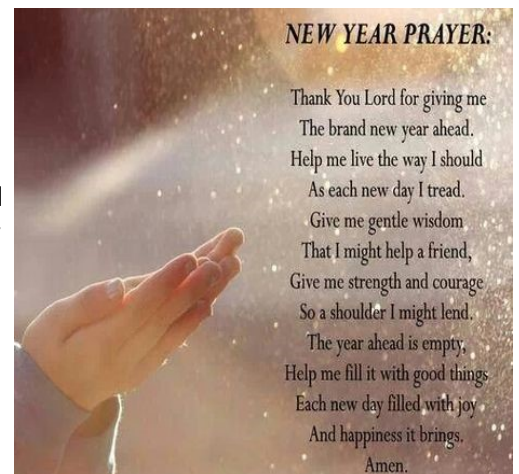


We hope you have enjoyed using the Advent-in-a-bag resource over recent weeks.

Hope, Love, Joy and Peace have been themes for prayer and they are of course always themes for the Christian life and part of what God wants for our human flourishing. Hope, Love, Joy and Peace that

the Christ-child brings. We wish you all God's blessings for Epiphanytide and for the New Year

Bob, Teresa,
Linda, Enid,
Steven, Jenny,
Derek and
Jeremy



NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty.
Help me fill it with good things.
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

♦ Team Rector: **Revd Bob Kenway** e-mail rakenway@gmail.com tel. 812 340/816 522 ♦ Team Vicar: **Revd Linda Carter** e-mail lscarter@btinternet.com Day off for both: Monday
♦ Team Vicar: **Revd Teresa Michaux** tel. 01249 817 841 or mobile 07963 399 645 LLMs: **Enid Powell** tel. 813 801. & **Steven Colby** tel 819097 Church Army: **Sr Jenny Colby** tel. 819 097