



09 January, 2022 – Epiphany 1 Baptism of Christ

Said Eucharists – Sunday 8.30am. and Tuesday 10.30am.

Gathered Round all-age interactive service – Sunday 10.00am.

Copies of Fr Peter's sermon for the 8.30am. Sunday service and the intercessions have been sent with these notices.

Collect

Alternative

Collect

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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.**

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Isaiah 43.1–7

8.30 am only

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up,' and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

For the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29: Response: May the Lord bless his people, bless his people with peace. 8.30am. only

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Response

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

Response

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox.

Response

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

Response

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare; in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'

Response

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Response

Luke 3.15–17, 21–22

8.30am. and 10.00am.

In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance. As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

RECYCLING CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Anglican church of St. Thomas a Becket in Hamburg has indicated that they would once again be pleased to receive cards for recycling, but as last year, we need to find a way of collecting these, which minimises any risk of infection, and unnecessary physical contact.

We will publish further details of when and how this will be done later in the month.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS IN CHURCH

In line with the latest regulations, it is now compulsory to wear a facemask in a place of worship, unless exempt. With the sharp increase in the number of people testing positive for coronavirus, including two members of the congregation after attending a service, for the time being, those planning to attend church services are being asked to take a lateral flow test before coming.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

The church is open for private prayer, from 10.00am. to 4.00pm. The Lady Chapel has been set aside as a quiet space, and the votive candle stand moved into there.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL – Today, Sunday, 09 January– after the 10.00am. service

The monthly Traidcraft stall, situated in the South Transept near the exit door, offers a selection of products available on the day. Special orders should be given to Sue Eames, or left in the Office, to ensure availability.

NAPPY DAYS – North Transept – Wednesday, 12 January– 1.30pm.-3.00pm.

A church-sponsored drop-in group for parents with new babies, offering a cuppa and a chat with other parents.

CRAFTY CUPPA – North Transept – Friday, 14 January – 10.30am. – 11.30am.

A monthly drop-in session for everyone, especially those on their own. If you engage in a craft such as knitting or embroidery, bring it with you and enjoy some company while you work. Fancy just a cuppa, or would you enjoy an opportunity to chat? Then come along. You will be very welcome.

"POP IN AND PAINT" - St. Michael's – Friday, 28 January – 10.30am. – 12.15pm.

Join Jenny Thompson and Liz Grammenos from Simpatico as classes restart. No experience needed - only enthusiasm and interest. All materials supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own paints. If you prefer just to come along for a chat and to watch the proceedings, that's fine too!

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB- Wheeler Room- Friday, 04 February- 2.00pm. – 4.00pm.

The Personal History of David Copperfield. This film brings to life One of Dickens most cherished characters. Incredibly funny. Stars Hugh Laurie. Running Time –115mins. All welcome. Refreshments served after the showing.

TRAIDCRAFT UPDATE FOR JANUARY from Margaret and Bill Dykes

MORE THAN FAIR TRADE Traidcraft aim to make capitalism fairer; they recognise the huge injustices in trade, the environment and society. They are not in business to make people rich and businesses richer -they want those throughout their supply chains to get the money they need, not just to live, but to thrive. Shopping with Traidcraft ensures that the interests of farmers, artisans and workers are just as important as other commercial considerations. It also represents a solution to poverty and a model for development. Supporting companies, who encourage and embrace equality, regardless of gender, religion, opportunity, background, heritage, experience or inheritance is a step towards a better world.

CLIMATE CHANGE Traidcraft make no secret of the fact that they are increasingly concerned and worried about the killer effects climate change is having on their partners. As a business, they promise that the environment's needs are at the heart of every decision made. From how the orders are packed for delivery, to the materials they use in the product packaging and the ingredients used within the product range, everything is carefully considered.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCH BREAK - Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 11 January- Midday to 2pm.

AFC's Lunch Break programme has restarted. Tea, coffee and soup are available throughout. The church is open for quiet reflection and offers a varied programme of music, worship, meditation and speakers between 1.10pm. and 1.30pm. **This week: Bite-sized Service**

COTHA UNITED SERVICE – St. John's Methodist Church - Sunday 23rd January – 10.30am.

A joint service led by the clergy of St. Michael's, St. John's and Amersham Free Church. There will be no 10.00am. service at St. Michael's.