

**THE PARISH OF WORTH, POUND HILL &
MAIDENBOWER***St Nicholas, Worth & St Barnabas, Pound Hill***Happy New Year 2014****Gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.****Sunday January 5th 2014
Epiphany**

*Welcome to our churches today.
If you have time afterwards, please
stay for refreshments.*

*At the Distribution of Communion all
are welcome to come to the altar rail
to receive a blessing or, if baptised,
the Communion.*

*Children are welcome at all our
services, and there are soft toys and
children's books at the back of the
church for their use.*

SERVICES TODAY**08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)**

at St Nicholas

*Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball***09.45 Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas***Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball***10.00 Eucharist at St Barnabas***Celebrant & Preacher: Rev'd Angela Martin***11.30 Nic's All-age service at St Nicholas***Presiding: Canon Anthony Ball***Next week's Readings**

Isaiah 42. 1 - 9

Psalm 29

Acts 10. 34 - 43

Matthew 3. 13 - 17

The Assistant Rector writes:-

Dear All,

It's that time when lots of us turn a page and start afresh. For some this means making new year resolutions as we resolve to do things differently. A resolution is often the culmination of some if not much thought and prayer, the result being our decision to change.

I was interested to hear the Queen say in her Christmas Day Broadcast that she thought we all needed to pause and take stock. "We all need to get the balance right between action and reflection. With so many distractions, it is easy to forget to pause and take stock." I wonder how many of us have made this one of our resolutions for the new year, to pause and take stock. It is so very easy to continue to rush through life without noticing the people or places that we are passing by in our hurry to arrive at our destination - wherever that may be.

In his new year speech Archbishop Welby suggested that we 'set our eyes on changing the world around us.' Again this is about taking note of everyone and everything around us, people and environment. I for one have added 'pause and reflect' to my list of resolutions along with all the do's (actions). I pray that we all find this balance of reflection and action and who knows we may even notice God revealing a hidden truth to us that we might have missed if we had been busy rushing by. Just as the Kings were changed after stopping and being in God's presence so will we be.

So stop and allow God to speak into your life and change the world around you for the better

Wishing You All a Very Happy New Year !

Ange xxx

READINGS for the day.

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.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60 1 – 6

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3. 1 - 12

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

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 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 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.

Psalms 72. 10 - 15



GOSPEL

Matthew 2. 1 – 12

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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.

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.**

SERVICES during next week

St Nicholas

Mon – Fri 07.30 Morning Prayer
Sat 08.30 Morning Prayer

St Barnabas

Mon – Sat 17.00 Evening Prayer

Tues 10.30 Eucharist – St Barnabas
11.00 Home Communion –
Lanehurst Gardens

Thurs 10.30 Eucharist – St Nicholas
Sat No Weddings

Services next Sunday

Baptism of Christ

First Sunday of Epiphany

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)
- St Nicholas
09.45 Sung Eucharist - St Nicholas
10.00 Eucharist - St Barnabas
12.00 Holy Baptism – St Nicholas

Did you know...our Christmas collections raised over £1400 – £350+ for each charity plus £200 for the Children's Society and many Christmas presents. A huge thank-you for your generosity and solidarity



Father, by the leading of a star you manifested your only begotten Son to the Gentiles; mercifully grant that we who know you by faith, may shine as your light to show others the path to you. Amen.

NOTICES

Friday lunches in the Pastoral Centre.

Please purchase tickets by January 7th for
January 10th

Two courses plus tea/coffee **£5.50.**

Thursday January 9th Julian Group

meets at **St Nicholas 2.30pm** in the Sacrament Chapel, everyone welcome.

Thursday January 9th St Nicholas

Circle meets at 8.00pm in the Pastoral Centre for an illustrated talk "Out & about in Austria", given by Bill & Helen Puttick; everyone welcome.

Saturday January 11th 10.00 - 11.30am

a Saturday Market in the Pastoral Centre. Donations of new and 'as new' items for sale welcome. Helpers also welcome. Do join us for refreshments and chat.

Monday January 13th St. Barnabas

Julian Group will meet at 11.00am. Please meet initially in the Narthex. Old and new friends very welcome

Tuesday January 21st there will be a meeting of Pastoral Centre volunteers - and would be volunteers at 9.30am in the Pastoral Centre ALL welcome.

Planned Givers – there is a letter for you to collect at the back of church (and 2014 envelopes for those in the Envelope Scheme).

Parish Plan – please give any comments or suggestions to a PCC member this week.

FYI --the Church Council meets on Jan16th. Do speak to a PCC member if there is anything you want to feed in.

Please place used postage stamps in the boxes provided at the Pastoral Centre and at the back of both churches, they help such charities as St. Catherine's Hospice & Blond McIndoe etc.

Remember we are starting a monthly **Bible Study Group** in the New Year. Contact Joan Tick (884695) or Stuart Sharpe (873073)

DIARY NOTES

Children's Society Savings Boxes – collection and counting of the money in these boxes held by our supporters in the parish will happen this week.

Saturday February 1st at 7:30pm

Dunottar Chamber Choir Concert will be held at St Nicholas. Tickets £5 includes refreshments.

Sunday February 2nd Choral Evensong

6.30pm at St Nicholas.

Saturday February 8th Quiz Night

7.30pm in the Hall, see poster for details. Tickets £5 each on sale from January 12th

Saturday February 15th Valentine's Tea

3.00-5.00pm in the Pastoral Centre Tickets £5.50 each on sale from January 19th.

.....
March 8th

Parish Away Day

at Rowfant House

10.00 -16.00

Our Speaker The Rev'd Andrew Mayes

Put the date in your diaries now, we will be asking for names soon.

CONTACTS

Rector

Canon Anthony Ball 01293 882229
rector@worthparish.org.uk

Assistant Rector

Rev'd Angela Martin 01293 404127
asst.rector@worthparish.org.uk

Churchwardens

Rosemary Cordan - 01342 842088
Phyl Pennell - 01293 883362
David Anderson - 01293 409914
Richard Turpie - 01293 886357

PARISH OFFICE

for enquiries about
weddings, baptisms, hall bookings, etc.

☎ 0300 111 8150

✉ office@worthparish.org.uk

Website: www.worthparish.org.uk



[facebook.com/WorthParish](https://www.facebook.com/WorthParish)