



YEAR OF PRAYER 2018

WORTH PARISH

Serving Crawley in Worth, Pound Hill, Maidenbower and Forge Wood



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Wise men
still seek
HIM

7 January 18
Epiphany



Welcome to our services at
St Nicholas' in Worth and St Barnabas'
in Pound Hill.

This sheet details the readings in today's
services as well as notices for everyone.
Please do take it home and share it.

There are soft toys and books available at
the back of the church for children.

At Communion, everyone is welcome to
come up and receive a blessing or, if
baptised, share the bread and wine. If you
are here for the first time, please introduce
yourselves. After the 10.00 service on
Sunday please join us for refreshments.

SERVICES TODAY

08.00 Holy Communion St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Gordon Parry

10.00 Eucharist St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Michael Boag

10.00 Eucharist St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Roger Combes

Please send pew sheet notices to
pewsheet@worthparish.org.uk or
phone 0300 111 8150

'A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For a journey, and such a journey:
The ways deep and the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.'

Thus TS Eliot begins his poem about the
journey of the Magi quoting from Lancelot
Andrewes' Christmas Day sermon of 1622,
preached at Whitehall in the presence of
King James I.

Not all journeys are so successful. There is
a story about the eminent Nobel
prizewinning physicist Sir Nevill Mott,
Master of Gonville and Caius College,
Cambridge and former Professor of Physics
at Bristol University. It seems he was once
on a train from London to Bristol when he
remembered three things: first, he was no
longer a Professor at Bristol, but was now
at Cambridge; second, he had gone to
London by car and not by train; and third,
he had been accompanied by his wife.

As we enter a new year, it is a good time
to check we are on the right course and
have the right destination in mind. The Magi
set out not knowing exactly where their
destination was, but trusting they would
find it; whereas Sir Nevill, if the story is
true, thought he knew exactly where he
was heading, only to find it was just the
opposite.

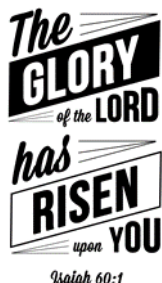
Presumably, Sir Nevill discovered his
mistake, took the next train back to
London, to his wife and his car. The Magi
on entering the house, saw the child and
were overwhelmed with joy. May that
realisation of joy be our Epiphany prayer
today.

Michael

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

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.

Psalms 72

"All kings will
bow down to him."



Second Reading

Ephesians 3.1-12

This is the reason that 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.

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." '

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

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 THIS WEEK

Tues 9 January	10.30 Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thurs 11 January	10.30 Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sunday 14 January	08.00 Holy Communion	St Nicholas'
	10.00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
	10.00 Eucharist	St Barnabas'

Readings for Sun 14 January

Isaiah 61.10 - 62.3

Psalm 148*

Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 2.15-21

We remember today those whose Anniversary of death occurs this week. Vera Sandwell. Audrey Hollingdale. John Fortune. Roy Butcher. Penny Pike. Harry Partridge. Beatrice Perkins. Clare Renwick. Odette Clay & Ewart Catchpole. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Death takes the body. God takes the soul. Our mind holds the memories. Our heart keeps the love. Our faith lets us know we will meet again.

DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

Friday Lunch in the Pastoral Centre, 2 courses and tea/coffee for £6.50. All welcome. To help with catering, please order tickets by 10th for 12th Jan at the Pastoral Centre or by calling 0300 111 8150

Tues 9 Jan 2018 at 18.00 We are having a **meeting of the new Magazine Team** at The Rectory. All contributions welcomed!

Mon 8th 11.00 (St B)

Thurs 11th January 14.30 (St N)

The Julian Groups meet. Why not start the New Year with some relaxation and complete thought? Everyone welcome.

There will be a meeting for Pastoral Centre volunteers (and would be volunteers) on **Tuesday 16 January** at 9.30am in the Pastoral Centre

Used postage stamps are collected at the Pastoral Centre and passed to St. Catherine's Hospice. Thank you.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Home Groups spring into fortnightly action again!

Milton Mount will begin looking at St Luke's Gospel **7.30pm Tues 9th Jan**
Leaders: Stuart Sharpe & Linda Eells

Sedgefield Close will be considering their 2018 campaign! **7.30pm Tues 9th**

January Leader: Joan Tick

St Barnabas (Day-time) will be working through a study course "The Coming of the Saviour" **11.00 am Thurs 11th Jan**

Leader: Caroline Formby

Grattons Drive evening meetings date tba
Leader: Ann Phillipson

If you would like to join or find out more, please contact the group leaders or ring the office on 0300 111 8150

Join us at Messy Church!

Just turn up for crafts, refreshments, activities, a song and a story at our:



- Wed 10 January 2018 at Maidenbower Infants School, 15.15-16.30
- Wed 24 January 2018 St Barnabas Hall, 15.00-16.45 including a light tea

TIME AND TALENT Our churches need volunteers to clean, garden, ring bells, sing in the choir, arrange flowers, become servers, serve in the Pastoral Centre and various other roles. Please consider donating an hour or more to help keep our churches running smoothly. You could become part of a group or offer your time to suit you! **Please contact the Rector or the Office to find out how YOU could help!**

CONTACTS

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