



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

WORTH PARISH

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

**5 January
2020**

The Epiphany



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

This sheet details the readings in today's services as well as notices for everyone.

Please do take it home and share it.

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.

There are soft toys and books available for children. Note that we do not normally sing the starred (*) verses in hymns.

SERVICES TODAY

08:00 Holy Communion St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Michael Boag

10:00 Child Friendly Sung Eucharist St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Michael Boag

10:00 Eucharist & Sunday School St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Gordon Parry

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

The first words spoken in Matthew's Gospel, other than by the angel to Joseph in chapter one, come as a question, asked by visitors from foreign lands: 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?' Matthew is emphasising his point that Jesus has come for everyone, not just the nation he was born into. Moreover, these visitors find him through unexpected ways, not through the existing community of faith, or its sacred texts but from completely outside both. They are scholar-scientists, possibly Zoroastrian priests and astronomers, seeking truth, which is in itself a reminder to us that the Church exists not to shut out the world but to welcome it in. This story of mysterious, unexpected visitors, also teaches us that the limits of God's actions and activity are beyond any limitations we might make.

Matthew reminds us that the things which happened surrounding the birth of Jesus fulfil scripture, that none are random but foretold long ago by the prophets. Matthew makes the point that God's providential care nudges these events to their intended end. He also gives an early hint of the hostility that will be shown toward Jesus by the authorities of his own people, the powerful insiders, whereas the opposite response will come from the outsiders and those shut out from the centre of things.

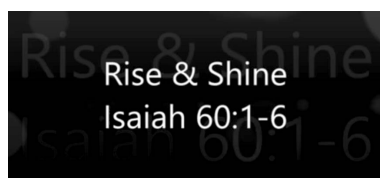
In this feast of The Epiphany God invites us, if on the inside, to look out, and if on the outside to come in...

Fr 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**

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.

Psalm *Psalms 72.10-15*

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts. May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper. He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be given to him. May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all day long.

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.



one
body
many
parts
Fellow Members
of the Body
(COMMUNITY)

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

Festivals this week	
Fri 10 Jan	William Laud, Archbishop 1645 (C)
Sat 11 Jan	Mary Slessor, Missionary 1915 (C)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 7 Jan	10:30 Eucharist and refreshments after	St Barnabas'
Thur 9 Jan	10:30 Eucharist and refreshments after	St Nicholas'
Sat 11 Jan	12:00 Baptism	St Barnabas'
Sun 12 Jan	08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)	St Nicholas'
	10:00 Eucharist	St Barnabas'
	10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
	11:45 Baptism	St Nicholas'

Sunday 12 January 2020 The Baptism of Christ

Isaiah 42.1-9 Psalm 29
 Acts 10.34-43 Matthew 3.13-17

We regret to announce the death of
Tony Smith.

The funeral will be at the Crematorium in St Richard's Chapel on Tues 7 Jan at 12:00.

Thanks to those from both churches who sang carols at The Coaching Halt on 19 Dec. £84.11 was raised for Open House.

Our Christmas Charities are Home-Start Crawley, Horsham & Mid-Sussex and Tariro: Hope for Youth in Zimbabwe, and our Parish.

For those who have **collection boxes for The Children's Society**, Ann Lane, who took over from Malcolm Booker, will be collecting them in the New Year. Please expect a telephone call! Thank you.

January Messy Church

Please join us for the story, crafts, songs and prayers, followed by a light tea. Each month we are now offering a choice of weekend or weekday, the next Messy Church will be on: **Sat 11 Jan 15.30**, and then on **Wed 15 Jan 15:15**, in the Hall at St Barnabas'. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and enjoy!



DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

The Pastoral Centre Café is now open again after the Christmas holidays.

Mon 12:00-17:00 JayDee's Café
at the Pastoral Centre.

Toddlers Group Tues 7 Jan and Thur 9 Jan 9:15-11:00 St Barnabas' Hall.

Wed 8 Jan 14:30 Parish Tea offered in the Pastoral Centre – good company – great food. Everybody welcome.

Thur 9 Jan 14:00 Knit & Natter
in the Pastoral Centre.

Thur 9 Jan 14:30 Julian Group
at St Nicholas' for half an hour of silent prayer. Please join us if you can.

Friday Lunch 10 Jan 12:30 in the Pastoral Centre; two courses and tea/coffee for £6.50. All welcome. To help with catering, please order tickets by **8 Jan** at the Pastoral Centre or by calling 0300 111 8150.

The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas'
Fri 10 Jan 19:00-20:30 Years 7-11.
Entry free. Weekly during term time.

Sat 11 Jan Saturday Market 10:00-11:45
at St Barnabas' Pastoral Centre. All welcome.

Mon 13 Jan 11:00 Julian Group
at St Barnabas' for half an hour of silent prayer. Old and new friends welcome.



Wed 22 Jan 14:00-16:00 'Scrabble and Cake' A relaxing afternoon in the Pastoral Centre in aid of St Barnabas' refurbishment. Come and play Scrabble or dominoes or do a jigsaw puzzle. Tickets £3.50 from the Pastoral Centre or just turn up. All welcome.

Thur 23 Jan 18:30 Mothers Union Branch Meeting at the Pastoral Centre.

Sat 8 Feb Jumble Sale at St Barnabas'. Please save us your jumble but do not bring it to us yet. Further details to follow.

CONTACTS

The Rector

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