



**9 January  
2022**

## The Epiphany



Welcome to  
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.

### SERVICES TODAY

**Our churches are now open -**  
(With Covid precautions – see *page 4*)

Certain services will still be available  
online (live or recorded)

08:00 Said Eucharist (BCP)	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Gordon Parry
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Gordon Parry
10:00 Sung Eucharist *	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Fr Michael Boag
11:45 Baptism	St Nicholas'
15:00 Baptism	St Nicholas'

\* You are invited to wear a crown (a Christmas cracker one is perfect!), when we celebrate the Feast of The Epiphany on Sunday 9 January.



Please send pew sheet notices to  
[pewsheet@worthparish.org](mailto:pewsheet@worthparish.org) or phone  
0300 111 8150

The background to the Epiphany could be found on the pages of any of today's newspapers. There is Herod the Great, characterised by the paranoia that afflicts all dictators. Anyone suspected of plotting against him was executed – including his own wife. On his death bed, knowing how unpopular he had become, he ordered the slaughter of Jericho's leading citizens so that there might be tears at his funeral. Imagine how he must have felt on hearing the news of Christ's birth from the Wise Men. The question "Where is the child who has been born King of the Jews?" must have been the ultimate threat.

When he knew that Jesus was in Bethlehem and when the Wise Men failed to return, he had every baby killed in order to eliminate that threat. Jesus and his family became refugees, first in Egypt and then in Galilee, well to the north of the territory of Judea, ruled by the successors of Herod the Great.

So we have uneasy dictatorship, genocide and the plight of the refugee bound up in this Epiphany event. Even at his birth, Jesus was pitched into the cauldron of jealousy, aggression, cruelty and insecurity that persists to this day as the hallmark of our troubled stewardship of this planet. We must remember that Jesus will always be found in the places of disjunction, disharmony and tragedy that feature in humanity's imperfect living on the earth. From his birth Jesus has been where the suffering is. That is the supreme comfort as it must have been to Desmond Tutu or Christians persecuted in Myanmar – any who bear witness to Christ through the midst of turmoil, persecution, destruction and distress.

*Gordon*

## Collect

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

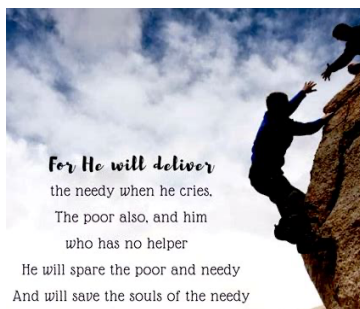
## Psalm *Psalm 72.10-15*

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



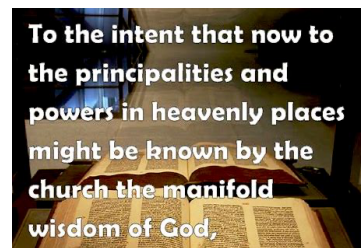
continually, and blessings invoked for him all day long.

## 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.

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**

### St Barnabas' Julian Group

**Mon 10 January at 14:00** in St Barnabas'. Old and new friends very welcome.

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 11 Jan	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 13 Jan	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 16 Jan	8:00 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist 11:45 Baptism	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas' St Nicholas'

### Sunday 16 January 2022 Epiphany 2

Isaiah 62.1-5 Psalm 36.5-10  
1 Corinthians 12.1-11 John 2.1-11

## Festivals this week

Mon 10 Jan	William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury 1645 (C)
Tues 11 Jan	Mary Slessor, Missionary in West Africa 1915 (C)
Wed 12 Jan	Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx 1167 (LF) Benedict Biscop, Abbot of Wearmouth, Scholar 689 (C)
Thur 13 Jan	Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher 367 (LF) Kentigern (Mungo), Missionary Bishop in Strathclyde and Cumbria 603 (C) George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers) 1691 (C)

(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration

## DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

### Pastoral Centre Café

The Café is open for Coffee and Cake on Wed and Sat from 10:00.

### Toddlers Group

The Toddlers Group meets on **Tuesdays 13:00-15:00** and **Thursdays 9:00-11:00** during term time in St Barnabas' Hall.

## Covid Precautions in Church

Government restrictions have now been extended and we are continuing to be careful and cautious in both our churches:

- You are required to wear masks (if not exempt) and use hand sanitizer when entering, moving about inside and during the service.
- Guidance is awaited on congregational singing.

## St Nicholas' Julian Group

The St Nicholas' Julian Group will NOT meet in person in January due to the current Covid climate and unavailability of some of the group. Prompts and prayers to aid our silent meditation at home, however, will be sent to all who wish it. Please let the Parish Office know if you would like to be sent a copy.

## Friday Lunches

Lunch in the Pastoral Centre at 12:30 on **14 Jan**. Two courses and a drink £6.50. To help with catering please book your place at the Pastoral Centre (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by Wed **12 Jan**. All welcome.

## The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' continues on **Fridays 19:00-20:30** Years 7-11. Entry free. Weekly **during term time**.

## Donations for Open House & Refugees

Donations of soap, deodorant, shampoo, coffee, sugar, biscuits, long life milk, tinned meat, tinned veg and fruit, **new** socks and underwear, **still in the packaging**, woollen hats, scarves & gloves etc., can be left in the boxes provided at the back of each church.

The Parish has donated lots of items to the 50+ refugee families staying at a local hotel. Thanks to everyone who gave books, toys, clothing, etc. We are still collecting and items most needed now include board games, craft items and books suitable for youngsters aged 7-15 years. Adults in the families are in need of T shirts, trousers and track suit bottoms. Items do not need to be new but should be in very good condition. If possible please let us have your donations in the next couple of weeks. Thank you

## Messy Church

Please join us for the story, crafts, songs and prayers, followed by a light tea. The January Messy Church will be on:



**Sat 15 Jan 15:30-17:00** and **Wed 19 Jan 15:15-16:45** both in the Hall at St Barnabas'.

Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and enjoy!

**Numbers may not justify this event.**

Please check your emails and **notify the Office if you wish to attend – or to check that Messy Church will be held this month.**

## Recycling

We continue to recycle **milk bottle tops**. Containers are now available in the Narthex, the Pastoral Centre and on Sue's doorstep. Please deliver **by the end of January**. We also collect used postage **stamps** (for the Hospice) and used **printer cartridges** (for McIndoe); please deliver to the Pastoral Centre. Thank you!

## CONTACTS

### The Rector

Fr Michael Boag 01293 882229  
rector@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

### Vicar at St Barnabas'

Revd Sarah Upchurch 01293 524804  
vicarstb@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

### Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398  
gordonmwparry@btinternet.com

### Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608  
francis.pole@virgin.net

### Assistant Curate

Revd Greta, the Curate (Thurs & Sun)  
curate@worthparish.org

### Churchwardens

David Anderson (St B) 01293 409914  
stbwarden@worthparish.org  
Rose Wells (St N) 01293 884250  
stnwarden@worthparish.org  
Colin Smith (St N) 01293 889894

### Worth Parish Office

Sue Perry 0300 111 8150  
office@worthparish.org