



**7 January
2024**

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

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

08:15 Said Eucharist (BCP) St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Gordon Parry

10:00 Sung Eucharist St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Sarah Upchurch

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

- *Crowns will be worn*

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to donate to Worth
Parish. Scan this code
with a smartphone to
take you straight to a
giving page.



Payments to the Parish

If you possibly can, please transfer the money
by electronic payment to: Worth PCC, sort
code 40-18-22, account 61223372.
If you need help, call the Office.

When you hear the word 'epiphany',
do you think of it as an awakening, or
do you immediately think of the
Christmas Carol, 'We Three Kings of
Orient are'? Or perhaps you think of
the gifts of Gold, Frankincense and
Myrrh.

The word epiphany is a Greek word
and it means 'manifestation'. It literally
means to 'draw back the veil'.

Whenever you hear of an epiphany in
the Bible, it tells you that God is
drawing back the veil of a great
mystery, enabling us to understand
much more about who God is.

So what did these Kings, these Magi
see? What was revealed to them? They
saw the Christ Child with Mary his
mother, and when they saw, they fell
on their knees and worshipped this
little baby. They recognised his Kingship
even though the babe wasn't born into
a palace. As they worshipped, they
offered their gifts. Gold was a symbol
of kingship. Frankincense was a symbol
of the presence of God Himself, seen in
the perfumed smoke of prayer rising to
heaven and Myrrh was the perfumed oil
which would be used at burial.

The kings grasped the significance of
the child who lay before them. They
had followed the star across continents.
We too follow the star and when we
come each year to the crib scene, we
are reassured that we will carry Jesus
with us on our life's journey.

So let us treasure the joy of this special
day.

Rev'd Canon Penny

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.

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 Jan	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 11 Jan	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 14 Jan	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'

Sunday 14 January 2024 Epiphany 2

I Samuel 3.1-10 Revelation 5.1-10
John 1.43-51

DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

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

Meetings resume on 9 January

Festivals this week

Mon 8 Jan	The Baptism of Christ (F)
Wed 10 Jan	William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury 1645 (C)
Thur 11 Jan	Mary Slessor, Missionary in West Africa 1915 (C)
Fri 12 Jan	Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx 1167 (LF) Benedict Biscop, Abbott of Wearmouth, Scholar 689 (C)
Sat 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	

St Barnabas' Julian Group

meets on **Mon 8 Jan at 14:00** in St Barnabas'. Old and new friends very welcome.

St Nicholas' Julian Group

Meets on **Wed 10 Jan at 12:00 noon (Note revised time)** for half an hour of silent prayer. Please feel free to join us - everyone welcome!

St Nicholas' Circle

The Circle meets on **Wed 10 Jan at 19:30 for 20:00** in the Café, when there will be wine and cheese and, maybe, some left-over mince pies.



13 AND 17 JANUARY EPIPHANY

Turn a Christmas card into a gift box

21 AND 24 FEBRUARY HOW TO PRAY

Does holding something help?

16 AND 20 MARCH SYMBOLS OF EASTER

Cross Crafts and Eggs

10 APRIL EASTER CELEBRATION



Wednesdays and Saturdays

Pizza and Ice Lollies

15.00 - 16.30

ST BARNABAS' WORTH ROAD POUND HILL RH10 7DY
worthparish.org

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **12 Jan** in The Café at 12:30. Two courses and a drink £7.00. To help with catering please book your place at the Café (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by **Wed 10 Jan**. Profits for Parish funds. The lunches are not exclusively for the elderly, why not bring a friend and give us a try. All welcome!

The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' on
Fri 12 Jan 19:00-20:30
For Year Groups 7-11. Entry free.
Weekly during term time.

Come and see, a song and a prayer, followed by pizza and lollies.

In January Messy Church

will be a on **Sat 13 Jan 15:00-16:30**

(note new time) and on **Wed 17 Jan**

15:00-16:30 at St Barnabas'. Everyone

welcome - mums, dads, grandparents,

carers - come and have fun



Funeral of Helen Maher

will be held at St Barnabas'
on Tues 16 Jan at 12:00

CONTACTS

The Rector

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Assistant Priest

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Associate Vicar

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THESE SO-CALLED 'WISEMEN'
BRING DUMB GIFTS TO
A BABY - WHAT IS
MYRRH ANYWAY?



IT'S AN EMBALMING
SPICE. ALL THE
GIFTS OF THE MAGI
ARE SYMBOLIC OF
JESUS' MISSION.



EMBALMING
SPICE!
WHAT'S A
BABY GOING
TO USE THAT
FOR?



OH - FOR
ABOUT
THREE
DAYS.



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MATTHEW 2: 1-12

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