

## This week at St John's cont'd

Mon	9-10am	Contemplative Prayer in the Centre
	9.45-11.30am	Baby & Toddler Gp in the Centre
	5-6pm	Gospel Choir in the Centre
Tues	7.30pm	Bell Ringing practice
Wed	10.30am	Holy Communion in the Centre
		Wed Coffee Club
Fri	6.30pm	Choir Practice

## Next Sunday - 13th January - The Baptism of Christ

8.00am	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i>
10.00am	Service of Holy Communion <i>CW</i>
6.30pm	Evening Prayer

## NOTICES

**MERROW COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR** returns tomorrow Mon 7th Jan. The choir meets every Mon, 5-6pm in Merrow Hall, St John's Centre. Come and join us! Cost £5/person/session, £7 for two family members, £3 for students.

**THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY CHRISTINGLE CANDLE BOXES** - so far we have raised £134. If you have any boxes at home please can you bring them in to the Parish Office asap. Many thanks.

**THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY HOUSE BOXES** - can you please bring these into the Parish Office asap for Judith Sampson.

**SHAPE COURSE** starting on Sat 26th January, 10-12 noon in the Centre, fortnightly, for six sessions. Please see pg 10 of January's Parish Mag for more information.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** - is now the time to explore what you believe, and possibly prepare for Confirmation? Please speak to Rona who will be running classes from Fri 18th Jan, 6-7.30pm, fortnightly in the Centre Quiet Room, for six sessions. More information to follow in January.

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND IN SEPT 2019** - there will be a life changing opportunity to visit the Holy Land in September with this parish. The trip has been tailor made by Rev Rona, and she would be delighted for a large St John's Group to enjoy this spiritually enriching journey. Please speak to Rona or email [revrona@gmail.com](mailto:revrona@gmail.com). A DVD about the trip can be borrowed from Rona.

**DEDICATION OF NEW HYMN BOOKS** - we have now sourced bookplates for our new hymn books. If you would like to dedicate a hymn book to a particular person, please let Helen C know. We would suggest a donation of £12.50 or £20 for a large print copy. Thank you.

**ROBIN HOOD** - Merrow Dramatic Society are presenting this traditional Pantomime from the 24-26 January in Merrow Village Hall, at 7.30pm each evening plus a 2.30pm matinee on the Sat. Tickets £12/adult (£8 on the Thursday), £8/child. Book by telephone 07586 801163 or online at [www.merrowdramatic.org.uk](http://www.merrowdramatic.org.uk)



# St John the Evangelist Merrow 6th January 2019 THE EPIPHANY Today's Services



## **8.00am Holy Communion *BCP***

*President & Preacher: Rona Stuart-Bourne*

## **10.00am All Age Communion Service**

*President: Diana Matthews*

*Preacher: Rona Stuart-Bourne*

### **HYMNS:**

**94 As with gladness men of old**

**96 Brightest and best**

**105 We three kings of Orient are**

**82 See him lying on a bed of straw**

## **6.30pm Evening Prayer**

*Officiant: Rona Stuart-Bourne*

Rector: Revd Rona Stuart-Bourne ☎ 572207 [revrona@gmail.com](mailto:revrona@gmail.com)

**Day off Thursday**

Curate: Revd Dermot Verschoyle ☎ 533449

**Day off Friday**

Parish Office: ☎ 454621 [stjohns.merrow@btconnect.com](mailto:stjohns.merrow@btconnect.com)

Churchwardens: Helen Chambers 846574

Barry Dickinson 07917 598742

## TODAY'S COLLECT & READINGS

### 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.

### 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.

### Second Reading Ephesians 3.1-12

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.

### 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 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.

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### PRAYERS:

**ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:** Pray for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

The Most Revd Philip Richardson - Bishop of Taranaki and Primate

The Most Revd Don Tamihere - Pihopa o Aotearora and Primate

The Most Revd Fereimi Cama - Bishop of Polynesia and Primate

**DIocese CALENDAR OF PRAYER:** Pray for our diocesan overseas links: the Church of Nigeria (Primate: The Most Revd Nicholas Okoh), the Diocese of Viborg, Denmark (Bishop: The Rt Revd Henrik Stubkjaer) and the Diocese of Sialkot, Pakistan (Bishop: The Rt Revd Alwin Samuel)

**IN AND AROUND THE PARISH AND DEANERY:** Pray for those who live and work in Epsom Road South

**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:** Linda & Paul Ratnieks Penny Evans  
John Higgins Joan Ashbee Elizabeth Jordon Barbara White Yvonne Tarrant  
Winifred Twidell Brenda Mansey Sarah Donoghue Clifford King  
David & Jenny Welbourn

### **FOR THE DEPARTED AND THOSE WHO MOURN:**

Margaret Heale Alan Purser Peter Rothwell Jean Little

Margaret Heale's Funeral Service will take place at Guildford Crem tomorrow, Monday 7th January, at 2.15pm

Alan Purser's Funeral Service will take place at St John's Church on Friday 11th January at 2pm, followed by refreshments in St John's Centre.

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### This week at St John's

**Morning Prayer** - Mon 8am, Tues 8.30am, Wed 8.30am, Sat 8.30am

**Evening Prayer** - Mon 4pm, Tues 5pm, Fri 5pm, Sat 5pm

On the other days Rev Rona will be saying Morning and Evening Prayer at home  
Cont'd/ PTO