

NOTICES

Sunday 28th December

10.30 Yatesbury: Benefice Communion.

Monday 29 th December	2.00pm Yatesbury: Funeral of Roger Watts
Sunday 4 th January	10.30 Compton Bassett: Benefice Communion

Contact details

Administrator: Emma Marsh 07821 836233

oldburybenefice@gmail.com

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays, 9 am to 12 noon

Benefice Office: 8 Court Farm Stables, Heddington, SN11 0PN

Rector: Rev Matthew Earwicker, 01249 821329 mattearwicker@gmail.com

(Day off - Friday)

You will find contact details for the churchwardens in the Villages magazine.

If you need help with safeguarding issues, please contact the Safeguarding Officer on 07864 000906

28th December
First Sunday of Christmas
Hebrews 2.10-18
Matthew 2.13-23



Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Welcome

We hope you feel welcome at our church and find it a place where you can meet with God. If you are unsure about anything, please ask the person who gave you this sheet.

We love children and we understand they will make some noise; don't worry about it! However, if you feel your youngest ones would benefit from playing quietly in a corner, do ask the people who welcomed you and they can point you in a suitable direction. We may even have the odd book or toy for them to play with.

A **loop system** may be provided in this church. Please ask or check by switching your hearing aid to the "T" position.

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU

Next week:

Epiphany

Ephesians 3.1-12
Matthew 2.1-12

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 2.10-18

In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. He says,

‘I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the assembly I will sing your praises.’

And again,

‘I will put my trust in him.’

And again he says,

‘Here am I, and the children God has given me.’

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2.13-23

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. ‘Get up,’ he said, ‘take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.’

So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: ‘Out of Egypt I called my son.’

When Herod realised that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were

two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

‘A voice is heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,
because they are no more.’

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.’

So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Little Fishes

Little Fishes resumes after the Christmas Holiday on 6th January 2026 @ 9.15 at Benson Hall Compton Bassett.

Heddington Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on Monday 5th January at 10am.

Home Group

Home Group will return at 1.30pm on 14th January and then 28th January