

NOTICES

Sunday 7th January

10.30 Cherhill: Benefice Communion

Monday 8 th January	10.00 Heddington Coffee Morning 7.15 Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 9 th January	9.15 Little Fishes
Wednesday 10 th January	1.30pm Home Group at the Rectory
Thursday 11 th January	10.00 Benefice Council Meeting
Sunday 14 th January	9.45 Calstone: Holy Communion 6.00pm Cherhill: Informal Evening Worship 10.00 Compton Bassett: Morning Worship 11.15 Heddington: Holy Communion

Upcoming PCC Meetings

Compton Bassett – 15th January 2024, 10.30am
Calstone – 16th January 2024, 6.00pm
Cherhill – 25th January 2024, 1.30pm
Heddington – 31st January 2024, 10.00am
Yatesbury – 19th February 2024, 5.00pm

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

7th January
Epiphany
Ephesians 3.1-12
Matthew 2.1-12



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.

**Next week:
Epiphany 2**

**1 Samuel 3.1-10
John 1.43-51**

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.

Receiving the bread and wine

We have been asked by the Department of Health and the House of Bishops to discourage the dipping of wafers into the chalice as it is considered to increase the risk to others' health. If for any reason you do not wish to drink from the chalice, could I therefore ask you to simply let it pass you by. The Church of England has always taught that it is sufficient to receive just the bread. If you have any questions about this, please speak to me after the service or during the week.

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 3.1-12

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles –

Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2.1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.’

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ‘In Bethlehem in Judea,’ they replied, ‘for this is what the prophet has written:

“‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, ‘Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.’

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Heddington Coffee Morning

Come along for tea, coffee, cake, and a chat. All welcome
Mondays from 10.00-11.30 @ St. Andrews Church.
Restarts on 8th January 2024.

THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP is continuing to meet at The Rectory,
7.15pm on Thursday, every fortnight. The next meeting is on 18th January.
We are looking at the book of James and the other final letters of the New
Testament.
All welcome!

Home Group at the Rectory
will restart on Wednesday 10th January at 1.30pm

Little Fishes runs most Tuesdays during term time from 9.15am at Compton
Bassett Village Hall.
Restarting 9th January 2024.