

**Sunday 5th January**

**Epiphany**

8am: Holy Communion at St. John's

**10am: Service of Holy Communion**

**President & Preacher:** Rev Jo Jones

**Crucifer** Dave Thomas

**Server** David Millward

**Chalice** Dave Thomas, Hilary Selwood

**Readings**

**Isaiah 60:1-6** Jane Chambers

**Ephesians 3:1-12** Dave Chambers

**Matthew 2:1-12**

**Intercessions** Dave Thomas

**Sidesmen** Helen Field, Janette Tadman

**Sound** Richard Field

**Coffee** Jane & Dave Chambers

**Counters** Dave Thomas, Janette Tadman

**Duty Churchwarden** Richard Field

**Something new for 2020!**

St John's and St Luke's are running a joint Alpha Course on Monday evenings at 7.30pm, starting on 20 January. The Alpha Course is good for those exploring faith, newcomers to church, new Christians, as well as those wanting to brush up on the basics. It's totally free and you're not tied into anything. The course will run for ten weeks, each session begins with dinner together and is followed by a talk and then small group discussion time, and is being held at St John's Church, Moulsham Street. For more info, or to book, talk to Revd Gemma, one of the Churchwardens or message us on Facebook.

**Church Rotas**

It's rota time again!

If you would like to join one of the rotas for services between February and May or are a regular rota-ite and know dates that you're not available, please let Janette know by 12th January (either in writing or by email). There is always room for more volunteers on all rotas but there is a definite need for more servers (or assistant servers to begin with). Please speak to a churchwarden or myself if you would like more information.

Janette

**Sunday 19th January is  
our Christingle Service  
at 10am**

All donations going to the  
Children's Society



**Contacts**

**Vicar** Revd Gemma Fraser 07540 152561

**Churchwardens**

Richard Field Lucy Bubb  
07776 208546 07970 728673

**Deputy Churchwardens**

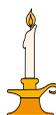
Mike Tadman Sue Davies  
07740 625454 07708 296804

**PCC Messages**

The PCC met on 18th December and agreed the budget for 2020, which is a deficit budget of £7,368. The PCC recognised that the coming year is important as we cannot continue to plan for a deficit, and there will be further discussion about this at the next meeting.

**Living Light**

The Aumbry Light for December has been sponsored in memory of Joyce Stockwell



**Newsletter Content**

If you have any items for the Newsletter (including requests for prayer) please contact Janette Tadman 01245 469124

**Email** janettetadman@gmail.com

**Deadline** Wednesday evening

**WELCOME to St. Luke's Church.**

**Please stay for refreshments and fellowship in the hall after the service.**

There will be a collection during the third hymn. If you are a taxpayer, please use a Gift Aid envelope, available from the Sidesmen. If you give by Standing Order or are unable to give today, please pass the basket on.

**Sunday 29th December**

**First Sunday of Christmas**

8am: Holy Communion at St. John's

**10am: Service of Holy Communion  
MMU Joint Service**

**President & Preacher:** Rev Gemma Fraser

**Crucifer** Richard Field

**Server** Janette Tadman

**Chalice** Christine Yallop, Richard Field

**Readings**

**Isaiah 63:7-9** Linda Percival

**Hebrews 2:10-end** Helen Field

**Matthew 2:13-end**

**Intercessions** Stephen Hogben

**Sidesmen** Maxine Buck, Hilary Few

**Sound** Helen Field

**Coffee** Mary Marshall, Maxine Buck

**Counters** Richard Field, Mike Tadman

**Duty Churchwarden** Sue Davies

**Collect**

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.

**Amen**

**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.

**Amen**

**TO OUR VISITORS** Welcome to our service. The **hymn numbers** are displayed on the boards, and will also be announced. When we come to receive Holy Communion, please see the notes in our **Order of Service**, which are provided for your guidance. We like to mark **birthdays** by singing "Happy Birthday to you: to Jesus be true. May God's richest blessing rest today upon you." If it is your birthday this week, please tell one of the ministers.

**The ministry of Prayer with Laying-on-of-Hands for Healing** is available every Sunday. If you would like this for yourself or another, please speak to one of the Ministers or Churchwardens.

## Readings

### Isaiah 63:7-9

<sup>7</sup> I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

<sup>8</sup> For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour <sup>9</sup> in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

### Hebrews 2:10-end

<sup>10</sup> It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup> For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.' <sup>13</sup> And again, 'I will put my trust in him.' And again, 'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.'

<sup>14</sup> Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

### Matthew 2:13-end

<sup>13</sup> Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

<sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup> 'A voice was heard in Ramah,

wailing and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

<sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup> 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' <sup>21</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup> There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

## Please Pray This Week

For Brian, Joan, Bob, Margaret, June, Tammy, Emma, Basil, Greta, Carmen, Revd John S, Melvyn, Nicky and Alina, Sally and Peter, Mary U and Margaret L.

For those named on the prayer board

This week we remember:

Alex Bliss (30.12.1996)

Glenda Collins (30.12.2011)

Revd Henry Hughes (02.01.2001)

## Volunteer(s) Needed

We still need another volunteer (or two) for the Saturday Coffee rota. This would involve being 'on duty' from 10am - 12pm (serving tea/coffee from 11am) one Saturday in five. There are always plenty of helpers on hand so it's not an onerous task. If you think you could help, please speak to Brenda Hudson.

## The New Archbishop of York

It was announced this week that the Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Chelmsford is to be the new Archbishop of York - Chelmsford's loss is the Church of England's gain!

## Huge Thanks

A huge thanks to everyone who helped in person, and with prayers, for our first ever Christmas Tree Festival. We had 25 Christmas trees and c.200 adults and children who came to see them - it was such a success that the PCC has decided to host another one in 2020!

## Christmas Giving

For those that have not heard, a rough sleeper was found dead in St John's churchyard on 5th December. It had been a very cold night and it is thought that may have contributed to his death. Please remember him in your prayers but also consider the impact our advent giving could have in supporting the work of CRISIS, the national homeless charity.

Over the festive period, we will be supporting the following charities:

- CRISIS at Christmas, throughout Advent
- Little Havens Children's Hospice, Crib Service
- The Children's Society, Christingle Service.

Please look out for Gift Aid envelopes so that, if you are a tax payer, the charities can claim an extra 25% on top of your donation.

## This Week

The church is open daily for prayer

**Revd Gemma is on annual leave until 10th January**

**Monday 30 December**

*Pray for BBC Essex*

**Tuesday 31 December**

*Pray for Heath Drive*

**Wednesday 1 January**

*Pray for the United Reformed Church*

Edward Bear is still on holiday but will be back next week at 1.15pm

**Thursday 2 January**

*Pray for Peace in Syria and The Middle East*

**Friday 3 January**

*Pray for Servers at the Eucharist*

**Saturday 4 January**

*Pray for St Anthony's Drive*

11am: Saturday Coffee

## Saturday Coffee

4th January

*On duty: Dawn Thomas*

**Join us for coffee and fellowship**

