

# Newsletter – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020



St. Mary the Virgin, Hartfield  
Holy Trinity, Colemans Hatch

## Happy New Year!

**Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, Rejoice. Phil 4.4**

Dear Friends,

Trevor and I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.



It has felt very strange knowing the Advent and Christmas Services were happening all around us. Nearly every day, someone sent me a message or a photo to let me know how things were going. The churches looked splendid with trees and flowers and cribs and more important, lots of people. It was so good to hear of new people visiting us and receiving a warm welcome.

We would like to thank you for your prayers and cards and meals and love.

I will be back in church on the 12<sup>th</sup> January and am really looking forward to seeing you all. The New Year stretches out before us with all its joys and challenges. It is good to know we do this in God's strength, working together as individuals and as a United Benefice of people serving the Lord. *Cont.*

In our worship today let us remember that the love of God for his people and for his church knows no limits. The Psalmist talks of God's love reaching up to the heavens and his justice to the depth of the ocean, and yet he blesses us as individuals with the gifts of his Spirit so that his Church, his people might be a light in this place, to his glory.

### **A prayer for today.**

Father God, we bring our offering of worship and with it the service of our lives through this coming week. May we go from this place knowing that we have met with you and been blessed by your Spirit, to live and work to your glory. Amen

***With love from Trevor and Julie***

### ***Today's Readings***



Old Testament: Isaiah 60: v 1-6

### **The Glory of Zion**

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the Lord rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

“Lift up your eyes and look about you:  
All assemble and come to you;  
your sons come from afar,  
and your daughters are carried on the hip.  
Then you will look and be radiant,  
your heart will throb and swell with joy;  
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,  
to you the riches of the nations will come.  
Herds of camels will cover your land,  
young camels of Midian and Ephah.  
And all from Sheba will come,  
bearing gold and incense  
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

New Testament: Matthew 2: v 1-12

### **The Magi Visit the Messiah**

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 worshiped 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.

### *A Prayer*

*Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!*

*Darkness covers the earth and its people,*

*but the radiance of God's Light*

*burns away its shadows,*

*illuminates the smallest corner,*

*and heralds in the start*

*of a new dawn,*

*where hearts no longer fear,*

*souls might be set free,*

*and sister shall follow brother,*

*nation shall follow nation,*

*and kings and princes bow down in awe*

*before the one who comes to reign.*

*Arise, shine, for the Light of the World has come!*

*Alleluia!*



## ***Trinity Café***

Over the past five years, we have seen the success of Trinity Café in Coleman's Hatch make a real difference for and with the community, providing home-made cakes and a warm welcome for all ages, all donations going to the upkeep of Trinity Hall and local charities. Thank you for all your support.

It was a great joy to present a cheque of £3,000 to the Bevern Trust from the proceeds of Trinity Café. What an amazing amount.



Our next café is on 9<sup>th</sup> January and then on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of every month. 9:30am to 12noon.

## ***Church Street Community Café***

We are now pleased to let you know we will be starting a café in St Mary's Church. You are warmly invited to the launch of Church Street Community Café on **Thursday 16th January at 2:30pm.**



The café will meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month 2:30- 4:30pm. A place where people can feel connected, make friendships and enjoy home-made cakes, coffee and tea. Everyone is welcome. ***Revd Julie and Team***

## ***Holy Trinity Special Services 2020 for the 1st Sunday of the month.***

At the Matins service we have a Service Booklet to help guide you through the Service if you are new to the congregation.

5 <sup>th</sup> January	Epiphany Service - Arrival of Three Kings
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Matins
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Matins
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Palm Sunday
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Matins
7 <sup>th</sup> June	Songs of Praise
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Matins
2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Matins
6 <sup>th</sup> September	Pet Service
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Matins
1 <sup>st</sup> November	Matins
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Crib Service

### ***Administrator***

If you have items for our newsletter please contact Trevor Sear [tgsear57@outlook.com](mailto:tgsear57@outlook.com) Working days Tuesday am and Thursday.

### **Next Weeks Services**

#### **January 12<sup>th</sup> – Baptism of Christ**

St Mary's	9:30am Morning Praise
Holy Trinity	11am Holy Communion
Readings:	Isaiah 42 v 1-9 Matthew 3 v 13-17

## Churches Information

### **Rector:**

The Reverend Julie Sear 01892 770436

[revjuliesear1@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliesear1@gmail.com)

*Day off for Rector is a Monday*

### **Licensed Lay Reader:**

Donna Dewar 01342 326424

[dewardonna@gmail.com](mailto:dewardonna@gmail.com)

### **Retired Clergy:**

Reverend Tom Hewson and Reverend Rosie Hewson 01342 319027

*With responsibility for Small Groups and Open the Book*

Administrator: [tgsear57@outlook.com](mailto:tgsear57@outlook.com)

### **Safeguarding Officer:**

Andrea McGlew 01342 850992

### **PCC Treasurer:**

Tim Jackson 01342 850902

### **Church Wardens for St Mary's:**

Kathy Green 01892 770208

Linda Graham 01892 770487

### **Hon. Secretary & Church Electoral Roll Officer:**

Ian Burns 01892 771014

### **Church Wardens for Holy Trinity:**

Paul Double

John Van Maurik (on sabbatical)

### **Hon. Secretary:**

CJ Payne [cipayne@hotmail.com](mailto:cipayne@hotmail.com)

### **Hon. Treasurer:**

Donald Clarke [drc.scc1897@gmail.com](mailto:drc.scc1897@gmail.com)

Websites

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