

# THE WROXHAM BENEFICE

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022**  
**The Feast of the Epiphany**

*COVID guidelines now require you to wear a mask while you are in the church, unless you are exempt. Please use the hand sanitiser and be aware of the space you give to each other. You are invited to use the NHS Test and Trace QR Code, and encouraged to do a lateral flow test before attending a service.*

## Hymns

- 41 As with gladness men of old  
71 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning  
394 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness  
537 We three kings of orient are



## Services for January

January 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10am	H St John	Holy Communion
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Wroxham	Holy Communion
January 16 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Wroxham	Holy Communion
January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	H St John	Informal Worship
	10am	Tunstead	Holy Communion
January 30 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Wroxham	Holy Communion

For Home Communion, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, please contact the Rector Revd Elizabeth Jump 01603 784150 [rector@wroxhambenefice.org](mailto:rector@wroxhambenefice.org)

## **For our Prayers**

### **All those who ask for our prayers**

Helen Dellar, Claire Firrell, Queenie Whayman, Ros Durrant, Alyssa, Simon, Bonnie Davies, Bob Shaw, Christine Goodhew, Pauline Willis, Joan Willis, Lilian Pointer, Richard Wilson, Alan Chambers, Edward Minster, George Whitefoot, Archdeacon Ian Bentley

### **All who have died recently**

Margaret Wheeler, Joan Hodgkiss

### **All whose anniversaries occur at this time**

Diana Collins, Kit Haslem

*Margaret Wheeler's funeral will take place at 2.30pm on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January at Hoveton St Peter.*

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## **Forthcoming Events**

St Mary's coffee morning will take place on **Monday 10th January**  
Wroxham Church Hall from 10.00 am  
Entry is free, donations to St Mary's Church All welcome!

## **From the Diocese**

### **Living in Love and Faith (LLF) – new online course for the Diocese of Norwich – Jan & Feb 2022**

Living in Love and Faith (LLF) is a major 'learning journey' project for the Church of England about human identity, sexuality and marriage.

At the heart of the project is a five-session course. Jane Keeton and Keith James will be running a diocesan online version of the LLF course open to all.

This event will take place over five Thursday evenings: Thursday January 13th, 20th, 27th, Feb 3rd, 10th 7:30pm - 9pm

**Please register before 5pm on 10th Jan 2022 – book via Eventbrite**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/living-in-love-and-faith-on-line-tickets-215267419647>

Your Eventbrite ticket will only show 13th Jan, but it covers all 5 dates of the course.

Please use your correct email and contact details, as this will be how you receive your joining instructions. The Zoom joining link will be emailed to you after 10th Jan.

Veronica has already followed this course and I'm sure would be happy to talk to anyone who is thinking of joining it if you would find that helpful.

### **Epiphany House Blessing**

A part of church history is the custom of blessing homes at the New Year. A family would hold a short service of prayer to ask God's blessing on their dwellings and on all who live, work with and visit them. In this way, we invite Jesus to be a guest in our home, a listener to each conversation, a guide for troubled times, and a blessing in times of thanksgiving.

Chalking the door or the door step may be used as a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion.

In our service we will bless chalk and use it to mark the church. It will also be available for those who wish to take it home and use it to bless their house. Chalk is made of the substance of the earth and is used by teachers to instruct and by children to play. As the image of the chalk fades, we will remember the sign we have made and transfer it to our hearts and our habits.

The blessing is outlined for you on the next page of this news sheet.

## **Epiphany chalk house blessing**

*Take blessed chalk and mark on the lintel of your front door*

*20 + C + M + B + 22 saying:*

The three Wise Men,

**C** Caspar,

**M** Melchior,

**B** and Balthasar

followed the star of God's Son who became human

**20** two thousand

**22** and twenty two years ago

**++** May Christ bless our home

**++** and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Christ, God's incarnation, is present in the love and care we manifest to each other in our ordinary daily lives together.

### *Other possible prayers:*

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.

God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten One to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love; through Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Loving God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and abiding in your will.

We ask this through Christ our Saviour. Amen.

**C M B above the door, also stands for  
*Christus Mansionem Benedicat,*  
Latin for "May Christ Bless this House."**

## COLLECT AND 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.

### OLD TESTAMENT 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.

## **NEW TESTAMENT** Ephesians 3.1–12

This is the reason that 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 to 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 to 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**

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.