

Services in the United Benefice

Sunday 7th January 2018 – The Epiphany

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Café Sunday Team

Sunday 14th January 2018 – Second Sunday of Epiphany

8:00 am	Holy Communion	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Morning Celebration Team
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Richard Phillips/Ray Copping
6:00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

Sunday 21st January 2018 - Third Sunday of Epiphany, Plough Sunday

9:00 am	Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Service	NW	Richard Phillips
10:30 am	Family Service	LC	Richard Phillips

Sunday 28th January 2018 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, Presentation of Christ, Septuagesima

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Service	Ch	Richard Phillips
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Derek Witchell
5:00 pm	Evensong	NW	Robert Hutton

Sunday 4th February 2018 – Second Sunday before Lent, Sexagesima

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Café Sunday Team
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Steve and Rose Williams

Sunday 11th February 2018 – Sunday next before Lent

8:00 am	Holy Communion	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Morning Celebration Team
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Richard Phillips
6:00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

If you have events coming up in the Benefice and would like them included in future Pew Sheets, please let us have the details on johnscholefield.ilm@gmail.com Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield

You are very welcome to take your Pew Sheet home.
Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

Sunday 7th January 2018 - CW edition



The United Benefice of Long Crendon (LC), Chearsley (Ch) & Nether Winchendon (NW)

WE WISH ALL WHO LIVE IN OUR THREE PARISHES
A BLESSED, PEACEFUL AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR

Prayer



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. **Amen**

Collect for the Epiphany

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. **Amen**

Readings for Today:



The 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.

The Epistle: 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 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 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.

The Gospel: St. 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 Prayer

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. **Amen**

Notes for your diary:

Saturday 6th January, first Monthly Prayer Gathering of 2018 at St. Mary's Long Crendon, 9:30-10:30 am to focus on the three villages and wider issues. From our three churches we can expect prayers for, for example, those struggling with ill health, thanksgiving for the various events and services with which we will have celebrated Christmas, and entering our New Year with the Alpha course. And whatever else may be on our hearts to pray for! All welcome. Ray Copping and Geoff Hogbin

Thursday 11th January, 8:00 - 9:30pm first Alpha meeting for all three villages. Do come and join us in Church House, Long Crendon.

Just why was this baby born?

Explore: Life • Faith • Meaning

Alpha Course

Starts 11th January 8.00 – 9.30 pm
Church House, Long Crendon

Alpha is for anyone who's curious to explore the big questions of life, faith, and meaning.

The sessions are designed to encourage conversation and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Enjoy homemade puddings, a short film, and a discussion where you can share your own thoughts.

To register your interest or ask any questions please email Robert at needlecottage@btinternet.com

