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Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

Sunday 8th January 2017 - CW edition



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

WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY AND EVERY DAY

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 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

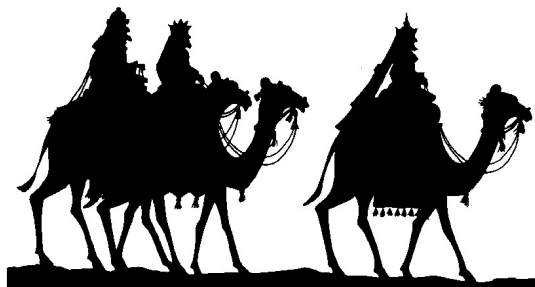
least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be 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 7th January, 9:30 am, St. Mary's, Long Crendon, Monthly Prayer Gathering. Everyone is welcome. Ray Copping

Sunday 8th January, in St. Mary's Long Crendon: we will have our annual demonstration of Morris Dancing in church immediately after the 10.30am service, to mark Plough Sunday. In Medieval times, some ploughs were kept in parish churches, and the first Sunday of Epiphany was kept as a time to look forward to the season of sowing and harvest, and for asking God's blessing on the working year ahead.

Saturday 4th February, Safari Supper:

Saturday 11th February, Dinner and Entertainment at the Manor, Long Crendon Both organised by the Friends of St. Mary's, and all proceeds go to help preserve and improve the fabric of our lovely old village church, St. Mary's Long Crendon. Please book through www.FSMLongCrendon.org or e-mail friends@FSMLongCrendon.org or call Geoff Smith 01844 208205 or Chris Miller on 208027 (Gift Aid form available from Geoff).

Services in the United Benefice

Sunday 8th January 2017 – The Epiphany (Plough Sunday)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Lay Led
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Richard Phillips/Robert Hutton
6:00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

Sunday 15th January 2017 – Second Sunday of Epiphany (CW) or Second Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

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

Sunday 22nd January 2017 – Third Sunday of Epiphany (CW) or Third Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

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

Sunday 29th January 2017 – Fourth Sunday of Epiphany (CW) or Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

10:00 am	United Benefice Service	NW	Richard Phillips
This is a fifth Sunday and there will be no other service on this day.			

Sunday 5th February 2017 – Fourth Sunday before Lent (Proper 1, CW) or Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Lay Led
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips/John Scholefield

Sunday 12th February 2017 – The Third Sunday before Lent (Proper 2, CW) or Septuagesima (BCP)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Lay Led
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Richard Phillips/Robert Hutton
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 llm.chearsley@btinternet.com Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield