

COLLECT

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.

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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.

PSALM Psalm 72:[1-9] 10-15

R *The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.*

Give the king your judgements, O God,
and your righteousness to the son of a king.

Then shall he judge your people
righteously
and your poor with justice. **R**

May the mountains bring forth peace,
and the little hills righteousness for the people.

May he defend the poor among the people,
deliver the children of the needy and
crush the oppressor. **R**

May he live as long as the sun and moon
endure,
from one generation to another.

May he come down like rain upon the
mown grass,
like the showers that water the earth.

In his time shall righteousness flourish,
and abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more. **R**

May his dominion extend from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

May his foes kneel before him
and his enemies lick the dust. **R**

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall
pay tribute;
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring
gifts.

All kings shall fall down before him;
all nations shall do him service. **R**

For he shall deliver the poor that cry out,
the needy and those who have no helper.
He shall have pity on the weak and poor;
he shall preserve the lives of the
needy. **R**

He shall redeem their lives from
oppression and violence,
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.
Long may he live;
unto him may be given gold from
Sheba;
may prayer be made for him continually
and may they bless him all the day
long. **R**

SECOND READING Ephesians 3:1-12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

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.

GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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.



The Lord is king; let the earth - re-joice.

SIGNPOST

The weekly newsletter of
St George's, Tuffley with St Margaret's, Whaddon
Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'
Welcome to all

Diary Dates from 7th to 14th January

Sun 7	EPIPHANY		
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Mark B Readers: Jonathan/Linda Intercessions: Laine Coffee: Glenice/Hilary
	5.00pm	St M's	Evensong
Mon 8	10.30am	SH	Aphasia-Now
	5.00pm	zoom	Evening Prayer
Tue 9	9.30am	SH	Coffee Pot
	10.00am	St G's	Parish Communion
	2.30pm	SH	Mothers' Union
	8.00pm	MH	Karate
Wed 10	8.15am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
	9.30am	SH	Phonics with Robot Reg
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm
Thu 11	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	SH/SL	Thursday Club
	6.30pm	MH	Clubbercise
	7.30pm	SH	Charter Band
Sat 13	10.00am	MH	Karate
Sun 14	EPIPHANY 2		
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Jayne Readers: Joceline/David Intercessions: Derek Coffee: tbc
	4.00pm	St M's	Family Praise

St G's = St George's, St M's = St Margaret's,
MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall,
SL = Softley Lounge, LC = Lady Chapel.

The next issue of **Crossroads**, our church magazine, is due out towards the end of January 2024 the price will remain at 60p per copy and there will be 11 issues during 2024. The annual fee will be just £5.00 for 2024, you will pay £6.60 if you buy your magazines each month, just saying! See Darrell to pay for your magazines annually. Or, of course, you can read them online on our website for free. I'm happy to receive articles for the February issue any time between now and 13th January 2024. Thank you.

Please remember...

If you are feeling unwell protect your Christian family by staying at home

Intercessions

We pray for...

Laura, Angela, Margaret & Mark, Johanna, James, Peter, Hans, George, Jenny.

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Sue Winter 11th

Hymns at St George's: 797, 85, 597, 552.

FOODBANK

Keep bringing items for the Foodbank on a Sunday. Collection point is the tray at the back of the Church. The Foodbank are in **URGENT NEED OF LONG - LIFE FRUIT JUICE & MILK, TINNED FISH, TINNED CUSTARD, DEODORANT.** Thank you.

Mothers' Union:

The annual subscription for Mothers' Union is now due. It is £35.00 per member (includes Roundabout) and the Branch Report form has to be submitted by January 22nd so members' payments should be made before or by our next meeting, which is our AGM on January 9th 2024. Payments to be made to our treasurer, Geraldine Norrington. Many thanks,

Sylvia Chamberlain (Branch Leader).

Wednesday Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will meet for three weeks before Lent. Wednesday afternoons at 2.00pm on January 24th, January 31st and February 7th to talk about Baptism and Confirmation, The how and the why. Please join us in the Lady Chapel at St George's if you can. Mark.

CONTACTING US:

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There is an answer phone in use outside of office hours.

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

Email messages are monitored outside of office hours.

The Administration office is open on Wednesday, Thursday and, Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**

