

*Mary Steven's Hospice has a small, newly formed choir composed of staff and volunteers. We sing mainly secular music to CD backing tracks in a fairly low key way (low key in the sense of relaxed). Our choir leader is on maternity leave and we are looking for someone to lead us for an hour a month, just to keep us ticking over this side of our Midsummer Memorial Service in June. If you feel you could help and for further details contact Revd David Knight who is the Hospice Chaplain on 01384 443010 or e mail David.Knight@marystevenshospice.co.uk*

Maggie Abbotts will be running a Fairtrade stall again today.



### Dates for your diary:

Saturday January 21 11.00—12.30

Choir 'open day' for prospective new members.

Thursday January 26 7.30pm PCC meeting

Sunday January 29 6.30pm Epiphany Carol Service

Tuesday March 7 Parish quiet day at Holland House

Monday March 20 7.30pm PCC meeting

Sunday March 26 Mothering Sunday

Sunday April 16 Easter Sunday

Sunday April 23 APCM meeting.

We hope you were able to make use of the small selection of books that were borrowed from the Robin Woods Library on the theme of Advent. We will be returning these to the library during this week. If you still have a book you can either return it to the library yourself when convenient or give it back to John in the Parish Office.



We have a Facebook page. If you're a Facebook user and want to keep up to speed with events at St Mary's visit [www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford).

Please send any notices or information for the pewsheets to the Parish Office by 12 noon on a Wednesday. Send to [st.mary.os@btconnect.com](mailto:st.mary.os@btconnect.com) or text to 07956675990 or phone 01384 441003.

## The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford

### Sunday 8th January 2017

### Epiphany



A warm welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today.

Please join us for coffee in the Narthex after our 10.00am service.

We have a loop system installed in church. If you wear a hearing aid please turn it to the T position. If you would like to find out about any of the activities associated with church please speak to a warden or sides person or visit our website at [www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk](http://www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk)

**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.

### Our services today are as follows:

#### 8.00am - Holy Communion

**President:** Revd Stephen Agnew

Collect, Epistle and Gospel Page 107

**Sides:** Nick Harbach

#### 10.00am - Worship Together

**President:** Revd Stephen Agnew & Revd Alex French

**Warden:** Malcolm Frost **Sides:** Pauline Pettet & Sally Frost

**Readers:** Stan Williams and Christine Day

Music led by our music group.



#### 6.30pm - Evensong

**Officiant:** Revd Stephen Agnew **Preacher:** Roger King

**Warden:** Ian Nex **Sides:** Dawn Nex

**Readers:** Ian & Dawn Nex

**Intercessions:** Revd Alex French

**Anthem:** From the rising of the sun—F. Ouseley

**Voluntary:** Prelude sur l'Introit de l'Epiphanie – M Durufle

# "We follow the wise men to the stable"

## Welcome and Notices,

### THE GATHERING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe. All From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is proclaimed in all the world.  
The Lord of glory be with you. **The Lord bless you.**

*Words of Introduction to the Epiphany*

**READING** **Matthew 2: 1—12** The coming of the Wise Men

**HYMN** 105 We three kings

The figures representing the Magi are placed in the crib. As each figure is placed a prayer of blessing is said to which all respond: **Blessed be God for ever.**



### THANKSGIVING

Glory to Christ, Son of Mary; Born of a child, He shares our humanity:

**Glory to God in the highest.**

Glory to Christ, Son of David; Born to rule, He receives gifts from the wise:

**Glory to God in the highest**

Glory to Christ Son of man: Born our Saviour, You are the light of the world:

**Glory to God in the highest**

We celebrate the coming of our God with all the voices of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**



### CONFESSION

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

God be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth, your saving power among the nations:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

### 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. Amen**

**HYMN** 103 O Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Please feel free to take this pew sheet away and recycle.



## What's going on?

Please ask if you would like to know any more about the events listed on these pages.

### SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

**January 15**

**Epiphany 2**

8.00 am  
Communion (BCP)

10.00am  
Parish Communion

6.30pm  
Evensong

### CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

**Monday 9**

2.00pm Funeral in church of Joan Holdcroft

**Tuesday 10**

10.00am The Open The Book Group visit Oldswinford Primary School

11.30am Holy Communion at Holly Croft

**Wednesday 11**

11.00am Funeral in church of Barbara Sutherland

**Thursday 12**

10.30am Holy Communion led by Revd Martin Soar

**Friday 13**

Parish Office closed today

**Saturday 14**

10.00am Open Church and vestry hour.

### MESSAGE FROM THE FOODBANK

Hi Everyone

Thank you for all the Christmas Food donations that arrived over the last few weeks. The volunteers were kept very busy in our chilly warehouse and our vans were touring the Black Country dropping off mince pies and Christmas puddings!

Please keep encouraging the donations of breakfast cereal, UHT milk, fruit juice, cooking sauces, tinned veg and tinned fruit so we can provide a nutritionally balanced food parcel.

Please also consider donating financially as our vans are covering a lot of miles at the moment and needing diesel to get them from a to b. You can donate via our just giving page [www.justgiving.com/blackcountryfoodbank](http://www.justgiving.com/blackcountryfoodbank) or our bank details are available on our website [www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk)

This week's shortages are:

**UHT milk, fruit juice, coffee, hot chocolate, tinned sponge pudding, tinned rice pudding, tinned veg ready meals, packets of mash, tinned fruit, deodorants, shaving foam, baby shampoo.**

Please leave any donations in the boxes at the back of church and we will ensure that they are taken to the warehouse for distribution each week. Thank you for your support.

This pew sheet is also available at [www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk](http://www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk)



**We invite you to offer prayers for .....**

**The World Church:**

The Diocese of Kuching (S.E. Asia) with Bishop Bolly Lapok and Assistant Bishop Solomon Voon.

**Churches Together:**

St James' Church Wollaston

**Bishop John has asked us to pray for.....**

all the plough Sunday services taking place today and for all the farmers across our Diocese.

**The work of St Mary's.....**

We pray for Scarlett Taylor, Jack Westwood and Joseph Henry Douglas Clifton who will be baptised at St Mary's this month. For our Open The Book Group who present bible stories in Oldswinford Primary School

**Those living in:**

Stevens Road and Drew Crescent

**Local Community:**

All those who work at or attend the Age Concern group which meets at the Mary Steven's Centre.

**Among those who are ill:**

Angela Viner, Elizabeth Gale, Betty Taylor, Emma Brown, Margaret Moulton, Jack Richards, Michael McCullagh and Enid Clarke.

**We continue to pray for:**

Rory Macintosh, Joe and Ros Yeates Elian Irvine-Boden, Anne May, Grace Jones, Angela Dixon, Niamh McCormack, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, Michael Woodall, Finley Rogerson and Denis Noakes.

**Those in nursing home care:**

Sheila Westwood, June O'Brian, Richard Aldred, Hazel White and Anne Davies.

**The departed:**

Gerald Hale, Barbara Sutherland, Jean Shillingford, Geoff Smith, Annie Harris, Harry Molineux, Geoff Payton, Joan Holcroft, Sheila Sutton and Sally Taylor.

**In memoriam:**

Elizabeth Faulkner (5.1.16) Richard Ryan (7.1.16) Richard Davies (12.1.16)

Please inform the clergy or a member of the pastoral care team as soon as possible if you know of any illness or particular need within the congregation.

**ADDRESS**

**HYMN** 788 Take this moment, sign and space

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*In response to the words: 'Lord of glory', all say: 'Hear our prayer'*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us....

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever.  
Amen.



**Welcome to the newly baptised**

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome these children and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

**With the help of God we will.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; by the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

**PEACE**

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**HYMN** 715 Lord for the years (during which the collection will be taken)

**THE BLESSING**

Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts, reveal to you his glory and pour upon you the riches of his grace; and the blessing of God almighty, The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ, Amen.**



## Readings for our 6.30pm service.

### **The Old Testament Reading**

Josh 3: 1—8, 14—end

Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over. After three days the officers went throughout the camp, giving orders to the people: “When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, who are Levites, carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards between you and the ark; do not go near it.” Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.”

Joshua said to the priests, “Take up the ark of the covenant and pass on ahead of the people.” So they took it up and went ahead of them. And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so that they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses. Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: ‘When you reach the edge of the Jordan’s waters, go and stand in the river.’”

So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. Now the Jordan is in flood all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the

middle of the Jordan, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

### **The New Testament Reading**

Hebrews 1: 1—12

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father”? Or again, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”? And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” In speaking of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire.” But about the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.” He also says, “In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.”