

The Parish Church of
St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford



Charity No: 245456

Sunday 8th January, 2023 - Epiphany
08:00 Parish Communion

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. Amen

First Reading: 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.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3. 1-12

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

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.

ST. MARY'S GREAT SHELFORD - WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Zoom Evening Service: Julie Norris is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Sunday Evening Zoom Service

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5280143141?pwd=TndUaGkwRjRrZFE5LzhoQmJGbFAzdz09>

Meeting ID: 528 014 3141

Passcode: SundayEve

Gift Day: The Gift Day Appeal total to the end 2022 is £3995. Thank you for your generous support. It is much appreciated.

We have had an offer to match any fundraising for the church to the end of January. If anyone was intending to make a Gift Day donation and would like to do this before the end of the month, this will be doubled.

Cambridge City Foodbank: The organisers were very pleased to receive our donations last week and asked that their sincere thanks are expressed to everyone who made a contribution. Please continue to support their valuable work, details can be found on their website - <https://cambridgecity.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> Our next collection will be made on Sunday **5th February, 2023**

Food Box: The PCC has agreed to place a Food Box in the church porch containing tins and dried produce. This is in recognition that current conditions are making it difficult for some to make funds stretch to pay for food. We hope that those who need food will take it, and others will share what they have. This is to complement the food collection going to the Food Bank.

FAIR TRADE STALL

The global Fair Trade system ensures a set of standards protecting the rights, production and sale of goods of farmers and worker in developed and newly developing countries.

We would very much like to reintroduce a monthly Fair Trade stall when we meet, perhaps starting in a small way with the sale of packaged items such as tea, coffee, chocolate etc.

Would someone like to take this on at St. Mary's? It requires organisation of the ordering and display of goods and the provision of a certain amount of dry storage for them.

Do please talk about this with one of the Ministry Team if you're interested in such a worthwhile scheme. MD

The Pilgrim house group: Pilgrim Group Meeting in the Community Room on Mondays at 2pm in January until the start of Lent. We are going to spend some time looking at 'Living in Love and Faith'. This is a course which the national Church of England has asked local churches to consider. It looks at relationships and how we can live, work and love people who have different views from us. Our first meeting is on 9 January.

Warm Hub: The hub has now opened. It provides a regular place where people can come to stay warm and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee each day at the following venues.

Monday - Great Shelford Free Church 10:00 - 16:00
(ties in with the Community Café in the morning)

Tuesday - Great Shelford Free Church 10:00 - 16:00

Wednesday - Great Shelford Memorial Hall 09:00 - 15:00
(ties in with the Country Market in the morning)

Thursday - Great Shelford Free Church 10:00 - 16:00

Friday - Great Shelford Free Church 10:00 - 16:00

We are looking for volunteers who can agree to be part of a rota to support this initiative. If you are able to offer a few hours over the coming months, to be present and welcoming to those who may need to spend time somewhere warm and friendly, then please contact. Libby White. clerk@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



Daily HOPE: This is an excellent national Church of England initiative for those who are especially isolated and do not have access to the internet. Daily HOPE is a freephone line, available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop of Canterbury before being able to choose from a range of options, including Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England's weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line will also offer callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option

