

**The Benefice of the Piddle Valley,
Hilton & Ansty, Cheselbourne
and Melcombe Horsey**

Sunday 5th January 2020
Epiphany

Altar Colour - White

Readings: Isa 60: 1-6, Psalm 72: 10-15,
Eph 3: 1-12, Matt 2:1-12

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.

Isaiah 60:1-6 (ESV) - The Future Glory of Israel

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned 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 bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

Ephesians 3:1-12 (ESV) - The Mystery of the Gospel Revealed

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles, assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and

partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV) - The Visit of the Wise Men

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

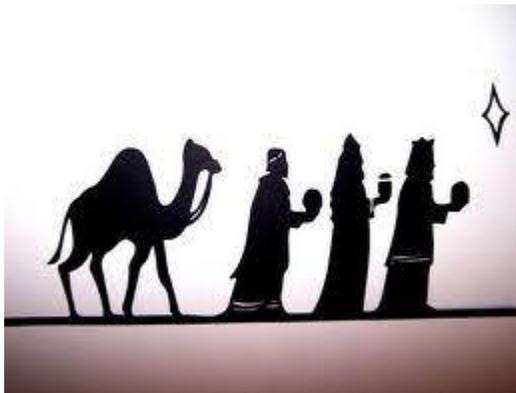
Post Communion Prayer: Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Benefice Prayer Requests:

Please pray for the sick, those in hospital, and those recovering from illness or surgery: Pat Kenwick, June Kellaway, Ann Lambert, Fay Lord, Reg Hanbury, Geoff Harris, Ruth Tutt, Roger Gray, Bernard, Martin DeWavrin, Marion Traynor...

Please pray for our Benefice schools, Piddle Valley and Cheselbourne as the Children, Staff and Governors get ready to start a new term after the Christmas break.



What's going on around the Benefice!



Food Bank: Thank you for your generosity over the last few months, we shall continue to collect and tin/packet a week for the Dorchester Foodbank.

7th January Tuesday: 7pm Stepping Stones Home Group, Orchard Cottage Melcombe Horsey.

7th January Tuesday: 10-11.30am Tiddlers at Piddle Valley School

9th January Thursday: 9.00am Morning Prayer, Coffee and a chat at Alton Pancras with the Rector.

9th January Thursday, 9.30am Morning Prayer with Alan Neades at Piddlehinton

Next Sunday 12th January 2020

Epiphany 1 – Baptism of Christ

Readings - Isa 42:1-9, Psalm 29, Acts 10: 34-43, Matt. 3: 13-end

8.30am Holy Communion at Hilton

9.30am Family Eucharist at Alton Pancras

11.00am Parish Communion at Melcombe Horsey

6.00pm Evening Prayer at Piddlehinton

Confirmation: There has been some interest expressed regarding confirmation. Fr. Roger will be contacting Bishop Nicholas of Salisbury to arrange this to take place within the Benefice. Please email the Rector if you would be interested in becoming a confirmation candidate.

Dates for your Diary

Police Station Chaplaincy Visit by Fr. Roger 15th January 2020

Messy Church at Piddletrenthide Saturday 8th February 3-5pm

Rector: Fr. Roger Butcher, The Vicarage, Church Lane, Piddletrenthide. DT2 7QY. **Tel:** 01300 348211 / Mob. 07502 118210 **Email:** rector.piddlevalleybenefice@gmail.com