



THE PARISH OF HOLY TRINITY

Bradford on Avon

www.htboa.org

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The Rector, Revd Jenny Nelson:

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The Rector's usual weekly day off is a Monday



4 JANUARY 2026

EPIPHANY

Welcome to our Service today

And welcome if you are reading this at home

HYMNS & MUSIC FOR TODAY'S SERVICES

9.30am Sung Eucharist

4pm Evensong

All music for this service is detailed in the Order of Service



Organ Music:

Adoration – Florence Price

Prelude on 'Epiphany' – Alan Bullard

Chorale – William Mathias

Hymns:

89 - O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

85 - Earth has many a noble city

83 - As with gladness, men of old

Psalm - 98

Anthem: From the rising of the sun

– Frederick A Gore Ouseley

Voluntary: Epilogue on 'Dix' –

William Harris

THE 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.

GOSPEL READING

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.**

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS – these are available for those who need them. Please let the welcomers know when you arrive and inform the priest when you come to receive Communion

HOLY TRINITY NOTICES

COPYING, PRINTING, POSTERS – please send to Netty on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

NOTICES FOR WEEKLY BULLETINS – please send any messages *by the end of a Wednesday* to Netty on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

HT FINANCE, PAYMENT REQUESTS ETC – please contact Klaus on treasurer@htboa.org

BIRTHDAYS - Happy Birthday, prayers and blessings to all those with birthdays in this season.

THANK YOU to The Revd Tim Hawkings, The Venerable Louise Ellis, Archdeacon of Wilts, and to Bishop Robert for presiding and preaching at today's services, while the Rector is on an Epiphany holiday.

WITH GREAT SADNESS we share that Sylvia Stanes died peacefully on the evening of 30 December. We send love and prayers to Ian and his family. Also, Barbara Adamson died on 1 January, may she rest in peace. We send love and prayers to Barbara's family.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS THANKSGIVING

- Congratulations and sincere thanks to all who have given so generously of their time, gifts, and energy throughout Advent and these Christmas days. We have received many positive and encouraging messages reflecting the richness of these celebrations, not least our community Tree Festival with *Carols Around the Trees*, services of *Lessons and Carols*, and the Christmas services across the Benefice. We have been privileged to accompany very many worshippers during this season, with extraordinary numbers of children and young people, together with their families, attending Christingle services in every church, as well as Midnight Mass and Christmas Day worship. Each service, and every team working faithfully behind the scenes, is deeply appreciated. Our grateful thanks to Martin for his musical leadership, and to the Choir of Holy Trinity, whose harmonies and soaring descants will not be forgotten! We extend heartfelt thanks to Bishop Robert, Bishop John, The Revd Tim Hawkings, Graham Dove, chalice bearers, readers, intercessors, stewards, and all serving in this season. And thank you to the team for Christingle on Christmas Eve, Martin, Andrea, Zabe, Clive and David. All of this we hold lightly, knowing the profound privilege of worship, offered in humility before Christ, the Prince of Peace. God with us. Epiphany calls. Thanks be to God.

EPIPHANY begins with the Feast of Epiphany, the arrival of the magi in Bethlehem. Until this point the Messiah's coming was centred on Israel alone. And then, rather unexpectedly and mysteriously, three Gentiles appear, people who intuitively sense this child's birth is good news for them too. This is the heart of Epiphany: the revelation that Christ's birth is not a small event for a local religion or a singular people, but a profound and significant moment for all humanity.

The Magi - Macolm Guite:

It might have been just someone else's story;
Some chosen people get a special king,
We leave them to their own peculiar glory,
We don't belong, it doesn't mean a thing.
But when these three arrive they bring us with them,
Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;
A steady step that finds an inner rhythm,
A pilgrim's eye that sees beyond the stars.

They did not know his name but still they sought him

They came from elsewhere but still they found;

In palaces they found those who sold and bought him,

But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.

Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice

To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.

LUNCH HOUR CONCERT SERIES DATES -

Join us for our uplifting Series of Thursday lunchtime concerts at Holy Trinity: **29 January, 12.30pm** – Young Musicians of Monkton Combe School. A showcase of exceptional young talent, promising a delightful and inspiring start to the year. **12 February, 12pm** – Peter Tanfield, Violin. **26 March, 12pm** – Beatrice Newman, Cello, accompanied by Bernard Newman. Come and enjoy these concerts during your lunch hour, and be part of our vibrant musical community. All welcome.

FUNDRAISING - In this season we have raised funds through special collections for: Embrace the Middle East, The Hub, The Children's Society, Save the Children
Thank you for your generosity.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PETER

HARDMAN – Saturday, 10 January @ 11am
at The Priory Church of Lady St Mary,
Wareham, Dorset.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ – Wednesdays from 10am-12noon - weekly community café – coffee/tea and biscuits will be provided on a donation basis, not on Christmas Eve but open again New Year's Eve.

WEEKLY PRAYERS every Thursday in the Saxon Church for Israel and Palestine using prayer from Sabeel based in Jerusalem, 11.50am - 12.10pm. Everyone warmly welcome

ADMINISTRATOR JOB VACANCY – Due to the forthcoming retirement of Netty, the Benefice Office for Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield parishes, is seeking an Administrator to manage its Benefice Office located in Holy Trinity. See <https://htboa.org/job/> for more details.

THIS WEEK @ HT

EPIPHANY – TODAY - 4pm Epiphany Evensong

MORNING PRAYER – Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursdays @ 8.30am

SAXON CLUB – Tuesday @ 2.30pm – fun & friendship for 'seniors'

FUTURE EVENTS @ HT

SUNG EUCHARIST FOR THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST WITH THE RT REVD DR ANDREW RUMSEY, THE BISHOP OF RAMSBURY – Sunday, 11 January @ 9.30am

FORGET ME NOT CAFÉ – Thursday, 15 January @ 11am-12.30pm – lots of fun, music and good company

SAVE THE CHILDREN COFFEE MORNING – Saturday, 17 January, 10-12noon

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for all who are sick, remembering especially: Tony Bruun, Mary Dawson, Jennifer Fuller, Anne Harris, Viktor Klid, Celia Milne, Alice Moody, Lewis Moody, Alison Penny, Geneviève Roberts, Edward Shaw, Malcolm Walsh & James Wright.

Pray for all those who mourn and for those who have recently died, especially: Barbara Adamson, Peter Hardman & Sylvia Stanes.

Pray for all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, remembering especially: Paul Tomlin, Elizabeth Ticehurst, Sandy Forbes & Evelyn Perry.

Please let Revd Jenny, Marlene (LPA) and Tony Haffenden (LPA) know of any pastoral need, including prayer.

FOR PRAYER THIS WEEK

- The children and communities of St Laurence School, Fitzmaurice Primary. The Mead, Westwood & Iford Primary
- Gratitude for God's care and protection

- Hope, Joy and Peace for the world in the year ahead
- New opportunities in serving others
- The recently bereaved and the terminally ill
- Guidance and spiritual growth for the year ahead

God of justice and mercy, we lift up the people of the Holy Land, and all who seek peace. Grant that voices, hopes, and concerns be heard, and that a lasting peace may grow through courage, wisdom, and love. Strengthen all as peacemakers, and guide those who work for reconciliation, so that your justice and peace may flourish. Amen



We continue to work together in our shared commitment to Safeguarding: **'The Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield takes its**

responsibilities surrounding the safeguarding of children, young people, and adults who may be at risk, very seriously. We work in partnership with the Diocese of Salisbury to ensure that we work in accordance with best practices at all times.'

SAFEGUARDING - If you have any Safeguarding concerns please speak to the clergy or our Safeguarding Adviser for the Benefice: **Andrea Unwin** 07553161654 Email: safeguarding@htboa.org If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from: safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org to speak to a caseworker, or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor 01722 438651, option 3

NEXT WEEK – 11 JANUARY BAPTISM OF CHRIST

8am – BCP Holy Communion

9.30am – Sung Eucharist with The Rt Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey, The Bishop of Ramsbury

Readings:

Isaiah 42. 1-9

Acts 10. 34-43

Matthew 3. 13-end