

This week's services

Sunday 2nd January

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Leafield**



Friday 7th January

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, **Wilcote**

Sunday 9th January

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Ramsden**



These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday Colossians 2: 8-end

Tuesday Colossians 3: 1-11

Wednesday Colossians 3: 12-4.1

Thursday Colossians 4: 2-end

Friday Matthew 20: 1-16

Saturday Matthew 20: 17-28

Please pray for the following throughout the week

Monday *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*

Tuesday *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*

Wednesday *The Queen and other leaders in this country.*

Thursday *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*

Friday *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*

Saturday *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery.



If we as a Church can help in any way, please contact:

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PEW SHEET



2nd January 2022
Epiphany

Please take this pew sheet with you when you leave.

Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

Also follow us on Twitter & Instagram



Please wear a face covering during this service, including while singing.
Thank you

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.

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**

This is the reason that 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 to 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: 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 to 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 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 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.” ’ 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. 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.

On 4th January 1809, Louis Braille was born in Paris. His father used leather to make harnesses for horses. When Louis was very young, he was playing in his father’s workshop, and he pressed an awl against some leather to try to make a hole. The awl slipped and struck his eye. Before long, his other eye became infected and he became totally blind. He attended a school for the blind in Paris. Large letters were raised on each page so that the person could recognise words by moving a finger over the large letters. Louis thought back to how his father worked, remembering that the awl would make a small lump on the other side of the leather before making a hole. He realised that he could press on one side of a sheet of paper to make raised dots on the other side. Aged 15, he set about devising a code of letters that we now know as the Braille system of printing and writing for the blind. Each letter is represented by a combination of raised dots - up to a maximum of six, laid out two across and three down.

**Lord Jesus,
light of the world, open our eyes
to notice the magnificence of creation.
Open our eyes that we may always value and
appreciate all who are part of our lives.
Open our eyes that we may be quick to notice
when people are going through difficulties.
Open our eyes so that we may share your vision
and “really see”.**

Amen

