

Your Word of the Week

21st January 2024, 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

9.30 am	St Matthew's	Holy Communion	Rev Jane
10.45 am	Christ Church	Holy Communion	Rev Jane
11.00 am	St Michael & All Angels	Morning Worship	Linda Clarke

The Gospel Reading John 2:1-11

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' ⁴ And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' ⁵ His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The First Reading, The Epistle, Revelation 19:6-10

⁶ Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out,

'Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready;

⁸ to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure'—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

⁹ And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' ¹⁰ Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

Collect for the day, prayers, and Old Testament Readings

Collect for 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God,

whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace,

and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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

We remember the sick in our prayers:

David Looker, John Lewis, Stephen Jones, Colin Evans, Helen Birch, Margaret Cooper, Kathleen Burgess, Alan Burgess, Alan Wheeler, Ray Thorley, Margaret Lindop, Gwen Bickerton, John Finnemore, Barbara Harvey, Winnie Rutter, Bob Holland, Rev Canon Bill Baker, Keith and Barbara Whittle, Marjorie Crook, Janet Fallon, Anna Betts, Kathleen Knox, Martin Harper, Charles Howard-Smith, Freda Claridge, Linda Jones, Robert Leech, Alma Garner, William Carlson, Gill Golding, Joanne Wall, Lisa Lalor, Graham Timmis, David Hurst, Jamie Hurst, Pauline Fletcher, Samantha Hart, Norma Hill, Susan, Pam Philpot, Geoff Keen, and David Boakes.

We thank God for the lives of all who have died and for the rest in Christ they now enjoy:

Jeff Budden, George Farrall, Rob Witter, Brenda Adams, Steven Parsons, Gerald Leach, Anne Howie, Norman Wright, Christine Mansfield and Kenneth Hodgkinson.

We remember and pray for all families whose loved ones have died.

Old Testament Reading Genesis14:17-20

¹⁷ After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸ And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. ^[a] ¹⁹ He blessed him and said,

'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, backer of heaven and earth;

20 and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!'

And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

CHURCH NOTICES

Prayer Breakfast, Saturday 27th January, 10.00am at St Matthews church hall.

Confirmation. I'm planning to run confirmation classes. If anyone would like to be confirmed, would you please have a chat with me (Vicar Jane). Thank you.

Lent courses. Begin Wednesday 14th February, 7.30pm at The Vicarage (163 Crewe Road) and Friday 16th February, 2.00pm at Christ Church.

Ash Wednesday, 14th Feb., will be marked at our midweek communion service with imposition of ashes for those who wish.

Review of our Prayer list. Please would you ask friends and family who are on our prayer list if they wish to remain on it. Please let me know if someone is on the list who hasn't be asked, and/or if someone wishes to come off. Thank you. Vicar Jane

St Matthew's coffee morning is Friday 26th January, 10.00am until noon, in the church hall. Everyone is welcome.

DIARY

- 9.30am Morning Worship for all St Matthew's church family in church and Facebook Live stream.
- 10.45am Morning Worship for all Christ Church's family in church and Facebook Live stream.
- 11.00am Morning Worship for all St Michael's church family.
- 4.30pm [Fourth Sunday] Evening Prayer from Book of Common Prayer at Christ Church and Facebook Live stream.
- 10.30am (Fifth Sunday) Joint Benefice service, rotating around our 3 churches.

Wednesday 10.45 am Holy Communion, (Book of Common Prayer), in St Matthew's church.

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