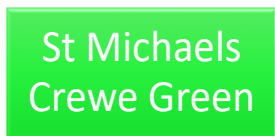


Your Word of the Week

4th January 2026, 1st Sunday of Epiphany



Christ Church
Wheelock



St Matthews
Haslington

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

The Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1-12

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.' ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "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."

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.' ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, ¹ until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Epistle Reading, Ephesians 3:1-12 (this reading is continued over the page)

3 This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ 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: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷ 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.

This Epistle reading from Ephesians is continued over the page.

Collect for the day, prayers, Ephesians reading continued, and Old Testament

Collect for The Epiphany

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

We remember people who are sick in our prayers:

David Looker, John Lewis, Stephen Jones, Kathleen Burgess, Alan Wheeler, Margaret Lindop, Winnie Rutter, Marjorie Crook, Janet Fallon, Anna Betts, Charles Howard-Smith, Linda Jones, Robert Leech, Gill Golding, Joanne Wall, Lisa Lalor, Graham Timmis, David Hurst, Jamie Hurst, Pauline Fletcher, Pam Philpot, Geoff Keen, Margaret Jones, Jenny Slicher, Hazel Barnes-Newton, Brenda Hughes, Dennis Harrison, Sheila Humphries, Michael Brown, Jean Trigger, Lynn Haliburton, Tyler James, Eileen Mahon, Mark Trigger, Jenny Fradley, Mary Plachta, John Braithwaite, Arleine Bloor, Mike Sadler, Sue Taylor, and Isobel Barber.

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

Roy Aitkin, Bob Holland, Enis Thompson, Peter Hale, Irene Bailey and Mark Lycett.
We remember and pray for all families whose loved ones have died.

Epistle Reading continued Ephesians 3:7-12

⁷ 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. ⁸ 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, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
² 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.
³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ 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.
⁵ 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.
⁶ 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.

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.

Vicar - Rev Dr Jane Lloyd Telephone: 07785 752023 Email: vicarjanelloyd@gmail.com The united benefice

website - <https://www.hcganglican.org>