



Parish of Fleet

All Saints

St Philip & St James

News Sheet for Sunday 3 January 2021 Epiphany

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP, IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU WITH US.

I hope you are well and coping with these difficult and rapidly changing times.

The turbulent year 2020 is now behind us, and I guess that few of us will be sorry to see it go!

A new Year is upon us, always an opportunity for hope and looking forward, but also an opportunity for new beginnings, for reflection, resolution and recommitment.

We are passing now through a dark time, in every sense, but brighter days lie ahead! There are signs of hope and much to look forward to.

The roll out of vaccines holds out hope of our world getting the upper hand over this virus at last! It will take time and meanwhile we must be patient and continue to act responsibly for the sake of all, but as the year unfolds restrictions should ease and our new world and new life will emerge from its cocoon.

In our Parish we have much to look forward to. We are now confident that before long we will be able to commence the rebuilding of All Saints Church. Again, this will take time, and require patience, but the rising of All Saints will be a sign of hope and new beginnings not just for our church community but for all the people of Fleet. Perhaps the delays were necessary in order for the rebuilding to commence just when Fleet needed it most? Just a thought.

Also, later in the year we will welcome Cally Burch and her family as Cally joins our ministry team in July. We are also hoping to appoint someone this year to lead up our children's and families work which is in need of renewal.

I look forward also to building on all that we have achieved during these testing times in involving more people in ministry and leadership, and in growing as disciples and people of a community of prayer, faith and outreach. Exciting times lie ahead, by the grace of God.

So, may I wish you all a very happy and hopeful New Year!

Mark

THIS WEEK

Sunday 3 January - 10.00am Morning Service, Ss Philip & James Church*,
livestreamed via our Facebook page
followed by 'Zoom Coffee', [Meeting ID: 761 9820 6224](#), Passcode: 1eGHjT

Wednesday 6 January - 9.30am Midweek Service, [Zoom Meeting ID: 5089713920](#)

Thursday 7 January - 2.00pm Bible Study [Meeting ID: 863 6265 6730](#) Passcode: B3QKFa

Sunday 10 January - 8.00am Holy Communion (1662) in Ss Philip and James Church (no need to book)
- 10.00am Morning Service, Ss Philip & James Church*,
livestreamed via our Facebook page

* please sign up beforehand to attend Sunday 10.00am services in church in person, see inside for details.

Ss Philip & James Church is open for prayer Wednesdays 10.00am-3.00pm & Sundays 12noon-3.00pm.

PRAYERS FOR SUNDAY 3 JANUARY - EPIPHANY

TODAY'S 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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION 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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK . . .

Those in urgent need of our prayers including... Alona Beauchamp, Chris Butterfield, Angus Cairns and Timothy Rayment.

Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers... Matthew Allen, Gladys Barber, Marion Brown, Patricia Bull, Dilys Denney, Pearl (Frances) Draper, David and Yvonne Dunk, Jonathan Eddy, Joan Hall, Alan Harvey, Mollie Hayes, Dexter Heard, Sue Huddie, Catherine Holder, Garth Kellett, Bonnie Lewis, Roger Matcham, Sheila O'Connor, Gill Page, Matthew Parkes, John & Barbara Simson, Eileen Taylor, Erica Taylor, Jean Thomas, Tyler Thompson, John Tillyer and Molly Wilson.

Those who have died recently... Frederick Taylor and Patricia Leslie.

Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time... Francis Roark, Beatrice Gribble, Alice Loader, Gladys Neville, Eileen Mander, Vic Makepeace and Peggy Clarke

PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 4 JANUARY 2021

Meditation 'We live in a world of outrageous pain. The only response to outrageous pain is outrageous love.'
- Marc Gafni.

We give thanks for...Our unique and precious place in God's plan for the world.

Please pray....

Mon - For our team of Pastoral Assistants.

Tues - For our future relationship with the people of continental Europe.

Wed - For those who work in caring for our parks, roads and highways.

Thurs - For those who work in the charity shops of our town.

Fri - For those who suffer from back or neck pain.

Sat - For the people of the Sudan.

Sun - For those who join our worship online, especially those who have joined us recently.

ALL WEEK – For those who live in Copse Close, Copse End, Copse Lane, Corringway, Court Drive, Courtmoor Ave.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Please note that items with headlines underlined are new this week.

SERVICES IN CHURCH - Please contact Mary Goodson (01252 815103) by Friday if you would like to attend the 10.00am service in Ss Philip & James Church on Sunday. Face masks must be worn.

HAMPER RAFFLE - A big thank you to everyone who took part in our Christmas Hamper Raffle especially the members of the PCC who donated all the prizes. 1st Prize went to Ruth Waller, 2nd Prize to Enid Rayment and 3rd Prize to Anne Williamson. We raised £644 which will be split between Parish Funds and The Rebuilding Fund. I think we all enjoyed chatting on the phone or over email, sharing Christmas wishes and our hopes for the New Year and generally lifting our spirits.

GIVING OPTION - You can now donate to Parish funds by scanning this QR code with any smart phone with a QR reader on it - it takes you directly to a web page where you can make a donation.



FOR SALE - Armchair designed for an older person. Dark red. Donation to church funds. Contact 629059

NOTES ON THE READINGS FOR SUNDAY 3 JANUARY

[Isaiah 60.1-6](#) *Written when the Jews were returning from Babylon this poem prophesies that both scattered Jewry and the Gentiles will pay homage to the new Israel. The references to the 'abundance of the sea' and 'a multitude of camels' imply arrivals from the four points of the compass; in later times it was seen as a hint at the future visitation of the Magi.*

[Psalm 72.1-15](#) *The psalm dwells on the theme of a just king who leads his people.*

[Ephesians 3.1-12](#) *Paul explains in the verses immediately before this passage that although his non-Jewish readers were excluded from God's grace because of the Law, Christ, by abolishing the Law, now includes them. Paul here continues by humbling himself and further explains his message.*

[Matthew 2.1-12](#) *Matthew's gospel, which was written for Jewish readers, forever stresses that Christ's life and work was a fulfilment of the old prophecies. We see here how the Gentiles too can find Him when looking; also how evil was thwarted but only at the cost of the suffering that was to follow.*

A New Year's Prayer

*Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame*

*So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.*

- Author Unknown

PARISH CONTACTS

Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton ☎ 01252 219281 ✉ vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk

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Administrators, Chantelle Gardner & Elly Wilson *Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 1.00pm*

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