

**News Sheet – Sunday 7th January
Feast of Epiphany / The Baptism of Christ**

LINK FOR THE LIVESTREAM SERVICE - <https://cofewrecclesham.org.uk/streamed-services/>

Please click on the link from ten minutes beforehand and there will be the livestream link to take you to the service

Thank you to everyone involved in the services - and to those offering refreshments and hospitality today.

TODAY'S SERVICE – 7th January

8am - Holy Communion

10.30am – First Sunday Service for Epiphany / the Baptism of Christ

Readings & Hymns: There are **Pew Bibles** available to browse/follow the readings at the back of church

Lectionary for Epiphany: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Hymns - 716 We three kings – What child is this – 244 Hail to the Lord's anointed – 78 Cm Brightest and best – 42 As with gladness men of old

The Collect for 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.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE – 14th January 2024

8am - Holy Communion

10am – Parish Communion for the Second Sunday of Epiphany

TODAY'S MAIN NOTICES

Junior Church – I am praying for the mobilisation of a regular monthly (at least) Junior Church – is this something you might be interested in – or do you know someone who might like to be part of this? We have a very good resource that means the planning and prepping is already done – just the delivery and a heart for the little ones – that they get the chance to develop their faith and spirituality – and have fun along the way! We do have some funding to be allocated to a part-time role (3-4 hours per week) – if this option is of interested. **Please do come and speak to me or pass on my details if anyone would like a chat about this. (07806 775974 – jackieds8@hotmail.com)** In the meantime, please pray for the revival of our Junior Church and family ministry.

Calling all singers.... Do you like to sing? Come and join our informal choir. No experience needed, you don't need to read music or commit to regular Sundays. We will meet at 9.30 before the service to run through the hymns with David - just turn up. For more information please contact me on 07548830018 or email carolzeiher@sky.com.

OTHER HEADLINES / CHURCH NOTICES

THIS WEEK'S THANK YOUs... To all of us for being there for each other and doing what we can for the love of the Lord and our St Peter's Church! ☺

PRAYERS FOR:

John Birch, Andrew Steward, John Arbury, Penny Cleland, Andrew Jones, Gerald Martin, Zoe Perkins – for all who are poorly, and give thanks for the healing and ongoing wellbeing of all recovering and on the mend from illness....

RIP – Sylvia Ryder (d.16.12.23) please pray for Fiona and husband Scott as they mourn...

Sylvia's funeral will take place 1pm, Thursday 1st February 2024 at Aldershot Crematorium followed by a Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving at St Peter's Church at 2.15pm – followed by refreshments in the Leverton Hall – people are most welcome to attend either/both services and the reception..

Years Mind: We remember all those dear to us whose years' mind falls around this time.....: (*please let Jacqueline know if you would like someone remembered by name ...*)

Please also pray for the life and work of our Church, that we might be part of God's revival, and loving and transforming grace here in our place...

Please contact Jacqueline on vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk or 716431 / 07806 775974 if you have a notice to share – or if you would like to talk about something else – her day off is a Monday....

HELP NEEDED, PLEASE – techy team rota - we would like to extend the team - it is not as challenging as it sounds! Please do speak to Rob/Jacqueline or any of our wonderful Techy Team if you would like to know more – you will be on the rota roughly once every 4/5 weeks – you can work with another person if you like to be in a team!

WRECCLESHAM OVER 60'S – On 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month @ 1.30pm – a lovely group meet at the Leverton Hall – please pick up a leaflet for information....

Farnham Foodbank

THE BASKET IS NOW LOCATED ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF THE CHURCH BY THE DOOR

Please only donate long-life goods – fresh and perishable goods cannot be accepted – thank you for all that you contribute

- **Please** continue to put donations in the basket and Lizzy Hendry will kindly be taking the food to the Foodbank – thank you everyone...

Contact: mail: info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk or call 07901 58153 visit our website farnham.foodbank.org.uk or follow on Facebook [facebook.com/farnhamfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/farnhamfoodbank)

GENERAL NOTICES

- **Lions Fuel Appeal** - Farnham Lions, for the 12th year running, are again launching the Wenceslas Appeal for anyone who might be in a position to donate their Winter Fuel Payment to help local people and families who will find it hard to keep warm and cook in these coming months – an amazing £57,000 was distributed to people in need who were referred via the Citizens Advice and Farnham Support Fund, Farnham Foodbank and other charities...

Donations can be made to <https://www.lionsgiving.co.uk/Appeal/farnhamwenceslas> or by cheque (payable to Farnham Lions Club CIO and endorsed WFP on the back) sent to Farnham Lions Club, 45 Edward Road, Farnham GU9 8NP

- **Farnham Assist** — Farnham Assist reach out to older people who live alone or who are carers – there are fliers at the back of church. **Please do take one if you or anyone you know might benefit from becoming part of the Farnham Assist community** – monthly Sunday lunches – pie & pint club for gentlemen – knit & natter – Ladies pub lunches – day trips & walks – and transport to help – it's all there...
- **GRANTS - Waverley Borough Council**
 - For Waverley residents on a lower income and living in a hard to heat home that is not heated by gas – check for eligibility for new government funding to make your home more energy efficient and reduce household bills. HELPLINE 01483 523204 – OR LOOK ONLINE AT:
<https://www.waverley.gov.uk/Council-updates/Read-our-latest-news/ArtMID/1683/ArticleID/1321/Waverley-residents-urged-to-apply-for-free-grants-to-heat-homes>
- **Diocese News** - If you would like to receive news and information from the Diocese, please sign up to their [weekly parish brief](#).

LECTIONARY READINGS for The Epiphany

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 60:1-6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.
Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm.
Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.”

Second Reading: Ephesians 3.1-12

¹I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 2:1-2

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.