

EPIPHANY

Sunday 7 January 2018



This Sunday

8am

President:

Said Eucharist (BCP)

Rev. Dr. Robert Tobin

10.30am

President:

Lay Deacon:

Preacher:

Readers:

Intercessor:

Setting:

OoS:

Readings:

Sung Festal Eucharist

Rev. Dr. Robert Tobin

Charlie Dyer

Rev. Dr. Robert Tobin

Ann Watkins

Charlie Dyer

Rose Harley

St. Thomas

Special

Isaiah 60.1-6

Ephesians 3.1-12

Matthew 2.1-12

6.30pm

Officiant:

Psalm(s):

Readings:

Evening Prayer (BCP)

Rev. Dr. Robert Tobin

98, 100

Baruch 4.36-end of 5

John 2.1-11

Collect, Hymns and Readings

Introit:

As With Gladness (NEH 47)

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.

Amen

First Reading:

Isaiah 60.1-6

A reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading:

Ephesians 3.1-12

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians

This is the reason that I 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 to 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 to 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual:

Brightest And Best (NEH 49, second tune)

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 2.1-12

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Matthew

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.' ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Offertory:

From The Eastern Mountains (NEH 50)

Communion Anthem:

Christ Be Our Light (Farrell)

Communion Hymn:

In The Bleak Midwinter (NEH 28)

Post Communion Prayer:

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.
Amen.

Dismissal:

O Worship The Lord (NEH 52)

Church News

FORMAL NOTICE OF PCC MEETING

Wednesday January 17

The meeting of the Parochial Church Council of St Mary and St John the Divine will take place on Wednesday, 17 January 2018 at 7.45pm in the Narthex.

TRAINING SESSION FOR CHALICE ADMINISTRATORS

Saturday February 10

For those chalice administrators (both old and new) who were unable to attend the training session we held before Christmas, a second session will take place on Saturday, 10 February 2018 from 11am-12. Please see the Vicar for more information.

MARY'S LITTLE LAMBS - HELP NEEDED!

Our playgroup is popular and enjoyed by adults and children alike and we normally have around 30 children per session. We rely on volunteers from our church to run this important service to the community. Rosie, who was one of the founder members as a young mum, has been an essential part of the team but has now returned to paid employment. She has left a big gap and so we are looking for any support which you may be able to offer.

We are open from 9.30 till 11.00, with setting up from 8.30 and clearing up/sorting equipment till about 11.15. We would welcome offers to arrive early to help set-up, or to arrive about 10.45 to help clear away, or to come during the session itself to be available for the children or to chat to the adults. OR any combination of the above! Please do come and have a chat if you think you could help in any way. The Little Lambs Team - Moira, Annette, Nicky and Julian.

LECTIO DIVINA

Wednesday January 10

The Lectio Divina prayer group meets the second Wednesday of each month. This is an opportunity to contemplate the divine presence through scripture, to be still, and to allow God to speak to you in new ways. The next session of Lectio Divina will take place this Wednesday, 10 January from 7-8.30pm at the home of Mike Mullins and Paula Reynolds: 11 Fieldhouse Road, Balham SW12 0HL (10 min walk from Balham tube). Please see Mike Mullins for more information.

AROUND THE TABLE

Wednesday January 17

Around the Table is a study group which welcomes everyone wherever you happen to be on your journey of faith. It thrives on the discussion of differing opinions. We start with a passage of scripture and examine it in the context and culture of the time in which it was written. We then try to see what we can learn from it and understand what it means for us in our own contemporary society. We conclude each evening by saying Compline together.

This year we are looking at the Gospel of Mark who was writing to offer hope and an authentic image of Christ to a community living in chaotic and uncertain times. It is designed to work equally well as a complete study or individual studies – so come to as many or as few as you like.

The next session is on Wednesday January 17 at 7.30pm. We generally finish by around 8.45pm. And refreshments are provided! Speak to Chris for more information.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY JANUARY COUNT

Calling all Children's Society Box Holders. Please return your box to church so they can be emptied and counted. Thank you, Diane.

DATE FOR DIARY - PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF ST ALBAN

Please hold Saturday 23 June 2018 for Parish Pilgrimage to St Albans Abbey for their Festival Celebration.

Leave St Mary's 8am and return around 7pm by train via Watford Junction.

Street procession, Eucharist, Pub Lunch and Solemn Evensong with visit to the Shrine.

Cost will be £12 - £15 each and will be organised by Alex and Father Mike

DEANERY RESILIENCE TRAINING EVENT

In light of the Grenfell Tower fire and other major incidents, it has become clear what an important role local churches can play in moments of public crisis. In recognition of this fact, we will be holding a Deanery 'Resilience Training' event here at St Mary's on Thursday, 1 February at 7.30pm. The Archdeacon of Croydon, the Venerable Chris Skilton, will address us and help us to consider how we might best respond collectively, should a major incident occur in our Deanery Area. Everyone is very welcome. Please see the Vicar for more information.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

Meeting to explore responses to hate and knife crime, and to isolation in our community.

Churches Together in Balham and Upper Tooting will meet on **Thursday 18th January** (this is a change to the earlier notice) at the Salvation Army church ([38 Balham High Road Sw12 9AH](#)). This is the first day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

There will be a prayer meeting from 19.00 until 19.30 to which everyone is welcome. Tea and coffee will be available from 19.30. There will then be a brief business meeting for reps, during which you may remain or take a second cup of tea in an alternative space if you prefer. At approx 20.00 we are hoping to have a speaker from the Wandsworth Faith Network to talk about possible responses to hate and knife crime among youth in our area and to isolation among older members of our community. Possible projects could be a Youth Club and a Befriending Service, supported by churches within Balham and upper Tooting. We hope that as many as possible will give their support to this presentation. Do feel free to attend any or all parts of the above. Speak to Moira, Rose or Susanne for more information.

Coming Up

Sunday 7 January (Epiphany)

8am Said Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Sung Festal Eucharist
6.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Tuesday 9 January

8am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 10 January

8am Morning Prayer
9.30am Little Lambs
12.30pm Said Eucharist
7pm Lectio Divina

Thursday 11 January

8am Morning Prayer

Friday 12 January

8am Morning Prayer

Saturday 13 January

9.30am Morning Prayer
10am Coffee & Chat

Wednesday 17 January

7.30pm Around The Table
7.45pm PCC

Thursday 1 February

7.30pm Resilience Training

Box On The High Road

Due to the good response to Crisis we have decided to continue to support them throughout January.

If you would like to nominate a charity, one per month throughout the year, local or national then please speak with the Vicar or Churchwardens.

Our Prayers This Week

Our world:

- For all places where people are too frightened for their lives to attend worship this morning and where children are unable to attend school

Our church:

- Giving thanks for our family of St. Mary's that we continue to grow in faith over the coming year

A complete list of prayer requests can be found in the printed version of this pewsheet

Contact Details

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