

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**
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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Wednesday 18th – Wednesday 25th January is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

We are in the season of 'Epiphany'. Epiphany means manifestation, showing forth, or revelation, and so this season is one where we particularly celebrate and give thanks for the revelation of God's love and glory through the incarnation, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. As St Paul writes in his letter to the Colossians, Christ is the image of the unseen God, the one through whom all things have been created. As we look into the heart of Jesus through reading about his teaching and ministry, we are looking into the very heart of God himself. That is perhaps why the reading of a passage from the Gospels is given such prominence and solemnity when we come together to celebrate the Eucharist – as we listen to the words and actions of Jesus, we are encountering God himself through His Son. What a huge privilege !!

There are three particular 'manifestations' that are celebrated during the Epiphany season, and the Eucharistic Prayer we use in Epiphany-tide draws attention to these: the coming of the Magi, often visualised as three Kings or Wise Men with their camels; the baptism of Christ; and Jesus's first miracle, turning water into wine at the Wedding Feast in Cana. This year, we will be celebrating the Presentation of Christ on the



last Sunday of Epiphany so we miss the story of the wedding feast on Sunday morning – but it is well known to us, how Jesus attends a wedding feast with Mary, his Mother, and the disciples. The wine runs out, but the steward of the wedding feast follows Jesus's instructions and finds the water he had filled stone water jugs with is miraculously changed into the very best vintage wine.

We are used to this as signifying the fulfilment of the Old Testament in the much richer and more joyful New Covenant that Jesus inaugurates in his own blood on the cross, and which he shares with us in the bread and wine of the Eucharist. The picture I have chosen shows unmistakable similarity with representations of the Last Supper. And it looks forward to the Heavenly Banquet to which we are all invited.

This suggests two questions for us: do we embrace and live out the glory and richness of life in the New Covenant, the rich new wine, into which Jesus calls us? Or do we to some extent persist in our old ways of 'half-living', as Bishop John Taylor called it in one of his Lent books? Do we restrict God to just the 'holy part' of our lives, or do we rejoice in him being included in the 'whole part' of our lives? Do we survive on water, or do we exalt in the richness of God's new wine?

Secondly, if we have learnt to rejoice in this new wine of the love, grace and richness that God offers us, how apparent is that to those around us – do we rejoice in letting others know of the joy we have discovered (or rather, that God has revealed to us and invited us into), do we share this joy with those who so deeply need it? The manifestation of God's grace and love that we profess is not just for us alone – it is for all, and if we keep it to ourselves it becomes hard work and eventually it turns mouldy.

It is God's love and joy, and this New Wine is meant for sharing !! With apologies to Quality Street.....



Fr John

RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 19 January

3.00pm *Open the Book at All Saints School*

7.00pm Class in the Birinus Room for those seeking Baptism and Confirmation

8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 20

10.00am **Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre**

1.30pm Boyne Hill Infant School Visit to the Church

Sunday 22

10.00am **Parish Eucharist for the Third Sunday of Epiphany**

Celebrant: Fr John Preacher: Fr Jeremy

12 noon Holy Baptism

Please pray for Clementine Lucia Collins, Noah Velcaenbach, their parents and godparents

We pray for the recently departed: Dorothy Chalk, Larisa Stephenson, Ramon Lobb, Gail Brown and Gerald Newth. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray for their families and friends and for all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 22 JANUARY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

COLLECT

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.

O T READING Isaiah 9: 1 - 4

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

GOSPEL Matthew 4: 12 - 23

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: 'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.' From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

MUSIC

Prelude: Dialogue No 1 *P Hurford*

Opening Hymn: AM 104 Songs of thankfulness and praise

Gradual: AM 588 And can it be

Offertory: AM 510 Will you come and follow me

Communion: AM 460 O thou, who at thy Eucharist, didst pray

Closing Hymn: AM 563 Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets

Postlude: Allegro in D minor *C V Stanford*

FLOWERS FOR 2023

There may still be a few weeks available on the Flower Sponsors' Board on the table at the back of the Church. This is a very appropriate way to remember loved ones we no longer see or to celebrate anniversaries, that special birthday or occasion. Sponsoring a week ensures that we can have flowers in the church on that Sunday and relieves the PCC funds of any cost whatsoever. We are sure you are aware of the pleasure the flowers give to everyone and would like to thank you in anticipation for your continued support. Would you please give your Sponsor donation, prior to your chosen week, to Stella Harding and inform her of any colour or flower preference you might have, and we will do our best to accommodate. If Stella is not available, please feel free to use one of the envelopes with the board and hand it into the Church Office.

The Flower Team

DRAUGHTBUSTERS

See attachment to this week's Parish News about a Royal Borough Service which goes to people's houses to help them cut down draughts, mainly round doors and windows but also loft hatches etc.

It's a free service, but if people feel able they're asked to make a donation towards the cost of draughtproofing materials etc.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY – WALSINGHAM

We have booked the following dates at Walsingham for our 2023 pilgrimage: Monday 25th- Friday 29th September (4 nights). If you might be interested in joining us do put these dates into your brand new 2023 diary. I will be looking for names and deposits around Eastertime so you have a little time to think before you need to put your name down.

Fr John

FOODSHARE

In these hard times Foodshare are more in need of our help than ever. Each week in the Maidenhead Advertiser there is a list of items most wanted.

LET US FIX YOUR DRAUGHTY HOME FOR **FREE!**

Stopping draughts will **save you money** and make you feel more **comfortable**.



STEP Energy Advice: How to draught proof your windows, find gaps, and have a warmer home.

We especially want to help people who might find it difficult to heat their home.

CONTACT US



RBWMdraughtbusters@gmail.com
07548 594413 and leave a message

RBWM DRAUGHTBUSTERS