



Welcome to St. Michael and All Angels, Amersham on the Hill.

Please take this sheet home with you for future reference.

07 January, 2018

Epiphany

8.00am. - Said Eucharist.

10.00am. – Sung Eucharist with Incense.

You can follow the service in the booklet given to you as you came in. This week's readings are printed out below. Please use the time before the service to be quiet and to prepare for worship.

Introit: (sung by choir) Lord of Life, we come to you:
Lord of all, our Saviour be:
come to bless and to heal
with the light of your love.

Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the people 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.**

Alternative Collect

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Isaiah 60.1–6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. 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. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 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. 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. 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.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72 vv. 10-15.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts. All kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall do him service.

Response

For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, the needy and those who have no helper.

He shall have pity on the weak and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

Response

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Long may he live; unto him may be given gold from Sheba;

may prayer be made for him continually and may they bless him all the day long.

Response

Ephesians 3.1–12

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. 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: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of 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. 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, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; 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. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Matthew 2.1–12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 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.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "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.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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.' When 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Music during Communion: What child is this?

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.**

Services this week

THE LADY CHAPEL is available for prayer and meditation from 9.30am. Monday-Saturday.

TUESDAY-SATURDAY 9.00am. MORNING PRAYER from 'Celebrating Common Prayer' - Lady Chapel –

A gentle 20 minute service of prayer, psalms and readings. All welcome at any time. There is a simplified service booklet available in the Lady Chapel, which can be used by anyone, should no priest be present.

TUESDAY 10.30am. SAID EUCHARIST

NEXT SUNDAY 8.00am. SAID EUCHARIST. 10.00am. 2gether All-age worship

Readings for next Sunday–1 Samuel 3.1-20; John 1.43-end

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

PRAYER CHAIN AND PRAYER WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

A number of people pray at home for St. Michael's and for specific needs or thanksgivings that people may have. If you would like to be part of this network or have a prayer request, please contact Joy Tobler on 818172. If anyone would like prayer with laying on of hands, either for themselves or for someone else, this ministry is available after church services. Please ask a member of the healing team, whose names are on the 'Healing Board', or any of the clergy.

CHRISTMAS MATERIAL ON THE WEBSITE

If you were unable to get to St. Michael's to see the Christmas Tree Festival, or if you would like to have another look, photographs of all the decorated trees can be found at

http://www.stmichaelsamersham.org.uk/photos/gallery.php?gallery_id=7&pg=1

The sermons given by The Revd. Debbie and The Revd. Peter Binns over the Christmas period can likewise be accessed online. You can listen or download them at <http://www.stmichaelsamersham.org.uk/media/>

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

Jenny Baker writes:- 'Once again our family is collecting used Christmas and other greeting cards in aid of the historic Anglican Church of St Thomas Becket, Hamburg. The scheme raises over €7000 p.a. for the Church. Its British co-ordinator, Judith Holst is enormously grateful for the annual consignment of used cards from our congregation at St. Michael and All Angels, Amersham. As usual there will be collecting boxes under the letters table where you can leave your cards. We are asked to exclude any cards with glitter, as this causes problems for the volunteer team when cutting and glueing to create the new cards'.

WHEELER COFFEE –St Michael's – Tuesday, 09 January - 10.00am. – midday

Hot drinks and/or squash with biscuits, with an opportunity for a chat.

TUESDAY CLUB LUNCH – Ramon's – Tuesday, 09 January 12noon for 12.30pm.

The annual lunch will take place at Ramon's, next to St Michael's. All are welcome. Further details from David Beattie Tel:725333 or Peter Binns Tel:01296 330836.

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB- Wheeler Room- Friday, 12 January - 2.00pm. – 4.00pm.

The Hundred Year Old Man who Climbed out of the Window and Disappeared – A Swedish film in English, about a man who decides to climb out of the window at his nursing home. He embarks on a hilarious and entirely unexpected journey.
Running time – 110 mins.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL –Sunday, 14 January– after the 10.00am. service

Orders for items should be given to Sue Eames, or left in the Office to ensure availability on the stall.

NOT-ONE-FOR-LUNCH - Lady Chapel –Monday, 15 January - 12.45pm. for 1.00pm.

For those who live alone and eat alone, run by the Pastoral Care Team - an opportunity to meet old and new friends in a very informal atmosphere. If you would like to come, but have difficulty with transport, please call Alison Woodnutt on 721420.

MESSY CHURCH–St Michael's - Saturday, 20 January - 11.30am. – 1.00pm.

Family Fun Saturday! Crafts. Song and Dance. Lunch for everyone. You choose what you want to do. This month's theme is *The Widow's Offering*. No need to book in advance. Just come along. No charge.

QUIET MORNING – St. Michael's - Wheeler Room – Thursday, 25 January – 10.00am. – 12.15pm.

A time of reflection and silence, a space to relax gently with God. Any queries to Joy Tobler Tel. 818172.

"POP IN AND PAINT" - St Michael's – Friday, 26 January– 10.30am. – 12.15pm.

Join Jenny Thompson and Liz Grammenos from Simpatico. No experience needed - only enthusiasm and interest. All materials supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own paints. If you prefer just to come along for a chat and to watch the proceedings, that's fine too! Further information from Judy Redpath on 725271.

HEALING AND WHOLENESS - Lady Chapel – Wednesday, 07 February - 3.00pm. 3.30pm. & 4.15pm.

Sessions last 30 minutes. Please arrive before the start of your preferred time. Appointments are not necessary. If you would like to come but need transport, please call Joy Johns on 729061.

SHROVE TUESDAY SOCIAL – Pizza Express, Sycamore Road – Tuesday, 13 February

This is an opportunity to bring together the various strands of St. Michael's family who worship at different times, and so may not know each other. The start of Lent may seem a long way off, but we need to get some idea of numbers so that we can book tables. Exact time to be confirmed but it will probably be early evening. If you are interested, please add your name(s) to the form on the letters table. Doing so is not a binding commitment.

DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO OBERGAMMERGAU - June 2020

Amersham Deanery is organising a 7 night pilgrimage to Bavaria that will be centred around the Passion Play, but will also include other sites of both Christian importance and general interest. Further information can be found on the leaflets on the letters table, or at

<http://www.amershamdeanery.org.uk/oberammergau.html> Anyone interested is asked to let the Church Office know before the end of January so numbers can be passed on to the Deanery Lay Chair.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCH BREAK - Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 09 January - Midday to 2pm.

Lunch Café with coffee, speciality teas and snack lunches, daily newspapers. The church is open for quiet reflection and offers a varied programme of music, worship, meditation and speakers between 1.10pm. and 1.30pm. We are open for anyone who wants a bit of an oasis during the week at lunch time every Tuesday.

This week: Helping Refugees in Jordan: Sally Dugan

SAMARA'S AID APPEAL COLLECTION - St Andrew's Church, Chorleywood – Sunday, 21 January – Wednesday, 24 January

The charity provides medical and humanitarian aid for displaced people and refugees in Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon & the Middle East. Donations are requested of clean clothing in VERY GOOD condition (or new) for men, women, boys, girls, babies; bedding, blankets, duvets, (clean, no stains); zimmer frames, wheel chairs, crutches; nappies, sanitary towels etc; baby boxes, dignity bags, smiley bags for children. For further information please contact Jo Harrington on 763471, or visit the web site samarasaidappeal.org.uk