

Today the Bellringers will be taking part in the services as well as ringing between services and offering 'have a go' after the 10am service.

Opening Hymn 641 v1-3

Hymns are not sung at the 8.30am service

The Collect (prayer for the day)

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*

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. ⁶A 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.

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.

Hymn 724 v1 & chorus

Gospel *Matthew 2.1-12*

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ²'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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel recession **Hymn 724 v2-4 & choruses**

As Sunday School leaves **hymn 724 v5 & chorus**

Sermon Canon Janet

The Intercessions are led by

8.30 Anne Pycock 10am Mark Reynolds

Offertory Hymn 49

During this Hymn the collection is taken

Hymns during the administration of Holy Communion: 152 (2nd tune), 729

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.**

Recessional Hymn 99

NOTICES

Welcome to all who are worshipping today for School admission purposes. Please pick up an envelope which tells you more. You need to sign in each week.

Welcome to the 2019 wedding couples. After the 10am service 'grab' a coffee and we gather in the chancel (near the altar).

The January-mid February calendar is available today.

Dismantling Christmas Decorations in the Pastoral Centre Monday 7 January at 9am. Help welcome.

Mothers' Union – will meet at the Black Horse on Monday 7 January, 12noon for 12.30pm meal. Everyone welcome: grateful if you could let me know if planning to come so I can book some tables! Rowena

Choir Practice (and mini-party) 8pm Monday at the Rectory. Bring diaries so we can sort out future dates

'Piphey Pudding Party' 7-8.30pm Sat 12 January. Games, fun and fellowship bring some pudding to share and your own drinks. Free. Suitable for those 5-95!

Holy Dusters Church cleaning will take place Tues 15 Jan at 9.30am. Come and help us to make our lovely church Shine for the New Year.

Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer – Wednesday 16 January 8am. This will be incorporated into Morning Prayer in Church. Please attend if possible or use the service sheet in private prayer at home. Rowena.

The next **Informal Lunch** is on Monday 21 January, at 12 noon in the Baptist Church – please sign the list in the porch.

Faith Discussion Group This will resume on 29 January with 'Hot Topics' - a short series on ethical issues.

Meetings coming up (in Pastoral Centre unless stated otherwise)

- Christmas Fayre 'Review & Crumble' 7.30pm at the Rectory
- Those involved in Publicity 9am Thursday 10 Jan
- Worship Committee 7pm Monday 14 January
- Churches Together in Northfield 7.30pm Tuesday 15 January at Methodist Church
- Gridiron Planning 11.30am Tuesday 15 January
- Fabric Committee 7pm Tuesday 22 January
- PCC 7pm Thursday 24 January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from 18-25 January.

- There will be the usual local 'exchange of congregations' - why not attend a different church for a change? In this way we hope to understand more about our fellow Christians in Northfield. Flyers with the full list of services

available next week and also a list on the noticeboard in the porch and Pastoral Centre.

- A time of fellowship over a drink in The Black House at **5pm** on the Sunday evening.
- Pray24Brum is being held at Carrs Lane Church on Friday 18 & Sat 19 Jan. See notice in porch for fuller details. Northfield Churches are responsible for 2-3pm on Saturday 19 January.

"100" Club – final call for new organiser(s)? It does raise over £500 a year split between the church and the Children's Society.

Clare Blackshaw writes: Thank you to everyone who put together **shoebboxes** of gifts for operation Christmas Child. We provided 28 boxes and have received a certificate of thanks from the Area Organiser.

We need to insulate a roof void in the Pastoral Centre. Often when **insulation** is fitted there is part of a roll left over which is left in the loft. If you have any spare rolls please drop it off in church or the office. Ideally it should be at least 10" (250 – 270mm) deep.

Weekly events

'Stay and Play' (Parent/carer & baby/toddler group) Mondays 9.30-11am. Restarts on 14 January.

St. Laurence Community Choir in Church Monday's 6-7pm restarts on 7 January

Gridiron Coffee Morning Pastoral Centre Tuesdays 10 – 11.30am. Coffee, Board Games & chat. Restarts 8 January 2019.

Church Open on Saturdays 10-11.30am. We have now joined the 'Places of Welcome' national scheme so will continue to open in January and February.

For your prayers

Those who are ill including: Richard Barber (Steph and all the family) and Prema Louis

Those who have died: Sheila Scriven: memorial service 11am Friday 11 January, Vera Fairburn

Prayer requests may be left in the tray in the Remembrance Chapel. They are included in Morning and Evening Prayer several times a week.

Baptism & Wedding Enquiries

Please come to Parish Surgery Wednesdays 5.45 – 6.30pm in the Pastoral Centre 173 Church Road, Northfield, B31 2LX

Contact Details

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