



Sunday 12th January

The First Sunday after the Epiphany



Epiphany Is the celebration of the wise men who visited Jesus led by the star, bringing gifts giving clues of what the infant came to do. We often miss the interaction with Herod in Matthew's gospel and the intervention of a dream to redirect them away from Killer King Herod, out to kill this new born king. Last weekend we had 10 of our own 'wise' men gathering on Saturday morning at the vicarage

for a cooked breakfast and time of shared testimonies. I am hoping that these gatherings become a regular opportunity bimonthly to encourage the men in our church (ladies watch out as plans are in the pipeline for a women's breakfast with Lorna). This week we also started a new initiative - a monthly prayer and praise evening on the first Tuesday of the Month (with a Lunchtime prayer and praise starting next month) pencil it in your diaries to come and join us to pray and hear what God is doing in our Church.

Later today we have a new songs workshop at 5pm. **Hope Explored** starts this week, we have 20 signed up!

It starts next Tuesday at 3pm at the vicarage (14/21/28 Jan) and Wednesday evenings 7.30pm 22nd, 29th Jan and 5th Feb. There is room for a few more to sign up if you are able to come - see the back of church clipboard or email the office.

Last week we were introduced to Dr Luke and a Jedi? We plan to see more of Dr Luke as we continue to preach through the gospel this term adding a new weekly all age focus at the beginning of the services. This Sunday also starts our new youth group during the Sunday morning service to complement the Junior church that Helen and her team run. Movie night is this week, Youth are going bowling, and all groups are back to normal, SMART, Knit Wits etc This Sunday we join John the Baptist as he fulfils Isaiah's prophecy, longing that "all people will see God's salvation." May that be our prayer in Oatlands today. See you Sunday. Yours in Christ. Mark.

This Week's Bible Readings: Isa 43: 1-7, Acts 8: 14-17 and Luke 3: 15-22

Please pray for: Give us true love for those who share Christian fellowship and teach us to be concerned for your children, who are not joined with us in faith. **From CofE**

Calendar: Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167; Benedict Biscop, Abbot of Wearmouth, Scholar, 689. **Anglican Diocese:** The Church of the Province of West Africa. **Parish:** The Good Shepherd Farnborough. **Incumbent:** Thea Edwards.

Other clergy: Mark Rudall (PTO). **LLMs:** Brian Fisher (PTO), Jeremy Lake, Richard Troughton. **Prayer Requests:** For faith and fun at our Messy Church worship, and

blessings on our 'no questions asked bag' containing food essentials for local families scheme. **We continue to pray:** Break through the barriers that set people apart and the suspicion that makes them walk alone. We especially remember America as their new president and his team will soon take office, for Syria, the Middle East, Sudan, Ukraine, and so many other places. We pray for those whom you have entrusted to us in

your love, our family and our friends. **We remember our Mission partners:** The Bible Society, the Leprosy Mission, Rentstant and the Foodbank. We ask that you have mercy on all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Restore to them fullness of life, that they may service you with joy and thankfulness.

We pray for the sick in our parish: Especially remembering all who suffer from mental ill health and are victims of abuse and discrimination. We commit to your gracious keeping thankfulness those who have passed their brief time in this world and have now returned to you, the Giver of all life. Amen. **The recently departed:** David & Annelies Reynolds, David Cain, Pam Winton, Madge Campbell, Angela Menderson, Diana Sampson, Victor Banes and Julia Phelps. **From the Memorial Book at their year's mind:** David Edwards, Beryl Davies, Muriel Rutherford, Pamela Smith, Peggy Isherwood, Mollie Birks, Leonard Neary, Jerney Martin, George Hoerder, Ann Boyns, Joan Tomlinson, Donald Yardley, Stanley Burningham, Mary Carnegie-Potts, Leslie Taylor, Denis Desty and Betty McCowen. These prayers, those said aloud and those said in the stillness of our hearts we commend to you in our Lord Jesus' name.



The funeral of the late Victor Charles Banes will take place on Thurs 23rd Jan at 3.30pm at Randalls Park Crematorium.



Colouring Club and Knit Wits: Wed 15th 12.30-2pm. Let your mind roam whilst colouring. Bring a packed lunch, we will provide the tea, coffee and company. Contact Hugh.

Film Night Wed 15th Jan 6.30pm for a light meal and drinks. Film 7pm. Please use the signing-up sheet at the back of the Church.

Meeting Point: A friendly over 60's lunch club in the church hall. Next Meeting on Wed 22nd Jan 12.30-2.30pm

Community Ceilidh 'Burns Night' with a hot buffet supper Sat 25th Jan 6.30-9pm

In the Church Hall, with a small live in-house band! Tickets £20 pp in advance will be available soon from the Parish Office. A Family Ticket (2 adults and up to 3 children over 10yrs) is available for £40. BYOB (bring your own booze) we will provide the soft drinks and food.

Pirates! Holiday Club A Church led Holiday Club. Wed 19th Feb -Fri 21st Feb 9am-3pm. Open to school Year 3,4,5 and 6 children. Running during usual school hours. £20 per child - includes a T-Shirt and snacks. Please speak to Revd Mark or Leon.

Monthly Prayer and Praise evening on the first Tuesday of the Month 7-8.30pm in the church (with a *Lunchtime* Prayer and Praise starting next month) pencil it in your diaries to come and join us to pray and hear what God is doing in our Church.

New Song Worship Sun 12th Jan 5-5-45pm in the Church

Join us as Jenifer and Mark teach us a 'new' hymn/song to sing in February!

Light up the Church This week the floodlighting of the church has been sponsored by **Jonathan Boyns** 'In loving memory of Ann Boyns'. Jonathan, Nicola and Edward.

*If you would like to sponsor the lights for an anniversary or other special occasion, please contact: parishoffice@oatlandschurch.org.uk
01932 231274*

