



26 January 2025

The Third Sunday of Epiphany Welcome to our services today

9am: Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am: Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
4pm: Lego Church in the Bede House

Music: Organist St. John's: Hilary Goodman, **Hymns: 664, 629, 698.**
Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar, **Hymns: 466, 388, 391, 271.**
Anthem: Blest are the pure in heart, *Walford Davies*.

The Benefice Online Services; 'Meeting Point' and 'Celtic Midweek Liturgy' are for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week. <https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/online-worship>

Tues 28 1 – 3pm Knit and natter at St John's
 7pm – *St Mary's PCC at the Vicarage*
 7.30pm Bellingring practice at St Mary's
Wed 29 10am Morning Prayer at St Mary's
Thurs 30 10am Said Eucharist at St Mary's with Coffee & chat to 12noon

Sunday 2 February 2025 Candlemas

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am All Age Eucharist at St Mary's

Collect Prayer.

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

I Corinthians 12:12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes

of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

Post Communion Prayer.

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children are welcome at all our Services in both churches, we have children’s areas with colouring and toys and are looking at ways to better include them in all we do. We understand that some of our services can seem long to little ones, and it is absolutely fine if they need to wriggle or play or move around.

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Karen Addis, Brian Bond, Liz Boughton, Nola Brockhouse, Simon Brown, Ian Challen, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Lynda & Peter Etheridge, Freda Fernyhough, Christine Franklin, Andrew Fulcher, Colin Gilkes, Sandra Hill, Margaret Janowski, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Lorcan McLaren (age 11), Emily Ogden, Freda Pack, Ken & Val Robinson, Fr. Nichols Spencer, Elizabeth Swindley, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke. **St John’s:** Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Nick Kirk, Lesley Littlejohn, Dr Northover, Brenda May, Lynn Redgagte, Arthur & Anita Wright.

In memoriam: Tony Lewis, Shirley Goodman

Year’s mind anniversaries: Enid Wagstaff, Margaret Allen, Maragret Longstaff, Michael Best, Sally Measures, Janice Newman, Spencer Leeson (Bishop), Mary Dee, Elizabeth Horn, Emily Caswell, Harold Carmichael, Mabel Robinson, Dorothy Ball, Albert Valentine, James Stokes, William Martin, Ethel Hill, Cecil Holyoak, George Wagstaff, Robert Cowell, Oliver Holyoak, Derrick Green, Laura Warr, Leonard Groome, Sharon Purvis, Oliver Holyoak, Mavis Brittin, Leslie Jennings, Nellie Compton, Maynard Baxter, Daisy Foster, Susan Darnell, George Groome, Clar Carmichael, Bertha Knight, Emmeline Burrows, Florence Wood, John Pentelow, Maynard Baxter, John Pack, Harold Binder, James Patrick, Naomi Brittin, Madge Daly, Muriel Richardson.

NOTICES

ST. MARY'S

Children's corner – the render repairs have been completed and now need to dry out before they can be painted.

LEGO Church – 4pm on 4th Sunday each month – this Sunday **26 January** and we will be looking at a blinding flash of light on a road to Damascus which changed a man's life. Please let us know if you are coming!

ST JOHN'S

Snowdrop Weekend - 15 Feb 10am - 4pm & 16 Feb 11am- 4pm.

If you have any good quality bric-a-brac we will be collecting it up until Friday 7 February only. We will need lots of cakes, can you bake some? With many thanks from the 'Snowdrop team' - any questions please call Richard Kirk on 07773 309834

Knit and Natter, 1-3pm 28 Jan, 25 Feb.

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

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Churchwardens:

St. John's; Arthur Wright 01933 624530, and Andrew Wager 07789 286398
St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

The office is open Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30am to 2.30pm. Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.

Mthr Louise is off duty Wed 29 January to Tues 4 February.