

Chesterfield Parish Church Saint Mary & All Saints

Only a Rumour *Søren Kierkegaard*

Although the scribes could explain where the Messiah should be born, they remained quite unperturbed in Jerusalem. They did not accompany the Wise Men to seek him. Similarly we may be able to explain every article of our faith, yet remain spiritually motionless. The power that moved heaven and earth leaves us completely unmoved.



"I never believe a rumour unless it's official!"

What a contrast! The three kings had only a rumour to go by. But it spurred them to set out on a long, hard journey. The scribes, meanwhile, were much better informed, much better versed. They had sat and studied the scriptures for years, like so many professors. But it didn't make any difference. Who had the more truth? Those who followed a rumour, or those who remained sitting, satisfied with all their knowledge?

Epiphany Sunday (5th January 2025)

- 08.30 Holy Communion (1662)
- 10.30 Procession & Choral Mass
- 18.30 Choral Evensong & Procession

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

MONDAY-SATURDAY

- MORNING PRAYER** 09.00
- EVENING PRAYER** 16.00 (Thursday 17.00)

- MONDAY** Mass 12.15
- TUESDAY** Mass 09.30
- WEDNESDAY** Holy Communion (1662) 09.30
- THURSDAY** Mass 17.30
- FRIDAY** Mass 12.15
- SATURDAY** Mass 09.30

NEXT SUNDAY *See back page*

The church is open for private prayer and visiting Monday-Saturday 09.00 - 16.00

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Wednesday 8th January

Parochial Church Council, 19.30

Full details of events may be found at crookedspire.org, on the notices displayed in church, or from the organisers.

Please respect those who wish to prepare for Mass in quiet prayer; also those who wish to listen to the closing Organ Voluntary.

EPIPHANY SUNDAY - PROCESSION & CHORAL MASS

Introit: Epiphany Matin Responsory
(Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, arr. Moore/Jackson)

Processional Hymn: 70 (*t.i*)

Setting: Nicholson in G

Collect Prayer

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**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn: 77

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Homily, Creed, Intercessions & Peace

Offertory Hymn: 69 (*t.ii*)

Communion Motet: No small wonder (Paul Wigmore)

Post-Communion Hymn: 71

Voluntary: March of the Three Kings (Andrew Gant)

SOLEMN CHORAL EVENSONG & PROCESSION

Introit: Epiphany Vesper Responsory
(Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, arr. Moore/Jackson)

Responses: Smith

Psalm(s): 98 & 100

First Lesson: Isaiah 60.1-9

Office Hymn: 38

Canticles: Holman in F

Second Lesson: John 2.1-11

Anthem: The Three Kings (Peter Cornelius, arr. Willcocks)

Hymn: 67

Voluntary: *Marche des Trois Mages* (Théodore Dubois)

Prayer Intentions This Week:

Today 5th January - Epiphany Sunday

- For the gift of the Incarnation and the mystery of the Trinity, that the Christ might be known in us and through the ministry of all Christian people
- ◇ The Church in Wales

Monday 6th January

- The personnel and work of Hardwick Deanery
- ◇ Lagos - The Church of Nigeria
- ✦ *Annie Musson; Eddie Benton*

Tuesday 7th January

- Parish of St Martin's Alfreton
- ◇ Lagos Mainland - The Church of Nigeria
- ✦ *Bessie Pick; Marshall Silcock; Jo Bargh*

Wednesday 8th January

- Parishes of St Werburgh's Blackwell
with St John the Baptist Tibshelf
- ◇ Lagos West - The Church of Nigeria
- ✦ *Jane Jackson; Derrick Ashley*

Thursday 9th January

- Parishes of St Mary's Crich and South Wingfield
- ◇ Lahore - The Church of Pakistan

Friday 10th January - William Laud

- Parishes of St James Riddings and
Christ Church Ironville
- ◇ Lainya - The Episcopal Church of South Sudan
- ✦ *Peter Graves*

Saturday 11th January - Mary Slessor

- Parishes of Morton and Stonebroom with Shirland
- ◇ Diocese on the Lake - The Church of Nigeria
- ✦ *Mary Wright; Gladys Fielding; Edna Judd;
Barbara Dain; Joan Day*

- Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

- ◇ Anglican Worldwide Cycle of Prayer
- ✦ Year's Mind

Vicar: Canon Patrick Coleman
The Vicarage, 11 Bryn Lea, Chesterfield,
Derbyshire, S41 0EP
vicar@crookedspire.org

Clergy Team: Revd Mark Crowther-Alwyn; Revd
Iain Faulkner; Venerable Karen Hamblin; Revd
John Pinder-Packard; Revd Steven Tricklebank

Parish Office: 01246 206506
(a duty priest is available 24/7)

Parish Reader: John Gascoyne

Churchwardens: John Hague
Colin McKenna

Organist & Choirmaster:
Peter Shepherd choir@crookedspire.org

Our prayers have been asked for:

Andrea Sutcliffe; John Robinson; Jean Madin;
Colin Hutson; Jean Morris; Wendy Layton;
Ambrose Mason; Paul Bates; Tony Ragan;
Sue Hastings; Barbara Carter; David Pedrick;
Joseph Watson; Roxanne; Imelda Davies;
Ralph Turner; John Nickols; Terry; Becky; Les
& Lynn Metcalfe; Jackie Turner; David
McGhie; Shirley Francis; Olivia, Sebastian &
baby Ophelia; Cathy; June Robinson; Joe
Martin; Lodovico Mirani

✦ *Peter Cordell, RIP*

✦ *Laurence Atkinson, RIP*

✦ *David Wastie priest, RIP*

Church 'Post Box'

Don't forget to collect any remaining
Christmas Cards from the back of the church.

Christmas Card Upcycling

Used Christmas cards are again being
collected to make labels for the Prayer Tree
for the next Christmas Tree Festival.

All types of greetings cards throughout the
year would also be welcome.

Parochial Church Council

The next meeting of PCC will be on
Wednesday 8th January, 7.30pm in the
Saints Parish Centre.

Next Sunday - 12th January - Baptism of Christ

08.30 Holy Communion (1662)

09.30 Morning Prayer (St Leonard's, Spital)

10.30 Choral Mass

Readings: Isaiah 43.1-7
Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

18.30 Choral Evensong

Readings: Psalms 46 & 47
Isaiah 55.1-11
Romans 6.1-11

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