

Time to Reflect

It's interesting that the Christmas story, which we embed in our life, in church and at home, which we think of (rightly) as one of the fundamental Jesus stories, is inclusive of others in a way which often undermines our own thoughts and behaviours.

Our story today, Epiphany, tells the story of the coming of the wise men. We love this story. Some of our best carols rehearse it. It is "our" story. And yet... when you look closely, it is not "our" story, not in that possessive way of it being "ours".

It's a story of dreams. Lots of dreams. And the dreams pop into the heads not just of Joseph (good) but also of foreigners (hmm... good/not so good?). It's the strangers, dressed in their funny clothes, who provide presents. And the worship. It's "their" story as much as Joseph's or Mary's.

And then there is Joseph and his dream. Or possibly nightmare. The dream which turns Joseph into yet another asylum-seeking Jew, smuggled across the border into a camp, another mouth to feed, unable to speak the local language, not knowing the customs, the habits, the food, the unwritten "code". Literally, thank God there was no wall to negotiate.

It's not a stretch to think of the asylum seekers making their way to this country, seeking refuge in a place that they imagine won't judge them for wanting freedom, security and hope. It turns out that this story, this Epiphany story, is a story all humanity can recognise. It is our story, if by "our" we drop our barriers and learn to see people as people.

Worship and Activities this week

Today	5.00pm	Office Hour
	6.30pm	Evensong
Mon	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	1.00pm	"In-house" @ House on t'Rock
	7.30pm	Youth Central @ Church Hall
Wed	11.00am	Holy Communion
	7.00pm	Study Group@ Ashton Room
Thurs	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Tiddlers @ Church House
	12.45pm	Holy Communion
Fri	8.00am	Dust Busters
	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	12.30pm	Lunchtime Concert with Sophie Rosa (Violin) and Ian Buckle (Piano)
	4.00pm	Choir School
	7.00pm	Full Choir Practice
Sat	9.30am	Morning Prayer

Next Week: Baptism of Christ 13th January 2019

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
8.40am	Parish Breakfast
10.00am	Parade Eucharist
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	Evensong

Collects from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*; *Common Worship: Pastoral Services*; *The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000*
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Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. They will be at the back of church. Spot the dog collar! Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by Wednesday.

Epiphany

6th January 2019
www.buryparishchurch.com



We welcome you and hope you enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we're on.

We also welcome children in church. If your child gets restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church. There is a children's area at the back of Church.

8.00am Said Holy Communion
President: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching: Julian Heaton, Rector
Hymns: 89; 85; 91; 84; 83
Motets: William Crotch: Lo, star-led chiefs
Benjamin Britten: A New Years' Carol

6.30pm Evensong
Minister: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching: Ian McVeety, Hon Assist't
Hymns: 86 (omit*); 341; 84
Psalm 98 (pg. 471-472)
Isaiah 60. 1-9 (pg. 593)
John 2. 1-11 (pg. 877)
Anthem: Peter Cornelius: The Three Kings

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Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Today's Readings

The Collect

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, **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

Parish Breakfast

Sunday, 13th January at 8.40am. Tickets at £2.00, available from the Church Wardens or Keith Sedman.



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew *(Matthew 2:1-12)*

Glory to you, O Lord

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.

Study Group

New Year. New resolutions. How about rearranging the calendar and come along to the Study Group on Wednesday evening at 7pm in the Ashton Room.

Food Bank Donations

If you could bring just one item (tinned food/ toiletry), weekly, to church for the food bank and put it in the "Bin" in the entrance that would be amazing, holy and an act of true faith.

Parish Magazine



Marc is the new editor of our Parish Magazine. Please email your contributions to : marcm1969@gmail.com by Sunday, 13th January 2019

Please note that the Magazine material will need to be in by the **second Sunday** of each month. This is different! We will need to be organised!