

## Notices

### Children and Communion

As part of our work to be as inclusive a church as we can, the PCC is considering asking the Bishop's permission to allow us to give communion to children before they have been confirmed.

This is a major change from the traditional pattern for the church. As such, there will be a meeting on

**Thursday 18th January at 7:30pm** with Cheryl Trice from the Diocesan Children and Youth Team. This is a opportunity to find out more and ask questions and to think about what communion means to you!

**Everyone is welcome.**

In the meantime, if you have any questions speak to Chris T.

### This Week

8-14th January

#### Monday

09:00 Food Bank

2pm Games Afternoon

#### Tuesday

#### Wednesday

#### Thursday

#### Friday

#### Saturday

10-12 Open House

#### Sunday

10:00 Children's Church

10:00 Holy Communion



### Burns Night

**Burns Night Supper &  
Light Entertainments with a Scottish Theme**

**Saturday 27 January**

7.00pm

£15 per head

Booking essential

Licensed Bar



**Contact Julie 885437 for tickets & dietary requirements**

Church of the Good Shepherd,  
Quarry Hill Road, Borough Green

**IN OUR PRAYERS** Please remember those who are ill or in special need:

Alan & Margaret Soames, Gillian Aitkenhead, Ann & Barry Corbishley, Linda Vallance, Sean Cloke, Bruce Gates, Tony Hurlll, Clare Kent, Anne Halladay, Alan Dryland

**RIP:**



# THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD BOROUGH GREEN

1906—2024

**Vicar** Revd. Chris Turner 01732 882447 vicar.cogs@gmail.com (Not available Tuesdays)

**Churchwardens:** Carole Simpson 883073, Julie Sweeting 885437

**Reader** Chris Almond 886440

**PCC Secretary** Thea Cason **Treasurer** Mark Sweeting 885437

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:** Carole Simpson 883073,

## Epiphany—7th January

Welcome to the Church of the Good Shepherd

### Today's Hymns

105	We three kings
68	In the bleak midwinter
86	The first Nowell
82	See him lying in a bed of straw

### 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, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### Prayer after Communion

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**



NEXT SUNDAY

10:00 Children's Church & Holy Communion



### Please Note

This service is being streamed using Zoom and the front of nave and all the chancel are visible on screen

## FIRST READING

### 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.

### Psalms 72.10-15

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.

All kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall do him service.

For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, the needy and those who have no helper.

He shall have pity on the weak and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the

needy.

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Long may he live; unto him may be given gold from Sheba; may prayer be made for him continually and may they bless him all the day long.

## SECOND READING

### Ephesians 3.1-12

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In 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: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of 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. Although 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, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden

for ages in God who created all things; so 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. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

## GOSPEL READING

### 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.

