

The United Benefice of the parishes of Melbourne,
Smisby, Stanton by Bridge and Ticknall



The Bulletin

A weekly publication for the Parish of Melbourne



Epiphany - 6th January 2019

8am **Holy Communion**

10.30am **Parish Eucharist, Junior Church and Coffee**

(Please see Order of Service)

Readings: pages 7/8

Introit: A New Year Carol *Benjamin Britten*

Setting: *Darke* in F

Hymns: 50, 49, 52 [48, 57] 258

Anthem: A Babe is born *William Mathias*

Organ Voluntary: Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

(BWV 739) *J.S.Bach*

6.30pm **Evensong**

Hymns: 46, 48, 40, 47

Psalm: 100

Organ Voluntary: Chorale Prelude 'Bethlehem of noblest cities'

Peeters

Welcome!

**Welcome to all worshipping here today with a special
welcome to those who are visitors or newcomers.**

CONTACT US:

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Across the Benefice Today

Melbourne: 8am – Revd Steve Short
10.30am – Revd Canon Tony Barnard/
Revd Steve Short
6.30pm – Revd Canon Tim Short

Smisby: 5.30pm – Revd Steve Short

Stanton: 11am – Dr Nick Gravestock

Ticknall: 9.15am – Dr Nick Gravestock

**Taking responsibility for Church life today:**

8am Holy Communion

Sidespersons: Joan Pass, John Tatam

Server: Joy Hill

Reader: Joe Laban

10.30am Parish Eucharist, Junior Church & Coffee

Sidespersons: Griselda Kerr, Victoria Hancock

Crucifer: Brian Dollamore

Server: Jo Glaze

Reader: Kate Landenberger

Intercessor: Brian Dollamore

Junior Church: Rachel Coupe, Rachel Hill

Coffee: Mary Bolton, Annabel Needham, Steph Hughes

6.30pm Evensong

Sidespersons: Sheena & Henry Wilkins

Illuminating the Tower: To make your booking, please call the church office-862153. Donations to sponsor the lights for an evening should be placed in a clearly marked envelope and put in the Sunday collection or put through the Rectory letterbox. This week there has been a donation from Janet Parsons and family in memory of Audrey Moore on the 5th January.

Mothers' Union:

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 8th January at 2:00 in the Honner Room. This will be followed by a chance to share some social time and some festive nibbles. All are welcome.

Ros Bell, Leader

Happy Epiphany! And to our Orthodox Christian brothers and sisters in Christ - Happy Christmas!

One of the key reasons for the orthodox church keeping Christmas at Epiphany, so to speak, is because of what the visit of the Magi *meant*. In the Christmas story, we've already seen outsiders brought right into the very centre of proceedings as the shepherds hurry to the manger. But the Magi, well, that is something different, something *extra*. These mysterious strangers crucially are Gentiles who have come to seek the Messiah. The incarnation of God in the Christ child shows the sheer scale of God's mission - everyone (and everything, the whole of creation) is included.

This is why the Church of England identifies Epiphany as a season with a particular mission focus. God's Mission is the plan hatched before the beginning of time that seeks to reconcile everyone and everything to God. Jesus mission-shaped last earthly words to his disciples (and to us) form the Great Commission at the end of Matthew's Gospel where he says 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' All are included.

In June last year, our Diocesan Missioner, the Revd Jason Kennedy visited us to preach and also to talk with the PCC about how we engage with that mission here and now and how might do so into the future. Jason sends us this greeting:

I'm so looking forward to coming to be with the PCC on the 2nd of February this year as together you seek to discern God's journey for St Michael's through the Mission Action Planning process. It's always a privilege to draw alongside churches as they do that. And of course, with any journey, before you can plan the route you need to know from where you're starting. Over the coming weeks, you'll be completing a very simple set of feedback questions about how you think the church is doing in particular areas of its life. Your answers will be essential in helping us on the 2nd of February, by showing us where the church might be starting from. So it's important that we hear from you and that you're honest about what you think and feel. Thank you for your help!

Jason

So, Jason has asked us to complete a short questionnaire that will help him, myself, the PCC and all of us discern God's calling into our future together. Each Sunday for the next 3 weeks, I'll be preaching about the 8 mission characteristics (3 this week, 3 next and two the week after) and getting us to complete the relevant part of the questionnaire during the service for Jason then to analyse ahead of the PCC away day.

The bible is filled with journeys – some small, some big; some fraught with danger, some to empty tombs. God is part of every journey and every adventure and longs to fill us with His love again and again and again.

God's mission here in Melbourne began long ago and will continue long after we have gone. At each stage and in every age, we are called to 'tell afresh' the story of God's love through our words and our actions. Under God, we seek to shape and reshape our life of worship and service so that we may become more and more Christ-like both individually and corporately.

In his acclaimed book 'We make the road by walking', the theologian and speaker Brian D. McLaren says this:

'So let us light a candle for the Christ child, for the infant Jesus, the Word made flesh. Let our hearts glow with that light that was in him, so that we become candles through which his light shines still. For *Christmas is a process as well as an event (italics mine)*. Your heart and mine can become the little town, the stable, the manger – even now. Let a new day, a new creation, a new you, a new me, begin. Let there be light.'

Here's to continuing to walk with God and with one another today, tomorrow and always.

Steve

Epiphany Carol Service

Please join us next Sunday at 6.30pm for the Epiphany Carol Service, which is followed by refreshments. Your support will be warmly welcomed.

Junior Church party:

Next week is the Junior Church Party with Paul Brown from Magical Mayhem bringing his amazing super-hero balloon modelling workshop. This event is designed for anyone up to the age of 11. Little ones can play/watch from Lyra's room. Please invite friends, newcomers to come. One time visitors welcome!



Angels' Delight:

Can we hear the flutter of tiny wings? Well, not quite, as our first meeting of the year is not until Wednesday, January 16th. However, there is a planning meeting on Wednesday 9th at 9.30a.m. at the Rectory. Be there, or run the risk of being 'volunteered' for the jobs nobody else wants to do! Happy New Year! *Alison Gregory*

The Living Waters House Group goes on tour in January!

Our January meeting on Tuesday 15th January 10.30am will be hosted by Alison Gregory, 2 Dunncliffe Lane, Melbourne, DE73 8GE. Alison very much looks forward to welcoming you to her home but because we have to do a bit of furniture re-arranging before you get there it would be good if you could confirm that you are coming by Sunday 13th January latest. We shall be having an Epiphany Meditation and then reflecting on the visit of the wise men and their gifts. (See Matthew 2:1-12)

(February's meeting will be back at No. 63 Jubilee Close and Dr. Nick Gravestock will be coming along to give us a taste of small group Taize Worship and lead a Bible Study – more details later.)

Remember this is YOUR House Group and Christ's Living Water is never stagnant and always on the move, so if you would like to host it (or lead it!) sometime then please do make the offer to Margaret. All things are possible! Revd. Margaret, Allan and Alison.

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Keeping the outside of our church looking neat and tidy:

One of the first thing visitors and wedding, baptism and funeral parties see when they come to our church is the grass which surrounds it. We have a small but dedicated team of people who mow the grass regularly throughout the growing season to make sure the first impression we give is a good one. Would you be willing to join the team and spread the load? It would involve about an hour of your time two or three times a year from mid-March through to mid-October. So, not much and a mower is provided!

Please let me know if you'd like to join The Green Arrows.

Gordon Hughes (07837 592596)

Choir Babies:

Thank you to everyone taking part in the **Choir Babies Quiz**. I hope you had fun trying to match 'cherubs' with 'choir'. The quiz obviously proved more tricky than expected as most entries didn't achieve a quarter score of correct babies. In the end I had to award the winner to the highest correct answers and even then it was a score of 9/15. The winners were Clive Avery and Rachel Reid. Fix! I hear you cry but even with 2 penalty handicaps (for being in the choir already and obviously already knew 2 correct answers) they still managed to guess 2 more than the next correct entry

If you would like to know the answers, the sheets of correct choir babies are at the back of church. Otherwise I can forward by email if you send a request to me, Wendy Robinson at wamsport@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you again for joining the fun!

Wendy Robinson

Our Diocese:

Bishop Libby Lane named as next Bishop of Derby

The next Bishop of Derby will be the Right Reverend Libby Lane, Downing Street has announced.

Bishop Libby is currently the Suffragan Bishop of Stockport, Diocese of Chester – a post she has occupied since 2015.

Libby describes Derbyshire as ‘the place that holds my heart. She grew up in Glossop in the north-west of the county and was selected for ordination while working in the parish of St Thomas Brampton, Chesterfield.

Bishop Libby said: “I am excited and privileged to have been called to serve as Bishop of Derby. I grew up here; my vocation was fostered here.

Derbyshire nurtured me and brought me to faith and I want to love Derbyshire back.

“I want to lead a church in Derbyshire where people find hope because they know they are loved by God in Christ, and I pray that hope sets us free to live our lives in ways that bring change for good.

“Please pray for me, as I will be praying for you. Jesus’ invitation is to come closer, and His challenge is to go further - let’s journey together.”

The Dean of Derby, the Very Revd Dr Stephen Hance, said: “I am thrilled that Libby is coming to be our bishop. Her roots are here in Derbyshire, and we are all very much looking forward to welcoming her home and working with her in the months and years ahead. “This announcement presents us with an opportunity to think afresh, about who we are and who we hope to be, about the opportunities and challenges that face us as we move forward.”

Bishop Libby marked the announcement by visiting a number of communities in the Diocese. She started the day, with her husband, George, her two grownup children, Connie and Benedict, in her childhood hometown of Glossop, where her parents still live before meeting children and staff at Bolsover C of E Junior School, revisiting the church of St Thomas in Brampton, Chesterfield, meeting members of the farming and agricultural communities in Alderwasley, before heading to Derby Cathedral for a reception where she met local faith and community leaders. Libby ended her day joining Evening Prayers at the Cathedral.

The service to install Bishop Libby in Derby Cathedral will take place after Easter.

This week in connection with Melbourne Church

Monday:	2pm	Caring Hands in Honner Room
Tuesday	2pm	Mothers' Union AGM in Honner Room
	6.30pm	Wedding Open Office in church
	7.25pm	Bellringing Practice
Wednesday:	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Thursday:	9.15am	Holy Communion

	6.30pm	12 bell ringing practice
Saturday:	10.30am	Baptism
	4.30pm	Preparing church for Sunday worship

A pattern for daily prayer, so that, at home or at church, we can pray together:

Monday: Those in great poverty or need.

Tuesday: Those who have asked for our prayers: Ruth Barkaway, Anne Brazier, Roo Hubbard, David Ingram, Margaret Kent, Madge Limbert, Vicky Murray, Betty Park, Ruth & Bob Smith and Margaret Stockley. Those in Derby's hospitals and hospices. All at Pool Cottage.

Wednesday: Our group of parishes.

Thursday: The church worldwide. All Christian people. The local church. The Anglican Communion.

Friday: All in need, especially the hungry, poor and homeless.

The Departed

In our prayers this week, we can remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur near this time, among them Kath Kington, Bob Honner (priest) and Richard Morrison.

Next Week at Melbourne: The Baptism of Christ

8am **Holy Communion** (Sidespersons: Joy Hill, Tony Taylor)

10.30am **Parish Eucharist, Junior Church and Coffee**

(Sidespersons: Margaret Murray-Leslie, Sheena Wilkins)

(Coffee: Linda Latchford, Rachel Short, Janet Warner)

(Junior Church: Rachel Coupe, Charlotte Hall)

6.30pm **Epiphany Carol Service** (Sidesperson: Ann Hammond)

The Readings:

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.

The 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.

Additional Collect:

Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end
in Jesus Christ our Lord.