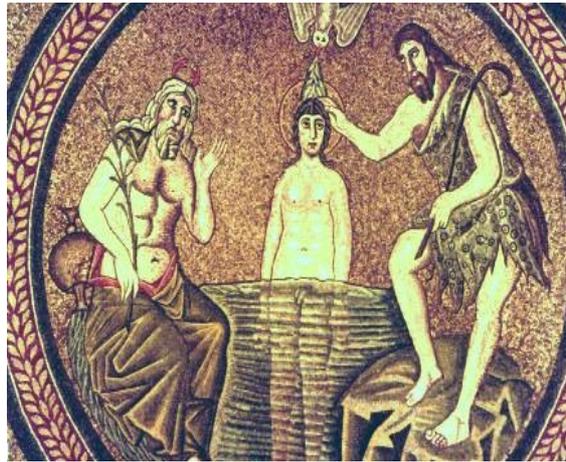


The United Benefice of the parishes of Melbourne,
Smisby, Stanton by Bridge and Ticknall



The Bulletin

A weekly publication for the Parish of Melbourne



The Baptism of Christ - 13th January 2019

8am **Holy Communion**

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

Readings: pages 7/8

Settings: *Rutter / Eleanor Daley* Missa Brevis No. 4

Hymns: 137, 58, 52 [425, 347] 57

Anthem: Tomorrow shall be my dancing day *English trad. arr. Iliff*

Organ Voluntary: Postlude on 'Was lebet' *Christopher Tambling*

6.30pm **Epiphany Carol Service**

(Please see Order of Service)

Welcome!

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

CONTACT US:

Revd Steve Short: (Rector) 864741 (day off Monday)

Parish Office: Kate Landenberger 862153

or email: melbourneparishchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.melbourneparishchurch.co.uk

Across the Benefice Today

Melbourne: 8am – Revd Steve Short
10.30am – Revd Steve Short
6.30pm – Revd Steve Short

Smisby: 5.30pm – Canon David Edwards

Stanton: 10.30am – At Swarkestone

Ticknall: 9.15am – Revd Michael Rogers

**Taking responsibility for Church life today:**

8am Holy Communion

Sidespersons: Joy Hill, Tony Taylor

Server: John Tatam

Reader: John Heydon

10.30am Parish Eucharist, Junior Church & Coffee

Sidespersons: Margaret Murray-Leslie, Sheena Wilkins

Crucifer: Mary Bolton

Server: Jo Glaze

Reader: Dale Jackson

Intercessor: Margaret Murray-Leslie

Junior Church: Rachel Coupe, Charlotte Hall

Coffee: Linda Latchford, Rachel Short, Janet Warner

6.30pm Epiphany Carol Service

Sidesperson: Ann Hammond

Epiphany Carol Service:

Please join us tonight for the Epiphany Carol Service at 6.30pm; the Choir would very much appreciate your support.

All welcome!

Angels' Delight:

Angels' Delight will be starting their new term this Wednesday from 9am – 11am in Church. We look forward to welcoming them. If you would like to help in any way, please see the Rector, Rachel Short or Alison Gregory who will be pleased with any extra help.

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.

CTIM Unity Service:

Next Sunday, 20th January at 6.30pm, is the Churches Together in Melbourne Unity Service, followed by refreshments. The guest preacher will be the Revd Marcus Hargis from the United Reformed Church. Everyone is very welcome!

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

Junior Church party:

Today is the Junior Church Party with Paul Brown from Magical Mayhem bringing his amazing superhero 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!



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.

01332 865842 margaret@ajacques.plus.com

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)

The "Other" quiz..

The one with all the words and no pictures of babies.. The winners were the Lee Family, who got EVERYTHING correct. So they win the Book Token. In a generally high scoring response this year (I shall be reporting your prowess to Ofsted), joint second place goes to Maureen and Beth Anderson, and Steve Webster and Rosemary King, each with 73 correct. Discretionary second prizes are heading their way.

No particularly hilarious wrong answers occurred, although perhaps ZIPSONG (for no.36) and OHNOMUM (for no.71) deserve some sort of mention. Had they borne any resemblance at all to any real places, maybe.. But no..(see me after school, Truscott Minor). I am sorry to have caused a dispute within the Wilkins family over no.50 - but a further lesson here, if one were needed, is that the majority is not always right!

Thank you to everyone who took part; we sold over 60 copies and so raised over £120. Extra thanks also to everyone who put in answer sheets and I hope those of you who didn't, at least had some fun trying to work them out. I have put some answer sheets at the back of church, or do feel free to ask me if they have run out. Until November 2019 then. *Clive Avery*

The Marking of Houses with Blessed Chalk at the Feast of Epiphany

We encourage everyone to take some of the chalk blessed at Epiphany and to gather at the door of their homes with family and friends and say the words at the bottom to bless their homes for the coming year.

The tradition is that the wise men travel back after Epiphany and travel past our homes. These chalk prayers indicate a place where Christian hospitality might be afforded them, and seek blessing on the house. It is also a useful act of witness when people say "*what's that chalk above your door?*"

What to pray at your home

The lintel of the main door of the house (and other doors if desired) is marked by a member of the household in the following way:

20 + C + M + B + <year> (ie 19)

whilst saying the following prayer:

The three Wise Men: Caspar **C**, Melchior **M**, and Balthazar **B**

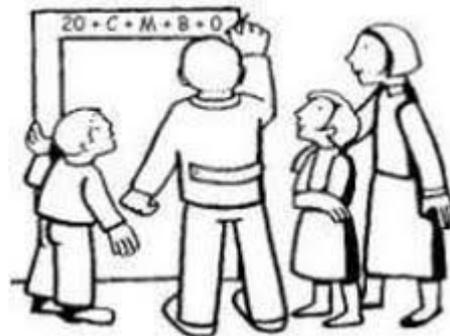
followed the star of God's Son who became man two Thousand **20** and nineteen years ago. **19**

May Christ bless our home ++ and remain with us through the new year ++

If others are present, you may continue:

Almighty God, incline your ear. Bless us and all who are gathered here. Send your holy angel who will defend us and fill with grace all who dwell here. **Amen.**

The C M B also stands for *Christus mansionem benedicat*: May God bless this house.



This week in connection with Melbourne Church

Monday:	2pm	Caring Hands in Honner Room
Tuesday	10.30am	Living Waters House Group at 2 Dunncliffe Lane
	7.25pm	Bellringing Practice
Wednesday:	9am - 11am	Angels' Delight
	7.45pm	Choir Practice
Thursday:	9.15am	Holy Communion
	7.30pm	PCC in St Michael's House
Saturday:	10am - 1pm	Pre-wedding Seminar in Church
	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, 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, among them Vicky Murray, and those whose anniversaries occur near this time, among them Rex Hallifield, William Sims and Dorothy Clifford.

Next Week at Melbourne: Epiphany 3

8am **Holy Communion** (Sidespersons: Sheena & Henry Wilkins)

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

(Sidespersons: Carolyn & Nigel Tasker)

(Coffee: Kate Landenberger, Carolyn Tasker)

(Junior Church: Rachel Coupe, Ruth Parkinson)

6.30pm **Churches Together in Melbourne Unity Service**

(Sidesperson: Sheena Wilkins)

The Readings at 8am and 10.30am:

First Reading: *Isaiah 43.1-7*

But now thus says the Lord,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
and to the south, 'Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth –
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

The Gospel Reading: *Luke 3.15-17, 21-22*

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Additional Collect:

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.