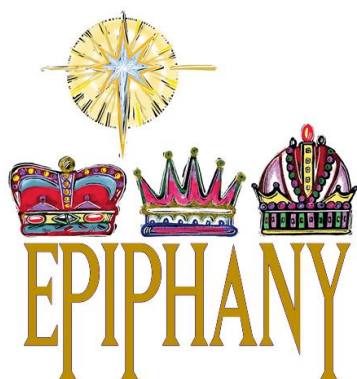


**The Feast of  
The Epiphany of our Lord  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2021  
at 11.00am  
Holy Communion**



***They offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.***

*St. Matthew 2: 11*

**Collect, Old Testament Reading, Responsorial Psalm, New  
Testament Reading,  
Gospel Reading, Invitation to Confession,  
Kyrie Confession, Post Communion Prayer,  
Epiphany Blessing and Grace**



**The Benefice of the Uffington Group**

St Martin of Tours, Barholm with Stowe | St Margaret of Antioch, Braceborough  
St Thomas of Canterbury, Greatford | St Lawrence of Rome, Tallington  
St Michael and All Angels, Uffington  
St Andrew the Apostle, West Deeping | St Faith of Aquitaine, Wilsthorpe



We extend a very warm welcome to those visiting, those returning and the regular members of the congregation.

Today we celebrate the Feast of The Epiphany of the Lord and the Liturgical Colour in church today is White or Gold.

You will see that the white candle 'The Christ Candle' continues to light up our Advent Wreath, it feels appropriate that 'Jesus' takes over as the Patriarchs and Prophets have done their work and the coloured candles are unlit.

This time of Epiphany allows us to continue to celebrate the greatest gift of all, the birth of God's son. The story of the Wise Men coming from afar to worship the new born king is an indication that the coming of God's son is for every one of us. Jesus came and lived among us and shared the joys and concerns of ordinary people like us. He still shares our joys and concerns and his love for us never ends.

We have tried to include sufficient instructions to help you take part in the service, Please join in with the congregational responses in **BOLD** and *follow the guidance in the italicised rubrics*. If you'd rather sit and listen then you're very welcome to be still and let the words wash over you. However you join in, we pray that you sense the presence and love of God.

While we wait for the service to begin, it may be helpful for us to sit in stillness and quiet to help us prepare our hearts and minds to take part in this service of worship as we perhaps think and pray about the worldwide mission of the Church.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr Aran Beesley." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr Aran Beesley - Parish Priest  
Rector of the Benefice of the Uffington Group

Holy Communion  
For The Feast of Epiphany

Please follow the directions regarding posture  
in **GOLD CAPITAL LETTERS** as best you can.

Please join in with the text in **BOLD**

**PLEASE STAND AS THE PRESIDING PRIEST ENTERS**

**PLEASE KNEEL OR SIT, AS THE PRIEST OPENS THE  
SERVICE IN PRAYER**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.

**Amen.**

## Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,  
unto whom all hearts be open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleans the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love thee,  
and worthily magnify thy holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Welcome and Introduction

### The Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:  
Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord;  
and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,  
and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind,  
and with all thy strength.

This is the first commandment.

And the second is like, namely this:

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

There is none other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law  
and the prophets.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these  
thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

## The Collect for the Sovereign

### Let us pray

Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite: have mercy upon the whole Church; and so rule the heart of thy chosen servant Elizabeth, our Queen and Governor, that she knowing whose minister she is may above all things seek thy honour and glory: and that we and all her subjects duly considering whose authority she hath may faithfully serve, honour and humbly obey her, in thee, and for thee, according to thy blessed word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

## The Collect of the Day

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: mercifully grant that we, who know thee now by faith, may after this life have the fruition of thy glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**



The Old Testament reading is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah

*(Please sit)*

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.

*Isaiah 60: 1- 6*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*(Please remain seated)*

## Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 72

The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.

**The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.**

Give the king your judgements, O God, and your righteousness to the son of a king.

Then shall he judge your people righteously and your poor with justice.

May the mountains bring forth peace, and the little hills righteousness for the people.

May he defend the poor among the people, deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.

**The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, like the showers that water the earth.

In his time shall righteousness flourish, and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.**

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.

**The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.**

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.

**The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.**

*Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14*

**The New Testament reading is taken from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians**

This is the reason that 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 to 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 to 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 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.

*Ephesians 3: 1-12*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation

*(Please stand and turn to face the Gospel)*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

### **Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you

**and also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to St Matthew ✠ ✠ ✠

**Glory be to thee, 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.

*St Matthew 2: 1-12*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please remain standing and turn to face the altar*

**The Creed**

**I believe in one God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, and of all things  
visible and invisible:**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of  
God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of  
God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not  
made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom  
all things were made;**

*For the following three lines you may bow.*

**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man,**

**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

*Sermon*

*Please remain standing until the preacher invites everyone to be seated.*

*The Priest places the bread and wine upon the table.*

*Intercession - please kneel or sit*

*Intercession in this form may be used with the addition of specific intentions*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here in earth.

Almighty and ever-living God, who by thy holy apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: we humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy divine majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: and grant, that all they that do confess thy holy name may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian kings, princes and governors; and specially thy servant Elizabeth our Queen, that under her we may be godly and quietly governed: and grant unto her whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under her, that they may truly and impartially minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, priests and deacons, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments: and to all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only mediator and advocate.

**Amen.**

### Invitation to Confession

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

### Kyrie Confession

God be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth, your saving power among the nations:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all  
them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him:  
have mercy upon you; ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your  
sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you  
to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## The Comfortable Words

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith  
unto all that truly turn to him:  
Come unto me, all that travail and are heavy laden,  
and I will refresh you.

*Matthew 11.28*

So God loved the world,  
that he gave his only-begotten Son,  
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,  
but have everlasting life.

*John 3.16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:  
This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that  
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

*Timothy 1.15*

Hear also what Saint John saith:  
If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus  
Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

*1 John 2.1, 2*

## Preface

The Priest and the people praise God for his goodness.

The Lord be with you  
**and with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
**It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this thy table,  
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in thy manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table.

But thou art the same Lord,



whose property is always to have mercy: grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

**Amen.**

### The Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood:

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

**Amen.**

## The Agnus Dei

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

## Giving of Communion

All who have been baptised in a Trinitarian church and who would normally receive communion are invited to receive at this church. If you are not baptised, or if for any reason you do not wish to receive communion today, please come forward bringing this booklet, and you will be given an individual blessing.

## The priest and people receive communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, and his blood, which was shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Priest and people receive communion in one kind only, (ie the bread, the Blessed Sacrament).

You will be stewarded in turn by Bridget, please returning to your seats for silent prayer.

## Post Communion Prayer

*(Please stand)*

O Lord our God,  
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:  
grant that we, who with the wise men have been drawn by thy  
light, may discern the glory of thy presence in thy Son,  
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer – (Please remain standing).*

As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are  
bold to say:

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

All hold their chalk high as the priest blesses the chalk:

God who leads your people through the journey of life, as you led Casper, Melchior and Balthasar to worship Jesus, so lead us to be fearless in making Jesus known in our homes and in our lives.

Bless this chalk that those who see the blessing on our homes may know that our doorways are places of welcome and blessing and that you are the God who blesses us every day. We ask this in the name of Jesus, born of Mary, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*Please remain Standing for the Blessing*

Christ our Lord,  
to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts,  
reveal to you his glory  
and pour upon you the riches of his grace;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Notices - please be seated.*

*Please sit or kneel for a private prayer before leaving.*

*When leaving the church wait for a steward to direct you so that we can avoid congestion forming at the exit.*

Services at Greatford are usually 'traditional' in nature and are based on some of the Church of England's oldest liturgies. If you would prefer a more 'contemporary' style of worship please speak to Fr Aran or visit the website

*A Church Near You* [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

Please talk to Fr Aran about...

- Baptisms (for Babies, Children and Adults)
- Confirmation (Year 6 Children and Adults)
- Marriage services
- Confession (The Sacrament of Reconciliation) and Spiritual Direction
- Healing, Anointing or Funerals
- Any other question

Fr Aran Beesley, the Parish Priest may be contacted on:

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