ST CUTHBERT’S

HALSALL

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**SERVICE TODAY – First Sunday of Epiphany Plough Sunday**

**9.30am – CW Sung Eucharist**

**Reading: Acts 10.34-43**

**Gospel: Matthew 3. 13-17**

**HYMNS**

Opening: 50 On Jordan’s bank the Baptist cry

Gradual: 111 Do not be afraid

Offertory: 171 For the Beauty of the Earth

Communion: 390 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Final: 80 The people that in darkness sat

**Service Next Sunday Epiphany 2**

**9.30am BCP Holy Communion**

**Reading: 1 Corinthians 1. 1-9**

**Gospel: John 1.29-42**

**NOTICES**

**MID-WEEK COMMUNION SERVICES JANUARY**

Wed 15th January 10.00am St Thomas’ Church

Wed 22nd January – NO SERVICE

Wed 29th January 10.00am St Thomas’ Church

**For your prayers**

**Those who are sick:**

Sue Keal, Susan Bell-Mortimer, Peter Kenyon, David Bridge, Sonja & Peter Roberts, John Bullough, Chris Prentice, Harry Blundell and Barry Lane

**Recently Departed:**

**Anniversaries:** James Hugh Rimmer, Florence Freda Williams, James Greenwood, Jean Moon, Isabella Sharrock Ronald Livesey and Charles Rimmer

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**REMINDER – INK CARTRIDGES**

If you have any unwanted ink cartridges or mobile phones that you are able to donate, please leave them in the box at the back of church. These items are being recycled for much needed church funds

THANK YOU

**GRADUAL HYMN**

*Do not be afraid,*

*for I have redeemed you.*

*I have called you by your name;*

*you are mine.*

When you walk through the waters,

I’ll be with you.

You will never sink beneath the waves.

When the fire is burning

all around you,

you will never be consumed

by the flames.

When the fear of loneliness

is looming,

then remember I am at your side.

When you dwell in the exile

of the stranger,

remember you are precious in my eyes.

You are mine, O my child;

I am your Father,

and I love you with a perfect love.

**Plough Sunday**

*The observance of Plough Sunday on the First Sunday of Epiphany goes back to Victorian times, but behind it there is a much older observance, associated with the first working day after Christmas. In medieval times some ploughs were kept in the parish church, and some churches kept a ‘plough-light’. In days when work was scarce in winter, the observance looked forward to the time of sowing with the promise of a harvest to come. Some Christian communities have reintroduced it as a focus for asking a blessing on human labour near the start of the calendar year.*

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