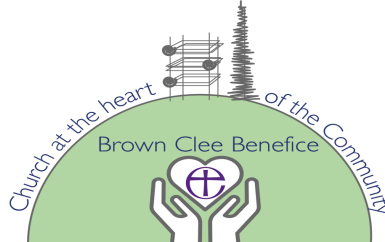


Aston Botterell,
Burwarton,
Chetton,
Cleobury North,



Ditton Priors,
Loughton,
Neenton,
Wheathill.

Revd Joe Simons, Rector
The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire. WV16 6SQ.
01746 599217 / 07872 464276

.....the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel

*As a Church we pray for those who are ill
and in need and for those recently
departed and their families.*

Sunday 4th January 2026

Second Sunday after Christmas –

Epiphany – Gold or White

9.30am – Holy Communion – Ditton Priors

Revd Val – Hymns 41, 564, 193, 103

11.00am – Coffee & Prayers

at Middle House Farm, Aston Botterell

Sunday 11th January 2026

The Baptism of Christ – Gold or White

9.30am – Holy Communion – Ditton Priors

Revd Joe

11.30am – Holy Communion – Chetton

Revd Joe

Sunday 18th January 2026

Second Sunday of Epiphany – White

Second Sunday after Epiphany - Green

9.30am – Holy Communion – Ditton Priors

11.30am – Holy Communion – Neenton

Sunday 25th January 2026

Conversion of Paul

Third Sunday of Epiphany - White

10.00am – Group Holy Communion –
Cleobury North



Activities & News

throughout the Benefice

more info in Wheatland News or online at

www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice

Saturday 3rd January 2026

Please remember The First Coffee Morning of
the Month will be back in Feb!

Saturday 24th January – 10.30am

“Not Socks Again!”

Ditton Priors Village Hall 🧤🧦

St. John the Baptist's First Fundraiser of the
Year – Bring & Buy Stall & Raffle. We would
love you to bring along any surplus
Christmas gifts!

Friday 30th January – 10.30am – 12.00noon

Julia's First Get together Coffee Morning of
2026 at Cleobury North Village Hall.
Weather permitting! Lovely refreshments
and a very warm welcome!

Benefice Office: Open Monday & Wednesday 9.30am – 1.30pm

Email: browncleebenefice@outlook.com

Follow us on Facebook for all the news and pictures on our churches – www.facebook.com/browncleechurches

Collect for the Day

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.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Readings for Sunday 4th January 2026

Psalms 72 (1 – 9) 10 – 15

Isaiah 60. 1 - 6

The Ingathering of the Dispersed

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.

Ephesians 3. 1 - 12

Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles

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 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.



Matthew 2. 1 - 12

The Visit of the Wise Men

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.

Don't forget! Hard copies of The Wheatland News are available for 2026 by completing the form on this month's edition – they are excellent value at £18 for eleven copies and are a must have for all households!!



Do you love singing?
Singing is SO good for you!
Why not start a new hobby in 2026 -
We would love to welcome you!

Our Choir is a very friendly group who meet during the week at St. John's, Ditton Priors. You do not need to read music, only to have enthusiasm for singing and an understanding that the purpose of the choir is to serve the congregation in its worship.

Why not come along to one of our practices – we guarantee you will be given a warm welcome and have a really enjoyable time.

For further details please contact Emma at the Benefice Office (see page 1!)

Join us for: Brown Clee Benefice Vision Afternoon

A gathering to discuss and agree a vision for our Benefice and to spend time reflecting, including in prayer, on how we move this forward.

Saturday 21st February 2026 2-4pm at The Pavilion, Ditton Priors.

Please let Revd Joe, Karen or Emma know if you are able to come along!

01746 599217 or browncleebenefice@outlook.com

Everyone welcome - Light refreshments.

