

## JANUARY 2026

### Wed 7th

12.30pm Funeral of Rose Snell at St Alkmund's  
2.00pm Time Together in Bargates Hall  
7.00pm Choir Practice at St Alkmund's

### Thur 8th

7.00pm Bell ringing practice at St Alkmund's

### Fri 9th

1.00pm Lunchtime Recital at St Alkmund's

## FTW NOTICES

**TIME TOGETHER** for those with memory loss or dementia and their family members or carers: meets next on the 7th January 2026 at 2.00pm in Bargates Hall.

**LUNCHTIME RECITAL:** The first of our 2026 Lunchtime Recitals will be on Friday 9th January at 1pm in St Alkmund's, we welcome John Moore and Alex Postlethwaite.

**TODDLER GROUP:** Our new toddler group starts on Tuesday 13th January in St Alkmund's Church 9am-11am.

**HOME BIBLE STUDY:** A Bible Course will be starting on Wednesday 14th January, to be held at Judy B's home, 21 Yardington at 2pm. All welcome.

## COLLECT: PRAYER FOR TODAY

**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.**

## ISAIAH 60:1-6

*In Isaiah's vision of God's light shining into the world's darkness, symbolic gifts are brought to God from East and West as tribute and praise. So our Gospel's Magi visitors to the stable are foreshadowed.*

*A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah*

<sup>60</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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.

<sup>6</sup>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.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**



## THE PARISHES OF FAULS, TILSTOCK & WHITCHURCH

POSTCODES: Fauls SY13 2AS; Tilstock SY13 3JL; W/ch SY13 1LB  
WEBSITES: [www.holy-immanuel-fauls.yolasite.com](http://www.holy-immanuel-fauls.yolasite.com)  
[www.christ-church-tilstock.yolasite.com](http://www.christ-church-tilstock.yolasite.com)  
[www.stalkmunds.com](http://www.stalkmunds.com)

"This Benefice takes its safeguarding responsibilities seriously"

### RECTOR OF FAULS, TILSTOCK, & WHITCHURCH Rev Chris Precious

The Rectory, Church Street, Whitchurch, SY13 1LB  
[rectorftw@gmail.com](mailto:rectorftw@gmail.com) 07867 367627

### CURATE of the 3 parishes

Rev Pippa White

[curateftw@gmail.com](mailto:curateftw@gmail.com) 07453 457507

FTW BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR - 01948 667102

Mrs Alison Dunne: [ftwstalkmunds@gmail.com](mailto:ftwstalkmunds@gmail.com)

Please phone or email, prior to visiting, if you need to see the Parish Administrator

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER of the 3 parishes** - 01948 840039

**Revd Sue Armstrong:**

Tarragon Cottage, Providence Grove,  
Prees, Whitchurch, SY13 2DH. [revsuea399@gmail.com](mailto:revsuea399@gmail.com)

**READER of the 3 parishes** - 01948 663184

**Mrs Jane Rylands:**

Ellesmere House, 28 Dodington, Whitchurch SY13 1DZ  
[jane@rylands.me.uk](mailto:jane@rylands.me.uk)

### ❖ Donations to:

**St Alkmund's Church** may be made to: Whitchurch Parochial Church  
Council, Charity No 1129900, Barclays Bank - Sort Code: 20-77-85  
Account No: 80275417.

**Holy Immanuel, Fauls** may be made to: Fauls Parochial Church Council,  
Sort Code: 20-45-45 Account No: 70731633

**Christ Church, Tilstock** may be made to: Tilstock Parochial Church  
Council, Sort Code: 30-99-58 Account No: 00463523

Sunday 4th January 2026



8.00am	Whitchurch	Holy communion BCP Rev Sue Armstrong
9.30am	Fauls	All Age Worship Jane Rylands
10.00am	Whitchurch	Worship Together Rev Pippa White
11.00am	Tilstock	All Age Worship Jane Rylands
4.30pm	Whitchurch	Songs of Praise Rev Pippa White

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year



Sunday 11th January—Epiphany 1

8.45am	Whitchurch	Bubble Church
9.30am	Fauls	Holy Communion
10.00am	Whitchurch	Morning Worship
6.30pm	Whitchurch	Sung Evensong

## PSALM 72:10-15

<sup>10</sup>May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
render him tribute,  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.  
<sup>11</sup>May all kings fall down before him,  
all nations give him service.  
<sup>12</sup>For he delivers the needy when they call,  
the poor and those who have no helper.  
<sup>13</sup>He has pity on the weak and the needy,  
and saves the lives of the needy.  
<sup>14</sup>From oppression and violence he redeems their  
life; and precious is their blood in his sight.  
<sup>15</sup>Long may he live!  
May gold of Sheba be given to him.  
May prayer be made for him continually,  
and blessings invoked for him all day long.

## EPHESIANS 3:1-12

*Riches beyond imagining, says Paul, are found in Christ. Though he is in prison for his faith, his gospel cannot be confined—the good news that God’s purposes, once so obscure, are now made clear for Jew and Gentile alike.*

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians*

<sup>3</sup>I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>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: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

## MATTHEW 2:1-12

*Only Matthew tells us how representatives of other strange religions came from the East to offer their homage to the one and only true God, the child who is king for ever over all earthly powers.*

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>3</sup>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.’ <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>“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.”’ <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.’ <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## 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.**