



Sunday January 4th

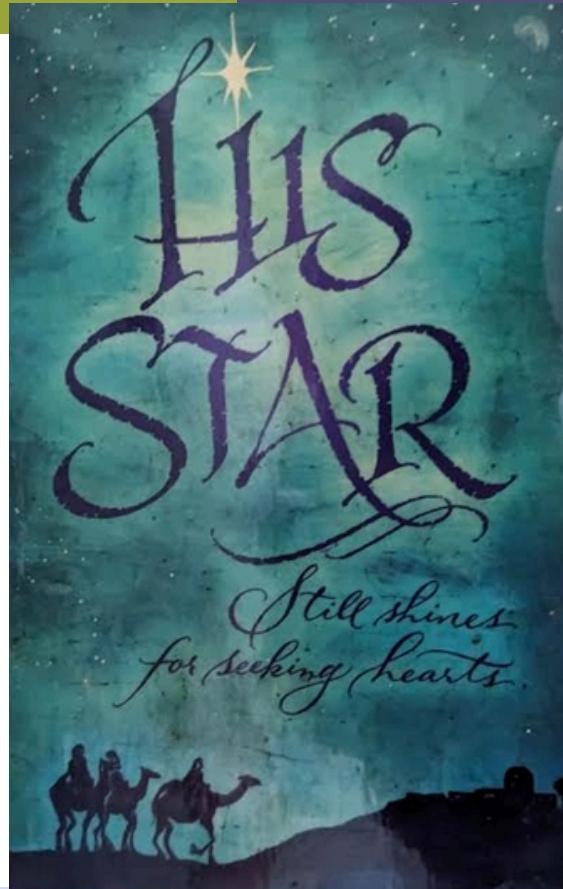
Epiphany

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 60.1-6
Psalm 72.[1-9]10-15
Ephesians 3.1-12
Matthew 2.1-12

PRAYER FOR THIS SUNDAY

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



REFLECTIONS.....MARIAN IVENTS

Star of Wonder

Stars are wonderful, but to this day, this star, "His Star" was, and is, unique - never been replicated. Here are a few facts.

The primary Old Testament prophecy cited in connection with the Star is from the Book of Numbers, v.17: **"A star will come out of Jacob; a sceptre will rise out of Israel."**

This passage is widely recognised as a prediction of the Messiah. It is likely that followers of the prophet Daniel- who was exiled to Babylon in Persia/Iran during the Jewish captivity, and appointed the chief of the magi, (astrologers and diviners)- knew the Jewish scriptures and were actively waiting for a sign related to this prophecy. God is not above using the night skies to herald His activities. These astronomers noticed very unusual happenings around the planet Jupiter and the largest star Regulus (cf Revelation 12 v. 1-5) It seemed there was something in the air, a growing awareness in the human spirit that something was afoot.

CONTINUED....

But what does all this mean for us?

We could be like Herod, angry, rejecting, afraid of losing power; afraid of letting God into his life and, so, ultimately missing out on life itself? Or like the scribes at Herod's court who told Herod where the child was to be born, who knew the prophecies, the truth, but remained indifferent to it? Or, maybe like the Magi, who read the signs and were willing to invest MUCH in order to acknowledge Jesus for who He really is?

Matthew 10 v.33: **"whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in Heaven."** Let us follow Jesus into The New Year.

Love Marian.

SERVICES THIS SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY

10:30am The Good Shepherd, Broadwell
Parish Communion
No Redbrook Service in January - next service 1st Feb

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY

9.30am All Saints, Staunton- change of time for this day only
Morning Prayer
10:30am The Good Shepherd, Broadwell
All age, family friendly service
10:30am All Saints, Newland
Communion

GIVE THANKS....

for the shop assistants who help us to top up after Christmas, for the binmen who turn out in all weathers to help remove our waste, for the lengthening days heralding the arrival of spring, and for the hope that a New Year brings.

PRAY....

- for those who are sick or sad in our parish: Naomi & her baby son Percy- for his continued care;

Sue R. and the inspiration she gives to others

Philip & his mum Lois- for his operation to take place soon

Jackie

Dean and family

Elijah and family.

Lisa - who has young person's arthritis, and is still only in her early 30's. At the moment she is on the strongest painkillers possible. She is off work and hoping the painkillers will have an effect so she can return.

Please let me or Sarah know of any people or situations who need to be added to (or taken off!) the prayer requests above. Many Thanks. John- midwyedeannews@gmail.com

YOUR OLD CHRISTMAS CARDS WANTED

The Cobalt Charity is based at a diagnostic imaging unit which supports the NHS. They **upcycle old Christmas cards** and sell them in different venues, such as Yorkley Community Centre. If you'd like to **donate your old Christmas cards**, I'll provide a box at the back of The Good Shepherd Church, Broadwell, and get them to the charity.

Many thanks. Marian

**MUSTARD SEEDS**

Stay & Play for 0-5 years old. Tuesdays in term time, 9.45-11.15am at Coleford Baptist Church.

reopens 6th January

TOGETHER FOR PRAYER

Tuesdays 12.00- 1.00 at The Vicarage.

All Welcome

BROADWELL CHAT -**COFFEE AND CHAT**

Usually 1st Thursday of the month 10.00- 12.00 at

The Good Shepherd

Church, Broadwell.

Children & pets welcome.



Next Meeting: Thursday 8th January 2026

**CRAFT CLUB**

Crafts in Good Company

at The Good Shepherd, Broadwell,

Thursdays, 2- 4 pm

restart on Thurs 8th January.

**BIRTHDAYS**

Happy Birthday
Isobel W.