

Weekly Service sheet.

Sunday 4th January 2026

Epiphany Sunday



Welcome to St. John's, Clifton

Celebrant: Rev Stephen Hannam

Reader: Pat Ward

Intercessor: Don Bickerton

Roots and Shoots

Our next Roots and Shoots service will be 18th January@ 9am

Please keep in your prayers:

Those known to God and us, who are ill, as well as: Sylvia Nicholson, Sandra Hall, Jack Eccles, Angela Taylor, Graham Davies, Margaret Jackson, Jordan Wilkinson, Ed Spivey, Charlotte Bailey, Ann Taylor, Steve Rhodes and Rev. Anne Samuels

Happy Birthday

Natalie Cooper (6th)
Geoff Barrett (8th)

RIP

Canon Jim Garrard, our former vicar, on the 8th December. May he Rest in Peace. Please keep his wife Ros and children Richard and Sophia together with all his family in your prayers.

Anniversary of Death

Joyce Balmforth (4th)
Richard Spelzini (4th)
Pat Lund (5th)
Florence Binns (6th)
LCpl. Stanley Battye (6th)
Michael Stubley (10th)

Within our Diocese

Toby Howarth - the Bishop of Bradford - acting Diocesan Bishop of Leeds

Smitha Prasadam – Bishop of Huddersfield

Bill Braviner – Archdeacon of Halifax

James Allison - Area Dean

Paul Webb and Stephen Hannam– our vicars at St John's, Clifton

The Staff and children of the Academy

St. John's in Rwamkoma Everyone who worships at our link parish of St. John's, Rwamkoma in the region of Mara, Tanzania

Service sheet Readings, Prayers and Hymns

January 4th – Epiphany Sunday

Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

First Reading - Isaiah 60:1-6

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. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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." 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.

Prayer after Communion

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.**