

The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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Registered Charity Number 1206799

SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS: THE EPIPHANY

**Sunday 4th
Epiphany**

**08:00 Holy Communion
10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
11:15 Parish Family Eucharist
09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)
17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom
19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)
09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)
09.30 Breakfast Club (Manor Nursery)
17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom
10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)
No public worship today
No public worship today
08:00 Holy Communion
10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
11:15 Parish Eucharist**

**Monday 5th
Tuesday 6th**

Wednesday 7th

Thursday 8th

Friday 9th

Saturday 10th

Sunday 11th

The Baptism of Christ

(The first Sunday of Epiphany)

The Church is open for private prayer, Monday – Saturday 10.00-4.00 and until 4.00 on Sunday

The Collection plate - If you would like to make an offering, please use the contactless Payaz machine or the collection plate, both of which can be found by the door. Thank you for your generosity.

If you wish to take part in the Zoom evening prayer services on Tuesday or Wednesday, please contact trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk for the link.

Hymns

Introit: 52 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Gradual: 47 As with gladness men of old

Offertory: (Sheet) We three Kings of Orient are

Final: 49 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for Epiphany

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 your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament 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, 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.

Psalm 72: 10-15

New Testament Reading: The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians 3: 1-12

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.

Gospel Reading: 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 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.

Prayers of Intercession

The sick and those who care for them: Janet Lock, Peter Dickinson, Sue and family, Edna Nolson, Don Durrant, Betty Kernan, Angela Wallis, Molly Hendry, Bob Coyne, Sheila Chittenden.

Recently departed:

Anniversary of death:

We pray for and with the people of Ukraine; for the people of Israel, Gaza and the West Bank; for peace of the Holy Land; and for those who will weep, and fear, and die this day.

We pray for our vacancies – Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary.

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**

Next week's readings (Baptism of Christ: Epiphany 1)
Isaiah 42.1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10.34-43; Matthew 3.13-end

PCC vacancies. We are currently looking to fill the posts of Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary. If you may be interested, please contact Revd Julian or one of the churchwardens. Training will be offered.

Leading intercessions. Would you like to get more involved in our services? Could you do this by joining a rota to lead the intercessions? If this is something you might be interested in doing, please speak to Rev'd Julian to find out more.

Sponsoring flower arrangements in church: If you would like to sponsor a flower arrangement in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one, or simply because you love to see the beautiful decorations created by our flower group, please do sign up - there is a rota on the noticeboard as you go into church. Please take an envelope, pop in your cash and leave it in the collection plate. Alternatively, if you'd like to donate by BACS transfer, please ask David, our treasurer, for the account details and use the reference: Flowers.

Community Groups and Events

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast club meets on **Wednesday 7th January** at Manor Nursery Palm Court café, at 9.30am. The cost of breakfast at Manor Nursery is between £10.00 and £14.00. All are welcome to come along and enjoy a cooked breakfast with like-minded people with wide ranging conversation!! Any queries, please contact Alex Brockhurst 07792 544259.

Coffee, cake & Conversation

Our monthly Coffee, Cake & Conversation will take place on **Saturday 31st January** 10:30am – 12 noon in the Mosse Hall. Please bring along your friends, neighbours and family. **If anyone would like to host one of our Coffee, Cake & Conversation events then please do get in touch with Christine Eaton-Hennah (christineeh13@sky.com)**. We need volunteers for future dates. Full training on the coffee machine can be given and it only needs 2 of you at a time to make tea/coffee and provide milk and some yummy cakes.

The Bear Necessities and Pints of View are taking a break in January.

The Bear Necessities will meet next on **Monday 9th February at 7.30pm** at The Bear Inn, Paghams
Pints of View will meet next on **Thursday 12th February at 7.30pm** at the Inglenook, Paghams

Lunch on Sunday

The next Lunch on Sunday will be on **1st February at 12.45pm** following the Parish Family Eucharist. If you, along with some friends, would like to organise this lunch, or another one in the future, please contact Angela Purser.

Valentine's Ball – save the date

On **Saturday 14th February**, we are holding a Valentine's Ball in the Mosse Hall. Live music will be provided by our very own Regis Rhythms. More details to follow. For now, please save the date.

New Year shopping: When you are doing your online shopping, remember to use **easyfundraising** in support of St Richard's to help us raise additional funds, at no cost to you. If you're not sure how, please talk to David or Angela. Further details are at:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/strichardsaldwick/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1

Hygiene Poverty: A Hygiene Bank, co-ordinated by Sheila Farmer, has been set up in the Church porch. The Hygiene Bank will collect **new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials**. For health and safety reasons, opened, half-used or products past their best-before date cannot be accepted. Leaflets about the scheme are available at the back of the church and further details are at <https://thehygienebank.com/give-products/what-products-do-we-collect/>

Newspapers for Brent Lodge: Charlotte is maintaining a donation point at Church for newspapers for Brent Lodge. If you have any, please feel free to drop them in the green box in the porch. They will be collected periodically and taken to Brent Lodge to be used as bedding in their animal hospital. Thank you for supporting Charlotte to **support** this charity.

SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.



Urgently needed this week: Sauces (ketchup, mayo etc), sponge puddings, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, UHT fruit juice. **We have plenty of:** pulses.