

The Benefice Bulletin

18th January 2026 – Second Sunday of Epiphany

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Barton under Needwood DE13 8HU



Please take this bulletin home with you

Here for the first time? Relax. Please make yourself at home and please sit where you feel comfortable. Those who greeted you, our wardens, or the clergy will answer any practical questions that you may have. Posture notes on the service sheet and verbal instructions are intended for those who can comfortably follow them. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us.

Services this week

Sunday 18th January 2026

09:00 Holy Communion

St Mary's, Dunstall

10:30 Joint Covenant Service

Barton Methodist Church

No service at St James'

13:30 Baptism of Effie

St Michael's, Tatenhill

19:00 Pub Church

The Shoulder, Barton

Wednesday 21st January

09:15 WoW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 22nd January

09:15 WoW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Readings and Prayers for the Second Sunday of Epiphany

Readings

Psalm 40

Old Testament Isaiah 49.1-7

New Testament 1 Corinthians 1.1-9

Gospel John 1.29-42

The Collect

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Post Communion Prayer

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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Churchwardens:		
St James'	Ray Holder ☎01283 327814	✉ rayholder2006@gmail.com
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St Michael's	Phil & Emma Coleman ☎01283 538983	✉ stmtatenhill@gmail.com

Isaiah 49.1-7 Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' ⁴But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.' ⁵And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—⁶ he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'⁷ Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

1 Corinthians 1.1-9 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶just as the testimony of^[a] Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1.29-42 ²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' ³²And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

For your prayers

The World: We pray for His Majesty King Charles and Queen Camilla, and the wider Royal Family. We pray for all areas of the world where there are conflicts, poverty, drought, disaster, terrorism, and humanitarian crisis.

The Anglican Communion: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Our Diocese: We pray for Bishops Michael and Matthew and Archdeacon Megan

Our Deanery: Along with our deanery, we pray for all those who minister, worship and live in the parish of St Mary's, Rolleston

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on St James' Road, St Luke's Road and Church Lane in Barton, Malt House Row in Dunstall and Battlestead Road in Tatenhill. May God be with all those who live and work in these places as they go about their daily lives this week.

Those who are not well: Mike S, Heather S, Lesley S-D, Doreen, Enid, Shirley, Phillipa, Tim S, Stephen, Sara, John G, Brian, Rosemarie, Jess, Beth, Cliff, Rebecca

Those who have died: Velma Hodgson, Ron Stafford, Vic Warrington, Peter Bailey, Frank Clarke, Geoffrey Wright. We pray for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

In Benefice News...

- Join us at St James' Church for **Sing-a-long Disney** on Saturday 17th January as we once again host a fundraiser for Holland Sports Club New Clubhouse Fund! Feel free to dress as your favourite character and come along from 16:00.
- The **Joint Methodist Covenant Service** will be held on Sunday 18th January at Barton Methodist Church, starting at 10:30. Please join us for this service if you are able to. ****Please note that there will be NO 10:30 service at St James' on Sunday 18th January****
- The **Barton Churches Together Quiz Night** takes place on Saturday 24th January. Entry is £2 per person. Bring a team or join one on the night. BYOB and nibbles - it's always a good evening!
- The first **Pub Church** of 2026 takes place on Sunday 18th January starting at 19:00. Pop along and join Rev Andy with a drink of your choice for this relaxed and informal session.
- **Bible Group** starts again for 2026 on Friday 23rd January at 10:00 in St James' Church. All are welcome to this mixed, friendly group to discuss aspects of the bible and our Christian faith. Refreshments provided. For more information if you have any questions, please speak to Paula Drage in church or call 07879 882058.

If you would like a home visit from the Ministry or Pastoral Visiting Team, please contact the Benefice Office on 01283 712359 to arrange a time.

Diary Dates for the Week Ahead

Monday 19th January

19:00 Barton PCC

St James', Barton

Tuesday 20th January

Wednesday 21st January

09:15 WoW Wednesday

St James', Barton

Thursday 22nd January

09:15 WoW Thursday

Tatenhill Village Hall

Friday 23rd January

10:00 Bible Group

St James', Barton

Saturday 24th January

19:00 Churches Together Quiz

St James' Church Hall, Barton

Sunday 25th January

09:00 Holy Communion

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:30 Sung Eucharist

St James', Barton

13:30 Baptism of Hugo

St James', Barton

Future Dates

Monday 2nd February

19:00 Home Group

The Vicarage, Barton

Wednesday 4th February

14:00 Dunstall PCC

Dunstall Church Hall

Monday 9th February

13:30 Tea and Chat

St James' Church Hall

Wednesday 18th February

19:00 Ash Wednesday Holy Communion
with imposition of Ashes

St James', Barton

Monday 23rd February

11:00 Barton Pancake Races

Main Street, Barton

18:00 Lent Time and Space

St James', Barton

Hello All,

Each Sunday in the Epiphany season we are given stories of different "revealings" from the Gospel narratives as to the divine nature of Jesus. This week following John's account of Jesus' baptism - Jesus is introduced as the "Lamb of God" to Andrew and then Andrew introduces Jesus to his brother Peter, as the Messiah! Do you see yourself as a follower of Jesus; as a disciple? Well, if so, you are called to be active in your discipleship and introduce Jesus to people! I know this isn't easy but it is essential. Given what we know about Peter's nature I don't suppose such a declaration by Andrew to his brother was risk free! But in that encounter Peter is transformed by Jesus and is given a new name to mark the change! I can imagine the sense of joy (and relief) Andrew must have felt when Peter accepted Jesus, can you?



Yours in Christ, Rev Andy +