

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Thur 11th Jan

8.00am Morning Prayers & Bible Study St Michael's, Aldbourne
10.00am Holy Communion Holy Cross, Ramsbury

Fri 12th Jan

11.00am Holy Communion Brendoncare

NOTICES

❖ **GROWING RURAL CHURCHES** – Valuing the Past – Sustaining the Present – Building for the Future. All of us want our village churches to thrive and be there for the future but sometimes we need help.

The Arthur Rank Centre/Germinate (based in rural Warwickshire) has been providing support, training, ideas and resources for country churches for more than 40 years but few people know about all it can offer.

Canon Jean Coates (Vice Chair of ARC/Germinate) and former Rural Officer for Dorset will be sharing some resources that might help our churches to grow and continue to thrive.

This is a Marlborough Deanery Synod meeting but open to all church members to be part of these important discussions. All are invited and welcome.

The meeting is on **Saturday 3rd February 2018** from 10.30am – 1.00pm at Chiseldon Church Hall

Deadline for Notices: 10.00am Thursday

Contact the Team Office (teamoffice@whittonteam.org.uk/01672-520963) about forthcoming church events, or people to be added to the prayer list.

Office hours: 9.00am-1.00pm Mon & Thurs

Website: www.whittonteam.org.uk

WHITTON BENEFICE

Aldbourne, Baydon, Chilton Foliat, Froxfield, Ramsbury with Axford

SUNDAY 7th January 2018 – Epiphany

Ephesians 3: 1-12/Matthew 2: 1-12

8.00am Ramsbury Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Aldbourne Team Holy Communion

Please pray for the pupils, staff and governors of St. John's College, Marlborough.

Please pray for those who are sick or in pain, especially **Jim Cramsie** and **Ray** and **Vera Chapman**.

We remember those who have died in faith, especially the family and friends of **Frederick (Fred) Brown**, those whose faith is known only to God and we remember all those, the anniversary of whose death falls this week.

Next Sunday 14th January 2018 – Epiphany 2

Ps 139: 1-9/1 Samuel 3: 1-10/Revelation 5: 1-10/John 1: 43-end

8.00am Ramsbury Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Baydon Matins
9.30am Froxfield Holy Communion (CW)
9.30am Ramsbury Informal Morning Worship
11.00am Aldbourne Matins
11.00am Chilton Foliat Holy Communion (Order 1)

Please take this leaflet home with you

7th January 2018 – First Sunday of Epiphany

NEW TESTAMENT - Ephesians 3: 1-12

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

GOSPEL - Matthew 2: 1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

