



PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

Sunday 7th January 2018 – Epiphany The Visit of the Wise Men

TODAY'S SERVICES

8.00am Holy Communion at St Thomas'

9.15am Holy Communion at St Thomas'

Hymns: 105, 95, 94, 86

9.15am Holy Communion at St George's

11.00am Holy Communion / Parade at St Bartholomew's Hymns: 105, 95, 94, 86 at communion: 96, 97

On the first week of the month, we offer prayer for healing. If you wish to receive anointing and prayer, please come to the rail first at communion, as directed by the sidespeople.

1:00pm Baptism Service at St. Bartholomew's Harrison Lee Casson-Knowles

We pray for Harrison and his parents, godparents, family and friends at his baptism today.

- We welcome everyone to worship today; if this is your first time with us, please introduce yourselves to the clergy, wardens or sidespeople
- During the Administration of Holy Communion we keep silence or join with the singing of the communion hymns.
- At communion please come forward following the direction of the sidespeople to the communion rail.
- Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please mention this to the clergy before the service.
- There are large print service and hymn books available if you need them.
- Coffee is served after all the services (except the 8am service)
- There is an induction loop at St. Bartholomew's – please switch hearing aids to the "T" setting

We pray for:

Those who are ill: Irene Booth, Maureen Chadwick, Arthur Cutler, Christopher Davies, Lisa Ginniff, Jenny Harris, Mavis Heaton, Edith Ibbotson, Simon Kelly, Ailsa Maddison, Eileen Marsh, Frances Payne, John Peacock, Arthur Robinson, Sue Taylor, Ruth Warburton, Jenny Whitfield, James Wright.

Those who have died recently: Betty Aspinall, Pamela Ballantine, Janet Coyle, Karen Duffy, Joan Hartley, Anne-Marie Heaton, Philip Sherrington

And on their anniversaries this week, we remember: George Bryant, Joseph Darbyshire, Hettie Hart, Clifford Freeman, Jennifer Grimshaw, James Hayes, Herbert Hollingsworth, Wilfred Kirkman, Norman Pomfret, James Staveley, Joan Turner, Edith Valentine, Melissa Walmsley.

This week:

Tuesday 9th January: Word Search Bible Study Course resumes at St. Bartholomew's – 7:30 – 8:30pm. This week: "Wisdom literature 2, The Psalms." Everyone can attend, no previous knowledge expected, newcomers always welcome.

Wednesday 10th January: Holy Communion Service at St. Bartholomew's church 10:00am

Thursday 11th January 7:30pm at St. Bartholomew's: St. George's are holding a meeting to look at ideas for fund-raising. It's open to everyone from St. George's who has ideas to contribute.

Coming Up in January:

Thursday 18th January: Café church starts again at St. George's

Monday 22nd January: St. Bartholomew's committee will meet at 7pm followed by the PCC at 7:30pm

18th – 25th January: is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

"My Beloved Son" is a musical drama for Easter being planned ecumenically in Westhoughton. Weekly rehearsals will start on 12th Jan at Westhoughton Methodist Church with performances on the evenings of Good Friday and Holy Saturday [30th & 31st March] at St. Bartholomew's. Anyone wishing to sing, please contact the Methodist minister, Lesley at lesleydinham@gmail.com or 'phone her on 01942 581 337.





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St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

The Collect:

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.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60. 1 - 6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. ⁶A 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.

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 3. 1-12

¹I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Gospel:

Matthew 2. 1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ²'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.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶"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.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.' ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.



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 Sunday's Services: The Second Sunday of Epiphany

1 Samuel 3. 1 - 10:

Revelation 5.1-10;

John 1. 43 - end

8.00am	St Bartholomew's	Holy Communion	Canon Chris Bracegirdle
9:15am	St Thomas'	Holy Communion	Revd Kirsty Screeton
9:15am	St. George's	Holy Communion	Canon Chris Bracegirdle
11.00am	St Bartholomew	Holy Communion & Baptism	Canon Chris Bracegirdle

Team Rector: Canon Dr Chris Bracegirdle 01942 859251: rectordhww@gmail.com www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk

Curate: Revd. Kirsty Screeton – 01942 575383: revkirstyscreeton@gmail.com

Team Vicar: Revd Angela Wynne 01204 468150 – revawynne@gmail.com

FACEBOOK – locate us by searching Westhoughton parish

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Material for the news sheet should be sent to Joan Warner by Wednesday morning 01942 818821 joanwarner35@outlook.com