

Lord, as we heard about the kings and their journeys, we pray for this, our own, country with its cultural and ethnic diversity, for King Charles, our head of state, his ministers and all in authority, that they will govern wisely and with due regard for the needs of all people. We pray for all our people facing this New Year without some of the basics of life that we take so much for granted. We think of the homeless, the unemployed, the asylum seeker, the addict, the ex-prisoner. Lord Jesus who became a refugee from the oppression of Herod be with all those who find themselves marginalised from our society. Support all who work through state and voluntary agencies to relieve their hardship and restore dignity.

We pray for all families.. Each one is made up differently and faces the normal ups and downs of family life in different ways. We remember that Jesus was born, nurtured and grew up in a family which would have known all the emotions that we know in ours. We pray that each family finds a place for that selfless love, revealed to us through the life, teachings and example of our Lord.

We pray for the sick, both at home and in hospital, or hospice. We think of the elderly, the housebound and those in care homes. And we pray for all who care to their needs, both professionally and in the family. Lord Jesus who responded to the needs of all those who had faith; comfort and sustain those who are in need of your grace at this time. As we share a moment of silence together, we bring before you those known only to ourselves and name them in our hearts.

Lord, we pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones, whether recently or some time ago. Let the knowledge of your resurrection in glory be comfort to all those who mourn.

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died and a candle has been lit to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope.

## Weekly Notices

Rector: Rev. Canon Jonathan Gordon 01442 871547

Priest: Rev. Michael Eggleton 01442 823273

Readers: Peggy Sear and David White

[www.stbartholomewschurch.org](http://www.stbartholomewschurch.org)

Services for January 4th

### The Epiphany

8am Holy Communion BCP

**10 00am** Parish Eucharist

393, 41, 209, 41

#### Readings:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Ephesians 3; 1-12

Matthew 2: 1-12

**4pm** Evening Prayer

Psalm 135

Isaiah 41: 21-42.4

Colossians 1: 1-14

Wed. 7th.January

9.30am Holy Communion BCP

Services for January 11th

### Baptism of Christ

8am Holy Communion BCP

10am Parish Eucharist

Hymns 394, 53, 296, 71

#### Readings

Isaiah 42: 1-9

Acts 10: 34-43

Matthew 3; 13—end

**4pm** Evening Prayer

Psalm 46 and 47

Joshua 3: 1-8, 14-end

Hebrews 1; 1-12

## Prayer for today

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.

## Prayer for Peace

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

## St. Barts Book Swap and Library

IS OPEN for swapping books. Please feel free to borrow books from the library or bring books in for others to share.

### Weekly Updates to the Notices

The Notices are printed out every Friday. If there is anything that you would like added to these notices, please get in touch either by email; [revmike1@outlook.com](mailto:revmike1@outlook.com) or phone 07585600408

### Church Room bookings

If you would like to book the church room, please get in touch 07585600408

#### Need a plumber?

Give Mel Price a ring 07789324922

#### Need a Window Cleaner?

Give Scott a ring on 07875534780

### Coming up in the church

#### Dacorum Night Shelter DENS

DENS is short for the Dacorum Emergency Night Shelter, as originally it just was. Founded in 1998, it has developed in many directions, aspiring to be the first port of call in Dacorum for residents facing

poverty, social isolation or homelessness.

On the piano in Church there is a home crafted red post box. It stands there all the year but is now empty awaiting any used postage stamps you put in it, foreign or U.K. from Christmas mail.

To facilitate sorting, please leave a cm margin around each one, and if possible, separate foreign from U.K. stamps.

DENS can make some money from all these by weight. (There are also collecting post boxes in our Village Shop and outside Cholesbury Village Hall)

Thanks very much yet again, Gill Fleckney



Wigginton Parish Quiz  
at the Village Hall  
Saturday 31st January 2026  
7pm start. Teams max 6 people  
£10 / head. Includes nibbles. Cash Bar  
Raising funds for  
The Hospice of St. Francis &  
St. Bartholomew's new porch  
Tickets 07905 282341

At the start of this new year we are reminded of the world's deafness to the message of peace sung by the Christmas angels. Signs of conflict and threats of war rumble on with each new round of talks on the seeking of a peaceful settlement. We pray for all caught up in conflict or its preparations. We think of British service men and women facing the uncertainty of action so far from home.. Father, give strength and courage to all peacemakers that they will not be dissuaded from the difficult decisions needed to bring about an end to open conflict or acts of terrorism.

Lord we thank you that you promised the possibility of making a fresh start at any time and not just as part of some half-considered new year resolutions. Help those who have recently made important decisions in their lives to see them through. Life is full of pressures which often pull and push us in directions we would, and should, not normally take. Give us strength of purpose and faith in you to take decisions seriously, to understand the consequences for others, as well as ourselves, and, always, to seek your guidance through prayer