

The United Benefice of the parishes of Melbourne,
Smisby, Stanton by Bridge and Ticknall



The Bulletin

A weekly publication for the Parish of Melbourne



Epiphany Sunday - 5th January 2020

8am **Holy Communion**

10.30am **Parish Eucharist, Junior Church & Coffee**

Readings: can be found on pages 7/8

Introit: A New Year Carol *Benjamin Britten*

Setting: *Francis Jackson* in G

Hymns: 50, 49, 52 [48, 57] 258

Anthem: A Babe is born *William Mathias*

Organ Voluntary: Fugue sur le theme du Carillon des Heures de
la Cathedrale de Soissons *Maurice Duruflé*

6.30pm **Evensong**

(Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, this
service has had to be cancelled.

There is a 5.30pm service at Smisby)

Welcome!

Welcome to all worshipping here today with a special welcome
to those who are visitors or newcomers.

CONTACT US:

Revd Steve Short: (Rector) 864741 (day off Monday)

Parish Office: Kate Landenberger 862153 or
email: melbourneparishchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.melbourneparishchurch.co.uk

Across the Benefice Today

Melbourne: 8am - Revd Steve Short
10.30am – Revd Steve Short
6.30pm - No Service

Smisby: 5.30pm – Revd Steve Short

Stanton: 11am – Canon David Edwards

Ticknall: 9.15am – Canon David Edwards

**Taking responsibility for Church life today:**

8am Holy Communion

Sidespersons: Joe Laban, John Tatam

Server: Joy Hill

Reader: Rosemary Jackson

10.30am Parish Eucharist, Junior Church & Coffee

Acting Wardens: Margaret Brackenbury, Victoria Hancock

Sidespersons: Sheena Wilkins, Margaret Murray-Leslie

Crucifer: Sarah Kington

Server: Jo Glaze

Reader: Griselda Kerr

Intercessor: Graham Truscott

Coffee: MaryBolton, Rachel Short, Roddy Lott

6.30pm Evensong

(Due to unforeseen circumstances there will be no Evensong this week)

Happy Christmas!

Thank you to so many people who have contributed to making our Christmas celebrations all the more special and, accordingly, a fitting offering to the God who became one of us in the manger at Bethlehem. This Christmas we have another opportunity to gaze in wonder at the manger as God invites us again into the story of His salvation. We are very blessed and we offer back the gift of our hearts and our lives as we join in the song of the angels 'Glory to God in the Highest and peace to his people on earth'!

-Steve

Illuminating the Church Tower:

To make your booking, please call the church office—862153. Donations to sponsor the lights for an evening should be placed in a clearly marked envelope and put in the Sunday collection or put through the Rector's letterbox. This week there has been a donation from Janet Parsons and family in memory of her Mum, Audrey Moore's, passing on 5th January.

Epiphany Carol Service

Please join us next Sunday at 6.30pm for the Epiphany Carol Service, which is followed by refreshments. Your support will be warmly welcomed.

Thank you for music and flowers:

Many, many thanks to the flower arranging team for making our church look so beautiful for our Christmas services. The flowers bring such a transformation and celebratory feeling when we enter from the dank, drab experience of a cold and wet winter's day. It's good to have them back again. We are very fortunate indeed to have such a talented team.

We were also treated to a wonderful variety of music at Christmas-time when the church was packed with all-comers for the lovely Carol Service that Simon, the Choir, Tom Corfield and Sophie Short set before us. We were truly blessed.

Kate Landenberger

Mothers' Union:

Our January meeting is as usual our Annual General Meeting when we look at all we have accomplished in the past year and look forward to the events of 2020. We will meet at 2pm in the Honner Room on **January 7th**. After business is over we can enjoy some festive nibbles. Do come along and find out what Mothers' Union have been busy with. We are open to all comers.

Ros Bell

Living Waters:

What is Living Waters? It is a house group, open to all, which meets once a month for worship, study, discussion and a snack. Our first meeting this year will be at 10.30a.m. on Tuesday, January 14th at 2 Dunicliffe Lane. As Margaret is no longer able to lead the group, we shall be thinking about how we shall proceed and planning future dates and venues. If you think you might be interested in joining us, you would be most welcome but please let me know if you are coming so that I can make sure we have enough chairs and that the snack is adequate! Contact me on 01332 405303 or by email – alisongregory@uwclub.net.

Alison Gregory

Clive's quiz deadline today: This should reach Clive at the very latest by 5th January! Don't knock him over in the rush! Answers next week.

Angels' Delight: The first Angels' Delight meeting in church will be on January 15th from 9am – 11am.

There will be a planning meeting in the Rectory on the 8th January.

Thank you!

On the Saturday before Christmas, the Rectory camper-van was loaded with six fully-equipped Moses baskets and a dozen bags full of nappies, blankets, baby-grows etc. Rachel, Ros and Alison clambered aboard and the sat-nav (with a little help from Ros) directed us to St. Ann's church hall in Derby – the home of the Derby Refugee Solidarity. There we were welcomed with warmth and excitement as we carried our gifts in. Photos were taken and tea and mince-pies consumed. We were introduced to many volunteers: some were asylum-seekers (unable to work while their applications were being processed but finding a welcome and help at the centre); some were validated refugees (still needing help with language, job-applications etc) and some were good local people giving up their time and expertise to help. One wall of the hall was lined with huge bins labelled Syria, Greece, Italy etc. These were being filled with clothing and bedding as they were sorted by the volunteers. At one end, where the stage was situated, a 'classroom' was screened off. This was used for language lessons, art classes etc. There was nothing glamorous about the hall but it was bright and cheerful, every square inch occupied and a real sense of purpose pervaded. It was good to feel that we had made a useful contribution to a well-organised, worthwhile enterprise. We were also able to hand over £145 to be spent on transport costs or to go towards the rent of the hall (£200 per month). We were assured that our baskets would be on their way abroad within a week.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way to this effort – members of the Mothers' Union, Caring Hands, Mothers and grandmothers of our Angels' Delight and members of the congregation and, of course, to Rachel for driving the van. As Tiny Tim would say – 'God bless us, every one'..

Alison Gregory

Be a Derby Cathedral Chorister for a day:

Derby Cathedral Choir has had a busy December with the hectic Christmas schedule of Carol Services and special events but one thing is certain - the choir has loved every minute and had fun as a youthful energetic team. So what is it really like to be a Derby Cathedral Chorister? Boys and girls aged 7 - 13 years from across Derbyshire have the opportunity to find out on Saturday, 18 January 2020, when they can join the current choristers from 2.30pm to 6pm for an afternoon of fun musical activities, and the opportunity

to sing in the choir for a short service at 5.15pm. Parents are warmly invited to stay for the afternoon to see what goes on behind the scenes! Places are limited - to book email music@derbycathedral.org or call 01332 202231.

**Reverend Canon Dr Elizabeth Thomson, Acting Dean of Derby writes:
The light comes back:**

The earth tilts on its axis and the year turns. We are past the winter solstice. Even though the mornings go on getting darker for a couple of weeks, the light is stretching out and the days are a few tiny seconds longer. 'In the mid-winter,' writes the Scottish poet Liz Lochhead, when everything is bleak, *even so the light comes back
the light always comes back.*

Christmas has come and the light is here. The carol services, modern or ancient, hesitant or triumphant, hyper-organised or slightly incoherent, candlelit or floodlit, have all proclaimed it: 'the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.' And now in the church year the season of Epiphany offers us time to take in the light, to blink, to look again, to learn to see. An epiphany is a moment of realisation, when something begins to sink in. Christ is born! we have all sung, and now we begin to look at that light and the state of the world it dawns in.

The world's school report at the end of 2019 was not good reading.

Peace: *shows no willingness to put in the effort demanded and is constantly distracted by rumours of wars.*

Truth: *although this concept has been clearly explained, the world keeps finding ways to avoid it.*

Health: *a very worrying tendency to overheat.*

Overall, could do better.

So it's bleak and there's a lot of darkness around. But the light shines in the darkness. Epiphany gives us time to think about that. The wise men come following a star and we see how Herod reacts to a threat to his political power. Jesus is baptised among a crowd of people coming out from the city to try to put their lives right. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity reminds us of our capacity to disagree about God's good news. Through all this, through the complexity of working out that good news in the world and through our ability to get it wrong, the light goes on shining.

The light, in Lochhead's poem, is out there, gathering, strengthening, working its way towards us who are still in the dark of winter. 'The light always comes back':

Meanwhile

there will be the winter moon for us to love the longest,

fat in the frosty sky among the sharpest stars,

and lines of old songs we can't remember

why we know

or when first we heard them

will aye come back

*once in a blue moon to us unbidden
and bless us with their long-travelled light.*
Revd Canon Dr Elizabeth Thomson Acting Dean of Derby
From 'Our Diocese'

This week in connection with Melbourne Church

Monday:	2pm	Caring Hands (HR)
	7pm	Drum Corps Practice in church
	7.30pm	Male Voice Choir Practice (HR)
Tuesday:	2pm	Mothers' Union AGM (HR)
	7.25pm	Bellringing Practice
Wednesday:	9am	Angels' Delight Planning Meeting (Rectory)
	7.45pm	Choir Practice (SMH)
Thursday:	9.15am	Holy Communion
Saturday:	2.30pm	Baptism
	4pm	Church prepared for Sunday Worship

A pattern for daily prayer, so that, at home or at church, we can pray together:

Monday: Those in great poverty or need.

Tuesday: Those who have asked for our prayers: Ruth Barkaway, Anne Brazier, Roo Hubbard, David Ingram, John Rooks, Bob Smith and Margaret Stockley. Those in Derby's hospitals and hospices. All at Pool Cottage.

Wednesday: Our group of parishes.

Thursday: The church worldwide. All Christian people. The local church. The Anglican Communion.

Friday: All in need, especially the hungry, poor and homeless.

The Departed

In our prayers this week, we can remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur near this time, among them Ronald Moore (Priest), Kath Kington, Audrey Moore, Bob Honner (Priest) and Richard Morrison.

Next Week at Melbourne: The Baptism of Christ

8am **Holy Communion**

(Sidespersons: Joan Pass, Tony Taylor)

10.30am **All Age Eucharist and Coffee**

(Sidespersons: Carolyn Tasker, Gordon Hughes)

(Coffee: Janet Warner, Annabel Needham, Kate Landenberger)

6.30pm **Epiphany Carol Service**

(Sidesperson: John Springthorpe)

The Readings today:

First 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.

The 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.

Additional 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.



Future Choir trips.....

Thanks to all those of you who supported our trips in 2019. The choir values greatly the company and support of the congregation and other friends on these occasions. Future dates are listed below.

Dates for 2020

- ② Saturday 4th April: daytrip to Ely
- ② Bank Holiday Monday, 25th May: daytrip to Lincoln
- ② Saturday 20th June: daytrip to Tewkesbury
- ② 25th and 26th July: Weekend residency at Truro Cathedral
- ② Sunday 25th October: services at Lichfield Cathedral

These trips are increasingly popular and I do encourage you to come along if you are yet to experience one. They are relaxing days “doing your own thing” and Choral Evensong to enjoy before the journey back home. All this, door-to-door, in the company of people you know!

Truro: we will need to finalise the accommodation for our weekend earlier than usual as it's High Season in Cornwall.

If you would be interested in staying with the choir, do ask for details. As on previous weekends, it's always lovely to have the support of familiar faces.

Please get in touch if you want any further information (07808 474236, simon.e.collins@btinternet.com or after services).

Simon Collins, Director of Music