



# St Mary's & St Luke's Weekly Information Sheet

## Sunday 8 January 2023 – The Epiphany



This sheet is also available online at [www.stmaryswistaston.blog](http://www.stmaryswistaston.blog)

***Worship & Prayer in church & online for Sunday and the coming week***  
*Holy communion will be distributed at Communion Rail with 'Priest intinction'*

### In Church Worship

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – The Epiphany**

**We welcome Canon David Taylor to both services**

**9am at St Luke`s – A Service of Holy Communion**

**10.40am at St Mary`s – Morning Prayer with Junior Church**

*Ephesians 3.1-12 & Matthew 2.1-12*

*All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition*

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**Holy Communion every Wednesday at St Mary's at 10am  
followed by refreshments**

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**Next Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Epiphany 2**

**9am at St Luke`s – A Service of Morning Prayer**

**10.40am at St Mary`s – A Service of All Age Holy Communion**

*1 Corinthians 1.1-9 & John 1.29-42*

*All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition*

### Online Worship

**The 10:40am service is streamed from St Mary's each Sunday**

**[YouTube.com/StMarysWistaston1](https://www.youtube.com/StMarysWistaston1) & Facebook: [bit.ly/facebookstmarys](https://bit.ly/facebookstmarys)**

**You can also join in by phone: just before 10:40am Call: 0203 051 2874**

**Meeting ID: 838 7878 9259 Participant ID (if asked): # Passcode: 567119**

**Morning Prayer on Zoom is taking a break until mid January.**

**For Daily Prayer please go to the CofE Website for their excellent daily prayers: [bit.ly/2sHqxHh](https://bit.ly/2sHqxHh)**

## **First Reading: Ephesians 3.1-12**

### **A reading from the Epistle to the Ephesians**

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.

This the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading: Matthew 2.1-12

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you O Lord.**

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 worshipped 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

### The Collect

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.

**Amen.**

### 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.**

## News & Information

[stmaryswistaston.blog](http://stmaryswistaston.blog) & [stmaryswistaston.org.uk](http://stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**The heating at St Mary's is up and running!** Can you help towards the cost of £7800? Consider whether you've been blessed (& heated) by the previous boiler over the past 50 years, if so, consider donating to offset the cost, large or small, online or on the plate. Mark it 'Heating'. Thanks very much for the donations we've received so far. You can give online here: [bit.ly/heatingfund](http://bit.ly/heatingfund)

**Sunday Tea Rota – please if anyone can help with refreshments** after the Services throughout January and other dates through early next year, please can you add your name to the Rota in the Church Hall- thank you!

**The LAG** - We look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on January 26th. No need to bring refreshments just your lovely selves! Frances

**Both the Bible Study & Prayer Group meetings has now** restarted from Tues Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.15am for Bible Study & from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for the Prayer group, meeting at 56 Bowness Road, thanks Jenny Varty 01270 567618.

**St Mary's Cleaning:** thanks from all of us to those who clean the church each week (& St Luke's). **Please add your name to the rota in the porch.**

**Cafe Wells Methodist** - Every Friday from 10.30am to 1.30pm our Methodist friends have refreshments including soup and a roll (donations) available along with a warm welcome.

**Confirmation Service 2023:** Bishop Julie will be conducting a service of Confirmation on Sunday 9 July, 10:40am, at St Mary's. If you are Baptised and not yet Confirmed, and would like to be, please let Revd Mike know.

[revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk](mailto:revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk) We will begin preparation after Easter.

**Foodbanks update: Thank you so much for your wonderfully generous support for St Paul's Foodbank during 2022. November & December** were exceptionally busy months with both the number of people needing food parcels from us and food donations that came in 7.8 **tonnes of food** were distributed to **648 local people representing 261 households**. One of the highest amounts of food we have received in recent years. Our current shortages are: Jam, UHT milk, cereal, rice, long life puddings/cakes. Tins of: corned beef; pork; fruit; meat meals (e.g. chilli con carne, stew); rice pudding; vegetables. There is a leaflet avble with the places that you can donate food in the Porch and Hall noticeboard. Thank you!

**Office Hours: Reminder that the Office hours are now extended from 9.30am-1.30pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and Friday 9.30am-12.30pm. (now closed on Mondays).**

**Prayer for Ukraine Blog:** [bit.ly/weprayforukraine](http://bit.ly/weprayforukraine)