St Mary's

& St Luke's
Wistaston & Willaston

# Weekly Information Sheet Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 The Epiphany

Holy Communion is distributed as follows: to receive a wafer dipped in the wine, hold out two hands, or you can receive a wafer only, or a wafer and the Chalice, by holding out one hand. Hands by your side for a blessing. Please let a Sidesperson know if you need to have communion brought to you in the pew.

Gluten Free wafers are available at Communion.

### In Church Worship

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – The Epiphany 9am at St Luke's - Morning Prayer 10.40am at St Mary's – Holy Communion

4pm at St Mary's – Christingle Service

see back page for more info

Ephesians 3.1-12 & Matthew 2.1-12

# Wednesday 10am Holy Communion at St Mary`s followed by Refreshments

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Second Sunday of Epiphany We welcome Canon David to both our Churches 9am at St Luke's – Holy Communion 10.40am at St Mary's – All Age Worship

Revelation 5.1-10 & John 1.43-51



For info: There is a Loop System installed in both of our churches.

At St Mary's we have an accessible toilet available in the Choir Vestry (the door opposite where you came in) with baby changing facilities.

At St Luke's there is an accessible toilet available via the church porch.





To help us to cut down on paper use and printing why not download Service
Orders using the QR code or at <a href="bit.ly/serviceorders">bit.ly/serviceorders</a>
This Weekly Sheet can be viewed online at <a href="strangerstates">strangerstates</a> and <a href="percentages">percentages</a>

# Online Worship

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

YouTube.com/StMarysWistaston1 & Facebook: 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 bit.ly/930mp,

9:30am only Tuesday this week.

# 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 is the word of the Lord.

# Thanks be to God.

#### **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.

# **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.

#### **Post Communion**

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**

The final week of the Advent Course (which we couldn't fit in before Christmas!) will be held this Tuesday 9 January, 7:30pm-9pm, at the Rectory. Just bring a Bible, everything else is supplied. Even if you didn't attend the other weeks you are welcome!

The PCC's Safety Officer, David Illing, is updating the church's Health & Safety Policy, and he is wondering whether we have any up-to-date trained First Aiders in either of our churches? If so, and you'd be happy to be a named First Aider, please let David or Revd Mike know. Likewise, if you'd be happy to attend a First Aid course to become a First Aider, once again, let either of them know. David can be contacted via email: <a href="mailto:safetyofficer@stmaryswistaston.org.uk">safetyofficer@stmaryswistaston.org.uk</a>

St Mary's after Church Refreshments Rota 2024 - could you please fill in the rota for 2024 in the Church Hall. Thanks to everyone who volunteers to do this. The St Mary's Cleaning Rota needs some new volunteers and people to sign up. The Rota is in the porch of the church – please consider signing up to keep St Mary's looking fantastic. See a Warden for more details.

**Please use Easyfundraising** to raise money for St Mary's for free. Its quick, and free to sign up: click here for more info <a href="mailto:bit.ly/stmaryseasyfundraising">bit.ly/stmaryseasyfundraising</a> It costs you nothing but raises money for our churches.

Join us for a Family Christingle this afternoon at St Mary's at 4pm, just bring an orange per participant and the rest will be supplied.



#### **Contact Information**

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All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition