

Parish of Seale, Puttenham & Wanborough

SUNDAY Supplement

www.spw.org.uk

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Sunday 6th January – Epiphany

Welcome to our services today.

Services Today

9.00 am	Seale	Holy Communion – CW	(Stephen Thatcher)
9.00 am	Wanborough	Holy Communion – CW	(Phil Roche)
10.30 am	Puttenham	Morning Service	(Chris Tuckwell)
10.30 am	The Sands	Christingle Service	(Stephen Thatcher)

Today's Readings

Morning: Isaiah 60.1-6 ; Ephesians 3.1-12 ; Matthew 2.1-12

Evening: Baruch 4.36 - 5.9 *or* Isaiah 60.1-9 ; John 2.1-11

Prayer for this week

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.**

WE PRAY FOR

- The family and friends of **Michael Osborne**, whose funeral will take place at St. Laurence, Seale, on Wednesday 16th January at 2.30 pm.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Tue 8 th	12.00 – 2.30 pm	Shepherd's Rest Café, at The Good Shepherd, The Sands.
	7.00 pm	Choir Practice at St John the Baptist, Puttenham.
Thu 10 th	7.00 pm	Choir Practice at St Laurence, Seale.

Services next Sunday – 13th January

Baptism of Christ

9.00 am	The Sands	Holy Communion – CW	(Phil Roche)
10.30 am	Puttenham	Holy Communion – CW	(Stephen Thatcher)
10.30 am	Seale	Morning Service	(Chris Tuckwell)
6.00 pm	Wanborough	Compline	(Helen Roche)

DATES FOR THE FUTURE

Tue 15 th	12.00 – 2.30 pm	Shepherd's Rest Café, at The Good Shepherd, The Sands.
	7.00 pm	Choir Practice at St John the Baptist, Puttenham.
Wed 16 th	2.30 pm	Funeral – Michael Osborne, at St Laurence, Seale.
	2.30 – 4.30 pm	Tower Café at St John the Baptist, Puttenham.

Thu 17 th	7.00 pm	Choir Practice at St Laurence, Seale.
Sun 20 th	10.30 am	Christingle Service and BIG FISH at St John the Baptist, Puttenham.

FROM THE RECTORY DESK



Dear Friends,

It is time to add the Magi to the cribs in our churches. The gospel reading from Matthew makes no mention how many came to Jesus, nor from whence they came, other than from the East, not even their mode of transport. They are not kings and remain unnamed. We leave it to tradition to fill in the details. What is clear is that they are the only non-Jews in the infancy narratives and as such a great deal of mystery and some poetic licence has surrounded them. T.S Eliot's "Journey of the Magi" comes to mind.

The early church made connections with Isaiah 60:3 and Psalm 72:10, however it was the Gallic Bishop Caesarius of Arles in 500 who stated clearly that they were kings and they have been ever since. As to their names, the earliest reference is a 6th century document, "*Excerpta Latina Barbari*" where they are called Balthasar, Melchior and Caspar.

The name Melchior is fascinating, deriving from two Hebrew words, meaning King of Light. It is in the context of light that the Christ child is 'Epiphanied', or shown forth to the world, and our Christingle service today at The Sands will focus on this theme.

Epiphany-Tide Blessings,

Rector

And Finally...



'We come bearing gift receipts.'

The Sunday Supplement can be read each week on line – www.spw.org.uk

*Items for inclusion should reach
Geoff Graham (mail@geoffreygraham.co.uk)
by noon on Thursday.*