

St Arvans Church mid-week Bulletin Wednesday 5th January 2022

Night Prayer: Tonight at 8pm – online only

Sunday Eucharist: Sunday 10am. In person (please book via Maureen) and online

On Thursday 6th January, the Feast of the Epiphany, Mass will be said in the Lady Chapel at 10am

St Arvans online

Live service stream : https://www.facebook.com/pg/vicaragecello1/videos/?ref=page_internal

Facebook : St Arvan's Parish group – please like us and become a follower

Webpage at: www.starvanschurch.org.uk

Instagram: starvanschurch

Twitter: St Arvans Church @Arvanschurch

Please send any contributions to this bulletin to starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com

Please share it with others whom you think be interested, and invite them to contact us if they want to go on the mailing list at: starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com

Prayer and Meditation

“ The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul.”
~ G. K. Chesterton

A New Year Prayer

Dear Lord, in this new year please give us . . .

. . . a few friends who understand us and yet remain our friends.
. . . a work which has real value, without which the world would feel the poorer.
. . . a mind unafraid to travel the journey ahead of us, even though the trail be not blazed. .

. . an understanding heart and a sense of humor.
. . time for quiet, silent meditations and a sense of your assuring presence.
. . and the patience to wait for the coming of these things, with the wisdom to know them when they come.

W R Hunt

Tomorrow, 6th January, is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord.

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,^[a]
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.

Psalms 72: 1-15

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.
May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.

May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
May he have dominion from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
May his foes bow down before him,
and his enemies lick the dust.
May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba
bring gifts.
May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.
For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight.
Long may he live!
May gold of Sheba be given to him.
May prayer be made for him continually,
and blessings invoked for him all day long.

A reading from the gospel of St 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.

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Music

The beautiful "Three Kings from Persian Lands Afar", by German composer Peter Cornelius. He set "Die Könige" for a vocal soloist, originally accompanied by piano, but later by the music of Philip Nicolai's hymn "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern" ("How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"), which Cornelius erroneously thought was an Epiphany hymn. In fact, it is an Advent hymn in which the morning star is an allegory for the arrival of Jesus, not the Star of Bethlehem. The English organist Ivor Atkins later arranged the accompaniment for choir, with the choir singing the words of the chorale behind the soloist.

[Three Kings from Persian Lands afar - YouTube](#)

The University of Texas Chamber Singers sing What Star is this with Beams so Bright

[What Star Is This With Beams So Bright - YouTube](#)

(To access these links, you should just be able to press Control, and while holding it down, click your mouse – this will take you straight to the video in YouTube)