



## The Parish of Darfield

All Saints, Darfield and St Michael, Great Houghton

**Sunday 3rd January 2021**

**2nd Sunday of Christmas, Epiphany**

**9:00 a.m.** Communion at All Saints

**Pre-Booking essential via Jo Darlison**

**10:30 a.m.** Partnership Service on Facebook

Followed by All Saints Coffee Time on Zoom

### Resumption of Public Worship

From **Sunday 3rd January 2021**, we will be holding a said Communion Service in our Parish once a week, either on Sunday or on Wednesday morning. The detailed pattern for future weeks is still being planned. This will include having services in both All Saints and St Michael's. The first Service is in **All Saints at 9:00 am on Sunday 3rd January**. Face masks (unless exempt), Social Distancing and hand sanitisation are essential and **places are limited and MUST be pre-booked**

To book 'a pew' for you, your family group or bubble **contact Jo Darlison** 01226 872256; 07469 857315 or by email: jodarlison94@gmail.com

**Contact Jo** if you find that you need to cancel your booking before Sunday.

**The Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook will continue for the foreseeable future** but there is a change in the After Service Coffee & Chat sessions.

The joint Zoom provision has not worked for our congregations. We are now hosting our own Zoom Sessions after the service. Watch out for the new Zoom link in the weekly email with the Service details. If you can access the Internet and want to join and do not already receive the link, contact **Peter** with your email address to be added to the distribution [pdrobinson@live.co.uk]

### Epiphany: The manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles

Twelfth Night falls on the 5th January, the eve of Epiphany, and traditionally marks the end of the celebrations of Christmas. We link Epiphany to the Visit of the Wise Men from the East to Bethlehem as recorded in Matthew's Gospel Chapter 2. Their studies of the stars and of the Hebrew Scriptures linked the star's appearance to the birth of a new King

**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." Matthew 2:1-2**

Their encounter with King Herod and the Chief Priest and Scribes identified Bethlehem as the birthplace. Herod encouraged the Wise Men to locate the child and then to return to tell him so that he could also worship the child. With the help of the star the Wise Men found the house where Jesus was and presented the three symbolic gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. They were warned in a dream not to revisit Herod and left for home without re-visiting Jerusalem.

As we read in Matthew 2:16-19, Herod was so furious that he ordered the murder of all the male children who were two or under living in and around Bethlehem.

Herod's plan to destroy what he saw as a rival King of the Jews was thwarted as Joseph had been warned in a dream to take his family to safety in Egypt where they stayed until after King Herod's death. The family then returned to relative safety in Nazareth.



## Prayer Requests

Please pray for  
Olive & Raymond Shaw

Prayer requests for this section...

Contact the Prayer Ministry Team

**Carol Hunter on 07542 527331**

## Monthly Prayer Meeting

**Monday 4th January 8 p.m.**

An opportunity to Worship Him in prayer and thanksgiving. To look back and be thankful for God's blessings in 2020 and to bring to Him our dreams, requests and aspirations for the New year for our world/nation, our church and ourselves.

Contact **Carol Hunter** for the Zoom link.

### Collect for the Second Sunday of Christmas

God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake.

#### Bible Readings

3rd St Luke 15: 1-10  
4th St Luke 15: 11-32  
5th St Luke 16: 1-13  
6th St Luke 16: 14-32  
7th St Luke 17: 1-10  
8th St Luke 17: 11-21  
9th St Luke 17: 22-39

#### Open for Prayer:

##### Sunday

**2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

##### Thursday

**10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

All Saints will be open for private prayer with Face coverings, Social Distancing and hand hygiene requirements in place and subject to change at short notice.

### The Gifts of the Wise Men

Three is another significant number in Scripture. Among many references we read of Jonah who was inside the great fish for three days and three nights [Jonah 1:17],[Matt 12:40]: the Holy Trinity – Father Son and Holy Spirit: Jesus was crucified at the third hour [Mark 15:25]: darkness fell for three hours from the sixth to the ninth hour [Mark 15:33], and Jesus rose on the third day. However there were not necessarily three Wise Men.

The gifts have their own significance.

**Gold** is still sought after as a precious metal but is also the Metal of Heaven. In Revelation the streets of the New Jerusalem are made of gold so thin as to be transparent [Rev 21:21]. Gold symbolises divinity and kingship and recognises Jesus as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. On a more practical level it could well have eased the family's journey to, and their stay in Egypt.

**Frankincense** is an aromatic resin. Its pleasing aroma when burnt, represents the Prayers of the Saints [Rev 5:8].

Frankincense also symbolises the Priesthood of Jesus in making intercession for our sins. [1 John 2:1-2]

**Myrrh** is another aromatic resin and has been used as a perfume, incense and medicine over many centuries. It is used in embalming to mask the smells associated with dead bodies. Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin who had earlier visited Jesus at night [John 3:1-22] brought myrrh with other spices to care for the body of Jesus after the crucifixion. [John 19:39]

#### The Feast of the Epiphany:

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.

#### Readings for Epiphany

##### 6th January

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
St Matthew 2:1-12

## Resources and Contacts

**Churchwarden** Peter Robinson 01226 753572  
**Parish Admin** Jo Darlison 07469 857315  
**Clergy** Rev Fiona Kouble 01226 950643  
07817 167386

#### Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>



**Email** [Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com](mailto:Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com)

**Facebook** [@darfieldallsaints](https://www.facebook.com/darfieldallsaints)

**Safeguarding** adam001@hotmail.co.uk  
Adam Fingerneissl 07892 800830

#### DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

[jodarlison94@gmail.com](mailto:jodarlison94@gmail.com)

**Wednesday 5 p.m.**

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All Saints



St Michael



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