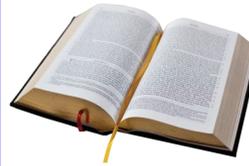


## This week's service

Today's service is led by Deb Patrick with Nigel Worth preaching

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022

## This week's reading



Matthew 2:1-12

## A thought from Nigel

### The Wise Men: Motivated by A Vision

Matthew 2:1-12

This is a story many of us know-it, probably strikes you like a quaint, little Christmas bedtime story, but this story is loaded with profound truth that reveals to us the essence of the gospel. The Christ of Christmas is the key, and the Wise men in the Christmas story will show us the way.

### Prayer for this week

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. Amen

### The Three Kings

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Three Kings came riding from far away,  
Melchior and Gaspar and Baltasar;  
Three Wise Men out of the East were they,  
And they travelled by night and they slept by day,  
For their guide was a beautiful, wonderful star.

The star was so beautiful, large and clear,  
That all the other stars of the sky  
Became a white mist in the atmosphere,  
And by this they knew that the coming was near

Of the Prince foretold in the prophecy.

"Good people, I pray you, tell us the news;  
For we in the East have seen his star,  
And have ridden fast, and have ridden far,  
To find and worship the King of the Jews."

And the people answered, "You ask in vain;  
We know of no King but Herod the Great!"  
They thought the Wise Men were men insane,  
As they spurred their horses across the plain,  
Like riders in haste, who cannot wait.

And when they came to Jerusalem,  
Herod the Great, who had heard this thing,  
Sent for the Wise Men and questioned them;  
And said, "Go down unto Bethlehem,  
And bring me tidings of this new king."

## Children's group

A group for children will be held each week in the North Aisle. After the 2<sup>nd</sup> hymn/song they will be invited to gather in the North Aisle for news time. Various activities will be chosen from the Scripture Union books and will include a Bible story and prayer. There will also be a snack!

Save  
the  
Date

**5th February**  
is our  
**Church Vision Day**  
in the Church Hall  
All are invited ...  
More to follow

**Church diary for the next month**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

**10:45 Morning Worship**

led by Sandra O'Toole  
with Sean O'Toole preaching

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

**10:45 Holy Communion**

led by Nigel Worth  
with Rev Mike Firbank preaching

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

**10:45 Morning Worship**

led by Sean O'Toole  
with Sandra O'Toole preaching

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

**10:45 Morning Worship**

led by Nigel Worth  
with Debbie Patrick preaching

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

**Church Vision Day**

in the Church Hall.  
All are invited ... More to follow.

So they rode away; and the star stood still,  
The only one in the grey of morn;  
Yes, it stopped—it stood still of its own free will,  
Right over Bethlehem on the hill,  
The city of David, where Christ was born.

And the Three Kings rode through the gate and the guard,  
Through the silent street, till their horses turned  
And neighed as they entered the great inn-yard;  
But the windows were closed, and the doors were barred,  
And only a light in the stable burned.

And cradled there in the scented hay,  
In the air made sweet by the breath of kine,  
The little child in the manger lay,  
The child, that would be king one day  
Of a kingdom not human, but divine.

His mother Mary of Nazareth  
Sat watching beside his place of rest,  
Watching the even flow of his breath,  
For the joy of life and the terror of death  
Were mingled together in her breast.

They laid their offerings at his feet:  
The gold was their tribute to a King,  
The frankincense, with its odor sweet,  
Was for the Priest, the Paraclete,  
The myrrh for the body's burying.

And the mother wondered and bowed her head,  
And sat as still as a statue of stone,  
Her heart was troubled yet comforted,  
Remembering what the Angel had said  
Of an endless reign and of David's throne.

Then the Kings rode out of the city gate,  
With a clatter of hoofs in proud array;  
But they went not back to Herod the Great,  
For they knew his malice and feared his hate,  
And returned to their homes by another way.

**Cleaning Rota**

Please clean the church

before the date marked.

Please swap with someone else on the rota if you cannot clean during your week.

**Bonus note: The toilets will be cleaned weekly by Sean & Sandra, so no need to clean.**

09.01.2022	Jane
16.01.2022	Bill
23.01.2022	Val & Andy
30.01.2022	Nige & Deb
06.02.2022	Christine
13.02.2022	Deb P & Alicia
20.02.2022	Jane
27.02.2022	Bill
04.03.2022	Val & Andy

Hartshorne Scouts are looking for additional adult support in all sections;

**Hartshorne Scouts**

**Beavers (Monday 6pm-7.15pm, ages 5 ¾ - 8)**

**Cubs (Friday 6pm-7.30pm, ages 8 - 10 ½)**

**Scouts (Friday 7.45pm-9.30pm, ages 10 ½ - 14)**

Training is provided free of charge as is the required DBS check. Further details can be obtained from Lindsey Littlewood, Group Scout Leader

[lindsey.littlewood@southderbyshirescouts](mailto:lindsey.littlewood@southderbyshirescouts)

