

Ephesians 3.1-12

In his Epistle to the Ephesians, St Paul is writing from a prison cell. He is in chains, but he is not down-hearted. For Paul knows that the gospel – the 'good news' – of Jesus Christ, brings true freedom and true peace. Most of all, Paul emphasizes, this is good news for everyone – Jews and Gentiles. On the feast of the Epiphany, we get the first glimpse of that amazing truth. The Magi have come to worship the infant Christ – they are outside the Jewish religion, and yet are welcomed into the family of faith. What Paul describes as 'the boundless riches of Christ' are now available to the whole world, whoever we are, whatever our background. For 'in him, and through faith in him, we may approach God with freedom and confidence'.

Saints & Heroes

St Aelred of Rievaulx

Among those who attempted to instill piety and virtue into King Henry II of England was Aelred, the son of a priest of Hexham in Northumbria, who left the household of King David I of Scotland to join the Cistercian abbey at Rievaulx in (modern) North Yorkshire. After less than ten years, Aelred became abbot of Rievaulx's daughter house at Revesby in Lincolnshire, before becoming abbot of Rievaulx itself in 1147. Substantial growth accompanied his oversight of the abbeys and something like 600 men lived at Rievaulx, which itself had five daughter houses. Like many of his time, Aelred found a reconciling role amid the political struggles of the age, bringing Cistercian influence to bear upon King Henry, resulting in the recognition of Pope Alexander III's authority. Aelred's demise came three years before the murder of Thomas Becket, and despite wielding serious influence, and writing many notable texts, he was for many years revered as a historian rather than as a spiritual writer. He was never formally canonised, but nevertheless attracted widespread veneration. Rievaulx also continued in splendour, but lapsed into complacency and vice before its dissolution 1538.

Wise Visitors



Those enigmatic travellers who found Jesus by the light of the star had travelled some distance to find him. Indeed, it was the sort of journey you would only undertake for the most important of reasons – that you were being led towards something (or someone) which would change your life. The journey was long, arduous, and dangerous. They were monitored by Herod's spies as they travelled, and they aroused enough suspicion to merit questioning. Here we learn that the travellers are responding to ancient prophecy, and to the heavenly light which lightens their path. Ultimately they are to find Jesus, and to lay gifts at his feet – gifts for his use, gifts to mark out the life he must live. God, for kingly power. Frankincense, to perfume the halls of the mighty in holiness. Myrrh, the most expensive herb of the East, and the most bitter, to be used for anointing the body after death. For this child is a king indeed – king not merely of his native land, but of the whole of creation. He is our eternal high priest, whose sacrifice of himself takes away our sins. And he is the sacrificial victim on the altar, who offers himself for us in every celebration of the Eucharist.

Prayers to Remember

Lord Jesus, our Master, go with us as we travel to the heavenly country: that, following your star, we may not wander in the darkness of the world's night: while you, who are the way, and truth, and life, do shine within us to our journey's end; for your mercy's sake.

Mozarabic Sacramentary



FORWARD IN FAITH

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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Welcome to our services today

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

6pm Evensong and Benediction at Holy Trinity

WEEKDAY MASS

Feria

Wednesday 10th 7.30pm at Holy Trinity

(7pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)

NEXT SUNDAY - 2nd in Ordinary Time (Year B)

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

6pm Evensong and Benediction at Holy Trinity

Response to today's Psalm:

AS: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

HT: Kings, O Lord, people and nations fall prostrate before you.

Gospel Acclamation:

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Cantor: We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia is repeated after the Gospel reading.

INTERREGNUM UPDATE 3 - the Churchwardens have a meeting with the Archdeacon for Surrey, Paul Davies, scheduled for 19th January. Revd Paul also has a meeting with the Churchwardens of Minley and finally a meeting with both sets of Churchwardens on the same day. Our Parish Profile has been amended slightly on the advice of Alan Hulme, Director of Parish Development and Evangelism. We hope that the meeting on 19th will kick-start the interregnum process. Mike Gunston (vice-chair HGPPC)

CALLING ALL SINGERS - are you wanting to join in the group which Father Glyn is organising but not sure of your technic? The Saint John singers invite you to join them in a training day to be held on **29th January at St Swithin's church hall in Yateley**. You will be able to learn some new/or refresh sacred music used in services as well as make a real improvement to breathing technique and voice control. The cost for the day is £10 to cover the venue cost and music hire. Further information from Jane Lawrie.

TEA AT TWO AT ALL SAINTS' - has resumed after the Christmas break and meets from 2 - 4pm. As the New Year begins why not come and join us for tea, great cake and conversation. Just turn up and meet friends old and new, we look forward to seeing you.

LOOSE CHANGE JAR - has increased by £13 to a grand total of £4680. Please continue to bring those small coins, they definitely make a difference and add up very quickly.

SUNDAY EVENSONG AND BENEDICTION - 6pm at Holy Trinity. You'd be most welcome if you were able to augment the congregation, why not give it a try!

HAMS - our men's group, meets this **Monday 8th January** at 8.15pm in Trinity Hall. Our speaker is the Revd Richard Cobbard. He will have a good story to tell us of his experience from Military to Ministry. Richard had a career in the Military until retirement when he then went into the Church's Ordained Ministry. He is currently on the clergy team at St Peter's Farnborough.

The **MOTHERS' UNION** meeting on **Monday January 15th** will be at the Heron on the Lake. 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Please see Joan Young for menu choice.

HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS TREE - twelfth night is past and we now need to pack away the lights and baubles from the Christmas Tree. The Nativity Scene also needs disassembling and packed away carefully. We will start this on **Wednesday 10th January at 10.00am**. Can you help even if it is only for a short while? Further information from Keith.

KEBLE COLLEGE CORPORATE COMMUNION - **Wednesday 7th February** Sung Eucharist at 7pm. 8.15pm Dinner in Hall followed by a drinks reception hosted by the Warden. Cost £14.50 per person. If you wish to attend please let Pauline Scott have your payment together with any dietary requirements by **21st January**. If you are able to offer a lift to Oxford please make Pauline aware, thank you.

HOLY TRINITY FLOWER ROTA 2018 - if you would like to arrange the flowers in church during 2018 please put your name on the new rota which is in the porch. Help and guidance will be given if needed. For more information please see Diane Brown.

2018 PILGRIMAGE LED BY BISHOP NORMAN BANKS (Bishop of Richborough) - 6th - 13th June 2018. The Piero Della Francesca Trail. For more information please see the brochure in the porch at Holy Trinity or contact Pax Travel 020 7485 3003.

2018 WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE - 10th - 13th September please see Pauline Scott for further details.

GUILDFORD MUSIC SOCIETY - Sunday 14th January 3pm - Tim Carey - piano. Bach, Schubert (Wanderer fantasy), Brahms and Liszt. £15 on the door. Venue: Guildford United Reform Church, 83 Portsmouth Road, Guildford GU2 4BS. See the website for further details of this and other concerts - www.gurcms.org.uk

WANTED, YOUR OLD CHRISTMAS CARDS - for recycling by Leatherhead hospital, there is a box at Holy Trinity for this purpose.

WEEKLY SHEET ITEMS should be sent by Wednesday morning to, pauline_scott@icloud.com