

**Please remember in your prayers**

Pray for those who are not well at this time and pray for the souls of the recently departed, may they rest in peace.



**Prayer Line Group**

Please can we meet for a short Prayer Line Meeting after the Sung Eucharist today?

Audrey

**Praise Service**

Our next Praise Service will be next Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup> Feb) at 10.45am for Candlemas.

**Memorial Service**

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February we are having a Memorial Service at 4pm.

This is an opportunity to meet together and remember friends and family who have been important to us.

The names of loved ones will be read out during the service and you will be invited to light a candle for them.

**Aladdin Pantomime (St Paul's Church)**

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb at 7.30pm; Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb at 7.30pm; Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2pm and 7pm  
Tickets: £5 (Seniors £3.50, Children £2.50) from Oasis Café or phone 844105.

**Women's World Day of Prayer**

This year's service will be held at 2pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at St Christopher's Church. (Lifts available, see Jill)

**'Come, Everything is Ready'**

**Church Away Day**

An away day is planned for Christ the King and Holy Cross, at The Church on Perton, to be facilitated by Revd Julia Cody, looking at our vision and working on our mission action plan.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March (10am - 1pm)**

This session is for everyone - lifts available!



Our gift of items to the Food Bank last week weighed **12.45kg**.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Sunday 27th January 10.45am**

**Welcomers:** Jean H, Jean M

**Reader:** Carole

**Prayers:** Jo

**Offertory:** June, Rebecca, Malcolm

**Assist:** Carole, Mark

**Pebble Pool:** Mike

**Sunday 3rd February 9am**

**Sides, Offertory, Assist:** Malcolm

**Reader:** Carole

**Sunday 3rd February PRAISE 10.45**

**Welcomers:** Ruth, Gill

**Reader:** Rebecca

**Prayers:** Mark



The Church of England

**Holy Cross Church**

The church at the heart of our community

*Team Vicar:*

**Revd. Simon Douglas** (212405)

**Church Wardens:** Janet Pugh (844981)

Mike Spragg (845222)

**Website:** <http://holycross.bilbrook.info/>

**Parish Office:** 01902 751622

(10am-12noon Monday-Friday)



**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**Epiphany 4**

**10.45am Sung Eucharist**

(Celebrant: Revd Richard Reeve)

(Preacher: Revd Ruth Brooker)

**Hymns for Sung Eucharist**

**Introit: 362** O for a thousand tongues to sing (Lyngham)

**Gradual: 442** Seek ye first the kingdom of God

**Offertory: 172** God is working His purpose out (verses: 1,3 and 5)

**Communion: 271** Jesus, Jesus, holy and anointed one

**60** Bind us together, Lord

**Recessional: 560** Will you come and follow me

**This Week**

Mon	28	2pm Bible Study Group
Tues	29	2pm Craft Group <b>7pm Eucharist</b>
Wed	30	12noon BATC Social Group 6.30pm Friendship Club
Thur	31	<b>9.30am Eucharist</b> 10am Coffee Pop-In
Fri	1	
Sat	2	10am Place of Welcome
Sun	3	<b>Candlemas</b> <b>9am Eucharist</b> <b>10.45am PRAISE Worship</b>

## **Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**

### **COLLECT**

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **FIRST READING Nehemiah 8.1–3, 5–6, 8–10**

#### **A reading from the book of Nehemiah.**

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen,' lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### **SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12.12–31a**

#### **A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.**

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### **GOSPEL Luke 4.14–21**

#### **Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.**

#### **All: Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

### **POST COMMUNION**

Generous Lord, in word and Eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.