

The Marden Vale Team Ministry Christ Church, Derry Hill St. John the Baptist, Foxham St. Martin, Bremhill

23rd January - Third Sunday after Epiphany



Services

Sunday 23rd January

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Foxham 6pm Evening Prayer at Bremhill

Sunday 30th January

Candlemas (Presentation of Christ in the Temple)

10am United Benefice Eucharist at Derry Hill 6pm Zoom Evening Prayer

(Link available from lindac@mardenvale.org.uk)

Sunday 6th February

10am Said Communion at Derry Hill 10.30am Family Service at Derry Hill including RSPB bird count in the churchyard 6pm Zoom Evening Prayer (See above for link)

Sunday 13th February

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Foxham 6pm Evening Prayer at Bremhill

Diary

January

Wed 26th 6pm Meditation at Christ Church, DH

February

Wed 2nd 2.30pm MU Prayer & Fellowship at Christ Church DH

6pm Meditation at Christ Church DH 7.30pm Handbells at Christ church DH

Wed 9th 6pm Meditation at Christ Church DH

7.30pm Handbells at Christ Church DH

7.30pm Foxham PCC

Thu 10th 7.30pm Bremhill PCC

Dates of Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Christ Church, Derry Hill Sunday 20th March St. John the Baptist, Foxham Wednesday 20th April St. Martin, Bremhill Sunday 24th April

Further details, including Electoral Roll revision, will be published in the Notices, Parish Magazines and Newsletters, on church noticeboards and websites in the coming weeks.

Please note that face coverings must be worn at all times in our church buildings. Please click **here** or see below for COVID measures

Keeping in touch Contact Linda 01249 817926 or email **lindac@mardenvale.org.uk**

Calne Food Bank

Open 12pm-4pm Mon & Fri, 10am-1pm Wed
4A Mill Street, Calne, SN11 8DP

www.calnefoodbank.co.uk 07752 213029

Email: calnefoodbank@gmail.com

Prayer

Click <u>here</u> to leave prayer requests or to join the Church of England Daily Prayer

In the coming week please keep in your prayers:

Peace: fighting to cease and peace to prevail in all the places in the world marked by conflict and violence; for our brothers and sisters in Sudan & South Sudan, Yemen, for the Holy Land

Those in need: in storm, flood, fire and earthquake, for all rescue workers and emergency services, especially in Tonga at this time; shelter for the homeless and rough sleepers, safety for refugees;

those struggling to pay bills and put food on the table; for the anxious, exhausted, isolated. May those whose mental health is fragile be able to access counselling, medication and support;

women and girls who do not feel safe - remembering Asking Murphy at this time

Local community: our schools, for all children & staff; local shops and businesses; Kingston House residents and all who work there;

Lucy Aylen in her work with YWAM

COVID-19: all who are affected by coronavirus, who work on the frontline to keep us safe, to help the sick, to keep us fed; praying especially for all NHS workers

the vaccination programme in every nation; new oral antiviral medication for Covid, giving thanks for those involved in its development; wisdom and guidance in our continued responses to the pandemic, especially as restrictions are eased

Environment: continued momentum from COP 26 and how we care for God's creation

Charities: the work of Christian Aid, The Children's Society, The Leprosy Mission, The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

The sick: Mark Steele, Christine Gundry, Mark Jennings, Lynne Cottrell, Rob Simons, Jacob Maloy, Paul Crayford, Jackson Goodship, Liz Kinch, Doreen Williams, Brenda Beint, Sonia Strange, Sarah Green, Margaret Bell, Rev. Jim Scott

The departed: We remember Jenny Timmins, Christopher Clifford, Tina Millar, and Helen Lewis and all who mourn their loss; all whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for The Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

Churches open for private prayer

Bremhill - daily from 9am to 4pm

Derry Hill - Tue-Sat 9am to 4pm, Sundays 12-4pm

Foxham - Sundays 11am-4pm

Giving

You can find out how to support your local church on our Giving page.

QR Codes are available for Christ Church, Derry Hill for one-off donations or regular giving.

Readings for the Second Sunday after Epiphany

Collect

God of all mercy your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,

and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

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.'

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

For 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 baptized 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 were to 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 were to 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.

Luke 4:14-21

Then 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.'



Parochial Church Council (PCC) Guidance

At the joint PCC meeting on 8th December (and subsequent consultation via email in January 2022) it was agreed that the current COVID measures should remain largely unaltered, with the exception that face coverings must be worn at all times in our church buildings. We are continuing to take a cautious approach while working towards reintroducing elements of worship in church which so many have missed.

In common with many other churches and retail and hospitality settings we are asking people to continue to observe the "Hands, Face, Space, Ventilation" measures which are currently in place.

Social distancing remains in place. Please feel free to sit with members of your household or regular social 'bubble' in any pew where there are Orders of Service. To indicate your preference for space, place a kneeler on the pew.

Face coverings We ask that face coverings are worn at all times unless you are exempt.

Communion (intincted wafers/bread) may be received at the high altar (standing). To reduce queuing this will be conducted row-by-row.

Congregational singing of two hymns + the Gloria will take place in church during services. We ask that you wear a face covering if you wish to join in.

Zoom services will continue

These measures apply to the regular Sunday services. They will be reviewed as the national situation changes as necessary.

An amended set of measures will apply to baptisms, weddings, funerals and other groups meeting in church subject to the requirements of separate risk assessments.

Our Christian calling is to care for all our brothers and sisters, particularly those who are vulnerable; and there are times in our lives when every one of us (and those we have close contact with) is vulnerable. We want everyone to feel welcome, comfortable and cared for. Thank you for your understanding.

Rev. Linda Carter on behalf of Bremhill, Derry Hill and Foxham PCCs 6th January 2022.