

## Diary

21<sup>st</sup> January 7.30pm Prayer, Action, Impact event at St Peter's.  
28<sup>th</sup> January 7.45pm-9pm JUMP in the hall.

Please pray for:-

- Gary and April, Garth and Jenny, Richard and Sally, Richard and Wendy - our Parish clergy and wives.
- Our countries response to Iraq and Syrian conflicts.
- Those without enough to eat.
- For all who are yet to know the Gospel.
- Messy Church this Saturday.
- Week of prayer for Christian Unity.
- Those without clean water to drink.
- Persecuted Christians around the world.
- The NHS and other public sector workers.
- For our local, county council decision makers and MP.
- For those who manage people within their places of work.
- For children living in care.
- For refugees.
- For orphans of war.
- For charities reaching out to the lost, lonely and hungry.
- Those who are mourning.
- Kathleen Powell and family.
- Jo, Grace, Sophie and Lydia Adams.
- Lynda and Geoff Adams.
- Eileen and Rob Truman.
- Sylvia Czink and family.
- June Young and family.
- Bishop John and family.
- Peggy Snellgrove.
- Claire and Paul Burnham.
- Allison and Maureen undertaking ministry training.

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**St. John's Church**  
FAITH • COMMUNITY • ACTION

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**Sunday 11th January 2015**  
**Welcome to visitors at St Johns today.**

### **Farewell**

This afternoon the Parish of Ipsley say farewell to Richard and Sally Bubbers; 4.30pm in the Huband Room, St Peter's. Come and say goodbye to a much-loved curate!

### **Messy Church**

Messy Church returns this Saturday 10-12noon at Woodrow Community Hall, please remind or invite for the first time any adults with children who you consider may be interested. It is a free event with craft, song and food based around the Bible. This is a fun event for church and non-church families to attend.

### **Thought for the week**

You are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased.' When Jesus is baptised at the very beginning of his public ministry, God is making it clear that he is doing something new in human history through Jesus. It was almost as if God was saying, at the beginning of creation: 'Let us make man', and here, at the beginning of the Gospel, he is saying: 'Let us save man.'

As we begin a new year here at St John's, we can remind ourselves that God still speaks clearly to us with his voice of love; he wants to renew-he wants to restore- and he wants to recreate us through his Spirit day by day. There will be new things for us, new things for St John's, and new things about entering further into that relationship with God that is all-important.

So, let's make it our number one priority and, I suggest, our ongoing resolution, that we would seek him this year with all our heart, with all our mind, and with all that we are, so that we can know the renewing touch of God's Spirit and voice on our lives, and that we allow him to direct our path.

Every blessing,  
Gary



## Epiphany explained

The Feast of the Epiphany on the 6th of January marks the beginning of the season of Epiphany. Epiphany means manifestation (to make known) and the traditional observation begins with the celebration of the visit of wise men from the East. It then explores other ways in which Christ reveals himself to be the Son of God: the celebration of the baptism of Christ by John, when the voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved Son; and Jesus' first miracle, when he turned water into wine at a wedding in Cana.

The end of the season is marked the Feast of the Presentation on the 2nd of February. Jesus is brought to the Temple by his parents, according to the Law of Israel. There he is recognized by Anna and Simeon, who declares him to be 'a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of God's people, Israel.' The traditional service makes use of a procession of candles as part of the liturgy, and so the Feast is often known as Candlemas.

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

*The season of Epiphany provides an opportunity for the Church to pray for the worldwide mission of the Church. The week of Prayer for Christian Unity falls appropriately in the Epiphany season.*

This is an advance notice of a service to be held during week of prayer. It is hoped that the parish will support the event;

On Wednesday 21st January there will be an evening service at St Peters Church entitled 'Prayer- Action -Impact: Redditch Churches Working Together' to learn about and pray for the Redditch Foodbank, Open the Book, Messy Church and other cross church activities in Redditch. Do come and hear what God is doing in our town.

Refreshments and displays in the Huband room will be from 7.30 to set the scene and provide information for the service which will start in church at 8pm. It will be led by Richard Sturdey (a Foodbank trustee) and many others will be contributing. It is part of the events for the Week of prayer for Christian Unity. For more information please contact Liz Mitchell: [liz.mitchell@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:liz.mitchell@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Today -Epiphany 1

10.30am Morning Worship with Rosemary Humphrey. Reverend Gary Noyes will be speaking on 'A voice from Heaven'  
Readings Mark 1:4-13 and Acts 19:1-7

4.30pm Farewell to Curate Richard Bubbers and wife Sally at St Peters.

6.30pm Evening worship with Reverend Gary Noyes.  
Readings Isaiah 4 2:1-9 and Ephesians 2:1-10.

## Next Sunday -Epiphany 2

10.30am Morning worship with Vicki Quarton. Vicki will be speaking on 'A conversation'.  
Readings: John 1:43-51 and 1 Samuel 3:1-10.

6.30pm Evening praise with Reverend Gary Noyes, Rosemary Humphrey will be speaking on Hebrews 6:13-7:10 and Psalm 96.

## This week

Monday	1.00pm	Bowls
Tuesday	10am-12noon	Parent and toddlers
	7.45pm	DCC meeting.
Thursday	7.45pm	PFT new year party.
Saturday	10-12noon	Messy church at Woodrow Community Hall

## Meeting at Peter and Eileen's

A reminder to those attending the Prayer Fellowship Teaching group (PFT) at Peter and Eileen's, you will be having your New Year party this Thursday. Enjoy!

## Collect of the day

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen