

NOTICES

PRAYER LIST - If you would like anyone to be included by name in our prayers each Sunday (sick, departed etc.) please contact Tony Bevens LLM.

STAMPS FOR MOGGERHANGER—The boxes for used postage stamps for Moggerhanger will be in all four churches from now until the end of January.

CHURCH DIARY

Tue	7th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	GG Church
Wed	8th	10.30am	Holy Communion	LG Church
		6.30pm	Choir Practice	GG Church
Thur	9th	7.30pm	Bellringing Practice	GG Church
Tue	14th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	GG Church
Wed	15th	10.30am	Holy Communion	LG Church
		6.30pm	Choir Practice	GG Church
Thur	16th	7.30pm	Bellringing Practice	GG Church
Sun	19th	4pm	Children's Confirmation Class	Vicarage GG

PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET HOME WITH YOU

SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN THE NEXT FORTNIGHT

Sunday 12th January			Sunday 19th January		
8.30am	Holy Communion	LG	8.30am	Holy Communion	A
10am	All Age Communion	A	10am	All Age Communion	GG
6pm	Evensong	GG	6pm	Evening Prayer	W

A = Abbotsley, GG = Great Gransden, LG = Little Gransden, W = Waresley

CONTACTS

Priest in Charge: *The Revd Rachel Blanchflower* 07824 380479
LLM: *Tony Bevens* 677643
ALM Music: *Sheila George* 677553
Churchwardens: *Great Gransden Rob Chignell* 677322 *Iain Strath* 679911
Little Gransden Nick Wareham 677555 *Betty Bates* 677257

Church Web page : thegransdens.btck.co.uk



Find us on
Facebook

Great and Little Gransden Churches

Material from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*, © The Archbishop's Council 2000. Readings & psalm from the N R S Version of the Bible © 1989, 1995. CCLI Licence No: 490303, MRL Licence No. 490310, PRS Church Licence No. 612961.

THE PARISHES OF GREAT GRANSDEN, ABBOTSLEY, LITTLE GRANSDEN AND WARESLEY

5th January 2020

Epiphany

COLLECT

O God,
 who by the leading of a star
 manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
 mercifully grant that we,
 who know you now by faith,
 may at last behold your glory face to face;
 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**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60.1-6 (*not announced*)

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2.1-12

Priest: Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Priest: This is the gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Marking of Houses with Blessed Chalk

It is an ancient custom for Christians, in the season of Epiphany, to write beside the front door of their house or flat the traditional names of the Three Wise Men:

KASPAR
MELCHIOR
BALTHASAR

or just to write their initials, thus:

K + M + B

and to add the date of the current year, with the numbers either side of the initials:

20 K ✠ M ✠ B 20

This shows our willingness to offer hospitality and shelter to those who, like the Magi on their journey to Bethlehem, love and seek our Lord Jesus Christ.



*The following prayer is often said as the doors are marked.
The door is traditionally marked in the following way:*

The three Wise Men
K Kaspar
M Melchior
B and Balthasar
followed the star of God's Son who became man
20 two thousand
20 and twenty years ago.
✠ May Christ bless our home
✠ and remain with us through the new year.

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy.
May your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,
and may your blessing be always upon us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen