

SERVICES NEXT WEEK
SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY
BAPTISM OF CHRIST

ABBEY – 8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)
STADHAMPTON – 9:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION
LONG WITTENHAM – 9:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION
DRAYTON ST LEONARD – 9:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION
ABBEY – 10:30 AM FAMILY SERVICE
CLIFTON HAMPDEN – 10:30 AM MORNING SERVICE
WARBOROUGH – 11.00 AM MORNING WORSHIP
BERINSFIELD – 11.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION & HEALING
TOOT BALDON – 4.00 PM EVENSONG
WARBOROUGH – 4.30 PM HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)
ABBEY – 5:00 PM EVENSONG

A Service of Holy Communion is at St Mary's and St Berin Berinsfield every Wednesday at 9.30am. Everyone welcome.

NEXT WEEK'S BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 43. 1-7
Acts 8. 14-17
Luke 3. 15-17, 21-22

NOTICES

Community Coffee Morning in the Abbey

Tuesdays 11.00 am – 12 pm

Community Coffee Morning meets every Tuesday at Berinsfield Church Hall 10.30am-12pm. Open to everyone and will remain Dementia friendly.

Babies and Toddlers in the Abbey paused until 15th January 2025

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SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY
EPIPHANY

Welcome to our services today, especially any who are visiting us or are new parishioners. Please make yourself known to the clergy or those on duty.

THE COLLECTS

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Amen

BIBLE READINGS

Jeremiah 31. 7-14

⁷For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.' ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.' ¹¹For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,

and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the Lord.

Ephesians 1. 1-14

1Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
To the saints who are in Ephesus and are
faithful in Christ Jesus:2 Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Spiritual Blessings in Christ 3 Blessed be the God
and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has
blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in
the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in
Christ before the foundation of the world to be
holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He
destined us for adoption as his children through
Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his
will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he
freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we
have redemption through his blood, the
forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the
riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all
wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the
mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure
that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the
fullness of time, to gather up all things in him,
things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ
we have also obtained an inheritance, having
been destined according to the purpose of him
who accomplishes all things according to his
counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first
to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise
of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard
the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation,
and had believed in him, were marked with the
seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the
pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as
God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

John 1. (1-9) 10-18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was
with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the
beginning with God. ³All things came into being
through him, and without him not one thing came
into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was
life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light
shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not
overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God,
whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to
testify to the light, so that all might believe through
him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to
testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in
the world, and the world came into being through
him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to
what was his own, and his own people did not
accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who
believed in his name, he gave power to become

children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of
the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's
only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to
him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He
who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he
was before me."'') ¹⁶From his fullness we have all
received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was
given through Moses; grace and truth came through
Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God
the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who
has made him known.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

'Sing to the Lord a new song

For he has done marvellous things' Psalm 98:1

We pray at the beginning of this new year for a
renewed hope in the world, and that all those with
leadership responsibilities may serve with wisdom
and discernment.

We pray for all those who are suffering because of
the conflicts and injustices they experience,
especially those who like the Holy family are forced
into exile.

We pray for those who work to counteract the
intolerance and violence in so many parts of our
world in peaceful and positive ways.

We pray for all those for whom the holiday season
has been difficult and who face the New Year with
trepidation. Help them and us to know that in Jesus
we have a friend who is always with us.

We pray for our school communities as they begin
the new term that they may be places that
encourage each individual to flourish.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

All praise to you, almighty God and heavenly king,
who sent your Son into the world to take our nature
upon him and to be born of a pure virgin: grant that,
as we are born again in him, so he may continually
dwell in us and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven,
now and for ever.

Amen.

Phil Greenaway

We were so very sorry to have to share last Sunday
that Phil Greenaway has died after a short illness.
Phil has been a faithful member of our Abbey
community and choir for many years – we think he
has been in the choir since 1947, so his loss will be
particularly felt by our choir. More information will
follow about his funeral service in due course – but
please do keep his wife Sally and all his family and
friends in your prayers. *Jane*