

## 5th January 2025 - Epiphany Sunday

O God, by the leading of a star you 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 the 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.**

### **A reading from Isaiah 60.1-6**

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.

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

### **Psalm 72. 10 - 15**

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles / shall pay / tribute: the kings of Sheba and / Seba / shall bring / gifts.

**11 All kings shall fall / down be/fore him: all / nations shall / do him / service.**

12 For he shall deliver the / poor that cry / out: the needy and / those who / have no / helper.

**13 He shall have pity on the / weak and / poor: he shall pre/serve the / lives of the / needy.**

14 He shall redeem their lives from op/pression and / violence: and dear shall their / blood be / in his / sight.

**15 Long may he live; unto him may be given / gold from / Sheba: may prayer be made for him continually \* and may they / bless him / all the day / long.**

### **A reading from Ephesians 3.1-12**

I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable

you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Matthew (2.1-12)

**Glorify 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH , OYSTERMOUTH AND NORTON CHURCH**

**WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP TODAY.**

**Vicar: Canon Hugh Lervy**

**01792 936146 or 07976 725644 Email : vicar.mumbles@gmail.com**

**Church office 01792 361684**

**HYMNS AT OUR CHORAL EUCHARIST : 537 , 41 , 477 , 193**

**Happy New Year** : to you all and welcome back to all who have been away for Christmas and the New Year

<b>TODAY</b>	8.30 am	Holy Eucharist (All Saints)
	10.00 am	Choral Eucharist ( All Saints )
	11.30 am	Sung Eucharist ( Norton )
<b>TUESDAY</b>	12.45 pm	Funeral and Requiem Mass for Neil Norman ( All Saints ) followed by committal at Oystermouth Cemetery
	2.00 pm	Norton Craft Group
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist-</b> followed by refreshments
	1.30 pm	Bible study Group (church rooms)
	6.00 pm	Joyful Noise Junior Choir Practice in All Saints - all youngsters very welcome.
	7.00 pm	Adult Choir Practice ( All Saints )
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.30 am	Coffee & Catch up (Norton)
	1.30 pm	'Warriors' Church and Grounds working group - all very welcome.
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>		<b>12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 Baptism of Christ</b>
	8.30 am	Holy Eucharist (All Saints)
	10.00 am	Choral Eucharist ( All Saints )



I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied: 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.' So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

**What's On ?**

**A prayer for the New Year** : Lord, we look toward you, our hope, our peace, and our comfort in this New Year. As we enter into the unknown of the coming year, we ask for your guidance and wisdom. Illuminate our path with your light so that we may walk in your ways and make choices that align with your will. Help us to seek first your kingdom and trust that all other things will be added unto us.

**Thank you** : to all for the very kind cards , gifts and good wishes for Christmas and the New Year. Hugh.

**Thank you** : to all who worked so hard over the Christmas period helping to prepare the church for our services , welcoming visitors to our church and worship , helping with the craft morning and the Christingle / nativity service, the choir and organists who did so much to enhance our services. . It has been a wonderful time of outreach to our Community and I am grateful to all who gave so much time and support.

**Week of prayer for a Christian unity** : a service organised by the Mumbles Churches Together will take place in All Saints on Sunday 19th January at 3 p.m. All are welcome as we prayer together with members of churches and chapels in Mumbles. On Monday 20th January we will hold a quiet prayer service at 7 p.m. in All Saints for Unity.

**Rhondda Symphony Orchestra concert** : that had to be postponed due to the storms in December will take place in All Saints on Saturday 18th January at 7 p.m. See posters for details.

**Church choir , servers, readers** : play a vital part in our church worship. If you would like to become part of the choir or serving team it would be wonderful to have you involved. Please speak to the organists or to Mark Smith for details. If you would like to be included on our rota of readers please let us know.

**Social Committee Meeting : Thursday 23rd January at 6 p.m.** in the Church rooms. I would like to try and chat through some plans for the year and get some dates in the diary for trips, concerts, meals etc. If you would like to become involved in the planning or have ideas to share do come along to the meeting. All are very welcome.

**Pastoral Visiting** : please continue to let me know of those in need of visiting ( at home or in hospital ). Your support is vital to ensure no-one is overlooked, especially with so many having been away.