

Below are details about who to contact for information and support.

Church Office Manager: Lisa Scott Tel 825533

Email office@burphamchurch.org.uk

(Office hours are Monday - Friday 9.30am - 1pm)

The office staff are the initial point of contact for church events, weddings and funerals.

Vicar: Rev James Hanson Tel 07821 255661 Email vicar@burphamchurch.org.uk (Day of rest Saturday)

Churchwardens: Jane Agg Tel 01483 502676 Email warden1@burphamchurch.org.uk

Associate minister: Rev Darlene McCarley Email ddmccarley@gmail.com

Curate: Rev Jo Lamberth Curate Tel 07566 225234 Email jo.lamberth@burphamchurch.org.uk (Works Friday and Sunday)

Licensed Lay Minister: William Lowries Tel 01483 573327 Email wlowries@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant: Rob Gibbons Tel 07379 976581 Email robertcpgibbons@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ann Wigmore Email safeguarding@burphamchurch.org.uk

Preschool Contact: Tel 07354 444958 Email preschooladmin@burphamchurch.org.uk

Next week	9.15 Service Warden	9.15 Prayers	9.15 Readings	Coffee	10.45 Service Warden	10.45 Prayers	10.45 Readings	Sunday Club	Screen / Sound
19 th Jan	Rex T	Rex T	Val T	Nick & Val T	Susan D	n/a	Joy P	Carol L	Renny M Lewis W





Sunday's Readings and Information

12тн January 2025 _{Ерірнану 1} Астѕ 17: 1-15, 1 Thessalonians 1

9.15am Communion Service at CHS

10.15am Coffee in the hall

10.45am Morning Praise with Sunday Club at CHS



Large print weekly sheets are available at the back of church



News, events and talks at...



Collect & Readings 12th January 2025

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Acts 17:1-15 NIV-UK

17 When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. ² As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead.

'This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,' he said. ⁴ Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.

⁵ But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the market-place, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd.^{[a] 6} But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: 'These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, ⁷ and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus." When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil.⁹ Then they put Jason and the others on bail and let them go. ¹⁰ As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹² As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men. ¹³ But when the Jews in Thessalonica learned that Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea, some of them went there too, agitating the crowds and stirring them up. ¹⁴ The believers immediately sent Paul to the coast, but Silas and Timothy stayed at Berea. ¹⁵ Those

who escorted Paul brought him to Athens and then left with instructions for Silas and Timothy to join him as soon as possible.

1 Thessalonians 1 NIV-UK

1 Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

² We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³ We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶ You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷ And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸ The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia – your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹ for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

This is the word of the Lord:

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Thanks be to God

Tuesday Prayers 10 -10.30am at CHS An opportunity to pray together. Tea & Coffee available. All Welcome.

Bringing gifts to our King. Matthew 2 verses 1-12

Epiphany Sunday is a time when we remember the journey of the Wise Men travelling to Bethlehem to visit the infant Jesus – a journey that was marked by rejoicing at the sight of a bright and guiding star. The travellers were focused and determined and not discouraged by the long distance involved. Some scholars have suggested it may have been up to 900 miles! They were filled with a sense of urgency and joyous expectation. On their arrival in Bethlehem, they lay in reverence at His feet their gifts of gold (for a king); frankincense (to symbolise divinity); and myrrh (symbolic of suffering) and worshipped Him. They also listened to God's warning not to go back to Herod, but to return to their country via another route.

"A thousand times in history a baby has become a king, but only once in history has a King become a baby" (Matt Smethurst).

Here was a baby that was a 'gift' for all people, a gift of love, hope and joy and a light in our darkened world.

As we continue our own journey of faith, I believe we can learn much from that journey of the Wise Men of so long ago, with their focus on joyful expectation, obedience and reverence. What 'gifts' can we bring to King Jesus? We may reflect again on that last verse of the carol 'In the Bleak Midwinter:

'What can I give Him, poor as I am;

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part.

Yet what I can, I give Him,

Give my heart.'

Yes, as we come before our King, we can lay before Him our 'gifts' of love, trust, a servant heart, time and worship. May you experience God's love, peace and comfort in 2025. Rob Gibbons (Pastoral assistant)

Brick Church at CHS in 2025 Come and get building at CHS. Brick stations, stories, songs and refreshments! FUN for ALL the FAMILY Dates for your diary: 26th January, 23rd February, 30th March & 27th April: 3 -4.30pm

Men's Ministry

Connect with God, others and food! Tuesday 28th Jan - 7.3opm Curry at the Raj Sat 22nd Feb - 9.3oam Breakfast at the pub (tbc) Tues 25th March - 7.3opm Curry at the Raj Fri 25th April 7.3opm - Games Night at CHS Invite friends! Chat to James for more info or keep an eye on the website.

Upcoming Services at CHS & St. Luke's

Wednesday 15th January at St. Luke's **1pm** Communion Service

Sunday 19th January

9.15am Communion Service

10.45am Morning Praise with Sunday Club

Sunday 26th January

9.15am Communion Service

10.45am Communion with Sunday Club

Drop In Thursdays: Coffee and Company, 10.30am in the church hall. All Welcome! *Hear Here clinic runs 1st Thursday of the month*



We are now advertising for our first Intergenerational Minister. Find all the information on the website and share this post with your networks and contacts. Closing date 31st January 2025