

January 2025





"We believe in inclusive church – a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate.



Services Sunday 5th January

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Morning Worship

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy
No service

St Georges Telford

9.30am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Holy Communion with +Michael of Lichfield

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

4.00pm Holy Communion

Collect - The Second Sunday of Christmas

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.

Collect - Epiphany

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.

Services Sunday 12th January

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

4.00pm Holy Communion

St Georges Telford

9.30am Morning Worship

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

11.00am Family Praise

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Morning Worship

Services Sunday 19th January

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

No service

St Georges Telford

9.30am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Morning Worship 4.00pm Holy Communion

Services Sunday 26th January

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

4.00pm Holy Communion

St Georges Telford

9.30am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Christingle Family Service

| Readings | | 1 st Reading | 2 nd Reading | Gospel |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 5 th January | 2 nd Sunday of Christmas | Jeremiah 31.7-14 | Ephesians 1.3-14 | John 1.1-18 |
| | Epiphany 1 | Isaiah 60.1-6 | Ephesians 3.1-12 | Matthew 2.1-12 |
| 12 th January | Baptism of Christ | Isaiah 43.1-7 | Acts 8.14-17 | Luke 3.15-17, 21-22 |
| 19 th January | Epiphany 2 | Isaiah 62.1-5 | 1 Corinthians 12.1-11 | John 2.1-11 |
| 26 th January | Epiphany 3 | Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10 | 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a | Luke 4.14-21 |
| 2 nd February | Presentation of Christ in the Temple | Malachi 3.1-5 | Hebrews 2.14-end | Luke 2.22-40 |

Those in need of our prayers

Please pray for the families of Basil Jarvis, Fred Mainwaring, Mick Eldridge, Elizabeth Holloway, Albert Jackson, Sandra Cox and all who are grieving the loss of loved ones at this time.

Merciful God, be close to all who mourn. May they know the hope of your promises and the comfort of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Collect for our Benefice

God of mission, who alone bring growth to your church.

Send your Holy Spirit to give:

Vision to our planning, Wisdom to our action, and Power to our witness. Help our churches to grow in numbers,

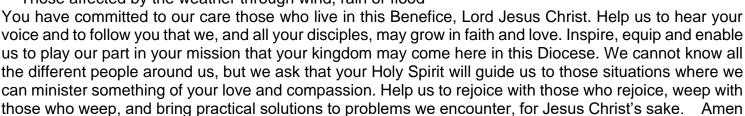
in spiritual commitment to you and in service to our local community. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





At this time please pray for:

- A fresh filling, & new awareness of Jesus 'The Prince of Peace'
- Peace in our lives, our country and our world
- Pastoral care within the Benefice
- Our Church PCC's as they plan for the future
- Eco Church and environmental issues
- All who find the need for Foodbanks
- All living on the streets during the winter
- Those affected by the weather through wind, rain or flood





| • | | Morning | Evening |
|-----------|-------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Monday | 06/01 | John 1.29-34 | John 2.1-11 |
| Tuesday | 07/01 | 1 John 3 | Matthew 20.1-16 |
| Wednesday | 08/01 | 1 John 4.7-end | Matthew 20.17-28 |
| Thursday | 09/01 | 1 John 5.1-12 | Matthew 20.29-end |
| Friday | 10/01 | 1 John 5.13-end | Matthew 23.1-12 |
| Saturday | 11/01 | 2 John | Titus 2.11-14: 3.4-7 |
| | | | |



Those whose years mind we keep

Priorslee

- **05/01** Leonard Grice, Frank Feavyour, Paul Taylor, Brenda Watkiss, Mavis Pereira, Gerald Elkes, Mary Henshall
- 12/01 Eric Harper, Kathleen Feavyour, Kenneth Breheny, Constance Whitehead, Kathleen Dean, Clasina Sheridan, Mary Leighton, Doreen Yates
- 19/01 Christine Harper, George Poole, Alan Phillips, Edna Lonorgan, George Lowe, Reginald Fieldhouse, Michael Vickers, Margaret Howells, Martin Luter, Winifred Fox, Constance Dodd, Alice Hickman, Edwin Richards, Harry Davies, Sybil Perry
- 26/01 Raymond Corbett, Florence Jones, Brenda Wall, Kathleen Jones, John Smart, David Palfrey, Ernest Martin, George Ferriday, Justin Beddall

Oakengates

- **05/01** Jean Bill, Luisa Diamante, Alfred Hanson, Laura Wincote, Edward Henderson, William Dyke, Janet Livingstone, Kathleen Adams
- 12/01 Sarah Bailey, Andrew Corbert, Margaret Smith, Elizabeth Jones, Elizabeth Corns, Trevor Green, Graham Finch, Adah Pearce, Ivy Hicks, John Broughton, Emily Haywood, Thomas Branson
- 19/01 Olive Gregory, Harry Taylor, Elsie Attrill, Decima Philips, David Broadhurst, Graham Jones, Hilda Fitchett, Charles Havens, Thomas Hughes, Ernest Anslow, William Aplin, Margaret Smith, Laura Hesbrook, Jacqualine Fenwick
- **26/01** Nigel Warner, James Hope, Sheila Phillips, Emily Taylor, Betty Mullard, Harry Onions, Samantha Bedford, Dot Watkins, Derek Richards, Horace Jacks



Wrockwardine Wood

- **05/01** Lawrence Selwyn Brayne, Samuel Buckley, Carol Owen, Vera Lewis, Leonard Brice, Joseph Bradburn, William Ashley, Christine E. M. Hambleton, Percy Perry, Bridget Heneghan, William Lees, Percy Jones, Frances Margaret Cartwright
- 12/01 Kenneth Graham Edwards, Ellen Davies, Jennifer Lewis, Harold Ball, David Humphreys, Emily Brown, Ruth Prescott, Phyllis Owen, Elizabeth Mansell, Albert Gregory, Norman Oliver, Donald (Stan) Pritchard, Ingerborge Mears, Ronald Winch, Alfred Walters
- 19/01 Raymond Tonks, Gertrude Westcott, Frank Roberts, Gladys Stevens, Edward Ernest Howells, Stanley Hillman, Alfred Hale, Phyllis Steadman, William Bailey, Bernard Morris, Margaret Powell, George Bancroft, Joseph Gavin
- 26/01 Jean Wilkinson, Lilian (Mary) Bray, Walter Leonard Edwards, Florence Taylor, Gwyn Williams, Josephine (Jose`) Downing, Muriel Walters, Jeanette Beddoes, Eileen Courtnell, Blanche Fryer, Keith Benting, Cyril "son" Bray, John Latham

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email regularly please contact newsletter@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk requesting you would like to receive it weekly,

or can be found on our Website at WWW.Easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

PCC MEETINGS IN JANUARY

Holy Trinity Oakengates - Thursday 16th January 7.00pm in Church Wombridge Church - Tuesday 21st January 10.00am in Church Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood - Monday 27th January 6.30pm in Church

BAPTISMS WEDDINGS & FUNERALS IN CHURCH

We are always excited to be able to celebrate Baptisms, welcome you for your Wedding or help you through a difficult time arranging a Funeral within our Churches. Funerals are welcomed in Church or at the Graveside and Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood are able to livestream funerals. Please telephone Kerry, Benefice Administrator to discuss arrangements.

Regular Dates for Diaries (For participation or prayer)

Mon 9.00-10.00am Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood Tue 9.00-10.00am Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

9.00-10.00am Prayer Group at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

7.00pm Whist at Holy Trinity Oakengates (1st Tuesday of each month)

Wed 8.45-10.30am Tea & Toast (Place of Welcome) at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

9.00-10.00am Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

9.15am Morning Prayer at Wombridge Church

10.30am Midweek Service at St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Midweek Service at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

12.00-2.00pm Place of Welcome at Holy Trinity Oakengates

1.00-3.00pm Pray Bake Read at Lantern Academy Ketley Bank

7.00-8.00pm Prayer Group meeting at St Georges (4th Wednesday of each month)

Thu 9.00-10.00am Foodshare at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

10.00-12.00pm Tea & Talk at HT Wrockwardine Wood (Bereavement group 2nd Thursday)

1.00-3.00pm Place of Welcome at Priorslee Scout HQ

Fri

Sat 4.00-5.30pm Messy Church at HT Wrockwardine Wood (2nd Saturday of each month) 11.00-1.00pm Welcome Saturday at St Matthews Donnington Wood (3rd Saturday of month)

Contact Details

Vicar: In Vacancy

Associate Minister: In Vacancy

Licensed Reader: Christopher Harris

07941 961461

cjharrissinging @btinternet.com

Newsletter Editor: Christopher Harris

07941 961461

newsletter@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

Licensed Reader: Kerry Debenham

01952 615367 (9.30-12)

admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

Administrator: Kerry Debenham

01952 615367 (9.30-12)

admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

Ecumenical Coordinator and Lay Funeral Minister: Sue Rawlings

07715173634

Suerawlings12@gmail.com

SAFEGUARDING

For all the churches in our benefice, the safeguarding, safety and security of each person is of the upmost importance. We have across all our churches committed to safeguarding and have adopted the national and diocesan safeguarding policies. Please do not hesitate to contact the coordinator for your church (name on notice board) if you have any questions and concerns and understand that everyone has a role to play to ensure we achieve our aim of being a benefice who cares and protects all who visit.

MESSY CHURCH



Saturday 11th January 2025 Saturday 8th February 2025

Saturday 8th March 2025 Saturday 12th April 2025

We look forward to welcoming you all to this family centred church service, all families welcome. Messy Church runs from 4pm and we have bible stories, crafts, singing, and food. It wraps up around 5.30 pm.

Do you feel called to join in, could you lead a craft and talk about your faith because that's what we do. Or would you be happy serving food and clearing up. Please chat with Kerry or Fiona and see if there is 'a you' shaped space in our service. (There is always a space for everyone).

The singing is joyous, and actions and dancing encouraged, and the food is simple 'it's the fellowship of sharing food which makes it special'. Why not come a see it for yourself and then decide!

PRAY BAKE READ

PRAY....INTENTIONALLY FOR YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL BAKE....A CAKE FOR STAFF EVERY HALF TERM

READ....1:1 WITH A STUDENT ONCE A WEEK

Would you like to support children at The Lantern Academy

(former Queenswood School) by spending 1-2 hours a week with pupils listening to them read on a 1:1 (Wednesday afternoons 1-3pm, Years 1 & 2 infants).

If you are interested please speak to Julia Ayers, or contact *newsletter* @easttelfordbenefice.co.uk and your details will be passed to the organiser.



We are seeking people interested in planning the 2025 service, to attend a meeting on Tuesday 14th January, at 7pm, at Our Lady of the Rosary church, adjacent to St Luke's school, Church Road, TF2 7HG to discuss the planning further.

For more information please contact Kerry on 01952 615367 (9.30am-12.00pm) admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk



PRAYER GROUPS ACROSS THE BENEFICE

Prayer is something we all can be part of. We of course can pray at any time and any place, knowing with confidence that God is always listening and interceding on our behalf. We need no special language or words, it is simply just bringing our worries, thoughts, and questions to him.

Across our benefice we come together to pray at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood 9-10am on a Tuesday. At Wombridge Church there is a service of morning prayer on a Wednesday at 9.15 am and on the 4th Wednesday of the month between 7pm and 8pm you will find St Georges open for prayer.

Each and all of these are open to whoever would like to join, so please if you would like to join others to pray find one which will suit you best.

If you would like someone to pray for you, please send your requests to the Warden of the church or to admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk (and Kerry will pass them on to the different churches) and your prayer requests will be prayed at each of the sessions.



During the winter months the Ecumenical Service is moving to daylight hours on the second Monday of the month at 1.00pm

The next Service will be on Monday 13th January at 1.00pm at Holy Trinity Oakengates





Christian Unity Service

Sunday 19th January 2025: 3pm at the Salvation Army, Lion Street Oakengates
The Salvation Army warmly welcomes fellow Christians to join with them to celebrate this joint service.
They are looking forward to welcoming people on the day.
For more information please contact Sue Rawlings via email suerawlings 12 @gmail.com



Are you looking to further your education?

....then take a look at Telford College!

Attend the next open event Wednesday 22nd January 2025 5pm-730pm

Visit the outstanding facilities and find out about the different course options

A Levels, T Levels, Hands-on Vocational Courses, Apprenticeships, University level courses, Online Courses, Short Courses, Adult Maths & English.

Whether you are a school leaver or looking to upskill, let Telford College help you reach your potential and unlock a world of possibilities.

Apply now....Take a look at the website at www.telfordcollege.ac.uk for more information. Proud to be named among the top 25% of providers nationally, with 96% of students receiving offers from their 1st choice university.



Are you hard of hearing?....

Would you like to meet up with people in a similar situation?

Then why not join a new hard of hearing group taking place at....

Donnington Methodist Church Last Wednesday each month 1030am-12noon

Please note next meeting is 26th Feb 2025 as the group is not meeting in December or January

Meeting for fellowship, visiting speakers

Meeting for fellowship, visiting speakers and refreshments

Just turn up or for more information contact Kath on 07986 490027 (Text only) All are welcome to come along, you don't have to have hearing problems



World Day of Prayer Friday March 7th St Georges Church 2pm

We are keen to re-introduce this annual day of prayer to the Telford area: in 2025 the service resources have been developed by Churches Together in the Cook Islands. The aim is to bring together Christians from across the world to join in 24 hours of prayer for world peace.

The theme is "You are wonderfully made".



Urgent mental health support Call the urgent helpline on 0808 196 4501 - availa Life threatening emergencies

WHO DO YOU CONTACT?

NHS Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin are urging people to use the table opposite to choose the right care at the right time as it can make a huge difference to our NHS.

Use NHS111 for health advice & only call 999 in a life-threatening emergency







PLACES of WELCOME at HTO, HTWW & St PETERS

Places of Welcome has now been running for sometime at both Holy Trinity Churches and St Peters.

This outreach is something which has helped bring our community together and we are always pleased when new people attend. The format is simple – a short service, a shared lunch (soup and roll or sandwiches), chat/board games/puzzles/craft etc.

Please do let your friends and neighbours know about these Places of Welcome especially those who live alone or those who are looking for a place to meet new people. You will find a warm welcome at each of these Places of Welcome. We look forward to meeting you!

Please note St Peters meets at: Priorslee Scout HQ, Snedshill Way, TF2 9QQ







From the Deanery

As a Deanery we would like to wish you all a very blessed and happy New Year.

The first Deanery Synod meeting of 2024 will take place on Wednesday 22nd January, 7.00pm (online – details will be sent to Synod reps via email).

We are pleased to announce that there will be a Licensing Service on Thursday 16th January, 7pm at Christ Church Wellington where Father Stuart Howes will be licensed as Rural/Area Dean and Rev Tom Atfield as Assistant Rural/Area Dean and legal surrogate for Telford. Everyone is invited to attend this service.

Telford Deanery: Shaping for Mission



From the Diocese

THE DIOCESAN DIGEST

The Diocesan Digest was founded in 1989. It is the Sound Magazine for our Cathedral at Lichfield and the Diocese. It is produced and run by volunteers and is a registered charity - number 702995.

Over this period the volunteers have produced a full magazine every month. This sound magazine has given news and conversation for blind and partially sighted people, as well as anyone else who is interested. The magazine is produced monthly, and the recordings are kindly provided through The British Wireless for the Blind, who provide a many Talking Newspaper access through their system.

If you would like to receive the Diocesan Digest, please contact:

Tel: 01543 306030 | 07986 954 859

Email: soundmag@lichfield-cathedral.org www.facebook.com/diocesandigest

Faith without walls

At the end of last year, I attended an event at Wolves FC. It wasn't a football match: that experience is yet in store for me.

It wasn't a sporting event at all, but 'sporting' would be a good way to describe the attitude of people there. We were all trying to make room for each other.

It was organised by the <u>Religion Media Centre</u>, which brings together people from different faith traditions and communities with local media to try to connect them. Their purpose is to increase the quantity and quality of religious coverage in the media. It was just the right meeting in Wolverhampton's rich diversity.



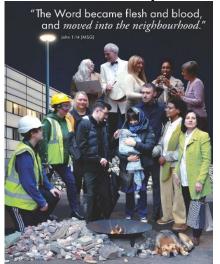
I discovered, along with several new faith and community leaders, a surprising fact: there are no synagogues in Wolverhampton. There are places of worship for nearly every other faith community, but no synagogues.

If this surprises you, it surprises me, too. There are Jewish people in Wolverhampton, living out their lives of faith every day, but there is no synagogue. It got me thinking.

What would it do for our sense of identity and belonging if we had no churches? Would it put us on our mettle, or would it wound us so that we were left floundering?... longing for what we thought of as our home, the sign of who we are?

The tension between those two things is powerfully present at this time. There's Christmas, and there are two bookends to Christmas: Christ the King and Epiphany.

Before Advent, we celebrate Christ the King, reminding us that as followers of Christ, we follow the King of a heavenly realm: the Kingdom of God. After Christmas, at Epiphany, the Magi visit, coming as rulers of earthly places to acknowledge the arrival of the baby Jesus and bring him gifts. Kings expect people to come to them: they do not travel with gifts across fields, fountains, hills, and mountains.



And then there's Christmas, which brought the gift of 'God with us', coming to 'move into our neighbourhood' as Lichfield Cathedral's Christmas poster said. Jesus is a King who is here now, moving into our street, making his home with us, but he is also the King of the kingdom that we don't yet fully see; that means we need not feel troubled here by anything that challenges our sense of who we are here because who we truly are is citizens of somewhere else, heaven.

Many things challenge people's sense of who they are or who they think they are, here and far away. There are wars, instability, and those stirring up polarisation, as we have seen in our country this last year. In this new year, let us recognise that we have an identity we cannot lose - that of citizens of the Kingdom of God. We can never be shaken; we are here to forget ourselves and find the eternal kingdom.

Let us live as if that is so in this new year.

Rt Revd Tim Wambunya Bishop of Wolverhampton

Taken from: www.lichfield.anglican.org/news/faith-without-walls.php

From the Church of England

A Prayer for the New Year

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose years never fail and whose mercies are new each returning day: let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives, warming our hearts and giving light to our minds; that we may pass the coming year in joyful obedience and firm faith; through him who is the beginning and the end, your Son, Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Taken from: www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers/prayer-new-year



We wish all who worship or live in our Benefice a very Happy, Peaceful & Safe New Year in 2025



EASY FUNDRAISING

For those who shop online it is possible to help fundraise for your Benefice Church, by using the easy fundraising website to make your purchases from many of the well-known retailers. Why not use this website at no cost to yourself but a money earner for the church! For more info:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpeterspriorslee

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/holytrinitywrockwardinewood

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/holytrinityoakengates



Week Beginning 5th January 2025

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 246

We pray for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the <u>Shaping for Mission</u> process, and the resulting Strategic Framework 2024-2030, within the context of the varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. As 'People of Hope,' we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those in Ukraine suffering grievously along with the people & leaders of Russia; and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine, Israel and the wider Middle East.

discipleship

Sunday 5th January:

We pray once again for the churches of Wulfrun Deanery
Pray for the posts of St Giles', Furzebank Worship Centre with Emmanuel church to be filled.

Monday 6th: (The Epiphany)

Lord, on the day of the Epiphany we pray for the two churches dedicated to it in the diocese; those in Peplow in north Shropshire and Oxley in north Wolverhampton (Wulfrun Deanery in fact, where our prayers are currently centred:-)). We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on both of those churches and communities.

Tuesday 7th:

Lord, we lift before you all of our Church Schools located in Wulfrun Deanery; for each of the schools in Ashmore Park, in Rosedale, where Furzebank Church also meets, in Wednesfield, and in Willenhall. Please may your hand rest upon the staff and volunteers who work there, both teaching and otherwise; and for all the children and their families who are part of them. So too we pray for all of the schools in the diocese, church and otherwise, as they step into a new term and new year.

Wednesday 8th:

Lord, today we lift before you the start of the Centre of Chaplaincy in Education's Webinar series; 'Being a Trauma-Informed Chaplain'. May they indeed succeed in their aspiration to help Chaplains become more effective support for students who have experienced trauma - and so too we think of all those students may will need their support.

Thursday 9th:

In our first of several prayers for Penkridge Deanery; we pray for the village churches at the northern end of deanery, for All Saints Bednall, St James' Acton Trussell, St Lawrence's Coppenhall, and St Leonard's Dunston. We lift them before you in the light of a recent death of a churchwarden and a successful round of advertising for a part time Team Vicar.

Friday 10th: (William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645)

Today we pray for Ben Whitmore, and his new churches and communities he is about to work with; as he is licensed this day to serve in Wednesbury and specifically the churches there of St Bartholomew's, St Luke's, and St Paul's.

Saturday 11th: (Mary Slessor, Missionary in West Africa, 1915)

Continuing our Prayers in Penkridge Deanery, we pray similarly for all of the churches in the Watershed Benefice, for each of Blymhill St Mary, Lapley All Saints, Weston under Lizard St Andrew, and Wheaton Aston St Mary. May they prosper in their vacancy, and may the right new incumbent be appointed soon.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android click here For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx

SAVE THE DATE!!! 15th March 2025



Concert at Wombridge Parish Church 2.00pm – 4.30pm

Proceeds in aid of church funds for Wombridge Parish Church & St Peter's Priorslee Tickets available soon!