



The Benefice of St Mary's Bocking & Panfield Church

Sunday 7th January 2024
The Feast of The Epiphany
Staying in Contact



The Very Revd Rod Reid - Incumbent (*usual rest day Monday*)

Email: bockingchurch@gmail.com Call: (01376) 324887 www.stmarys-bocking.com
or on Facebook, search for 'St Mary's Church, Bocking', or 'Panfield Church'

Forthcoming Services

Hymns

St Mary's, Bocking

Sunday 7th January	8am	Said Mass
	10am	Sung Mass
Wednesday 10th January	9.30am	Said Mass
Sunday 14th January	8am	Said Mass
	10am	Sung Mass

39

40

41

O praise ye the Lord

Panfield Church

Sunday 7th January	11am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 9th January	5pm	Office Hour/Evening Prayer
Sunday 14th January	11am	Plough Sunday service

Gospel Acclamation

*We saw his star as it rose,
and have come to pay
homage to the Lord.*

NOTICES

Christingle - At the Christingle service on Christmas Eve the collection taken goes to support The Children's Society. So far, £473 has been raised which is brilliant! Any remaining donations or donation boxes need to be back by Sunday January 14th. Thank you.

Friends of St Mary's - A reminder that the Friends AGM will take place on Saturday 13th January at 4pm in the Church Hall, we look forward to seeing you then. Members and non members are welcome.

Choral Evensong - On Sunday February 4th at 5pm there will be Choral Evensong at St Mary's, Bocking, led by the Senior Chapel Choir of Felsted School. All are welcome.

Sunday Coffee - Charity of the Month - Throughout January, the monies donated at tea and coffee following the main service at St Mary's will be going towards 'The Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund'.

Fellowship - The first meeting of 2024 is on Thursday 18th January 12.30pm in the Church Hall. Our speaker this month is Sharon Gould, and her talk is entitled 'East End to Essex'.

Friendly Friday Cafe - We are pleased to say that the Friendly Friday Café will be back this coming Friday, January 12th in the Church Hall from 12noon onwards. Sessions will then run up to near Easter.

Prayers - We keep in our prayers Barry and Janice Goody, Jean Goodwin, Sue, Roger, Frances, Jo Meech, and Tony & Ann. We remember our care homes Millard House, Fern Lodge, Aspen Grange, St

Mary's Court and The New Deanery, and the following, whose anniversary of their passing falls this week Cyril Cotton, Douglas Bloomfield, Alfred Keevil, Arthur Finch, Annie Hedger, Catherine Wood, Louise Jarvis, Frances Williams, Eric Smyth, Kate Playle, George Cocks, Lilian Crouse, Louisa Biggs, Ron Suckling, Reginald Jarvis, Edward France and Cissie Bragg.

The Collect for The Feast of The 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.

Epistle Reading - Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that 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 to 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 to 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.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 2:1-12

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.

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.