

# ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

## Sunday 7th January 2024, Epiphany 1 & Baptism of Christ



*Readings for today: Ephesians 3 vs 1-12; Matthew 2 vs 1-12*

Dear Friends, as you read this, over a week has past since Christmas day, all the presents have been opened and put away, and the left over turkey has been used up. Some of you may have even put your Christmas decorations away. Are there even any signs of Christmas in your home?

Over the Christmas period, we were repeatably reminded that Christ came to us as a baby, a gift to each of us, to mankind. Jesus was initially revealed to the shepherds, who were everyday people like us, and it is partly because of the shepherds sharing the good news that we have the opportunity to play our part in revealing the good news to others. Christmas is a great opportunity for us to do this, but as Christians our work does not finish on Christmas day; there are still many people in our communities who may need to hear the Word of God.

New Year is a time where many people like to make new year resolutions, this could be to start a new habit or even a new hobby! The trouble with new year resolutions is that they often don't stick for very long! Maybe we just need some guidance from God on what resolutions to choose. Luckily for us, we have a God who is alive and able to help us with this.

I wonder what God would put on your heart if you were to pray and ask Him what He would like you to do this year? My own New Year resolution prayer is simply the same, every year - God use me, put me in places where I can share your light and love. Help me to notice the small things that matter and help me when I find things tough.

2024 is going to be an exciting year, we all have a part to play in revealing Jesus to others. Remember... Jesus is for Life, not just for Christmas!

God bless you all, **Kimberley**



**COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:**

**Sunday 7th 10am Holy Communion** in church & on Zoom ID 820 0369 6332  
(password from Qyan)

**Tuesday 9th 8am Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Tuesday 9th 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group** meet in church & parish centre

**Wednesday 10th 10am Evington Family History Group** meet in the parish centre

**Wednesday 10th 2.30pm Evington History and Heritage Group** in parish centre

**Thursday 11th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group** meet in the parish centre

**Thursday 11th 2pm Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am** in church.

**Thursday 10am Holy Communion (BCP said)** in church

**Open Church 9am—12noon** Free wi-fi, refreshments, chat! All welcome.

**Parish Centre Heating** It is with regret, that the heating is not working in the parish centre. We are hoping to have this fixed as soon as possible. In the mean-time, please wrap up warm if visiting the centre at any point.

**One Roof Request** The charity One Roof, which St. Denys supports, is in need of 3 large televisions, slim-line 2 seater sofas or armchairs and a dining table with four chairs for residents in need, in their properties. If you can help by donating some or all of these items, please contact Karyn Aviani, Administrator and Volunteer Co-ordinator on T: 0116 44 22 007 or M: 07554 214260 or e-mail: [karyn@oneroof.org.uk](mailto:karyn@oneroof.org.uk) Thank you.

**The Eden Knit and Natter Group and The Faith and Friendship Group** are still making hats and scarves for those who need them. If you can help with knitting or crocheting hats and scarves, please speak to Anthony when he is on duty. To sponsor them for One Roof's Winter Appeal go to <https://wonderful.org/fundraisers/nDyE7>

**Holy Week Devotion, Singers Needed!** On the evening of Tuesday 26th March, during Holy Week, St. Denys will host a performance of a rarely heard but beautiful choral work entitled 'Passiontide.' It will be conducted by the composer himself, local musician Simon Mold. We need singers of all voice parts to make up the choir. If you are available on this night, and would like to take part, please contact me. Rehearsals will be on Thursday evenings in church at 7pm or 7.30pm and begin on 25th January. Don't worry if you can't attend every Thursday. Thank you, I look forward to hearing from you. **Qyan**

# EXPLORING CALLING FOR EVERYONE

**An opportunity to explore how God calls us all to live out our faith in the whole of life.**

Seminars will include:

- caring for our buildings
- outdoor worship
- growing faith
- pastoral care
- social action and social justice
- chaplaincy
- working with schools

**Saturday 10 Feb 10am-3pm  
at St Martin's House  
Lunch included**



**Advance Notice - Exploring Calling for Everyone, Vocations Day, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2024** Please pray for, and encourage people to come. This is not simply for those exploring formal ministry but to help all of us think about how we live out our faith and showcase the range of ways people in the diocese are doing this. We are offering a range of other workshops that can be delivered in Deaneries and Parishes on request. These include:

- Worship for Everyone
- Pastoral Care for Everyone
- Welcome and Hospitality for Everyone
- Holy Habits for Everyone
- Storytelling for Everyone
- Faith Conversations for Everyone
- Sharing Faith for Everyone

St. Denys PCC is discussing whether or not we can offer to host some of the workshops. Further details will follow if confirmed. The closing date for registering your wish to attend the Vocations Day at St. Martin's House is Saturday 3rd February. Please contact Qyan before then, if you wish to apply and he will contact the diocese.



**The Musical Toddler Group next meets on Friday 12th January at 10am** and continues weekly during term time. Do you have pre-school aged children or grandchildren? If so, why not bring them along? Contact Sarah for more information by e-mailing: [stdenysyouth@gmail.com](mailto:stdenysyouth@gmail.com)

**Revd Anthony** is on annual leave and returns to duties on Monday 8th January. He will be uncontactable until then. Please contact Revd Mark or one of the churchwardens if you need help from somebody. Thank you.

**Collect for the First Sunday of Epiphany** Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Pray for the sick:** Brenda Bedingfield, Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Marion Heygate, Michael Matts, Roman Orzel, Sian Rigby, Jill Sinclair, Andrew (Andy) White **Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of** Doreen Bennett, Gwilym Edmonson-Jones



**Revd Anthony Lees-Smith (Vicar)** 0116 2155 5000 [vicar@stdenys.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stdenys.org.uk)  
(not Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays)

**Mark Batchelor (Curate)** 07534 805454 [m.batchelor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:m.batchelor@hotmail.co.uk) (not Fridays)

**Gerry (Churchwarden)** 07531 548793 [geraldinegoode368@btinternet.com](mailto:geraldinegoode368@btinternet.com)

**Janette (Churchwarden & Safeguarding Officer)** 0116 2414051  
[janpears13@aol.com](mailto:janpears13@aol.com)

**Sian (Reader)** 07538 756709 [sian.rigby2@outlook.com](mailto:sian.rigby2@outlook.com)

**Geraldine (Reader & Pioneer)** 0116 2737717

**Administrator (Qyan)** 07803 828454 [office@stdenys.org.uk](mailto:office@stdenys.org.uk)

St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work

[www.stdenys.org.uk](http://www.stdenys.org.uk)

