

PARISH NOTES

Welcome to
St John the Divine
The Parish Church of
Menston with Woodhead



SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

3 JANUARY 2021

Sunday 9.30am - Zest

Sunday 11am - Service of the Word

using liturgy from the Methodist Covenant Service followed by optional Eucharist
(any overflow will be directed to the Parish Room)

Social distancing and hygiene measures should be maintained, including the wearing of a mask unless exempt. You can find various resources on our website to aid in worship from home, including prayer resources, videos, readings, crafts and so much more. Every Sunday you can also find resources from our services, including a video recording of the service and the written sermon—[Click here!](#)

READING ONE (OLD TESTAMENT): ISAIAH 60: 1—6

The Ingathering of the Dispersed

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.

READING TWO (NEW TESTAMENT): MATTHEW 2:1—12

The Visit of the Wise Men

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.

COVENANT SERVICE

On 3 January the 11am service at St John's will follow the service pattern of the Methodist's Covenant service since this would normally be a joint service. By sharing their liturgy, we are being together even though we are separate.

DIAL-A-SERMON—01943 666875

St John's has a phone line which offers a short Service of the Word. The call is charged at your local rate (i.e. the price of a normal phone call)

MENSTON HELPLINE—01943 874335

The Menston helpline is available to support people in the village in the coming month(s). Please us know if we can help in any way.

FUNDRAISING BOOKLETS

Published during the lockdown, two new booklets by David Machin are for sale at £5 each, every penny to the church roof fund.

- Let the Rafters Ring - verses fresh off the pen
- Ding Dong Merrily - tasty tales to make you smile.
- ‘Verses for Funny Folk’ (children & the young at heart)
- Verse on the Wing - (our friends the birds)
- Machinations’- (his first volume of short stories)

You can get in touch by ringing 872228 or emailing david@machdv.plus.com

PARISH MAGAZINE

Copy for the February edition of the magazine is due 17 January.

WE PRAY FOR



The Sick: Ken Parker, Pauline Blake, Sylvia Bradley, Marjorie Thompson, Eric Wilkinson

The Deceased: Joyce Edgley

Memorial Book: William Shaw, Florence Nuttall, Isaac Harvey, Stewart Lovemore, Evelyn Priestman, Eva Garnett, John Howell, Richard Flesher, Suzanne Pearson, Arthur Scriven, Eric Chambers

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- * All who are sick in body, mind or spirit
- * Those in the midst of famine or disaster
- * Victims of abuse and violence, intolerance and prejudice
- * Those who are bereaved
- * All who work in the medical and healing professions.

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Come, Holy Spirit,
Spirit of the Risen Christ, be with us today and always.
Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.
Be our Strength, our Courage, and our Sanctifier.
May this new year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us,
A time of welcoming your graces and gifts,
A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,
A time for growing in virtue and goodness.
Be with us today and always.
Amen.