

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond



6th January 2019

THE EPIPHANY

TODAY

8.00 am Holy Communion in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell
Reader: Dennis Spooner

**9.30 am Parish Communion with
Seekers and Creche** in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell
Hymns: 394 - 296 - 537 - 41 - 14 - 209
Intercessor: Wendy Meldrum

11.15 am Holy Communion at Bedmond
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell
Hymns: 394 - 296 - 537 - 71
Reader: Anne Goldsmith

12.45 pm Christening of Lola Smith

12.30 pm Sunday Lunch Club in the church hall

4.00 pm CTAL Epiphany Carols
in St Saviour's

6.30 pm Youth Group meets in the
Breakspear Room

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in St Lawrence
Leader: Sally Sanderson

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Holy Communion said in St Lawrence

12.00 noon Wednesday

Morning Prayer said in St Lawrence

9.30 am Monday to Friday

Evening Prayer said in St Lawrence

5.15 pm Monday to Friday

Quiet Reflection in St Lawrence

11.00 am Wednesday

Early Prayer in St Lawrence

8.15 am Wednesday

WELCOME

Welcome to everyone at our worship today especially to visitors and newcomers - please introduce yourself if you are new or a visitor.

If you usually receive **Communion** in your own church, please do so here. If not, you are welcome to come to the altar rail for a **Blessing**, and if you carry a book with you the priest will know not to offer you the bread and wine.

The 9.30 am service is **recorded live** on 'www.thesundayervice.org' each week. No members of the congregation will be seen on camera.



Please tell a sidesperson before the service if you would like a **gluten-free wafer**.

A **T-loop** is provided for hearing aid users.



For our younger members in St Lawrence:

Seekers for those aged 3 to 10 years (start in church), not 2nd Sunday each month;

Creche in the Breakspear Room;
Quiet Corner in church



Please join us for **coffee, tea or juice and biscuits** in the church hall after the 9.30 am service.



*A **collection** is taken at each main service. If you are a UK tax payer, please complete a gift aid envelope.*

This money is fundamental to the life of the church: its ministry, mission and charitable giving.

As we receive no income from the Government or any other external body, we are reliant on the generosity of the community and our fundraising endeavours to ensure that the important work of the parish continues.

Many regular members of the congregation give by direct debit and so put nothing in the bag as it passes by.

*If you would like to set up a regular direct debit, please ask for a **Parish Giving Scheme** pack.*

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

Bibles are available in the book rack by the door where you entered.

COLLECT: 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.

FIRST READING Isaiah 60.1-6 Bible page 700

The prophet foretells a time when people shall gather to God's presence and God's light will shine for all. Kings will be drawn to God's glory, camels from the East will arrive and gifts of gold and frankincense be given to God. We hear this prophecy today as fulfilled in the coming of the Magi to Jesus.

SECOND READING Ephesians 3.1-12 Bible page 190

The Epiphany is also referred to as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Paul rejoices that the Gentiles to whom he preaches the Gospel have become fellow heirs with the Jewish people and God's mystery, hidden for ages has now been made known to all.

GOSPEL Matthew 2.1-12 Bible page 1

Matthew's account of the visit of the far-travelled Magi speak simply of 'wise men from the East'. The name Magi implies they were astrologers who watched for signs in the stars. Later tradition fixed their number at three, made them Kings and recalled their resonant names - Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

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.

ANTHEM at 9.30 am:
Brightest and best of the sons
of the morning
(Hymn no 71)

Lord, you are the Light that the darkness can never conquer.
Pour your light into our darkness so that we can see better ways of solving problems.
Pour your light into our confusion so that we can see new strategies and possibilities.
Pour your light into us, for we ourselves are part of the darkness.
Amen.

FOR OUR PRAYERS



GIVE THANKS

- » that we have been called from darkness to walk in God's light

PRAY

- » that we may overflow with Christ's love and transform the world with his glory
- » for peace in the world as we celebrate the beginning of a New Year
- » for Lola Smith to be christened today
- » for our local schools - the teachers, pupils and support staff, as they return this week
- » for those who live in Abbey Drive; Abbeyfield; Abbots Langley High Street
- » for those who worship at the Baptist Church and for Paul Brooks their Lay Pastor

THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

- » Andrew Cummings : Brian McIntosh : Brian Higgs : Stephen : Sandra Smalley : Ben : Sean Brosnan : Vanessa

RIP

- » Melvyn Green (Welwyn Garden City)
Gladys Brodhurst (Margaret House)

AVAILABILITY

Peter's day off is Thursday

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Isaiah 43.1-7; Psalm 29;
Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-17,21-22

THE COMING WEEK

Monday 7th

7.30 pm Bell ringing in St Lawrence tower

Tuesday 8th

10.15 am Tuesday Coffee in the Breakspear Rm

8.00 pm Finance Committee in the Breakspear Room

Wednesday 9th

11.00 am Quiet Reflection in the Corpus Christi Chapel

11.15 am Mothers' Union AGM in the Breakspear Room

12.00 noon Holy Communion including Corporate Communion for the MU followed by soup lunch

3.30 pm Messy Church in the Methodist hall

Thursday 10th

10.30 am Home Communion in Hanover Gdns

Friday 11th

10.00 am Craft Morning in the Tin Church

10.00 am HAL Coffee in the Henderson Hub
Abbots Langley High Street

2.00 pm Craft & Conversation in the Breakspear Room

6.15 pm Youth Choir in the Breakspear Room

Saturday 12th

3.00-4.30 pm Seekers Party in the church hall

NEXT SUNDAY

BAPTISM OF CHRIST

13th January 2019

8.00 am **Holy Communion** in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Angela Milton

9.30 am **Second Sunday Communion Service** in St Lawrence

President: The Revd Peter Waddell
Preacher: The Revd Vanessa Kerswill

11.15 am **Holy Communion**

in the Tin Church, Bedmond
President & Preacher: The Revd Jos Perris

6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** in St Lawrence
Leader: The Revd Peter Waddell

NOTICES

► CHURCHES TOGETHER EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

this afternoon at 4.00 pm in St Saviour's RC Church in The Crescent - all welcome.

► **MIDWEEK COMMUNION** this week, Wednesday 9th January, and all following weeks, will be at 12.00 noon followed by soup and a roll in the Breakspear Room.

► **MESSY CHURCH** is on Wednesday 9th January from 3.30 pm in the Methodist hall. Offers of help to Wendy Meldrum.

► **SEEKERS PARTY** for children aged 3 to 10 years (accompanied if younger) on Saturday 12th January from 3.00 to 4.30 pm - tea and entertainment in the church hall. For details or to book a place, please contact the office or speak to Jane McHugh.

► **PILGRIM COURSE** on 'The Beatitudes' will begin next Sunday, 13th January at 7.30 pm in the Breakspear Room for six sessions (until 24th February, missing out 3rd February). The Tuesday afternoon course will begin on 15th February at 1.00 pm, with a light lunch. Books (£5) will be available from the Church Office on Wednesday this week.

► **SING-A-LONG** in aid of Malawi Funds on Saturday 26th January at 7.00 pm - **Mama Mia (Here we go again)**. £6 a ticket to include refreshments. Tickets available from the Malawi team.

► **FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE CURRY NIGHT** at the Abbots Tandoori on Monday 18th February at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. £17 per person. Contact Sue Coultrup (334387).

► **VILLAGE CALENDARS** £5 each, from the church office or at *Over the Moon*.

► **OUTLOOK** (Church magazine) is available for January - please take a copy (40p). We hope you will continue your subscription (£4.80) into 2019 - please pay your deliverer or via the office.

► **ALBAN LIFE** - a new diocesan magazine is available at the back of both churches - free, please take a copy.

ROTAS - please think about what help you can offer; the more helpers the fewer times we need to do it:

Sunday Coffee (preparing, serving and washing up) - four times a year

Collecting Peggy from Hewlitt - approx. seven times a year

Sunday Lunches (cooking and/or serving) - six times a year

Intercessions (including writing them) - approx. six times a year

Tuesday Coffee (serving and clearing away) - every 5/6 weeks

... if you would like to **read a lesson**;

act as **sidesperson/welcomer** (monthly), **serve at the altar** or

arrange flowers

- whatever you can offer, please speak to Pam who will pass you on to the right person.

Not a rota - just a list! - if you can **offer lifts** to the 9.30 am services at St Lawrence, please let the office know - it won't tie you to every week but just so we know who we can call on - thank you.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:	The Revd Dr Peter Waddell 01923 263013
Email:	vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Angela Milton 01923 519453
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Guy Buckler via the Church Office
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Brian Hibberd via the Church Office
Reader:	Mrs Sally Sanderson 01923 265963
Church Office:	01923 261795
Open:	9.30 am to 1.00 pm daily
Email:	adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night, please contact Peter directly.

