

You are very welcome to take your Pew Sheet home

Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

Sunday - 10th January 2016 - CW edition



**The United Benefice of Long Crendon (LC),
Cheersley (Ch) & Nether Winchendon (NW)**

WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY AND EVERY DAY

Prayer



Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Collect for the Baptism of Christ (the First Sunday of Epiphany and also Plough Sunday)

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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

Readings for Today:

Old Testament: Isaiah 43.1-7



But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your

Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth - everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Epistle: Acts 8.14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: Luke 3.15-17 and 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."



Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Notes for your diary:

Sunday 10th January is Plough Sunday, so at St. Mary's Long Crendon the Morris Men will be dancing in church at the end of the 10:30 am Holy Communion service.

Monday 11th January, 7:30 for 8:00 pm at St. Mary's, Long Crendon: Benefice Section 12 Meeting – the legally correct but dull name for a very important meeting in connection with progress towards the appointment of a new Vicar for the Benefice. Please come if you can. Bishop Alan will comment on the Benefice Profile as it is at present, and the Area Dean and the Deanery Lay Chair will also be there. This is an open public meeting for all PCC members, the LLMs, and all interested parties.

Saturday 30th January 2016 - Long Crendon Friends of St. Mary's Safari Supper. Forms are available from St. Mary's, the Flowerpot Café, the Library, or from james.frew@mac.com Forms will also be e-mailed to everyone who took part last year, or if you have queries call Mary Frew on 202018. The deadline for joining is Saturday 16th January – we look forward to seeing you!

Well done and thank you to Cheersley's Carol Singers who raised a total of £300 at the Tree Lighting Ceremony and, on another day, singing round the village. This sum is to be shared equally between DEBRA and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

St. Nicholas, Cheersley, is hoping to recruit new volunteers to join the team of church cleaners. If you feel that you could donate a couple of hours, every other month, please contact one of the church wardens, Alicia or Joy. Full training given!

Services in the United Benefice

Services Sunday 10th January 2016 – The Baptism of Christ or First Sunday of Epiphany

10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Lay Led
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Andy Bell
6.00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

Services Sunday 17th January 2016 – Epiphany 2

9.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ch	Derek Witchell
10.00 am	Family Holy Communion	NW	Derek Witchell
10:30 am	Family Service	LC	Ray Copping

Services Sunday 24th January 2016 – Epiphany 3 or The Conversion of St. Paul

10.00 am	Family Service	Ch	John Scholefield
10.30 am	Holy Communion with choir	LC	Tom Farrell
5:00 pm	Evensong	NW	Robert Hutton

Service Sunday 31st January 2016 – Epiphany 4 or The Presentation of Christ or Sexagesima

10:00 am	United Benefice Service	LC	Gordon Kuhrt
----------	-------------------------	----	--------------

Note: this is a fifth Sunday and there will be no service in Chearsley or Nether Winchendon on this day

Services Sunday 7th February 2016 – The Sunday next before Lent or Quinquagesima

9.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Steve and Rose Williams
10.00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Ray Copping
10:00 am	Family Communion	Ch	Steve and Rose Williams
6:00 to 7:30 pm	Rock Solid Youth Group		

If you have events coming up in the Benefice and would like them included in future Pew Sheets, please let us have the details on llm.chearsley@btinternet.com Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield