



St Michael's Church, Alnwick

Vicar: The Rev'd Paul Scott

Curate: The Rev'd Julia Myles

Parish website: www.alnwickanglican.com

4th January 2015 The Epiphany of our Lord

A very warm welcome to St Michael's. If you are a visitor, and receive Communion at your own church, you are invited to do so here.

Large print books and a loop system are available

This leaflet gives details of readings, services and other events in the near future – please take it home with you to read and then use as a reference for the coming days.

TODAY'S READINGS

1ST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

(Page 700 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)

In Isaiah's vision of God's light shining into the world's darkness, symbolic gifts are brought to God from East and West as tribute and praise. So our Gospel's Magi visitors to the stable are foreshadowed.

2ND READING

Ephesians 3:1-12 (at 8 am only)

(Page 190 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)

Riches beyond imagining, says Paul, are found in Christ. Although Paul is in prison for his faith, his gospel cannot be confined – it is good news that God's purposes, once so obscure, are now made clear for Jew and Gentile alike.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

(Page 1 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)

Only Matthew tells us how representatives of other strange religions came from the East to offer their homage to the one and only true God, the child who is king for ever over all earthly powers.

8.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION
President	The Rev'd Julia Myles
Preacher:	The Rev'd Paul Scott
Reader:	Holly Petrie

9.30 am FIRST SUNDAY EUCHARIST

(with children and young people in church)

President & Preacher: The Rev'd Paul Scott

Reader Emma Coulson

Prayers Jean Darby

The hymns for this morning are printed in the special First Sunday Order of Service for Epiphany

4.00 PM TODAY in the Cathedral – prayers for the next Bishop of Newcastle; Julia will be attending and will have seats in her car.

6.00 pm SUNG EVENSONG *(According to the Book of Common Prayer 1662)*

Readings:	Isaiah 60:1-9	<i>(p. 700 of the Old Testament in the pew bible)</i>
	John 2:1-11	<i>(p. 89 of the New Testament in the pew bible)</i>
Reader:	Vivienne Graves	
Office:	The Rev'd Paul Scott	
Preacher:	The Rev'd Canon Dennis Winter	
Hymns	49	O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
Psalm	98	<i>(Page 471 of the small prayer book)</i>
	53	Songs of thankfulness and praise <i>Omit verse 4</i>
	48	Earth has many a noble city
	54	Thou whom shepherds worshipped

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...

That we may all bring our gifts to Christ

That 2015 may be a year of peace and reconciliation

St Michael's First School and the visit of the Lizards class to church on Wednesday

All whose lives have ended prematurely or violently

Alnwick Food Bank

WORSHIP AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tues 6th 11.00 am Funeral of Nell Kemp

Wed 7th 10.15 am **Holy Communion with the Lizards from St Michael's First School**

12 noon Soup & cake lunch in the Parish Hall

1.30 pm Funeral of Marion Mole

Thurs 8th 9.15 am Mini Michaels in church

12.15 pm Funeral of Susan Guthrey

7.00 pm Baptism Preparation meeting in church



Morning Prayer is usually said in church at 8.30 am and Evening Prayer at 5.00 pm Monday to Friday except for Wednesday morning.

You will be most welcome to join us for these times of prayer and bible reading.

Please note that the Vicar's day off is Friday and the Curate's is Monday

They would be pleased to be spared all but the most urgent matters on these days.

Next Sunday: 11th January The Baptism of Christ

8.00 am	Holy Communion	Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11	(CW 418) (CW 419) (CW 420)
9.30 am	Parish Eucharist		
11.15 am	Late Morning Worship		
11.15 am	Matins at Denwick		
6.00 pm	Sung Evensong, BCP 1662	Isaiah 42:1-6; Ephesians 2:1-10	

OUR NEXT BISHOP

Thank you to all who completed the on-line questionnaire – there were over 700 responses. There is to be an important public meeting on the evening of **Wednesday 14th January**, at the Falcons Rugby Club, Kingston Park. Please do consider attending this meeting; it is important that there is a good attendance when the Appointments Secretaries of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Prime Minister will be present to hear views and answer questions.

We hope it will be possible to arrange transport.

If you are interested please speak to the Vicar or Richard Allsop TODAY



Prayer for a new bishop of Newcastle

Gracious God,

We thank you for our Diocese of Newcastle:

for its thriving city, busy towns and bustling villages;

for the lush countryside, flowing rivers and rugged coast;

for its rich heritage and for its passionate people

who are creative and resilient, often plain speaking, sometimes wayward but always canny.

Now we ask you to raise up for us a new Bishop: one who will come among us, like Aidan, our father in the faith, as a wise and gentle leader, able to listen but also to challenge, ready to learn as well as to teach; a friend of yours who will quickly become our friend too.

Give us above all someone who will work tirelessly alongside us to proclaim afresh in our time and place the Good News of your overflowing love for everyone in Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

Thanks to Melanie and all her helpers who provided us with such a wonderful **CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA** last Sunday. It was hugely enjoyed by all who were there.

The **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** begins on 18th January with an Ecumenical Songs of Praise, 6.00 pm at St Michael's. The week continues with a short service of prayers, readings and hymns at the following venues:

Mon. 19th 6.15 Baptist Church; Tues. 20th 6.15 St James' URC; Wed. 21st 6.15 St Michaels
Thurs. 22nd 11.15 am Methodist Church Fri. 23rd 6.15 pm St Pauls
Sun 25th 6.00 pm St James, Shilbottle

PARISH HALL PRIZE DRAW 2015 – A 'sign-up' list and Membership Application forms are at the back of church. Please add your name as soon as possible (**today preferably**) to join and be in with the chance to win one of the monthly cash prizes. (£20, £10, £5)

Great, Just Great ! During the four Sundays in Advent we have raised the fabulous sum of £180.41p – thank you so much everyone. This is enough to twin 3 of our lovely loos with 3 very nice netties where they will be appreciated more than we can ever imagine.
Watch out for more news.

BACK TO BASICS: THE SEQUEL! The first six sessions had us discussing such as the creed, suffering, the deity of Christ, the Holy Spirit and being a Christian. We were able to be honest about our questions and take further steps in our understanding and faith. By request two more evenings and a Quiet Day have been arranged to continue similar discussion and dips into scripture. Others are most welcome to join us. These are Thurs 29th Jan & Thurs 12th Feb 7.15-9pm and in between these evenings, on Fri Feb 6th 10.00-4.00, a quiet day at Shepherd's Dene. Cost £15 to include lunch, some led time and some free time. Lifts can probably be arranged, leaving at 9.00am. It would be good if you can commit to all three.
Do let Julia or the Office know if you are interested.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN ALNWICK invite you to an evening of dessert with David Bryan (Biblical Studies Tutor at Lindisfarne Regional Training Partnership) as part of their AGM on **Thurs Feb 5th at 7pm at St Michael's Parish Hall**. David will speak on the topic of his book 'Jesus, his Home, his Journey, his Challenge' and the formal business of the AGM will be kept to a minimum.

People should email Julia to secure a place on juliamyles@btinternet.com

FUTURE DIARY DATES – MAKE A NOTE OF THEM NOW

Tues 13th	7.30pm	PCC meeting in Small Hall
Wed 14 th	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union in church Evening meeting at the Falcons Rugby Club, Kingston Park
Sun 18 th	12.15 pm	Sunday Lunch in the Parish Hall
Sat 24th		Burns Supper in Parish Hall <i>time t.b.c.</i>