



St Michael's Church, Alnwick

Vicar: The Rev'd Paul Scott
Curate: The Rev'd Julia Myles

**5th January 2014 The Epiphany of Our Lord
Happy New Year!**

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 Old 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 8.00 am only**

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

Riches beyond imagining, says Paul, are found in Christ. Though he is in prison for his faith, his gospel cannot be confined – the 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 and Preacher	The Rev'd Paul Scott
Reader	Hilary Atkin

9.30 am **FIRST SUNDAY EUCHARIST**

(with children and young people in church)

President The Rev'd Paul Scott

Reader Georgina Lance

Prayers Margaret Onions

Hymns for this service are in the blue leaflet- please make sure you have a copy

At the placing of the Kings in the Crib with their gifts

(At the offering of gold)

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As gold in the furnace is tried
and purified seven times in the fire,
so purify our hearts and minds
that we may be a royal priesthood
acceptable in the service of your kingdom.

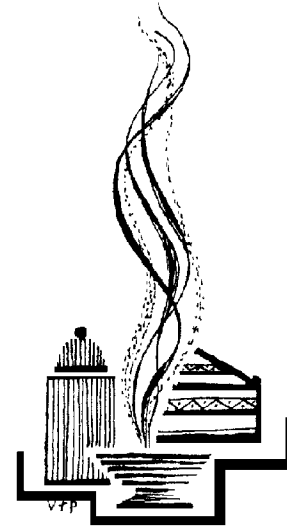
Blessed be God for ever.

(At the offering of incense)

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As our prayer rises up before you as incense,
so may we be presented before you
with penitent hearts and uplifted hands
to offer ourselves in your priestly service.

Blessed be God for ever.



(At the offering of myrrh)

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As you give medicine to heal our sickness
and the leaves of the tree of life
for the healing of the nations,
so anoint us with your healing power
that we may be the first-fruits of your new creation.

Blessed be God for ever.

11.15 am LATE MORNING WORSHIP *Light For All*

Leader & Address The Rev'd Canon Sue Allen

6.00 pm	SUNG EVENSONG (<i>According to the Book of Common Prayer 1662</i>)	
Readings:	Isaiah 60:1-9	(p. 693 of the Old Testament in the pew bible)
	John 2:1-11	(p. 26 of the New Testament in the pew bible)
Reader:	Merryn Hughes	
Office & Preacher	The Rev'd Canon Alan Craig	
Hymns	48	Earth has many a noble city
	Psalm 98	(Page 471 of the small prayer book)
	49	O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
	53	Songs of thankfulness and praise <i>Omit verse 4</i>
	52	The people that in darkness sat <i>Omit verses 2&3</i>

Morning Prayer is usually said in church at 8.30 am and Evening Prayer at 5.00 pm, from Tuesday to Saturday, except for Wednesday morning. You will be most welcome to join us for these times of prayer and bible reading.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...
 That our gifts to Jesus may be the pursuit of love, joy and peace
 That peace and justice may prevail in 2014
 Gavin Johnston – as he begins his new role as Headteacher of our school
 Our Church Stewards as we give thanks for their commitment to St. Michael's
 All who have been bereaved over the Christmas season

*Please note that the Vicar's day off is Monday
 He would be pleased to be spared all but the most urgent matters on this day.
 The Curate's normal working days are Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday*

WORSHIP AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Tues 7th 10.00 am Funeral of George Scott
- Wed 8th 10.15 am **Holy Communion**
 2.00 pm Mothers' Union in church: *Sue Simpson – The Alnwick Garden*
- Thurs 9th 7.00 pm Baptism Preparation meeting in Parish Room
- Sat 11th 12.15 **'Stewards' Soup & Roll Lunch in the Parish Hall**
 This is to say 'thank you' to all who have acted as Church Stewards in 2013 and also to invite them to continue during 2014, together with anyone who would like to help with stewarding but hasn't already taken part. If you haven't already done so, please contact Eve Jarvis or

Margaret Onions (preferably TODAY) to let them know that you will be there.

Next Sunday: 12th January. The Baptism of Christ

8.00 am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 42:1-9 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	(CW 43) (CW 44) (CW 44)
9.30 am	Parish Eucharist		
11.15 am	Late Morning Worship		
11.15 am	Mattins at Denwick		
6.00 pm	Sung Evensong (BCP, 1662).	Joshua 3:1-8, 14-end; Hebrews 1:1-12	

Bishop Martin will be at St. Michael's to administer the **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** on Sunday 16th March, 2014 at 9.30am. If you are interested in being confirmed, please speak to one of the clergy. Preparations will begin in the near future but it would be helpful to have some idea of 'interested parties' before then.

Many thanks
Paul.

Application forms for membership of the **PARISH HALL PRIZE DRAW** are available today at the back of church. Membership costs £20 a year; the draw takes place once a month and there are three cash prizes: £20, £10 and £5. If you wish to take part, please add your name to the list and take an Application Form to complete and return to Geoff Brown, together with your payment, as soon as possible. Please note that there will be two draws at the end of this month (one for January and one for February).

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." *Minnie Louise Haskins*

GIFT AID AND PLANNED GIVING

We are very fortunate here at St Michael's that many of our regular members support our work by Planned Giving, and that many contributions from taxpayers are Gift-Aided so that we receive an extra 25p from the exchequer for every £1 given. For our visitors, there are Gift-Aid envelopes in the pews. Regular members who wish to begin Planned Giving are welcome to ask the Churchwardens or the Clergy about it.

The Parish of St Michael & St Paul is a Registered Charity, No. 1131297