

S. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 2019

From the Priest in Charge

Dear Friends,

We come to the beginning of a New Year, but it was not always 1st January. For over a millennium, *the Feast of the Annunciation*, celebrated on 25th March, marked the beginning of a new calendar year. It was a way of marking time according to the Incarnate Life of Jesus Christ.

Mary's Annunciation marks the conception of Christ in her womb, the beginning in time of God's redemption of our humanity. Nine months later, in the fullness of her time comes the fullness of time itself, of God entering into time, namely in the Nativity of Jesus Christ, *which we also call Christmas*.

There are many ways of marking time, many different calendars even within the cultures of the West. There was the shift from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar introduced by the papal decree of Pope Gregory XIII in 1582. It became the European standard, although it wasn't until 1752 that England finally agreed to follow it. (And it was not until 1880, that the coming of the railways and their *timetables* required a common time zone to be established across the entire country).

The Gregorian calendar was a more accurate solar-based calendar than the Julian, which over a millennium and a half had become about ten days out of sequence with the movement of the sun. This new secular year gives us pause to think about the relation between time and eternity. Out of the darkness of Mary's womb, out of the darkness of nature, out of the greater darkness of our darkened world comes the great light of God's Word and Son and Light, Jesus Christ, who comes to bring us joy, hope, healing and redemption.

It belongs to the fullness of our Christmas and Epiphany gatherings that we ponder and think upon the riches of God's Son

coming to us. We have to think it in order to enter into its meaning for us.

In 2019, let one of our resolutions be, not so much to give up our little indulgences, but to resolve to give over more time to that which we have been given to see and know, so that we may come to enter that state where time has no meaning at all, which is not *nothing*, but rather that which we call Eternity.

May this New Year be a blessed one for you in the knowledge and light of Jesus Christ. Stephen.

NOTICES

Epiphany Carol Service – 13th January at 11 a.m. Our Epiphany Carol service will be on Sunday 13th January at 11 a.m. Please do come and enjoy this traditional service of readings and congregational and choir carols as we celebrate Epiphanytide.

Appointment of Director of Music – We welcome **Adam McDonagh** as Director of Music from this month. **His first Sunday in the rôle will be 13th January for the Epiphany Carol Service. He asks to meet singers for this service in church at 9.45 a.m. that day for a rehearsal beforehand.** Please do come along – no prior experience necessary – just an enthusiasm for singing and a willingness to learn.

Adam is from Dublin and latterly has been based at Queens' where he has gained an M.Phil. in Music Studies and is the Administrator for their Choir. Adam will write to introduce himself more fully in next month's Newsletter.

Electoral Roll. Every six years, the Electoral Roll (the Church's register of electors) needs to be completely updated. This is to take place in early 2019 and must be completed before the APCM for individuals to be able to vote at that meeting. Our Electoral Roll Officer, Mrs. Elaine Durham, will be in touch with members of the congregation directly about this. Essentially, the requirements are to be a member of the Church of England and either resident in the parish or to have habitually attended

public worship at St Botolph's during the six months prior to the formation of the new roll.

Advance Dates

APCM – Sunday 17th March. Our annual meetings to hear reports on various aspects of our common life together and elect the churchwardens and PCC will be held after the Sung Eucharist on 17th March (the Second Sunday in Lent). Please make a note of the date in your diary now.

Quiet Day for Lent – Saturday 23rd March: 11 a.m.—4 p.m. Fr Peter Huckle SSJE will lead a Quiet Day for Lent for us based on the theme *Who do you say that I am? (St Matthew 16 – St Peter's confession at Caesarea Philippi)*. All welcome, whether regular or new to St Botolph's. Further details nearer the time.

Old Wine – Monday 10th June: 5.30 p.m.—9.30 p.m. This event, arranged in conjunction with the Prayer Book Society, is to promote the better understanding and greater usage of the Prayer Book.

Old Wine takes its name from the text St Luke 5.39, which states: *"No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better."*

It will comprise a mixture of worship and panel presentations and discussion of various aspects of Using the Prayer Book. The event is aimed primarily at ordinands, but is also open to others, both clergy and laity, who are interested in the subject matter.

Chaired by Bishop Rowan Williams, the speakers include our own Andrew Morris, our Rural Dean, Fr Rob Mackley, and a former ordinand well known to us, Revd Fergus Butler-Gallie.

We are to provide a Supper for all delegates and a call for volunteers to assist in the preparation and clearing away of the Supper will be made nearer the time. Members of the Development Action Planning Group are overseeing the arrangements.

The purpose of arranging this event is to raise the profile of St Botolph's locally and its usage of the Prayer Book for worship.

Patronal Festival – Sunday 23rd June. Our Patronal Festival, St Botolph's Day on 17th June, would normally be celebrated on the nearest Sunday, which is 16th June. However, this year, this is the date which the Church keeps as Trinity Sunday. As a Feast of God, this takes precedence over commemorating St Botolph, which is transferred instead to the following Sunday. Our preacher will be the Revd Canon Andrew Greany, currently Chantry Priest at the Anglican Shrine at Walsingham and sometime our Rural Dean and Vicar of Little St Mary's, Cambridge.
Stephen.

Parochial Church Council: Thursday 7th February at 8 p.m.

Items for the February Newsletter by Tues. 29th January, please. K.H.

CALENDAR

EPIPHANY Sunday 6th January 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Procession & Sung Eucharist
Preacher: The Priest-in-charge
Epistle, Mr Hodson; Refreshments, Horbury
Voluntary: Prelude & Fugue in C—J.S. Bach
4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 9th January Holy Communion 10.30 a.m.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Sunday 13th
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Epiphany Carol Service
Voluntary: Toccata e Canzona in D minor—Frescobaldi
12.15 p.m. Holy Communion
4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 16th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Sunday 20th
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist
Epistle, Mrs. Durham; Intercession, Mr Hodson

Voluntary: Toccata & Fugue in D minor (*The Dorian*)—J.S. Bach
4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 23rd 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Sunday 27th

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

11.00 a.m. Mattins

1. Isaiah 45.18-end, Mrs. Irvine; 2. Ephesians 2.11-end, Mrs. Eastwood

Preacher: The Reverend Dr Jonathan Holmes

Voluntary: Prelude on a theme of Orlando Gibbons (Song 22)—C.V.
Stanford

12 noon Holy Communion

4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 30th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

**PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE / PURIFICATION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (CANDLEMAS) (transferred)**

Sunday 3rd February 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Epistle (Gal. 4.1-11), Mr Barker; Refreshments, Barker

4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 6th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

S. Botolph's Cambridge Website: <https://www.stbotolphcam.org>

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