



www.christchurchportsdown.org



www.stjohnspurbrook.org.uk

Sunday 3rd January 2021 (Epiphany)

Due to the high levels of Coronavirus (Covid-19) infection in our area, all attended church services and meetings are currently suspended. Some opportunities for worship are listed below.

10:30 Morning Worship (online)

Today's service will be streamed live on the Christ Church Facebook page: ***facebook.com/ChristChurchPortsdown*** and on the Christ Church Portsdown YouTube channel. All the readings and the collect for today are at the bottom of this sheet. The reading from Matthew's Gospel will be included in the service.

You may also like to watch:

- Sunday Worship on BBC1 (Sunday 10.00am).
- Songs of Praise on BBC1 (Sunday 1.15pm).
- Several other churches are also streaming services, which can be watched online at any time during the week.
- Our services from previous weeks are available to watch on the Christ Church YouTube channel or via achurchnearyou.com.

Taking part: If you would like to contribute a reading or prayers to one of our online services (and are able to record your contribution) then please get in touch with Andy.

DAILY HOPE PHONE LINE

The Church of England's free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers is still available 24 hours a day at no charge on 0800 804 8044.



Sunday 10th January 2021 (Baptism of Christ)

10:30 Morning Worship (online)

We are sorry to report that **Brenda Hemmens**, former member of Christ Church, died earlier this week.

Thank you to members of St John's who donated Christmas gifts for The Grange. They were greatly appreciated – we received a thank you letter on Christmas Day!

Thank you to all who donated to Children's Society following the Christ Church Children's Zoom Christingle and the online sermon from Ian Coombs. £253 was given.

GIVING

Both of our churches have experienced reduced income from cancelled hall bookings and the lack of collections at services. If you usually give in the plate (cash or envelopes), please do consider switching to Direct Debit or online payment.

The best way to do this is via the Parish Giving Scheme, which can now be done online or by telephone

You can register online at **register.parishgiving.org.uk** or by calling **0333 002 1271**

To register you will need the following details:

For Christ Church:

Parish: Portsdown Christ Church
Diocese: Portsmouth
PGS Parish Code: 290629068

For St John's:

Parish: St John the Baptist
Village: Purbrook
Diocese: Portsmouth
PGS Parish Code: 290629070

You will also need your own bank details.

CONTACTS

Vicar	Revd Andy Wilson (day off Monday) vicar@christchurchportsdown.org purbrookvicar@gmail.com
Associate Minister	Revd Laura Cameron revdlauracameron@gmail.com
Curate	Revd Matt Grove (day off Friday) matt.grove@christchurchportsdown.org
Churchwarden SJP	Bill Jeffery purbrookchurch@gmail.com
Churchwarden CCP	Stephen Anderson stephen.anderson@christchurchportsdown.org
Churchwarden CCP	Karina Golledge thegolledges@btinternet.com
Administrator	Emma Evans parish.office@christchurchportsdown.org
Hall Manager CCP	Jacqui Wilson hall.manager@christchurchportsdown.org
Website	Matt Doe webmaster@christchurchportsdown.org

A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR TO ALL

Sunday 3 January 2021

Epiphany

Collect

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Isaiah 60:1–6

¹ Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ² For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³ Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Psalms 72: 10–15

¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts. ¹¹ All kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall do him service. ¹² For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, the needy and those who have no helper. ¹³ He shall have pity on the weak and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy. ¹⁴ He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight. ¹⁵ Long may he live; unto him may be given gold from Sheba; may prayer be made for him continually and may they bless him all the day long.

Ephesians 3:1–12

³ This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working

of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2:1–12

² In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." ' ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Post Communion

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.