**News from the Pews**

Second Sunday of Epiphany

**Sunday 17th January, 2021**

The Parish of Berkswich is a Registered Charity, number 1129997 - [www.berkswich.org.uk](http://www.berkswich.org.uk)

**Key Contacts…**

**Fr. Graham Adamson** *- Vicar* **01785 251057** [graham.adamson@berkswich.org.uk](mailto:graham.adamson@berkswich.org.uk)

**The Revd. Joy Bishop** *– Associate Priest* **01785 253111** [joy.bishop@berkswich.org.uk](mailto:joy.bishop@berkswich.org.uk)

**The Revd. David Clark –** *Curate* **07999 596590**[david.clark@berkswich.org.uk](mailto:david.clark@berkswich.org.uk)

**Patrick Park** *– Warden* **01785 253111** [wardenpatrick@berkswich.org.uk](mailto:wardenpatrick@berkswich.org.uk)

**Christine Gilson** *– Warden* **01785 253111** [wardenchristine@berkswich.org.uk](mailto:wardenchristine@berkswich.org.uk)

**Mary Moss –** *Safeguarding Officer* [safeguarding@berkswich.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@berkswich.org.uk)

***Fr Graham’s usual day off is Monday***

***The Parish Office is situated behind Holy Trinity Church and is closed at the current time***

*Please send all items for next week’s News from the Pews to Sue on* [*hatton.sue@uwclub.net*](mailto:hatton.sue@uwclub.net) *(or 661767) by the end of Wednesday*

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**HT** = Holy Trinity Church

**ST** = St Thomas’s Church **AS** = All Saints Church

**V** = Vicarage **CH** = Community Hall

**Sunday 17th January – Second Sunday of Epiphany**

1030 Holy Eucharist with Hymns (HT and online)

1830 Online Candle-lit vigil plus Evening Prayer

**Monday 18th January**

**Tuesday 19th January**

1000-1200 Online drop-in coffee morning

**Wednesday 20th January**

1400 Online Trinity Ark members group

Chat, song and story

2000 Online service of prayers from the Week of prayers for Christian Unity

**Thursday 21st January**

1000-1200 Online drop-in coffee morning

1930 Online Pilgrim Group

**Friday 22nd January**

**Saturday 24th January**

**Sunday 24th January – The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

1030 Holy Eucharist with Hymns (HT and online)

1830 Love Stafford Online Prayer Service (online through the Love Stafford Youtube Page and shared via Zoom on the usual code.

**Daily Bible Readings**

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| **Monday** | Psalm 71  Genesis 6.11-7.10  Matthew 24.1-14 |
| **Tuesday** | Psalms 89.1-37  Genesis 7.11-end  Matthew 24.15-28 |
| **Wed** | Psalms 97, 98  Genesis 8.1-14  Matthew 24.29-end |
| **Thursday** | Psalms 99, 100, 111  Genesis 8.15-9.7  Matthew 25.1-13 |
| **Friday** | Psalm 73  Genesis 9.8-19  Matthew 25.14-30 |
| **Saturday** | Psalms 61, 66  Genesis 11.1-9  Matthew 25.31-end |

**Welcome!**

**Welcome to you all** as we continue to try and meet at this unusual time in the history of our nation and world. We hope that you will join with us in prayer and worship via Zoom, Facebook or YouTube (details <http://www.berkswich.org.uk/coronavirus.html>)

**Sign up** for our weekly email newsletter, or see older issues here <https://us17.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=5991be44ea1b9738d6262c1e2&id=a28b74cdbd>

**If you wish** to make a donation towards the life and work of the Parish, there is an opportunity to do so during the service. Please consider joining the Giving Direct scheme (<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/finance/financegiftaid/financegivingdirect/> ) or make a one-off donation via JustGiving (<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/berkswichparish>)

**You can follow us on Facebook! To sign up for our weekly email newsletter, please email Fr Graham (**[**graham.adamson@berkswich.org.uk**](mailto:graham.adamson@berkswich.org.uk)**)**

**Points for Prayer**

**This is the week of prayer for Christian Unity and the prayers below are all taken from the resources produced for this week**.

**For the world**...Thrice-holy God, we thank you for having created and loved us.

We thank you for your presence in us and in creation.

May we learn to look upon the world as you look upon it, with love.

In the hope of this vision, may we be able to work for a world where justice and peace flourish,

for the glory of your name.

**For the church**... Holy Spirit,

vivifying fire and gentle breath, come and abide in us.

Renew in us the passion for unity

so that we may live in awareness of the bond that unites us in you.

May all who have put on Christ at their Baptism, unite and bear witness together to the hope that sustains them.

**For our community**... Jesus Christ,

we desire to welcome fully the brothers and sisters who are with us.

You know how often we feel helpless in the face of their suffering,

yet you are always there ahead of us

and you have already received them in your compassion.

Speak to them through our words, support them through our actions,

and let your blessing rest on us all.

**For those who suffer in body, mind or spirit**:

Brenda, John, Janet, Melanie, Margaret, Fred, Barbara, Jane, Sally, Wendy, Jim, Ann, Chloe, Heidi, Vicky, Noah, Mark, Joy, Fr. Samuel-Bruno, Claire, Jim

**….for the recently departed:** Sylvia Smith;

Patricia Milan; Lorna Findon; Sylvia Skelsey; Gillian Hunt; Janet Barber

+ May they rest in peace and rise in glory

**News & Events**

**Prayer requests** - please send to david.clark@berkswich.org.uk or call 07999 596590

**Continuing with Finance and Stewardship** - Those of you who currently support us through planned giving envelopes or cash on the collection plates may wish to consider giving through the Giving Direct, Direct Debit Scheme , through Standing Order (speak to Julie Morrison, our Gift Aid Officer) or through our newly launched JustGiving page – [www.justgiving.com/berkswichparish](http://www.justgiving.com/berkswichparish)

**New Year Coffee Morning – Saturday 16th January –** Thank you to all who joined us yesterday for a very pleasant morning’s entertainment. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

**New Year Raffle/ Draw** **in aid of the Parish of Berkswich -** To be drawn at an online coffee morning on Saturday, 13th February 2021.Prizes include £100.00 cash, Handmade quilt worth £90, a round of golf for 4 at Brocton Hall, store vouchers and several bottles of alcohol, chocolates and other goodies.

As this raffle/Draw is online we are **not selling printed tickets**. This is how it will work: each number costs £1. Numbers may be bought from today and at any time leading up to the coffee morning, including at the coffee morning. Mary will allocate numbers. If you need/wish to know which numbers you are allocated with, please e-mail Mary. Father Graham will use a random number generator, to draw the numbers, at the coffee morning in February.

*Please try and sell numbers to friends, neighbours and family, and send Mary their name and how many numbers bought.* All contact for them will be via you, the seller.

How to pay: either by cash, cheque payable to Berkswich PCC, direct debit, or www.justgiving.com/berkswichparish

mosscmary@yahoo.co.uk

07854 531619 or landline 01785 249390

Fr Graham also has access to the number allocations.

Promoter Mary Moss

**Carol Services –** The Nine Carols and Readings over Christmas, and the Carol Service broadcast on Stafford FM radio, are still available to watch on our Facebook page or on YouTube at https://youtu.be/DmKcwE\_tOJ0

and http://www.stafford.fm/listen-again/

A DVD or CD of the Parish carol service is available – please email Fr Graham if you or someone you know would like one.

**DVDs of services** – we are going to experiment with a new way to provide access to our services for those of us who are unable to access through the internet or telephones. After the first Sunday of every month, we will attempt to distribute a DVD of services for that coming month. The DVD will contain a recording of the 1st Sunday morning Eucharist and Evening prayer, plus shorter services (including a brief reflection on the gospel reading) for the remaining Sundays of that month. If you know of anyone who may appreciate this, can you please email Fr Graham and let him know? Resources are limited, so while we try work out teething problems, please for the time being can we limit to those of us who cannot access our worship via phone or computer.

**Three Decker** – the January issue of our Parish Magazine is now available on our website at [https://www.berkswich.org.uk/three-decker magazine.html](https://www.berkswich.org.uk/three-decker%20magazine.html)

**News from the Diocese** – it has announced that Bishop-designate Matthew will not be consecrated on the 28th January. In order for him to be able to exercise some form of ministry until the consecration can be rescheduled, he will instead be licensed as Episcopal Vicar for the Stafford area. Please hold him and Sarah, his wife, in your prayers at what must be an unsettling time.