

## Notices

**Gateway** - A reminder that any items for inclusion in the January/February edition of Gateway must be with the editor by tomorrow (Monday 5th January). The printed version should be available next Sunday, 11th January. (N.B. The January and February editions are being replaced with a combined edition - there will be no separate February edition).

**Christmas gratitude** - To all those who've given time and effort to helping support our celebrations of Christmas here at St Michael and All Angels. It is all sincerely appreciated. The 'long' Christmas season continues until the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas) at the beginning of February.

**'Rest and reset'** - This bi-monthly service of Christian meditation takes place this week on Tuesday 6th January at 6.15pm at St James' Arside. A good and welcome opportunity to spend time in prayer, silence, reflection and contemplation as we begin a new year.

**Parish Coffee Morning** - The first Parish Coffee Morning of the year takes place on Tuesday (6th February). Do come along if you are able, and bring a friend (or two), too.

**New School Term** - We pray for all those returning to school, college or university over the coming days, remembering especially our school here in Beetham, and across the wider Kent Estuary, asking for God's blessing on the weeks of the spring term.

**Update from KEMC Working Group** - We continue to pray for this important process as we think about the future and how we might continue to be a sustainable, lively and active Christian presence across the villages of the Kent Estuary. There will be another KEMC Open Meeting on Wednesday 28th January at 7.00pm in Arside Methodist Church, where we'll all have opportunity to hear back from the Working Group after their discussions and deliberations over recent weeks.

**Aluminium Recycling** - We appreciate your continued support for our building appeal to repair the church. You can help by recycling clean aluminium drink cans, all tin foil, and blister packs. To check if an item is made of aluminium, test it with a magnet—if it doesn't stick, it's aluminium. Please place your items in the wheelie bin behind the church or leave them in a back pew. For larger donations, contact Deborah 07899702476. Thank you.

**Foundation Governors** - With the beginning of a new calendar year, if you might be interested (or know of someone else) in supporting the life of the church, and of our school through serving on the Governing Body as a Foundation Governor, please have a word with Andrew. There are currently two vacancies that we would, ideally, like to fill as soon as we are able.

**Church website:** [www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk](http://www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk)  
**KEMC website:** [www.kentestuarymissioncommunity.com](http://www.kentestuarymissioncommunity.com)

**Contact Details for the Pewsheets:** Brian Smalley.  
[b.e.smalley@btinternet.com](mailto:b.e.smalley@btinternet.com); 07967927912



## THE CHURCH OF BEETHAM ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS



Sunday 4th January 2026  
*The Epiphany of the Lord*

**This morning** - We gather on the first Sunday of a new (calendar) year as we celebrate the feast of The Epiphany, that day when we record the visit of the Magi to the Christ-child at Bethlehem, bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. At Epiphany we marvel, once more, in the good news of God manifested to all the peoples and nations of the world, and pray that with the Magi we too may bring our worship to Jesus the Saviour and King of the world; asking for grace that we may share his love and grace with others in our lives of faith and witness.

### THIS WEEK'S SERVICES & EVENTS

Sun	4th	The Epiphany of our Lord	9.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Choir Practice Parish Eucharist Evensong
Mon	5th	Twelfth Night		
Tue	6th	The Epiphany	10.30 am 6.15 pm	Parish Coffee Morning 'Rest and Reset' (service of Christian meditation) -St James', Arside
Wed	7th	Start of Spring Term at Beetham CE School	10.30 am 2.45 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Collective Worship - Beetham CE School
Thu	8th		5.30 pm	Tower Bell practice <i>tbc</i>
Fri	9th			
Sat	10th		10.30 am	Community Band <i>tbc</i>
Sun	11th	Epiphany 1 The Baptism of Christ Plough Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Choir Practice Parish Eucharist Evensong

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Andrew Skinner, whose contact details are: [beethamsafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:beethamsafeguarding@gmail.com) and 07362 593076.



## The Epiphany of the Lord

**Eucharist Readings:** Isaiah 60, v. 1 - 6 (Pg. 700 in the Pew Bible, O.T.); Ephesians 3, v. 1 - 12 (Pg. 190 in the Pew Bible, N.T.)

**Gospel:** Matthew 2, v. 1 – 12 (Pg. 1 in the Pew Bible, N.T.)

**Hymns:** **101** (In our darkness light has shone); **96** (Brightest and best); **98** (From the eastern mountains); **100** (How brightly gleams the morning star); **94** (As with gladness men of old)

**Organ Voluntary:** Tuba Tune in D major, *C S Lang*

**Evensong Readings:** Isaiah 62; John 2, v. 13 - 25

**Hymns:** **761** (Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore him); **768** (Put thou thy trust in God); **635** (For the healing of the nations)

**Psalm: 85, 87**

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

**Alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### Post Communion Prayer

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**

## For your Prayers

John Smith. Ann and Harry Parrott. Rosalie Woods. Shirley Grimshaw. Theresa Holden. Pat Barton. Phil Barber.

### R.I.P.

Luke Adams. Ray Hills. Neville Semark. Norma Morris. Frank Clarke.

<b><u>Rotas for Today</u></b>	
First Reading	John Montgomery
Second Reading	Helen Montgomery
Intercessions	Brian Smalley
Sidespeople/Offertory	Helen & John Montgomery
Refreshments	Dorothy & Andy MacLeod
Readers at Evensong	John Lomax

**A Prayer for the New Year** - God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose years never fail, and whose mercies are new each returning day: let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives, warming our hearts and giving light to our minds; that we may pass the coming year in joyful obedience and firm faith; through him who is the beginning and the end, your Son Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Epiphany Season** - Whilst it is commonplace to only think of the Epiphany as relating to the visit of the Magi, Christian tradition has long associated the season with two other 'manifestations' of God's presence in the life and ministry of Jesus. These are the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist in the river Jordan (where Jesus' identity as a Son of God is acknowledged and acclaimed) and the miracle of Cana (the site of the first miracle, where we are told that the disciples first 'believed' in Jesus). Together these make up a rich and meaningful time in the church's year, as we ask for help to discern and see God's presence in the world and in our lives today.

### Christmas Season 'Alleluia'

During the Christmas and Epiphany seasons we sing the 'Alleluias' either side of the Gospel Reading. A good way to acknowledge the joy and gladness with which we celebrate the Saviour's birth until the Feast of Candlemas at the beginning of February.

**Holy Communion** - Will be celebrated on Wednesday morning, at 10.30am, in the Lady Chapel.