



**St Andrew's Whittlesey, St Mary's Whittlesey,  
St Thomas' Pondersbridge and Holy Trinity Coates**

**Church of England Team Ministry:**

**[www.wpcteam.org.uk](http://www.wpcteam.org.uk)**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Feast of the Epiphany - White**

9.30 a.m. St Andrew's - Morning Service  
9.30 a.m. Holy Trinity - Holy Communion  
10.30 a.m. Queen Street - Annual Covenant Service and Holy Communion  
No services at St Mary's or St Thomas'

**Monday**

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer – St Mary's  
11.30 a.m. Funeral of Elsie Harding at Fenland Crematorium  
7.30 p.m. The Bellmans Road study group reconvenes and will start the Pilgrim Course, The Eucharist. The next meeting will be on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

**Tuesday**

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion – St Andrew's  
7.00 p.m. Friends of St Mary's Committee meeting at 76 Station Road.

**Wednesday**

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion - Holy Trinity

**Thursday**

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion – St Mary's  
1.30 p.m. Funeral of Stephen Gregory Laud ('Laudy') at St Mary's followed by Whittlesey cemetery.

**Friday**

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer - St Andrew's  
12 noon Midday Prayer - St Mary's

**Saturday – Straw Bear festival**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Second Sunday of Epiphany - White**

9.30 a.m. St Andrew's - Holy Communion  
9.30 a.m. Holy Trinity - Morning Service  
11.00 a.m. St Mary's - Holy Communion  
4.00 p.m. St Andrew's - Plough Service  
6.00 p.m. St Thomas' - Holy Communion

**Monday**

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer – St Mary's

**Tuesday**

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion – St Andrew's  
10.15 a.m. Funeral of Darren James Wisdom at St Andrew's followed by Fenland Crematorium  
12.30 p.m. Minister meeting at the Falcon Hotel

**Wednesday – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January.**

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion - Holy Trinity  
11.00 a.m. Funeral for Florence Victoria Watson at Eastwood cemetery in March  
1.30 p.m. Funeral for Hetty Enid Burgess at Fenland Crematorium

**Thursday**

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion – St Mary's  
11.30 a.m. Funeral of Enid Edna Patricia Exton at Fenland Crematorium

**Friday**

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer - St Andrew's  
12 noon Midday Prayer - St Mary's  
3.00 p.m. Funeral of Mary Pedley at Peterborough Crematorium

**Saturday**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Third Sunday of Epiphany - White**

9.15 a.m. St Andrew's - Morning Service  
9.30 a.m. Holy Trinity - Holy Communion  
11.00 a.m. St Mary's - Holy Communion

**St Thomas' afternoon indoor games afternoon**

**Hot refreshments available – All welcome anytime between 2.00 p.m. and 5 p.m.**

**Please remember in your prayers:**

All who are in residential homes, hospital or hospice & those known personally to us:

*Prayers are requested for* Benjamin Beaumont, Bill Walmsley,  
Tom Lewis, Terry Lutkin, Angela Cullup, Roger Mills, David Krol

*The families and friends of those who have recently died:*

Gordon Thomas Stimpson, Elsie Irene Harding, Stephen Gregory Laud ('Laudy'),

Darren James Wisdom, Florence Victoria Watson, Hetty Enid Burgess, Enid Edna Patricia Exton, Mary Pedley

**Anniversaries of Death: Week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> January**

**St Thomas'** 9<sup>th</sup> Ada Rose Lant

**Holy Trinity** 10<sup>th</sup> Harry Thompson, Charles Frederick Neal Bates,

Brian Lawrence Jackson, 14<sup>th</sup> Mabel Kisby, Douglas Claude Dickerson,

**St Andrew's** 9<sup>th</sup> Jean Evalyn Joyce

**Anniversaries of Death: Week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**St Thomas'** 21<sup>st</sup> Richard Alfred Miller

**Holy Trinity** 15<sup>th</sup> Thomas William (Bill) Harris, 16<sup>th</sup> Thomas Hall, 19<sup>th</sup> Connie Fletcher,  
21<sup>st</sup> William (Bill) Redhead

**St Andrew's** 15<sup>th</sup> Charles Alfred Chapman, 16<sup>th</sup> Olive Brooks, Brian Harding,

17<sup>th</sup> Charles Frederick Britton, 18<sup>th</sup> Bertha May Buckman, 21<sup>st</sup> Reginald Edmund Kefford,

Elaine Trickey

**St Mary's** 17<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Francis Long, 19<sup>th</sup> Kitty Alma Sharpe, 20<sup>th</sup> Clarence Victor Copeman

**Christmas Charities. Many thanks for your generosity**

St Andrew's. British Red Cross - £ 445.50. Friends of St Andrew's (Cracker raffle) - £ 140.

St Mary's Thera Trust in Whittlesey - £223.47

St Thomas' CLIC Sargent - £410.97

Details from Holy Trinity East Anglia Children's Hospice to follow

**The following is an extract from Roger's Christmas eve sermon. It struck a chord (pardon the pun) with so many that I thought it merited a wider audience. Many thanks Roger and John for all your sermons.**

***First Communion of Christmas 2016***

The Twelve Days of Christmas was used as a song of Christian instruction to help young Roman Catholics learn their faith in a secret because from the Reformation in 1588 until 1829 it was a criminal offence to be a practising Roman Catholic. So the words of the carol took on religious significance.

'My true love sent to me' runs throughout the carol – true love is the love God has for us in giving us his Son, so that everyone who believes in him....may have eternal life. [*John 3:16*]

True love was born on Christmas Day.

The partridge in a pear tree represents Jesus because a partridge is willing to sacrifice its life if necessary in order to protect its young by pretending to have an injury thereby making itself an easy target for an attacking creature. Jesus said; 'This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.' And he went on to say 'I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.'  
[*John 15: 12&16*].

The pear tree is a tree that bears fruit representing those words of Jesus.

'On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me a partridge in a pear tree.'

2 turtledoves refer to the Old and New Testament.

3 French hens represent faith, hope and love.

4 calling birds – the four gospels of Matthew, Mark Luke and John.

5 gold rings – the first five books of the Bible – the Pentateuch or the Books of Moses

6 geese a laying for the six days of creation

7 swans a swimming – for the seven **gifts** of the Holy Spirit (which are wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety and fear or wonder of the Lord).

8 maids a milking for the eight Beatitudes (that start with 'Blessed are the poor in spirit..')

9 ladies dancing for the nine **fruits** of the Holy Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control).

10 lords a leaping for the Ten Commandments.

11 pipers piping representing the eleven faithful apostles.

12 drummers drumming representing the twelve points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

So what you may have thought as a carol that's a bit of nonsense is rather a reminder in more than one way of God's grace working in our lives and in the world.