



**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 17 January 2021**

**Services 17 January 2021 2nd Sunday of Epiphany White Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

09.30am	Zoom	Morning Praise	1 Samuel 3:1-20
	St Andrew's	Cancelled	Psalms 139:1-5, 12-18
	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion	Revelation 5:1-10
11.00am	St Mary's	Cancelled	John 1:43-51
6.00pm	St Thomas'	Cancelled	

**Collect** Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Anniversaries 10-16 January 2021**

**St Andrew's:** Charles Alfred Chapman 15 Olive Brooks 16 Brian Harding 16

**St Thomas':**

**Holy Trinity:** Harry Thompson 10 Charles Frederick Neal Bates 10 Brian Lawrence Jackson 10 Mabel Kisby 14  
Douglas Claude Dickerson 14 Thomas William (Bill) Harris 15 Thomas Hall 16

**St Mary's:** Cyril Clifford Gutteridge 7 Ivan George Jackson 14

**Monday 18 January -Saturday 23 January 2021**

Monday	M P	Psalm 146	Amos 6	1 Corinthians 6:1-11
Tuesday	M P	Psalm 132	Amos 7	1 Corinthians 6:12-end
Wednesday	M P	Psalm 81	Amos 8	1 Corinthians 7:1-24
Thursday	M P	Psalm 76	Amos 9	1 Corinthians 7:25-end
Friday	M P	Psalm 27	Hosea 1:1-21	1 Corinthians 8
Saturday	M P	Psalm 122	Hosea 2:2-17	1 Corinthians 9:1-14

**Mid-week Communion Service** - 20 Wednesday 9.15am Holy Trinity

**Service s 24 January 2021 3rd Sunday of Epiphany White**

09.30am	Zoom	Morning Praise	Genesis 14:17-20
	St Andrew's	Cancelled	Psalms 128
09.30am	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion	Revelation 19:6-10
	St Mary's	Cancelled	John 2:1-11
	St Thomas'	Cancelled	

**Mid-week Communion Service** Wednesday 20 9.15am Holy Trinity

**A Prayer for the world**

God of love and hope, you made the world and care for all creation, but the world feels strange right now. The news is full of stories about Coronavirus. Some people are worried that they might get ill. Others are anxious for their family and friends. Be with them and help them to find peace. We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists, and all who are working to discover the right medicines to help those who are ill. Thank you that even in these anxious times, you are with us. Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe. Amen

**A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus for daily use.**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

**The Ely Prayer**

We praise and thank you, God of the journey, for all your gifts to us in the past. We look to you as fellow-traveller and faithful companion on the way ahead. Shelter and protect us from all harm and anxiety; give us grace to let go of all that holds us back; and grant us the courage to meet the new life you have promised us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Please remember in your prayers those who are in residential homes, hospital or hospice & those known personally to us including:**

Marie Rogers, Terry Randells, Emma Aindow-Gregory, Lizzie Monk, Joan Kefford, Cheryl Tyner, Judy Stewart, Richard Willows, Mavis Connor, Joyce Jackson, Mary Widgery, Toby Clark, Anne Howell Tony Barnett

**Let us remember in our prayers**

- all those working for the NHS and in research and the pharmaceutical industry
- all those who cannot work from home and have no choice but to be at risk of becoming infected and infectious
- those in severe economic need and those relying on foodbanks
- those struggling with their mental health in this third lockdown
- our friends in the Diocese of Kigali
- our friends in the Diocese of Vellore
- refugees living in unsanitary conditions
- the people of those countries who are a long way from obtaining vaccine
- all those with the responsibilities of leadership during this pandemic: locally, nationally and across the world.

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

**Janette King Barbara Richardson**

<b>Lena Keemar</b>	18 January Peterborough Crematorium 2.00pm
<b>Ronald Moore</b>	21 January St Mary's 1.15pm followed by cremation at Peterborough Crematorium 2.30pm
<b>Michael Munns</b>	25 January Holy Trinity 11.30am followed by cremation at Fenland Crematorium 2.30pm
<b>Frank Hallam</b>	26 January Graveside service at Whittlesey Cemetery 1.30pm
<b>Elsie Anker</b>	27 January Fenland Crematorium 12.30pm
<b>Leslie Holman</b>	27 January St Mary's 10.30 followed by burial at Whittlesey Cemetery 11.15am

**To support you with your daily prayer and contact with the wider church please make use of the following websites.**

**Church of England.** <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

**Prayer online.** <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

**Diocese of Ely.** <https://www.elydiocese.org/>

**Ely Cathedral.** <https://www.elycathedral.org/worship-at-home>

The diocesan prayer calendar can be found at

<https://www.elydiocese.org/growing-in-faith/prayer-calendar/>

## Ministry Team - Contacts

### ASSISTANT PARISH PRIEST

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### LICENSED LAY MINISTERS (READERS)

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If there is anything that we can do to help, listen, collect something, pray, that will help you through this time please be assured that we will do our very best, please use contacts above.

### Notices

After due consideration our four PCC's have decided to suspend worship in person at St Mary's & St Andrew's at Whittlesey and at St Thomas' Pondersbridge. Holy Trinity Coates have decided to continue with in person services at this time, but will review the position in a week.

If you do choose to attend a service at Coates, please do play your part in ensuring we are as Covid Secure as possible by observing the practice of refraining from chatting to each other and not standing too closely together across different households & making sure masks are worn covering nose and mouth. Please be understanding that our ministers have been advised not to greet people at the church door on leaving as it causes a bottleneck and encourages mingling and chatting.

During this lockdown we will of course persist with online worship on zoom on a Sunday morning and those of you on email will receive details of those services week by week. I will continue to seek to gather people during the week, and we have plans for an online lent course. We will also revisit the contact we are able to have with those of you unable to attend online and will review what else we may be able to do to sustain one another's shared and common prayer life as congregations during this time, regardless of whether we can gather together or not.

Be assured of our prayers for all of you during this time, as we all play our part in keeping not only one another safe, but also our wider communities. With Peace in Christ Jesus, Rev'd Phil.

**Additions to Newsletter** If you have anything that you would like to share with members of our congregations through the Newsletter, please send to Jane our editor. It may be something in the parish you would like everyone to know about or perhaps something more personal - things that have encouraged me, or places where I have seen God at work. We would love to hear from you.

**St Andrew's Church 100 Club** If you would like to join the St Andrew's Church 100 club for this year, please contact Ann and David Mason on 01733 208215 or by email on [annandave49@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:annandave49@yahoo.co.uk)

**Worship During Lockdown 3 – Update** Following the notice last week regarding the suspension of face to face worship in three of our churches, the latest, stronger Bishops advice reads as follows;

*Note that under the new restrictions, travel to church is allowed, however, people are advised to avoid travelling outside of their village, town or the part of a city where they live. This has particular relevance where there may be only one or two churches in a multi-parish benefice which are suitable for worship under stringent Covid conditions.*

We therefore strongly urge you during this lockdown period to not view the service at Coates as a benefice service, and if you normally worship at St Andrew's, St Mary's or St Thomas, please join our online service on zoom if possible. With thanks for your understanding **Rev'd Phil.**

**Expanding the ministry team** We are looking for willing volunteers to assist with the collation, development and production of the news sheet each week. It may be an individual or a team of people who could compile the newsletter for the benefice each week, collating notices from each of the churches, on behalf of the ministry team. If you are willing to be involved and would like to volunteer please speak to Jane Randell using the contact details below.  
[jane.randells@gmail.com](mailto:jane.randells@gmail.com)

## **Reflection on the readings for the Second Sunday of Epiphany**

In the readings for this Sunday there is a common theme best described as; **'Being Called to Serve.'**

In the first reading [*1 Samuel 3: 1-20*] the boy Samuel is called by God to take on great responsibility. It's a great well-known story at a time when 'the word of the Lord was rare' and 'visions were not widespread.' The old priest, Eli, was beginning to withdraw from his responsibilities but 'the lamp of God had not yet gone out.' But the young Samuel was relishing his new duties under Eli – the old giving way to the young. God's three-fold call to Samuel, so wonderfully told, made Eli realize that God was calling his replacement. The following morning Eli showed no resentment to God's eventual message to Samuel, accepting the consequences with such good example that it must have helped shape Samuel's future role.

Psalms 139 is a favourite of many. 'You have searched me out and know me... and are acquainted with all my ways.' Whatever shortcomings we may have, many of which we are conscious of, we can still respond to God's call because he has formed us to work in his service.

The Revelation to John is probably the most difficult book of the Bible to understand. At the beginning of Chapter 5, John sees a scroll in God's hand, so full that it is written on both sides. We are not told here, what its contents are, but it tells the story God's people will endure (and we are certainly enduring a lot at this present time) and the eventual final triumph of His kingdom. It needs an extraordinary person to break the seals of the scroll and John is told that the Lion of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, and can open the scroll. An image of conquest and power is what John hears but what he sees is the sacrificial Lamb. Victory comes through the self-sacrificing love Jesus took to the cross. Jesus' teaching, that we read of in the gospels, proclaims that love and forgiveness, sacrifice and service are the true values of the kingdom of God. The Church is called to be a living proof that the values of this world should be dominated by love and service. We are called to reflect the love and sacrifice of Jesus to those around us.

In the passage from John's Gospel [*John 1: 43-51*] Philip is called by Jesus to 'Follow me.' Being called to follow Jesus meant so much to Philip that he wanted to invite another (Nathaniel) into that relationship. In our calling, may we be guided to invite others into a relationship with Jesus. Nathaniel gave a bit of a grumpy response, 'Can any good come out of Nazareth?' That didn't dampen Philip's enthusiasm. 'Come and see.' There was some toing and froing in the conversation between Jesus and Nathaniel with Jesus breaking through Nathaniel's defences. Jesus points out to Nathaniel that he would reflect on this momentous meeting with him as he followed him with a deepening love, commitment and loyalty.

As we are called to serve our blessed Saviour may we do so with a similar depth of love, commitment and loyalty.

'Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you.' Amen.

Roger.