

When they saw that the star had stopped,
the Wise Men were overwhelmed with joy.



NEWS UPDATE—starting 4th January

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

SATURDAY 31st JANUARY — COFFEE MORNING

10:00 - 12:00 Coffee morning in the Church Hall. Prizes for raffle and donations of cakes will be most welcome. I hope to make Seville Orange Marmalade for my preserves stall and will be bring the jigsaws for exchange. Do come for a coffee and a chat

SUNDAY 1st FEBRUARY — 14:30

Piano Recital by Professor Graham Scott

Tickets £12 available from:

Elaine: 07969 511590 or

Wendy: 07828 282996

Sybil

Sybil Farmer, PCC Lay Chair
SS Peter & Paul's Church, Wem

We wish you all
a Very Happy New Year



Services in the Benefice

Sunday 4th January—EPIPHANY

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Morning Prayer
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Thursday 8th January

WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
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Sunday 11th January—BAPTISM OF CHRIST

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Thursday 15th January

WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
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Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the hall
after the 9:45 service.

ALL WELCOME!



To view our January services please go
to our website:

<https://wemcofe.co.uk>

To view the December/January Magazine
please go to our website:

<https://wemcofe.co.uk>

St Peter & St Paul's, Wem

THE EPIPHANY

Sunday 4th January 2026

THE 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.

1st READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6

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.

2nd READING: EPHESIANS 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that 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. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, '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.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They 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. ⁸Then 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.' ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

THE 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.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 4th January 2026 THE EPIPHANY

On coming to the house, the Magi saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold frankincense and myrrh. Matthew 2:11

Today

Let us bow down and worship Jesus and offer ourselves to him. May we be filled with the Holy Spirit and seek to please him in word and deed

Monday 5th January

Pray for the sick that they may know the Lord's healing power at work within them and have their spirits lifted and be encouraged.

Tuesday 6th January

Pray for the children, young people and teachers as they return to school for the Spring term.
Pray that they may have renewed energy and interest for their studies.

Wednesday 7th January

Pray for those in need that they may not be forgotten but provided for by those who have plenty.
Pray for generous giving from disciples of Jesus.

Thursday 8th January 2026

Pray for all families that there may be peace and harmony, reconciliation and healing where there have been broken relationships.

Friday 9th January.

Pray for the leaders of the Youth Group, Scouts and Brownies that they may provide positive social activities for the young people and be good role models for them.

Saturday 10th January

Pray for the Lord's blessing and protection on all the social activities taking place in the Wem and the surrounding villages. Pray for an end to drug dealing in the area.