

*Parish of Curdworth, Middleton and Wishaw*

# NEWSLETTER

Sundays 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Second Sunday of Christmas ([Epiphany](#)) and First Sunday of Epiphany ([Baptism of Christ](#))

Welcome to this edition of the Newsletter



**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Second Sunday of Christmas - [Epiphany](#)**

- All Age Worship at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** – Rev James Parry
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – Rev Canon Frank Longbottom
- Service of the Word at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton** – Mr Andrew Farrow

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January – First Sunday of Epiphany – [Baptism of Christ](#)**

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** – The Rector
- Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – The Rector

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January – Second Sunday of Epiphany**

- Family Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- *Service of the Word* at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January – Third Sunday of Epiphany**

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**

## DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Note
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany</b> <b>White</b>	9.30am	All Age Worship	St Chad's, Wishaw
	11.15am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth
	11.15am	Service of the Word	St John's, Middleton
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Choir Practice	Curdworth Church Hall
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Wishaw Community Coffee Morning	Wishaw Church
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b> <b>Baptism of Christ</b> <b>White</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
	11.15am	Family Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Choir Practice	Curdworth Church Hall
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	7.45pm	Curdworth DCC	Curdworth Church Hall
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b> <b>White</b>	9.30am	Family Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
	11.15am	<i>Service of the Word</i>	St Nicholas', Curdworth
	11.15am	Holy Communion	St John's, Middleton
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.45pm	Parochial Church Council	Curdworth Church Hall
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.15pm	Choir Practice	Curdworth Church Hall
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Burns Night Ceilidh	Middleton Village Hall
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b> <b>White</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
	11.15am	Family Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth

# TALENT SCHEME UPDATE

**Thank you** to everyone who has held Talent events so far, particularly those over the busy Christmas period. There have been mince pies and trifles made and enjoyed, Christmas songs and carols sung and hand-crafted items made and sold and hyacinth gift boxes sold. There may be more initiatives going on in the background and more at the planning stage, so keep watching this space and support as much as you can.

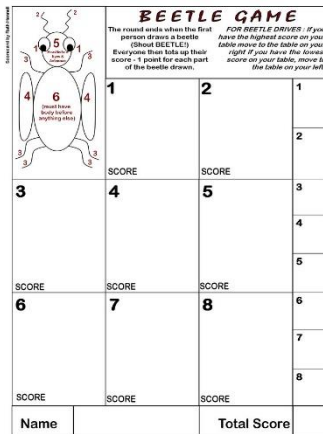


**Walking 50 miles in February – Sponsors needed! See Margaret Allen to lend your support by sponsoring every mile.**

## The Season of Epiphany

Epiphany is celebrated 12 days after Christmas, on 6<sup>th</sup> January each year, or on the Sunday nearest. The word epiphany means a sudden realisation of something, especially something that is important. It comes from the Greek word epiphaneia, which means “manifestation” or “striking appearance”.

Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Three Wise Men to the baby Jesus, marking the revelation of Jesus to non-Jews (gentiles). From this we are reminded that Jesus is the Son of God, of the ways in which God reveals his truth to us and how we should respond to this revelation. Perhaps we could look back to the Advent candles representing love, joy, peace and hope and especially the white candle representing the birth of Jesus Christ, who himself taught those core themes of hope, peace, joy and love through his life, ministry, death and resurrection.



**BEETLE GAME**

The round ends when the first person draws a beetle. *FOR BEETLE DRIVERS:* If you have the highest score on your table move to the table on your right if you have the lowest score or your table move to the table on your left.

Everyone that takes up their score - 1 point for each part of the beetle drawn.

1	2	1
SCORE	SCORE	
3	4	5
SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
6	7	8
SCORE	SCORE	SCORE
Name	Total Score	

## Wishaw Community Coffee Morning

Our next coffee morning will be on  
**January 9th at St Chad's at 10.30am.**

**With a BEETLE DRIVE**

**Plus cake and coffee.  
 All welcome!**



A big **THANK YOU** to Eileen Rawson and her team of ladies for organising the Christmas Tree Festival. Also a shout out to all those who entered trees. What a beautiful display they all made and how much trouble had everyone gone to in order to achieve that. Everyone's efforts were appreciated by all who came along to see the tress and enjoy seasonal refreshments. **THANK YOU ALL.**

# Burns Night Ceilidh

**Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm**

## **Middleton Village Hall**

**With live band, dancing, Toasts, Burns Supper and raffle,  
bring your own drinks and nibbles**

**Tickets are on sale from Ruth McFarland 07711 246473**

**Or Margaret Allen 07778 458789**

Tickets adults £12.50, unders 12s £6. Please specify if you would like haggis cottage pie style or just mince.

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**Finance** – Here are the bank details for each church for your reference:

St Nicholas': 30-92-75 00610273 (PCC of St Nicholas Curdworth)

St John's: 05-09-42 57896460 (St John the Baptist PCC)

St Chad's: 30-98-37 00152981 (Parochial Church Council Wishaw)

**The Newsletter** – if you would like anything added to the Newsletter, here are the details you need: [margaret\\_allen69@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:margaret_allen69@yahoo.co.uk) 07778 458 789 or [n.w.phillips@live.com](mailto:n.w.phillips@live.com) 07498

## PRAYER LIST



PRAYER LIST – Please remember in your prayers all who are sick and those who care for them and those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

<b>Prayers for the sick</b>			
<b>Curdworth</b>	Louise Baudet Adrian Cionnagh <i>Jean Eldridge</i> Nina Lawley <i>Kayla Norman</i> Tim Rawson Clare Tillson	<i>Barbara Blaber</i> <i>Yvette Crawford</i> <i>Amanda Emerson</i> Caroline Lee <i>Helen Parry</i> Ellie Reeves Barry Wiltshire	Sharon Brown <i>Claire Eldridge</i> Barbara Ingram <i>Isabella Murphy</i> Jenny Phillips <i>Cathy Smith</i>
<b>Middleton</b>	<i>Pete Hancock</i>	<i>Jean Nixon</i>	<i>Alan Cochran</i>
<b>Wishaw</b>	Pat Harris Joyce Simmons	Colin Philpott Margaret Turner	
<b>For the departed</b>	Bill Turner		

## Readings for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025

### Second Sunday of Christmas - Epiphany

#### The Collect

Almighty God,  
in the birth of your Son  
you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word,  
and shown us the fullness of your love:  
help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love  
that we may know the fullness of his joy;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Old Testament Reading**

*is from the book of the prophet Jeremiah chapter 31*

This is what the LORD says:

“Sing with joy for Jacob;  
shout for the foremost of the nations.  
Make your praises heard, and say,  
‘O LORD, save your people,  
the remnant of Israel.’  
See, I will bring them from the land of the north  
and gather them from the ends of the earth.  
Among them will be the blind and the lame,  
expectant mothers and women in labour;  
a great throng will return.  
They will come with weeping;  
they will pray as I bring them back.  
I will lead them beside streams of water  
on a level path where they will not stumble,  
because I am Israel’s father,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn son.  
“Hear the word of the LORD, O nations;  
proclaim it in distant coastlands:  
‘He who scattered Israel will gather them  
and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’  
For the LORD will ransom Jacob  
and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they.  
They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion;  
they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD –  
the grain, the new wine and the oil,  
the young of the flocks and herds.  
They will be like a well-watered garden,  
and they will sorrow no more.  
Then maidens will dance and be glad,  
young men and old as well.  
I will turn their mourning into gladness;  
I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow.  
I will satisfy the priests with abundance,  
and my people will be filled with my bounty,”  
declares the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The New Testament Reading**

*is from Paul's letter to the Ephesians chapter 1*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ <sup>4</sup>before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people to the praise of his glory.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his



name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’” From the fulness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No-one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Post Communion**

All praise to you,  
almighty God and heavenly King,  
who sent your Son into the world  
to take our nature upon him  
and to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that, as we are born again in him,  
so he may continually dwell in us  
and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **Readings for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

### **First Sunday of Epiphany – Baptism of Christ**

#### **Collect**

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;

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.**

## **The Old Testament Reading**

*is from the book of the prophet Isaiah chapter 43*

- <sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.
- <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.
- <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
- <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honoured, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.
- <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;
- <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, 'Give them up',  
and to the south, 'Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth –
- <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.'

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The New Testament Reading**

*is from Acts of the Apostles chapter 8*

<sup>14</sup>When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup>The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup>(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup>Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

(In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance.) <sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Post Communion**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.     **Amen.**

