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**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY: Christian Unity** 19 January 2025

**Choral Eucharist:** Communion in E (Harold Darke) **Gloria:** Gloria from the Mass of Ss Peter & Paul (John Ridgway) **Motet:** O taste and see (Ralph Vaughan Williams) **Voluntary:** Movement in A flat major (Elizabeth Stirling)

**Hymns at PC**: NEH 148\*, 56, 280, 467

**Hymns at HT:** NEH 148 (vs 1, 4 & 8), 345, 56 (omit \*), 294, 467

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

**Saturday 18 January** 4pm The Well (Holy Trinity)

**Sunday 19 January** **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY: Christian Unity**

8am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Vicar*

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity) *Preacher: the Vicar*

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: Mary Harwood*

4pm Service for Christian Unity (Wantage Methodist Church)

*Refreshments from 3pm*

**Monday 20 January** 9.30am Eucharist (Parish Church)

9am-11am Trinity Tots (Holy Trinity)

7.30pm-9pm Home Group (*see notice below)*

**Tuesday 21 January** 9.30am Old Testament Bible Study Group (*see notice below)*

2pm Care Home Communion (Sanctuary)

5.45pm Bible Reading Book Club (Holy Trinity)

*Refreshments from 5.30pm*

7pm Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

**Wednesday 22 January** 12 noon Holy Half Hour (Parish Church)

3pm–6.30pm Around Table (Holy Trinity)

**Friday 24 January** 12 noon Eucharist (Parish Church)

**Saturday 25 January** 4pm Vigil (Holy Trinity)

**Sunday** **26 January**  **CONVERSION OF PAUL**

*Preacher at all morning services: the Vicar*

8am Eucharist (Parish Church)

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church)

**Prayers for Christian Unity:** Daily at **8pm from 18–25 January** on Zoom, led by different churches in the Wantage and Grove Church Partnership. *See below for link and in eNews.*

**Morning Prayer** is said in the Parish Church at 9am Monday-Friday.

**Eucharist at the Convent** Tuesday–Saturday at 10am, all welcome (space permitting).

READINGS & PRAYERS

**Collect**

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.**

**First Reading****: Isaiah 62.1-5**

For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

**Psalm: 36.5-10**

**Response: How precious is your loving mercy, O God**

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens

and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains,

your justice like the great deep;

you, Lord, shall save both man and beast. **R/.**

How precious is your loving mercy, O God!

All mortal flesh shall take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

They shall be satisfied with the abundance of your house;

they shall drink from the river of your delights. **R/.**

For with you is the well of life

and in your light shall we see light.

O continue your loving-kindness to those who know you

and your righteousness to those who are true of heart. **R/.**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.1-11**

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore, I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says, ‘Let Jesus be cursed!’ and no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

**Gospel: John 2.1-11**

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

one God and Father of all.

**Alleluia**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’ And Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.’ His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, ‘Fill the jars with water.’ And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, ‘Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.’ So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, ‘Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.’ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

**Post-Communion Prayer**

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**For Your Prayers:** Sarah Clark, Lizzie, Beth Hirst, Natalie, Rowland Jenkins, Sirma, Sybil Smith, Phoebe, Mary, Chris, Sharon, Glauce, Steve West, Pat and Dave, Amanda, Angela, Martin, Michael, Deirdre, Danielle.

**RIP:** Jacqueline Chamberlain, Irene Bell, Danny Rusher, Billie Stevens, Heather Howell

**Please also pray for:** The Wantage and Grove Partnership and all the church communities in our town.

**Readings & Hymns for next Sunday**:

Acts 9.1-22, Psalm 67, Galatians 1.11-16a, Matthew 19.27-end

Hymns at PC: NEH 154, 415, 391, 155

Hymns at HT: NEH 154, 360, 415 (omit \*), 391, 155

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WGCP - WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** **18-25 January 2025:**

A united service for Christian Unity will be held on **Sunday 19 January** at Wantage Methodist Church at **4pm**, with refreshments available from 3:00pm. All welcome.

**Daily prayers** for Christian Unity will be led by different churches in the Wantage and Grove Church Partnership on **Zoom at 8pm** (*see the link in the eNews and on the parish website*).

**NEW YEAR, NEW CHURCH GROUPS:** It’s not too late to join up! Contact the organisers – or just come along to any of the following:

**Home Group:** at Caroline and Andrew’s house, Priory Cottage, Church Street (the white house opposite the main entrance to the Parish Church) on **Mondays** from **7.30pm-9pm**. For conversation, bible study and prayer and tea/coffee. Contact candahaines@gmail.com.

**Fully Booked:** a new Book Club for Christians of all denominations across the Deanery. Meet at The Bear in the Market Place on the third Wednesday of the month. The first book is ‘Small Pleasures’ by Clare Chambers. The next meeting will be at **8pm on Wednesday 19 February**. Contact David Richardson (dcrwantageparish@gmail.com).

**Beer & Bible** will be starting soon. Contact Laurence Price (laurence@wantageparish.com).

**OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE STUDY GROUP**: **Tuesdays mornings at 9.30am** at Felicity’s house: 24 Smith’s Wharf, Wantage, OX12 9GQ. Please contact Sheenagh for more information (sheenagh.dernie@btinternet.com).

**TRINITY TOTS:** on **Monday 20 January** from **9am-11am** at Holy Trinity. A relaxed play session for babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and their parents/carers, with refreshments for all. £3.00 per family. Booking via the Wantage Parish events page at Ticketsource (https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wantage-parish) and on the parish website.

**PARISH MAGAZINE** Now available, special new year edition with a spotlight on the involvement of children in our parish. Free, but if you are able to make a donation of £2 this will cover the production costs for your own copy and one we are giving away in the community.

**SPIRITUAL ART WORKSHOP Saturday 8 March 10.30am–3.45pm** at Holy Trinity. Led by the Revd. Catherine Lomas, who is trained in traditional iconography and produces spiritual art in a range of styles. Learn about the history and technique of icons, and praying with icons, followed by an opportunity to create our own artistic responses to scripture. There will be a service at 4pm for those who wish to stay. Cost £30 to include a light lunch and materials. Places are limited; contact the Parish Office (administrator@wantageparish.com) to book.

COMMUNITY NEWS

**ELMBROOK COURT FRIENDSHIP CAFÉ:** First café of the new year will be on **Monday 27th January** **at 2pm**. All welcome! Please notify Sam if you would like to come and join the fun (01235 617617 or email: clientrelations.ec@oaklandcare.com).

CONTACT DETAILS

**Vicar:** Revd. Katherine Price (Rest Day: Thursday) 01235 768806 vicar@wantageparish.com

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**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Matt Godfrey safeguarding@wantageparish.com

**Director of Music:** Phil Johnson music@wantageparish.com

**Personal Discipleship Plan:** Susie Lapwood pdp@wantageparish.com

**Parish Website**: www.wantageparish.com