

## St. Aidan's Church January 8<sup>th</sup>

Hub Leader	Rev Jeremy Thomas	01942 727275	hubleader.south@churchwigan.org
Ass. Hub Leader	Rev Sue Fulford	01942 242369	ahl.south@churchwigan.org
Self supporting Minister	Sue Thomas	01942 727275	sue.thomas@churchwigan.org
Reader	Helen Steele	01744 894111	hrsteele@tiscali.co.uk
Reader in Training	Lesley Leppard	01744 892713	Ring between 7pm and 9pm
Assistant Warden	Barbara Goulden	01744 894694	staidansbillingeveger@gmail.com
Assistant Warden	Peter Hughes	01744 732890	pjh1950@hotmail.com

### Wigan South Bible passage for 2023:

God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. (2 Corinthians 9:8)

This week we remember the journey and adoration of the Magi in Bethlehem. This has been portrayed for so long as a part of the Nativity story that most people think that the Magi arrived shortly after the Shepherds to meet a newborn baby. Given that Herod ordered all the children under 2 years of age in Bethlehem to be killed it may be that the organisation of the trip and the trip itself took 2 years! Joseph's family home was Bethlehem.



Could the family have stayed there for some time and the Magi found a toddler with his mother? This year we celebrate God's generosity to us, not just in the gift of His Son born here on earth, but also His generosity in all of His provision - food, life, materials, families, wisdom, undeserved unstinting love .... The Magi travelled for many months in order to find this new born King, and to be generous with one thing which we can all give - true worship!

### Upcoming Services:

There have been some problems with church heating and we apologise that it was bitter in church last Sunday and Wednesday. These have been resolved for now.

This Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, Sta's4all will be in school at 10.30am.. This will be on the theme of the visit of the Magi. At 4pm we have our Evening Prayer in Church. Next Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 10am Morning Worship. Wednesday January 18<sup>th</sup> 10am Holy Communion. Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am Beacon Service, which will include our Christingle service, with Christingle for the Children and the chance to donate to the Children's Society.

**Church Magazine** - there have been many problems with the printing of our January magazine. I hope that those who receive a printed copy will receive them very soon.

**Prayer for our Deanery** - Following Church Wigan's Calib walk to Mesnes Park in October it was felt that it is important to go to different places in the Deanery to pray. The first of these events is to be in the Council Chamber at Wigan. It starts at 3pm on January 10<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome.

### **HEATING THE CHURCH**

A reminder that we will be keeping the doors of church closed to maintain the heating but there will be a sign up outside saying Church Open.

The white bucket remains at the back of Church and if anyone has any spare change or coppers to throw them in which will go towards the heating. Our heating costs are paid out of our *General funds*. All donations to this fund are gratefully received.

### ***We collect***

**Stamps** - please cut the stamps leaving a border of 5mm (a little less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch).

**Spectacles** -they are labelled with the correct lens strength and sent to developing countries where people cannot afford to be tested or buy glasses (please just give us the glasses as the cases are too heavy to transport).

**Empty tablet blister packs** - Linda and Mansell from St. Thomas' take these into Liverpool to be recycled

Please leave all the items under the notice board at the back of Church

### ***Eco Tip***

Why not consider using the green search engine **Ecosia**? They work with local communities in over 35 countries to plant trees for every search, growing over 500 different native species where they are needed most.

Happy Birthday to Yumiko Piers who had a birthday earlier this week.

### **Prayer for the Parish**

If anyone needs to be added to our prayer list please let Helen or Margaret Stott know. The family must give permission for any name to be added to the list. The list that has been on these updates is also used in church services.

For confidential prayer needs contact Jennifer Berry for the St Aidan's Prayer Circle on 01942 389715 or Brenda Bridge on 01744 894528.



Please pray by name for Tracey-Ann Napier, Lorraine Webb, Jeanette Caine, Baby Janie May, Gill Sainsbury, Wally Brooks, Ian Smith, Reena Winstanley, Brian Sharples, Eunice Grace, Jeffrey Forster. And we remember the bereaved - the family and friends of Catherine Bradshaw.



Please pray for

- Peace and Goodwill throughout the world in 2023
- Increasing generosity of Spirit amongst all Christians that all may know Christ's presence in unexpected ways, and be blessed in serving others
- Wisdom for leaders on both sides of the multiple industrial actions that a resolution may be fairly found and peace and security will be experienced by all people
- all those who are struggling financially at this most difficult of times.
- those who are exhausted, mentally, emotionally and physically