

**The church is now open during the following times for supervised private prayer:**

**Sunday 12noon - 4.00pm**  
One of the clergy is usually available 10.15am - 12noon

**Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm**

*Please follow the directions on social-distancing, hygiene, direction of movement around the building, & seating.*

**The Parish Office will not be open until further notice.**

To arrange Baptisms, Weddings, etc., please contact the clergy - details below.

*All the clergy are available (by phone or email) and our details are as follows:*

**CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICERS**  
**Rector & Parish Priest**  
**(Our Parish is now in vacancy)**

**Hon. Assistant Priests**  
Revd. Canon Hugh Broad  
01452 541078 – Mobile 07928 455674  
hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk

Fr Ian Robb  
01452 676059 – Mobile 07962 469250  
iobb925@gmail.com

The Revd Jenny D'Esterre  
Mobile 07540 322 744  
Revdjenny@gmail.com

Fr. Gordon Ripley  
01452 883399  
gordon.ripley364@btinternet.com

Fr. Michael Garland  
01452 720872  
michaelgarland368@btinternet.com

The Revd Ann Morris  
rev.ann@btinternet.com

**Keep up to date** with the latest Church news by looking at our parish website or at our Facebook pages, or find us on "A Church near You".

**"Around the Spire"** : the January issue is available in church & online. Please take copies to deliver to neighbours & friends. Send your Notes for the February edition to Fr Hugh by **close of play today please**. **Thank you to our Editorial & Printers Teams!**

Notes for next week's **Newsheet** should be sent to Fr Ian no later than Wednesday evening. (Contact address above.)

**The Parish Church of  
St JAMES the APOSTLE  
&  
St MARY MAGDALENE  
Quedgeley & Kingsway Diocese of Gloucester**



**Sunday 17th January -  
The Second Sunday of Epiphany**

**Parish Eucharist at 10.30am.:**  
Fr Ian will be the celebrant;  
Fr Michael will be the preacher

**Bible readings for today:**

**First Reading.** 1 Samuel . 1 - 10  
Samuel was a server to the priest, Eli, when God called him to a different ministry.

**Second Reading.** Revelation 5. 1 - 10 .  
John the Divine is given a vision of the Lamb of God.

**Alleluia:**  
Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations, and believed in throughout the world.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel.** John 1. 43 - 51  
Jesus calls Philip to be a disciple and he in turn persuades his friend Nathaniel to join them.

**Collect for Epiphany 2:**

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.

**Our church is still open** for worship and private prayer - we have received several notes of thanks for remaining open - and we shall continue to observe all the social-distancing & hygiene rules. But we fully understand that if you feel anxious about attending, you may prefer to stay at home.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION for the Epiphany season:

We pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.

You have called us into the family of those who are the children of God. May our love for our brothers and sisters in Christ be strengthened by your grace. Jesus, Lord of the Church, in your mercy hear us.

You have called us to be a temple where the Holy Spirit can dwell. Give us clean hands and pure hearts so that our lives will reflect your holiness. Jesus, Lord of the Church, in your mercy hear us.

You have called us to be a light to the world, so that those in darkness come to you. May our lives shine as a witness to the saving grace you have given for all. Jesus, Lord of the Church, in your mercy hear us.

You have called us to be members of your body, so that when one suffers, all suffer together. We ask for your comfort and healing power to bring hope to those in distress. Jesus, Lord of the Church, in your mercy hear us.

You have called us to be the Bride, where you, Lord, are the Bridegroom. Prepare us for the wedding feast, where we will be united with you for ever. Jesus, Lord of the Church, in your mercy hear us.

Jesus, Lord of the Church, you have called us into fellowship with Blessed Mary, St James, St Mary Magdalene, and all your saints. We unite our prayers with theirs and ask for grace to serve you with joy where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for all eternity.  
AMEN.

Those who have died: Victims of Covid-19; those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time. All who mourn their passing.

Those who are ill: Helen Jones, David Way, Barbara Ward, John Hall, Shirley Wilce, Wynn Sutch, David James, Marie Spicer, Pam Westwood.

As the church is open each day:

You can find a **PRAYER BOARD**, together with pen & paper, for you to leave any prayer requests which will then be offered during worship on the following Sunday. In addition to any names, please say, in a few words, why prayer is requested.

Used Postage Stamps: Don't just throw them away! Val Harris will be collecting your used postage stamps for Charity; there is a box in church where you can leave them. **Thank You.**

Worship in St James this week:

Wed 20th Jan: St Agnes, child-martyr

10am Eucharist : The Revd Ann Morris  
Revelation 7. 13 - 17  
Matthew 18. 1 - 7

Sun 17th Jan: Epiphany 2

10.30am Parish Eucharist:  
Fr Ian & Fr Michael  
1 Samuel 3. 1 - 10  
Revelation 5. 1 - 10  
John 1. 43 - 51

*As we try to keep socially-distanced, we ask everyone to leave the church as promptly as possible and resist the natural longing to stay and chat! Keep safe!*

When we are unable to get to St James for our Eucharist:

Fr Dennis McBride offers the Holy Eucharist: go to [www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online](http://www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online).

And we can make an act of Spiritual Communion as follows

**“Lord Jesus Christ:** I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot, at this time, receive you in the consecrated Bread and Wine of the Eucharist, come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and give myself to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen”

**The Reverend Jenny d’Esterre** has recently moved house, further away from Quedgeley, and feels that now is the right time to withdraw from her involvement in the ministry team at St James. We shall miss Jenny a great deal and we could not let her go without showing our appreciation of her time with us. If you would like to contribute towards a gift from us, please see Fr Hugh.

## A Prayer for use during the “Lockdown”

*Risen Lord, when many of our fellow-citizens succumb to illness at the same time, you are there, standing in the midst. We easily panic - or else unreasonably feel it will never happen to us. Be the rock in our turbulence, the calm in our storm, and strengthen those who give their skill and care to return us to health and well-being. Through him who is always the resurrection and the life Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN .*

(taken from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

**Intercessions on Sundays.** Thank you to all those who have helped us to restart our rota; if you would like to take part in this ministry, please contact Fr Hugh as soon as possible. (*details on p.1*)

We are also pleased to have **more Readers** for our Rota - contact Fr Ian for the Readers' Rota

**Please continue to remember The Gloucester FoodBank when you go to buy food. Most of our supermarkets have a place where you can leave gifts for the Foodbank.**

## An important Message from our Churchwardens:

Following the retirement of Father John, we need to begin the process of appointing a new rector for St James.

As a part of this procedure, we would be grateful to receive your thoughts on life at St James. What do we do well? What can we do better? What might our priorities be for the future of this rapidly expanding parish? What are our strengths and weaknesses?

Your comments will be used to create a Parish Profile to help in the selection process. Comments should be sent to Ian or Paul, churchwardens, or to Lu, our PCC Secretary, anonymously if you wish. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts; we need your help in this important chapter in our life together.

Ian Pearce: [ianlu123@hotmail.com](mailto:ianlu123@hotmail.com)

Paul Price: [thepricefamily@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:thepricefamily@blueyonder.co.uk)

Lu Pearce: [andrulapearce@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:andrulapearce@hotmail.co.uk)

## “Thought for the Week” : - Fr Gordon

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Hello! Are you receiving me? Hello! Are you receiving me? I think we've all had a conversation, if you can call it that, like this on a mobile phone; we're in a bad reception area, there's too much interference from hills and trees. We have to go to a better reception area.

Eli was trying to sleep. Young Samuel lay on his mattress listening to the sounds of the night. Three times a voice called. Samuel jumped up and woke the old man Eli and said, 'you called.' Tired, Eli said, 'I didn't call. Go back to bed, my son.' The third time Samuel disturbed Eli. This old priest, his vision fading, was able to guide the young man to a better reception area and send him back to his room, saying, 'If he calls, you shall say "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."'

The season of Epiphany is all about God being revealed, and it was to the young Samuel, that God revealed something of his thoughts; to one who is still innocent of life's ethical complications which often cloud our spiritual vision as adults. Samuel became an intermediary between God and Eli, whose short sight is not only physical.

Another invitation.

Nathanael is a character with whom it is easy for many people to identify. He was sceptical of Philip's optimism and understandably so. Philip was claiming to have found what had been longed for, for centuries past, but why should this man be the right one?

Worse still, the one whom Philip believed to be the fulfilment of the words of Moses and the prophets apparently came from the unlikely town of Nazareth. He comes face to face with Jesus, the one who is the truth about God, and immediately he can see it. So, why? Because there is nothing obstructing his vision. He doesn't have a great pile of his own prerequisites stacked up in the way of his pursuit for God.

What we think may blind him - his prejudice about people from Nazareth - is easily discarded because he is looking with the eyes of his heart. His heart's real desire is to see God, and he won't let anything get in the way of that.

How often do we fail to hear because we are unwilling to listen? We are often too busy or too prejudiced to hear the voice of God.

Fr. Gordon