

January 2024 services

Sunday at 8am

14 Jan no service

21 Jan Holy Communion

28 Jan no service

Wednesday at 10.30

17 Jan Holy Communion

24 Jan Morning Worship

31 Jan Holy Communion

Sunday at 10.30am

14 Jan 10.30 Covenant Service

in the Methodist Church

21 Jan Holy Communion

28 Jan Morning Worship

28 Jan 6.30pm Taizé in Scholes

Contact details:

Rev. Jonathan Brennan - Rector - 0113 289 2437

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Leslye - church warden - 0113 281 2488

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Carole - church warden - 0113 281 2149

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Rev. Kathryn - retired priest - 0113 281 2761

Hilary - Benefice PA - 07762 322193

general enquiries, funerals, baptisms

Carol - wedding enquiries - 0113 281 3048

Web site barwickcofechurch.co.uk



All Saints'
at the heart of the
community

Sunday 14th January 2024

EPIPHANY 2

10.30am Covenant Service

with our Methodist sisters and brothers
in the Methodist Chapel.



Elmete'
Trinity Benefice

JANUARY LETTER FROM JONATHAN

Epiphany

I was a New Year baby, born on 1st January, and so the start of each new year also coincides with the end of another trip around the sun for me personally and the start of new one. New years and birthdays are always times for reflecting on what is past and what is to come, and I get both doses in one go!

The Church's 'new year' begins with Advent, a time that we spend waiting, and then Christmas comes along, and we celebrate with thanksgiving. And then, the new calendar year for the Church is the season of Epiphany. A time when we've arrived at the big reveal moment and now have to look ahead to what it all means for us.

Epiphany is a bigger scheme than just that twelfth day of Christmas when we take down the decorations. And thinking about the themes of Gifts and Stars will allow us to explore how we can see beyond the obvious glitter to a deeper appreciation of all that we have been given. We spend the season of Epiphany looking at the various moments of revelation – Jesus's Baptism, the Wedding at Cana and culminating in Simeon's declaration at Candlemas.

But we start with the Magi, known variously as kings, wise men, or astrologers. We don't know much about them, and we can't even be sure if there were three of them (we only know that they brought three gifts). The 10th Century monk Aelfric gave them the title of *Tungelwitegan*, which means "star wise" which seems to be a particularly fitting title for them. They follow a star that can sometimes flicker. The light isn't always steady, but it never disappears. The Magi teach us that we must learn to persevere, to trust in the signs God throws in our path. To strive towards our own star.

And what will be our reward? Gifts beyond our imagining. The gifts the Magi bring may appear useless at first for a homeless teenage mother, but she will ponder them in her heart, and they can lead us to a truer understanding of Jesus' divinity and authority. God born as a baby. The Magi set eyes on God here with us on earth, and that was the greatest gift that they received in return.

As we start this new year, we too need to be "star wise," Like Mary, we need to look beyond what we initially see and see as the Magi did. We need to see things how God sees them.

Revd Jonathan January 2024



Let's get crafty

On the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays
of each month at 7pm.
First meeting of 2024 is
Wednesday 10th January.

Please contact Sarah on 0792 240 7850
for more details



BARWICK METHODIST CHURCH

Come along to our Coffee Morning

SATURDAY 20th JANUARY 2024

Come and join us in the Chapel Schoolroom

Between 10 am – 12.00 noon



Admission £2.00 includes Refreshments (Tea/Coffee)

Cake Stall/Raffle

Everyone Welcome

Proceeds to: All We Can – Methodist Relief and
Development Fund (For Relief in War Zones)

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024

Soup lunch at 12.30

followed by service at 1.30

Monday 22nd January in All Saints'

Everyone welcome

Ecumenical Lent Study Group 2024

Wednesday afternoons at Barwick Methodist Church 2-3.30pm.

All are welcome

February 21st, 28th & March 6th, 13th 20th

"SPOT THE DIFFERENCE"

by Nick Fawcett