



PARISH OF CIRENCESTER
St John Baptist | Holy Trinity | St Lawrence

The Epiphany
(Christmas 2)
4th January 2026

Collect

O God,
who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples
of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
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.

or Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isaiah 60.1-6

60 Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
² For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Contributions to pewleaflet@cirenparish.co.uk by Tuesday evening please!

Ephesians 3.1-12

3 This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2.1-12

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Post Communion

Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

BCP Sunday 4th January - The Epiphany [observed]

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 65

This Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP Eucharist; 10a.m. All Age Eucharist;
4p.m. Evening Prayer

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist; 10a.m. Non-Eucharist Family Service

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist; 4p.m. Restore@4

Next week's CW readings for Sunday 11th January - The Baptism of Christ

Isaiah 42.1-9; Acts 10.34-43; Matthew 3.13-17

**BCP Sunday 11th January - The First Sunday after The Epiphany/
The Baptism of Christ**

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 67

Next Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Eucharist

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Service of the Word

Parish Forum open for enquiries Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri...10a.m. – Midday
Canon Graham's Open Office is NOT available this Monday 5th January 2026

NOTICES FOR THE PARISH

The Parish Church has an **archive of our choir's music** from the 1980s and early 1990s, available for anyone to investigate and play tracks from, on a computer currently located under the tower. Its display needs regular 'cleaning up' after people have used it and left the screen in a mess. Would anyone like to **share in this not-very-difficult job**, please? - at the same time get to know the wealth of recorded music from that period, under the late Revd John Beck. *Please contact Eric Roberts, ferricroberts@gmail.com, or 01285 657231.*

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Mothers' Union. Our first meeting of 2026 is on **Wednesday January 7th at 2.30pm** in the Parish Hall, Watermoor. Our guest Speaker is **Rev'd Karen Schmidt**. Her talk is entitled "You the Magistrate". All welcome.

A **Flute and Piano** recital is taking place on **Saturday 24th January 2026** in the **Parish Church, 12.15-1.15pm**. **Mark Sandon-Williams (Piano)** and **Sarah Wilby (Flute)**. Retiring collection

Programme: Reinecke: Flute and Piano Sonata 'Undine' Op. 137

Debussy: L'isle Joyeuse

Franck: Flute and Piano Sonata in A major

From the Parish Calendar:

- Mon 5 Jan 5pm: Organ Vespers – St John Baptist
- Wed 7 Jan 10.30am: Eucharist – St Lawrence
- Wed 7 Jan 1.10pm: Organ Recital (James Henderson – Sherbourne Abbey) –
St John Baptist
- Thu 8 Jan 9.15am: Seedlings – St Lawrence
- Fri 9 Jan 9am: PAT Testing – Holy Trinity and Parish Hall
- Fri 9 Jan 12noon@ PAT Testing – St Lawrence
- Sat 10 Jan 12noon: Baptism (Freddie Armstrong-Prior) – Holy Trinity
- Sun 11 Jan 3pm: - Nativity Organ Music (James Thomas) – St John Baptist

Contact Details:

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Rev'd Luke 07850 270719; email: revlukefalvey@cirenparish.co.uk

Parish Office 01285 659317; email: office@cirenparish.co.uk

Monday to Saturday:

St John Baptist: Morning Prayer: Daily at 9.15am

Midday Eucharist: Daily at noon (Saturday at 10am)

Evening Prayer: Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 5pm

Little Angels: Mondays at 9.30am

Holy Trinity: Eucharist: Wednesdays at 7pm

St Lawrence: Drop In: Wednesdays at 9am

Parish Forum: Coffee & Chat: Thursdays at 10am