

God's love and blessing to all this new year

In his baptism Jesus came down and joined in with us, celebrating the significance, and revealing the possibilities, of every human life. This year may we enjoy and cherish one another as we reach out in the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit to God, to each other, to guests, and to our communities. Maybe we might even sometimes dance for joy - following the example of Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Covid regulations for worship in church

In view of the tightened regulations, masks are required inside church unless you are exempt. Please maintain social distance as you are able and sanitise hands. Please do not come to church if you have covid-type symptoms.

January Services

9th January Baptism of Christ

Studley 8am Holy Communion
10am Sunday Worship
3.30pm Messy Church - at the Parish Centre



Mappleborough 10am Holy Communion
Oldberrow 4pm Holy Communion

16th January Epiphany 2

Studley 10am Sunday Worship
3.30pm Centrepoint - at St Mary's Academy
6pm Holy Communion - at the Parish Centre
Mappleborough 10am All Age Celebration

23rd January Epiphany 3

Studley 8am Holy Communion
10am Sunday Worship
Mappleborough 10am Holy Communion
Morton Bagot 4pm Evensong

30th January Candlemas

Studley 10am Songs of Praise
Mappleborough 4pm Christian Unity service

30th January - a 5th Sunday in the month

On 5th Sundays we have been doing things a bit differently recently - encouraging one another to go out and about and reach out to our communities in the morning, and gather for a joint celebration in the afternoon. This 5th Sunday there will be a morning Songs of Praise in Studley church led by some of our

new Life Group members. This could be a great service to invite friends to - lots of people enjoy a Songs of Praise. Or else you could go out and prayer walk or prayer breakfast etc. In the afternoon there will be an opportunity to gather from all our churches and the other denominations too in Mappleborough for a Candlemas service to round off the Christmas and Epiphany season, and to pray for Christian unity and mission - the service may involve sparklers!

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25th January

The visible unity of all Christians across all denominations is vital for our mission and outreach - Jesus prayed for it for this reason - John 17:21. So this annual week of prayer is close to my heart. There is a **booklet with readings, reflections and prayers** for you to use each day - *copies available in churches this weekend, or electronically*. The material has been prepared by Christians in the Middle East living in a time of turmoil, and focusses on the visit of the wise men to Jesus.

This year we will hold a joint service for Christians of all denominations to pray together for our mission and outreach on **Candlemas Sunday 30th January 4.00pm in Mappleborough Church**. The church is on a hill overlooking our villages and Redditch, so is an appropriate place to stand and pray God's blessing on our neighbourhoods. Candlemas is the day we remember the infant Jesus being taken into the Temple, the heart of Jewish worship, where Simeon proclaimed that he would be a light for all nations - so we will take the light of Christ outside the church (weather permitting!) as part of our prayer together. All are welcome to join us. We also encourage you to light a candle and place it in a window as a witness to the light of Christ shining in our street and drawing us together to worship Jesus. Kate Mier

Fundraising

Would you like to be part of a small group to meet and discuss potential fundraising events for 2022 for Arden Marches Churches? These events could be just for fun as a community outreach activity, or for a bespoke funding item or charity sponsorship.

If you are able to support please email Linda Salisbury: lindasalsbury@hotmail.co.uk or Call/Text : 07872 625006 for further information to meet up early in the new year (virtually or face to face)

Travel cot wanted

If you have a travel cot that you no longer need, Kate could give it a good home - please get in touch.

Bellringing news

The team practises on a Thursday night and one extra night per week (with silent bells) for beginners. The handbell ringers have resumed practising and are taking part in a range of Christmas events in the church and elsewhere. To find out more or join in, please contact Louise bellringers.studley@gmail.com

PRAYER

Daily Prayer: weekdays **9.00am** and **9.30pm** on Arden Marches Churches Facebook page. (No daily prayer between Christmas and New Year)

Churches open for personal prayer:

Studley Church: open Tues to Thurs, Sat and Sun 10am-4pm

Oldberrow Church is always open

Morton Bagot Church is usually open 10am-4pm

For your prayers

Contact **Judith McLelland** to add the names of people in urgent and critical need of prayer (with their permission). People remain on the list for 4 weeks (do contact Judith if they need to remain after this)

We pray for people in particular need including: **Carole Holt, Rosemary Lonegon, Ross Cruickshank, Val Greathead and Sue Ludlow**

We commend to God all who have died recently and pray for their families. **Geoffrey Vale**

We remember those for whom the anniversary of their death falls at this time: **Roger Chacksfield**

Prayer for the week: Baptism of Christ

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Making a donation to our churches

	Sort Code	Account
Studley Parish Church	40-43-54	61000861
Tower Repairs Studley Parish Church Fabric	40-43-54	11201239
Mappleborough Green Church Committee	40-43-54	00558532
Morton Bagot PCC	40-43-54	60600547
Oldberrow PCC	40-43-19	61173928

Thank you so much to the many people who are continuing to support us financially. You can make a donation anytime using a bank card by phoning Dan Corlett, or by electronic bank transfer (please include your name as the reference for Gift Aid purposes)

To give by cheque, use the church name as in this table, and send the cheque to The Vicarage or pass it directly to the treasurer. Cash donations may be taken to The Vicarage. Please consider giving regularly to our church using the Parish Giving Scheme (info from Judith)

Contact details

Rector: Revd Kate Mier

3 Manor Mews, Studley B80 7PR rector@ardenmarches.co.uk
01527 852830 Rest day: Friday

Curate: Revd Dan Corlett

curate@ardenmarches.co.uk 07543 370637 Rest day:
Saturday

For safeguarding concerns: Parish Safeguarding Officer Kim Harwood 07951646217

Diocesan safeguarding Team (24hrs) 024 7652 1345

Church Administrator: Judith McLelland

Available 2.00pm-4.30pm Monday to Thursday
parish@ardenmarches.co.uk 01527 850130

News sheet deadline 2pm Thursday

Parish Centre bookings: Mike Moffat

parish-centre@ardenmarches.co.uk 07594 948534

Our website is www.ardenmarches.co.uk

Find us on Facebook at the Arden Marches Churches page or join the Arden Marches Church Family private group