



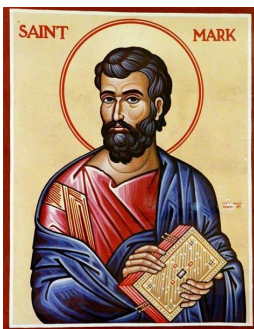
Missed out on **Baptism**?

Never been **confirmed**?

Interested in exploring the Christian Faith?

See the clergy or email burypcoffice@gmail.com

The Confirmation Course begins on Sunday, January 14th, in the Church House after the Parish Eucharist.



Study Group on Mark's Gospel

Meets at 7.00pm in the Narthex. Entrance via the Choir Vestry. Come and plunge into the wonders of what Mark has to tell us about "Jesus Christ, the Son of God." (Mark 1.1)



Filming around BPC

There will be a couple of days filming for the ITV Drama "Ridley" on 15/17 January.

Thanks to those who have worked so hard to make this possible.

Licensing of Canon Donna Williams as Area Dean. Sunday 21 January 3pm St Peter's, Bury. All are invited to this service as Donna formally begins her ministry among us.

Collects from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England; Common Worship: Pastoral Services; The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000 The New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised Edition), copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Happenings this week

Second Sunday of Epiphany

	8.45am 10.00am 4.30pm	Adult Sunday School Parish Eucharist & Sunday School followed by refreshments Evensong
MP	9.30am	Wed, Thurs, Fri—via South Porch entrance
Wed	11.00am 2.15pm 7.00pm	Holy Communion Funeral Service for Betty Leach Study Group meets in the Narthex
Thurs	10.00am 9.00pm	Tiddlers in Blackburne Hall BMC Compline (Zoom)
Fri	8.00 am 10.00am 11.15am 12.30pm 4.00pm 7.00pm	Dustbusters Asylum Seekers Café opens Lunchtime concert with Tiantian Gao (piano) Junior Chorister rehearsal Choir Practice

Next Week: 21 January 2024

Third Sunday of Epiphany

	8.00 am 10.00am 11.30am 3.00pm 4.30pm	BCP Holy Communion Parish Eucharist and Sunday School followed by refreshments Confirmation Class in Church House Licensing of Canon Donna Williams as Area Dean. Evensong
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Second Sunday of Epiphany

14 January 2024

www.buryparishchurch.com

0161 764 2452



Holy Communion

8am Sunday / 11am Wed

President: Sheila Beattie, Ass. Min.

Preaching: Sheila Beattie, Ass. Min.



Parish Eucharist

10.00am

President: Sheila Beattie, Ass. Min.

Preaching : Sheila Beattie, Ass. Min.

Mass Setting : Thorne : St Thomas

Hymns 99 (1-3), 805, 227, 747, 748

Motet :Attwood : Teach me, O Lord

Voluntary : Cocker : Tuba Tune

Cornerstone

Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

The Collect

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Revelation

(Revelation 5. 1-10)

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth."

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed a- / mong the / nations
and believed in through- / out the / world.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (*John 1. 43-51*)

Glory to You, O Lord

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Post Communion

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Time to Reflect

A Reflection on Prophecy

In our Old Testament reading today we witness the debut of the Prophet Samuel. As debuts go, it is something of a baptism of fire: his first assignment, while still a young boy, is to tell his mentor Eli that his house is doomed on account of the blasphemy of his sons, and that there is nothing he can do to rectify the situation. This is perhaps the worst fate a man in the ancient world could face: typically, life was spent trying to secure the future for one's heirs- Eli's life is now wasted. To his credit, Eli simply accepts this, demonstrating, perhaps, both his innocence and his faith, in contrast to his sons.

The church struggles with Prophecy.

Controversially, purported prophetic utterances have been weaponised dishonestly for political purposes. This has led to the insistence that prophecy ought to be uplifting, positive, and apolitical- but, inconveniently, Biblical prophecy is rarely like that. The whole debate, focussing as it does on what the content of genuine prophecy ought to be, misses the point- it is not the content of prophecy which validates it but its source: if God is the source then the content will be valid, whatever that content is, and this is precisely what is hard to prove except perhaps in hindsight. Better, perhaps, not to aspire to a prophet's calling at all- Samuel didn't- but rather to aspire to the gift of love, which is the greatest of all spiritual gifts.