

Wonder On Wednesdays

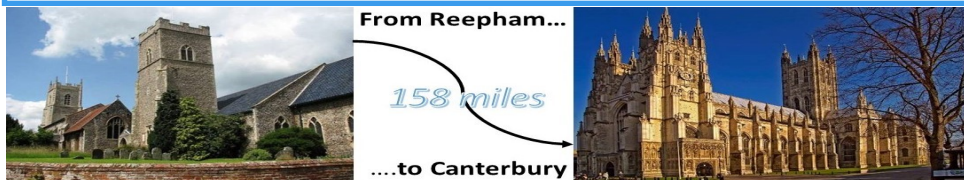
Our weekly "gathering" for those who wish to discuss and dig a little deeper into topics around Christianity.

Please join us every Wednesday on Zoom from 7pm to 8pm.

Zoom meeting ID: 836 9720 0393

Password: 102113

Our next WOW social is on **Thursday 13th January** from 7pm-8.30pm in St Michaels, Reepham. All welcome to join us for food, chat and friendship.



Sponsored Virtual Pilgrimage

in aid of St Mary's and St Michael's Churches, Reepham

"Youth may outrun the old, but not outwit."

If you have been feeling a bit cooped up over Christmas or maybe you are looking to step up your exercise, you might like to take part in our Virtual Pilgrimage.

Pilgrims are invited to complete 158 miles by foot or by bicycle within an agreed timescale (up to 6 months). You can start at any time and can ask to be sponsored by the mile, stage or as a one off pledge. Visit the website for more information or collect a pack from the back of St Mary's, Reepham.

So far, there have been our Virtual Pilgrims have raised £503 (including Gift Aid), as well as an additional £500 raised from David Richmond's book "A Pilgrim by Nature" which chronicles the walks that made up his Virtual Pilgrimage and the wildlife, flora and fauna he encountered on the way.

A further £492 was raised from the selling Christmas Cards depicting St Mary's. Thank you to everyone who has supported the fundraising for St Mary's this year. Whether that is taking part or sponsoring those involved.



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY
TEAM CHURCHES

Pew Notes

Sunday 2nd January 2022 (Epiphany)

9am	Salle	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Reepham	Morning Worship
10.30am	Weston Longville	Holy Communion
10.30am	Elsing	Holy Communion
10.30am	Sparham	OASIS

Wishing everyone across our benefice every blessing for a new year filled with love, joy, peace and strengthening faith.

20+C+M+B+22

With wisdom a house is built. With understanding it is established. With knowledge its rooms are filled with every kind of riches, both valuable and appealing. *Proverbs 24:3-4*

Sunday 9th January (Baptism of Christ)

9am	Bylaugh	Holy Communion (BCP)
9am	Wood Dalling	Holy Communion
10.30am	Reepham	Holy Communion
10.30am	Great Witchingham	Holy Communion
10.30am	Lyng	Word and Praise

The Rev'd. Helen Rengert, 01603 879275 revdhelenrwv@gmail.com

The Rev'd. Keith Rengert, 01603 879275 revdkeith@gmail.com

The Rev'd. Judith Sweetman, 07484862962 (*Friday to Sunday*)

judith.sweetman@btinternet.com

Email Annie parishofficerwv@gmail.com to submit articles or join the mailing list. **FACEBOOK:** Reepham & Wensum Valley Events **TWITTER:** RAWTeam

WEBSITE: www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk

Pew Notes are available to download from the RWV website and the E-newsletter

Words of Light and Hope from Bishop Tony Foottit

On 1 January we celebrate Our Lord being given his name, Jesus, which means *Saviour*.

Names mark the fact that everyone is different, each with their own gifts and character. Often a surname is the name of a place, or a profession, or a nickname like mine. *Foottit* may have indicated someone who always walked instead of rode! Or it might have meant someone with distinctive feet. Sometimes a Christian name has become a surname, e.g., Andrew, Matthew, Edward (sometimes adding an 's'). Jesus calls his twelve disciples by name. Names are used to introduce a person, or to gain their attention, and to pray for them. To notice someone and affirm them by name can be a great encouragement to them.

A good question at the threshold of a New Year is: what are my special gifts and capabilities? This can lead on to a further question: what does God want me to do with my gifts? In the light of that, what should I discard and what should I take up in order to fulfil more truly what God means me to be? A good way of carrying out a New Year audit like this is to picture yourself or your organisation as a tree with its trunk (i.e. its purpose), roots (i.e. its history) and its branches (representing work and leisure, relationships and responsibilities, resources and finance). What needs pruning in order to bear fruit? Maybe we need a change of direction. It is good to end up this exercise with three or four SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timed) objectives. We may also find we need to do some pruning, i.e. getting rid of clutter. There are professional de-clutterers (if all else fails!)



Matthew 2:1-12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 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." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: '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.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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."

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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 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.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

