

Sunday 15th January (Epiphany 2)

9.30am Elmore: Holy Communion

11.00am Hardwicke school: Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 49: 1-7, John 1: 29-42

PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Ukraine, South Sudan, West Bank, Haiti, , Burkino-Faso

...Thank God for grain shipments resuming from Ukraine, and a peace agreement between Eritrea and Ethiopia

...for the sick and struggling: Lesley, Chris, Sean, Tim, Michelle K, Hilarie, Louie, Karen and Keith, Les, Sharon, Mair, Sue, Nick, Ian, Vicky, Roger, Sheryl

.....for the family and friends of Brian Strange, Ann Vick, Mary Alder, Jamie Guise, Royston Woods, Brenda Lovell, Ron Radley, Alison Evans, Pam Bodle

.....for Longney and Hardwicke PCCs' re-ordering plans, Elmore's organ and Hardwicke's bells.

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest prayer letter is at [1222-Edwards.pdf \(bmsworldmission.org\)](#)

.....for Tim Fletcher Pioneer "Sportily" Minister, working on Hunts Grove. **Please use the Benefice Prayer diary. It is on our website**

The 11am Hardwicke service will take place at Hardwicke Parochial Primary Academy, Poplar Way, on the 2nd Sunday each month.

CONFIRMATION The Bishop is conducting a Confirmation at St James' Quedgeley on 19 February 2023. If you sense this is the time God is calling you to take this important step, please speak to Richard and we will arrange your preparation, starting straight after Christmas.

Benefice of Hardwicke and Elmore with Longney

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Assistant Priest Revd George Parfitt

Licensed Readers Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

Today 8th January (Kept as Epiphany)

9.30am Longney: Holy Communion

11.00am Hardwicke school: All-age worship

1pm Hardwicke: Baptism

4pm Elmore: Evensong

Readings: Ephesians 3: 1-12, Matthew 12: 1-12

Week beginning 8 January

Monday 9th, 7.30pm Hardwicke PCC, Church House

Wed 10th, Hardwicke 9.30am Holy Communion

Sat 14th, Hardwicke, 10-12noon, Working party.

No-one shivering! Please remember that we are collecting duvets and sleeping bags to give to folk who are at home unable to afford to put the heating on. I have now given out all those I'd been given. Richard

The Collect for 8 January

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.

Readings for 8 January

Ephesians 3: 1-12

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you
Gentiles –

² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in

Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Matthew 12: 1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.'"^[b]

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.'

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.