



GRAPEVINE

Epiphany

4th January 2026

Prayer for the Day

by Revd Canon David White

God of gold, we seek your glory:
the richness that transforms our drabness into colour,
and brightens our dullness with vibrant light;
your wonder and joy at the heart of all life.

God of incense, we offer you our prayer:
our spoken and unspeakable longings, our questioning of truth;
our search for your mystery deep within.

God of myrrh, we cry out to you in our suffering:
the pain of all our rejections and bereavements,
our baffled despair at undeserved suffering,
our rage at continuing injustice;

and we embrace you, God-with-us,
in our wealth, in our yearning, in our anger and loss. Amen.

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany – a time of starlight, magi and gifts. We hear the stories of those first pilgrim wise men seeking the new born Jesus; of a dove descending on God's newly baptised Son, and of water turned to wine in Jesus's first miracle at the wedding at Cana in Galilee. In hearing these stories, we realise that living as one of us, Jesus will know love and hatred, joy and sorrow, hope and despair, worship and crucifixion. He does not flinch from experiencing fully what it means to be human.

This prayer by the United Reformed Church Minister, Jan Berry, speaks for itself and can be said as we offer the best of who we are as our own gifts to Jesus as we too seek paths of starlight and wonder.

SERVICES & OPEN CHURCHES FOR THIS WEEK

Sun. 4 th	10.00am	Holy Communion	Clifton
	10.00am	Joyful Noise	Collingham All Saints
	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton
Tues. 6 th	10.00am	Pause for Thought	Collingham St John the Baptist
	11.00am	Funeral – Doreen Green	Collingham All Saints
	10am-noon	Open Church	Collingham St John the Baptist
Thurs. 8 th	1.30-3.30pm	Open Church	Winthorpe
Sat. 10 th	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton

Open Churches: Holme and Langford churches are open every day, 10am to 4pm.

Collingham All Saints is open every day, whenever the "Church Open" sign is displayed.

NOTICES

Please note: St Helen's Church, Thorney will not be open on Sundays for quiet prayer for a while as work is underway to install heating!

The next Worship Leaders meeting will be on Monday 26th January, starting at 7pm at South Scarle.

Safeguarding: Val Watson and Sally Lee are our Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs). If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact either of them – see Contacts below. More information about safeguarding can be found on our website, www.easttrentchurches.org.uk.

Churches Together in Collingham are holding two regular house groups in the village to share a time of fellowship, prayer and discussion every alternate week. Everyone is welcome – if you're interested and would like more information, please ring Duncan Smith on 07394 325675.

For information on the **Newark Food Bank** and the **Collingham Area Pantry** please see the [Community Action](#) page on our website (under 'About Us' on the menu).

NEXT SUNDAY 11th January – Baptism of Christ

10.00am	Holy Communion	South Scarle
10.15am	Morning Worship	Winthorpe
10.30am	Morning Worship	Clifton
10.45am	United Covenant & Christian Unity Service	Collingham Methodist Church
10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton

Readings for next Sunday: Isaiah 42.1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10.34-43; Matthew 3.13-end.

PRAYER

Please pray for:

- ❖ Peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia and all other countries where there is conflict.
- ❖ Our young people and their teachers, as the new school term begins.
- ❖ Those who are homeless, lonely, ill or grieving.
- ❖ All those known to us who have recently died.
- ❖ In our year's mind – Dennis Houlston, Audrey Watson, Gwen Morrell, Kate Shelmerdine, Joan Cordon, Philip Gunn.

An Epiphany Prayer - Lord Jesus, may your light shine our way, as once it guided the steps of the magi: that we too may be led into your presence and worship you, the Child of Mary, the Word of the Father, the King of nations, the Saviour of mankind; to whom be glory for ever. Amen. (*Frank Colquhoun*)

CONTACTS

PASTORAL ENQUIRIES ~ Please contact your church warden(s).

SAFEGUARDING – Val Watson (07815 644236) or Sally Lee (01522 778691).

ALL OTHER ENQUIRIES, INCLUDING WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS, AND ITEMS FOR GRAPEVINE ~

Please contact the East Trent Group Administrator, Mrs Christine Hasman:

Telephone: 01636 679105 email: admin@easttrentchurches.org.uk

GRAPEVINE ONLINE:

<http://www.easttrentchurches.org.uk/community/east-trent-churches-7910/grapevine>

