

**Alpha – Your Questions Answered**  
(continued from page 1)

**How do I sign up?** Please find sign-up sheets on the blue notice board at the back of church. You can also contact our church office (office@denhamparish.church, 01895 832771).

**Where and when are the sessions?**

Alpha will be running at St Mark's Hall in Denham Green: Monday mornings (10.30-12.30), Monday evenings (7.30-9.30pm) and Thursday evenings (7.30-9.30pm):

Mon am	Mon pm	Thur pm
28 Jan	28 Jan	24 Jan
4 Feb	4 Feb	31 Jan
11 Feb	11 Feb	7 Feb
25 Feb	25 Feb	14 Feb
4 March	4 March	28 Feb
11 March	11 March	7 March

**Alpha Day (all groups): Saturday, 16 March, 9.15am-2.30pm, St Mark's**

18 March	18 March	21 March
25 March	25 March	28 March
1 April	1 April	4 April

**EXPLORE LIFE • FAITH • MEANING**

Alpha is coming to Denham.



Join us in January 2019!

[www.denhamparish.church/alpha](http://www.denhamparish.church/alpha)

In 2019 we are inviting all the church family and everyone in and around Denham to (re-)explore the Christian faith together. Can you make a commitment to come to one of the three? Who can you invite to come with you?

We are planning to have a **CONFIRMATION SERVICE AT ST MARY'S THIS YEAR**. Alpha is an excellent way to prepare or to work out whether you are ready to make this public commitment to your faith in Jesus.

[www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)

**WEEKLY DIARY**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00am Lifegroup for Women. *The Rectory*  
7.30pm Lifegroup *The Rectory*

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

6.00pm Youth Alpha *St Mark's House*

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00am Little Lions Toddler Group *St Mark's*

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00am Holy Communion. BCP. *St Mary's Vestry*



**LICENSING SERVICE FOR OUR NEW ASSOCIATE MINISTERS:**

**Tue 22 Jan, 7.30pm, St Mary's**

Alan Wilson, the Bishop of Buckingham will be licensing Ian Jennings and Nnamdi Maduka in our church. Refreshments afterwards. **Don't miss it and sign up on the list at the back of church!**

**Our Christmas Church Appeal raised £1600** this year. 50% will go to local homeless charities (SHOC/Trinity) and 50% to our **Church Growth Fund**, which enables us to share the love of Christ in new ways. Thank you to all who donated.

**TEARFUND is one of our five mission partners** at Denham Parish Church. I am the champion or link person to liaise between the charity and our church. Tearfund's declared goal is 'that we won't stop until poverty stops'. The charity acts globally in many countries where the need arises. That need is great and a daunting task. However we have made a start by giving money which is so badly needed. We can also pray for the work of Tearfund throughout the world. Visit [www.tearfund.org/churchresource](http://www.tearfund.org/churchresource) to find out more. Don't worry if you can't access the internet there will be a fuller article later in the magazine. *Jill Sands*

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**PAROUSIA**  
Weekly News Sheet  
**13<sup>th</sup> January 2019**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

Welcome to church! If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. During the 10.30 service there is Sunday club for children. If your child is under three or if you would like to help him/her settle, you are welcome to join in.  
*Christoph Lindner, Rector*

**Alpha - Your Questions Answered**

**What is it?** Alpha is a chance to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, informal environment: good food, even better conversations, talks that make you think.

**Is it for me?** People around the world from all backgrounds, ages and faiths have done Alpha. Their feedback shows that the vast majority have found it helpful.

**But I believe in God already!** Many Christians have found that Alpha has re-vitalised their faith. Some of us feel we cannot ask some questions because they are too 'basic'. At Alpha no question is too 'simple' or too 'difficult'.

**But I don't believe in God!** That's ok - we thank God that we live in a free country! Would you consider taking part and enriching our conversations with your perspective? You will help those who have a faith to reflect more deeply on it and you may find that some of your assumptions about Christianity (and Christians) aren't necessarily confirmed.

**Can I 'try before I buy'?** Yes! Just join us for one session and then decide whether you want to continue. There is no fee for the course, so you are not going to 'lose your money'.

**How long is it?** There are nine weekly sessions plus an Alpha Day (a half-day from 9.15am to 2.30pm on Saturday 16th March). Find all the dates on page 4.

**What if I miss a session?** Don't worry. You can catch up with the help of the manual that you will receive. You may even be able to join a different Alpha group that week (see page 4).

**I haven't got a car and don't know how to get there.** Please contact our church office and we might be able to put you in touch with another participant.

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[www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)

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## Worship today



13<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am Holy Communion St Mary's

**Sidesman:** Carlene Litchmore

**Reader:** Mary Gage

**Readings:** Rom. 12. 1-5  
Luke 2. 41-end

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer  
St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Sung Communion St Mary's:  
*Becoming a more Christ-like church*

**Sidesteam:** John Breese & Anne Thomas

**Readings and Readers:**

Colossians 1.15-20 3.12-17 Anne Thomas  
Luke 3.15-17, 21-22 Beverley Gray

**Prayers:** Carlene Litchmore

**Servers:** Sam Carter & Carlene Litchmore

**Sunday Club leader:** Sheyla Johnson

**Destiny Leader:** Francis Moloney &  
Monique Lyle

### Collect

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. **Amen.**

### Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity, you  
opened the heavens and revealed  
yourself as Father in the baptism of  
Jesus your beloved Son: by the power  
of your Spirit complete the heavenly  
work of our rebirth through waters of  
the new creation; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Colossians 1.15-20; 3. 12-17

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for in  
him all things in heaven and on earth  
were created, things visible and  
invisible, whether thrones or  
dominions or rulers or powers—all  
things have been created through him  
and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all  
things, and in him all things hold  
together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body,  
the church; he is the beginning, the  
firstborn from the dead, so that he  
might come to have first place in  
everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness  
of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and  
through him God was pleased to  
reconcile to himself all things, whether  
on earth or in heaven, by making  
peace through the blood of his cross.

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and  
beloved, clothe yourselves with  
compassion, kindness, humility,  
meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with  
one another and, if anyone has a  
complaint against another, forgive  
each other; just as the Lord has  
forgiven you, so you also must forgive.  
<sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with  
love, which binds everything together  
in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the  
peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to  
which indeed you were called in the  
one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the  
word of Christ dwell in you richly;  
teach and admonish one another in all  
wisdom; and with gratitude in your ...

... hearts sing psalms, hymns, and  
spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever  
you do, in word or deed, do everything  
in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving  
thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Luke 3:15-17, 22-22

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with  
expectation, and all were questioning in  
their hearts concerning John, whether  
he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John  
answered all of them by saying, "I  
baptize you with water; but one who is  
more powerful than I is coming; I am not  
worthy to untie the thong of his sandals.  
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit  
and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his  
hand, to clear his threshing floor and to  
gather the wheat into his granary; but  
the chaff he will burn with unquenchable  
fire." (...)

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were  
baptized, and when Jesus also had been  
baptized and was praying, the heaven  
was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit  
descended upon him in bodily form like  
a dove. And a voice came from heaven,  
"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you  
I am well pleased."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Worship next week



20<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am Holy Communion St Mary's

**Sidesman:** Carlene Litchmore

**Reader:** Stephen Barrett

**Readings:** Rom. 12. 6-16a  
John 2.1-11

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer  
St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's:  
*Becoming a more Christ-like church*

**Sidesteam:** Craig Alexander & Caroline  
Goodwin

**Readings and Readers:**

1 Cor. 12. 1-11 Robert Ash  
John 2. 1-11 Sandy Wickenden

**Prayers:** Ann Collins

**Sunday Club:** Edda Lindner

In your prayers this week, please  
remember **Vi Slade, Sean Ryde,**  
**Edward (Audrey Sells brother) and**  
**Christine Willson.** Also anyone known  
to us who is sick or suffering the pain  
of bereavement at this time especially  
the family of **Sophie 'Terrie' Davy and**  
**Jacqueline Dews (Jessie Sims'**  
**daughter).**

It is with great sadness to announce  
the passing of **Arthur Wood** who was  
a loyal member of the choir for many  
years at St Mary's.