

**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



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.

The collection at our **Christingle service** which goes to The Children's Society raised £317.00. Thank you to all who donated.

The **lost property box** is getting quite full, including 2 pairs of glasses. Please take a look at the box at the back of church and see if there is anything in there which belongs to you.

**WEEKLY DIARY**

**Monday 21st January**

10.00am Lifegroup for Women.

7.30pm Lifegroup *The Rectory*

**Tuesday 22nd January**

6.00pm Youth Alpha *St Mark's House*

7.30pm Licensing Service *St Mary's*

**Wednesday 23rd January**

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

**Thursday 24th 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**

It's not too late to join us for this service as we welcome Ian Jennings and Nnamdi Maduka, even if you haven't signed up – there will be space!

**Ian and Nnamdi at Café Church**

At our Café Church service on 3 Feb (Ian) and 3 March (Nnamdi), our new associates will be interviewed about their life and faith – why not join us even if you don't usually come?

**Our God is a great big God,  
our God is a great big God,  
our God is a great big God  
and he holds us in his hands.**

He's higher than a skyscraper  
and He's deeper than a submarine.  
He's wider than the universe  
and beyond my wildest dreams.  
And he's known me and he's loved me  
since before the world began.  
How wonderful to be a part  
of God's amazing plan.



**PAROUSIA**

Weekly News Sheet

20<sup>th</sup> January 2019

3<sup>rd</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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## Worship today



20<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
3<sup>rd</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:** Jane Brown

### Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Baptism of Jamie White

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome Jamie and uphold him in his new life in Christ?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

### Profession of Faith

Let us affirm, together with those who are being baptised, our common faith in Jesus Christ. Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

### Baptism

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified. **Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ, against sin, the world, and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

### The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: Jamie, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

### John 2. 1-11

<sup>2</sup>On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>3</sup>Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>4</sup>When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' <sup>5</sup>And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' <sup>6</sup>His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' <sup>7</sup>Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>8</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>9</sup>He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. <sup>10</sup>When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>11</sup>and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' <sup>12</sup>Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### 1 Cor. 12. 1-11

<sup>12</sup>Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup>Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Worship next week



27<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am Holy Communion St Mary's

**Sidesman:** Philip Constable

**Reader:** Roger Gage

**Readings:** Rom. 12. 16b-19  
Matt 8. 1-13

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:** Marion Francis & Joan Bell

**Readings and Readers:**

1 Cor. 12. 12-31a Beverley Gray  
Luke 4. 14-21 Ann Collins

**Prayers:** Ann Collins

**Servers:** David & Judith Babb

**Sunday Club:** Kathy Paine

4.00pm Messy church for families.

*St Mark's*

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.

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.