

Events & Services this week

Sunday 27th 10am Holy Communion - All Saints
10am Holy Communion - St John's
4pm All Saints@4 - informal contemporary worship

Wednesday 10.30am Midweek Communion – All Saints
Communion, coffee and relaxed conversation

10.30am-Noon: Coffee All Saints' every Saturday

Prayers

Of Thanks: For the most joyful Highcliffe Messy Church so far last Saturday;
For the total £326.77 raised for our Advent Appeal

For Blessing: For Winnall Messy Church Saturday on 2nd Feb

For Healing: Claire & Family; Alix Griffiths

The Departed: Brian Bell [12.45pm 29th Jan All Saints]

Send all prayer requests to Wendy in the office: office@eastwinchester.org

Coming up

Saturday 2nd 3.30pm Winnall Messy Church – Winnall Primary School

Sunday 3rd 10am All In All Saints
10am Holy Communion - St John's
4pm All Saints@4 - informal contemporary worship

Readings for next week: 3rd February – The Presentation of Christ

Malachai 3.1-5 | Hebrews 2.14-18 | Luke 2.22-40

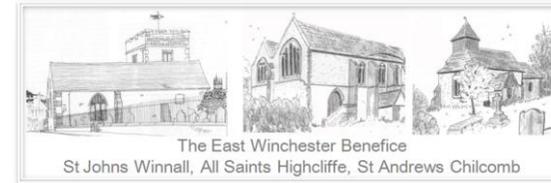
Grateful grateful

Contact Us

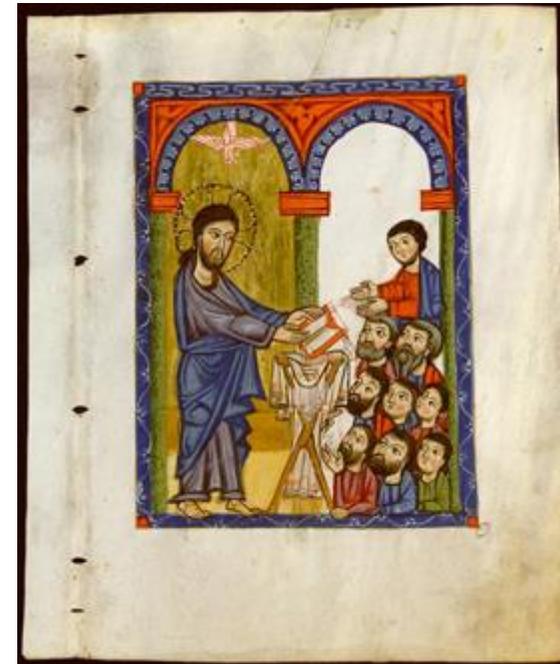
Priest-in-charge: www.eastwinchester.org
Rev. Mike Griffiths - Tel: 07866 727146
Mike.Griffiths@eastwinchester.org
Associate Priest: Rev. Christine Smith - Tel: 07751 303007
Christine.Smith@eastwinchester.org
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East Winchester Benefice



27th January 2019 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany



The Collect

God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect;

whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Luke 4.14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

The way you distinguish a true commentary from a false is this: whichever explication makes you feel fiery and hopeful, humble and active, that's the true one. If it makes you lazy, it's not right.

Rumi, 13th century Persian poet

The call to Christian living is a call to fix our eyes on the horizon of the new creation, a horizon marked by peace, justice, harmony and true life, and to 'live up' to that horizon, wrestling to live now as we will all live then. *Paula Gooder, Body: Biblical Spirituality for the Whole Person*

