

## Local abbreviations

Br : Broomfield CF : Cheddon Fitzpaine  
KSM: Kingston St Mary WM: West Monkton  
ROC – Romanian Orthodox Church  
Trad HC: Communion from Book of Common Prayer  
HC: Holy Communion Ch.Es: Choral Evensong  
Morn. Wsp: Morning Worship;  
Eve Wsp: Evening Worship

DATE	Br	CF	KSM	WM
25 <sup>th</sup> Jan		9am-2pm ROC	8.30am BCP HC  6.00pm Ch.Esong	10.00am HC
1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	<b>4.00pm</b> Plough Sunday Service	11.00am HC Speaker: Fr. Nicolae	9.30am HC	8.30am BCP HC  10.00am Morn.Wsp
8 <sup>th</sup> Feb		9am-2pm ROC	8.30am BCP HC	10.00am HC
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11.00am HC	9am-2pm ROC  6.00pm Deanery Reflection & prayer	9.30am HC	8.30am BCP HC  10.00am Morn.Wsp
22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb		9am-2pm ROC	8.30am BCP HC  6.00pm Ch.Esong	10.00am HC
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	<b>4.00pm</b> Eve Wsp.	11.00am HC	9.30am HC	8.30am BCP HC  10.00am Morn.Wsp

*Tuesday 8.30am morning prayer on Zoom. Contact the office for the link if you'd like to join in*

*Wednesdays: Bible study group in the Benefice Office 7pm. Contact the benefice office for details*

**Morning Prayer in Kingston church:** Normally Rev Jim Cox will say Morn Prayer in Kingston church on **Mon – Weds at 8.00am** do come and join him if you wish.

## Parish ministry team

Clergy: Rector: Revd Jim Cox 01823 802790 (07967 817337)

Email: [jimcox11@gmail.com](mailto:jimcox11@gmail.com) ;

Licensed Readers Rosie Brown & Peter Wright

Ele Winders – Kingston Children & Families Worker:

Email: [ksm.childrenfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:ksm.childrenfamilies@gmail.com)

Administrator: Michele Hardiman 01823 451257

Office open Mon, Tues, Weds, Fri 9am – 2pm

[office@southquantockbenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@southquantockbenefice.org.uk)

Website: <https://southquantockbenefice.org.uk/>



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

**“To know, share and spread the love of God”**

# Welcome

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**  
**25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

## Collect for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of Israel:  
make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy to your heavenly  
Father, your God, and our God. **Amen**

**Readings:** Isaiah 9: 1-4      Matthew 4: 12-23  
NT: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

## For your prayers:

Carol Carter, Charlie Way, Barbara Hastilow,  
Andy, Philippa, Bob Pettitt, Sandy & Brian Adams,  
Ray Cleave, Angela; *If you know of someone who  
wishes us to pray for them, please obtain their  
permission before you contact the Office*

## Those who have died and those who mourn them:

Audrey Mead – Broomfield church Tues 27<sup>th</sup> 2pm  
Betty Harris – West Monkton Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 12noon  
Wendy Catt – Ashes Kingston Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 1.15pm  
Barbara Coulthard – Kingston *date tba*

**Receiving Communion:** All who are baptised  
are welcome to receive bread & wine in our  
churches.

If you want to receive bread intincted in the chalice  
come to the LEFT half of the altar rail and to drink  
from the common cup to the RIGHT.

(a collection for the work of the church may be  
taken during the service)

## Readings 1<sup>st</sup> February: Candlemas

Malachi 3: 1-5      Luke 2: 22-40

NT: Hebrews 2: 14-18

## PRAYERS:

Please pray for the events taking place  
across the Benefice, that we make Christ  
known in all we do and in all our  
conversations.

## **JAN**

26<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm WM PCC at the BACH

## **FEB**

2<sup>nd</sup> 6.30pm Br PCC in the Benefice Office

7<sup>th</sup> 10am WM Coffee & More *'Trussell Trust' talk about food poverty. Please bring food donations*

10<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Deanery Synod 'Grants' open to all

11<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Mens Group: Cheddon Memorial Hall  
Talk :John Scanlon *'The war time vegetable patch'*

15<sup>th</sup> 6pm CF - Deanery Evening service

18<sup>th</sup> 11.30am KSM Ash Weds service & lunch

18<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm WM – Ash Weds service

23<sup>rd</sup> 10.30am Lent Group begins – *book via office*

24<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Wardens meeting in the office

25<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Bath Abbey Trip – see below

25<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Lent Group begins – *book via office*

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### **Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 11am: Cheddon Church:**

Fr. Nicolae, pastor at the Romanian Orthodox Church will preach at the 11am service in Cheddon. It will be an opportunity for us all to hear him and ask him questions after church.

### **West Monkton: Thursday and Friday 5 /6 February**

Between 9am - 1pm church cleaning. All help welcome. Refreshments available.

### **West Monkton – Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 10am Coffee & more**

*'Trussell Trust' talk about food poverty. Please bring food donations*

### **Mens Group: Weds 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm. Cheddon**

**Memorial Hall.** Talk by John Scanlon *'The wartime vegetable patch'*.

**WM Bath Abbey Trip: 25<sup>th</sup> Feb – cost £30:** The coach will leave the Bus Stop opposite the Village hall at 9am promptly. We will aim to leave Bath at approximately 3pm. The entry ticket to the Abbey, includes a Self-guided tour and entry to the Discovery Museum and the Embroidery Exhibition.

*Threads Through the Cross.* To book click the link:  
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/westmonktonchurchfundraisers/1956052>

### **LENT GROUPS BEGIN W/C 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb:**

We will be following the Pilgrim Book *'Turning to Christ'*. Mondays 10.30am at Tricia's or Weds 7pm in the benefice office. *(please sign up via the office so we ensure we have enough books)*

## **Reading: Matthew 4: 12-23**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> 'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.'

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

<sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. <sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

### **Reflection on Matthew 4: 12-23**

The powerful imagery that we read in John's gospel continues here. "The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light." This seems to resonate even more on these wintery days and with the news so full of conflict and devastation. Thank goodness for the prospect of light today however dim it must seem for so many. Jesus's choice of followers is interesting and instructive. They were working class men with no religious authority or influence. Therein of course lies their attraction to Jesus. It says something about the aura surrounding Jesus that they left and followed him so readily to become fishers of men (and women.) How might we have reacted to the invitation? It would be easy to think that we would probably have found reasons not to do so positively but I wonder if Jesus's presence would have made following him simply irresistible. I like to think it would

David Way