**Services for next week:**

**Hampton-in-Arden**

**Thursday 9th:**

10am Communion

**Sunday 12th:**

8.15am B.C.P.

11am Eucharist

6.30pm Compline

**Bickenhill**

**Sunday 12th**

11am Eucharist

**Barston**

**Sunday 12th**

9.45am Prayer Time

10.30am Holy Communion with Archdeacon Phelim O’Hare.

**Readings for next week**: Acts 8 v14-17; Luke 3 v15-17, 21,22.

**We pray for:** Bob Middleton, David Mort, Mike Beasley, Ann Hall, Tony Worthington, Andrew and Rene Sumner, Derrick Hill, Angela Jones, Mona Cardall, Dot Barton and Richard Herne.

Rick Smallwood, Paul Pilkington-Birch, Gloria Stidworthy, Martin Maxfield, Richard Stretton, David Scannell and Colin McDonald.

We also pray for the families of those who have died; Bill Jones, Matthew Hunt, Martin Cox, Audrey Hurdley, Moira Kyles, Coralie Cain and Pamela Wilson.

(Please note, to keep the names of those we pray for up to date, they will be reviewed each month, so if you would like people to be prayed for do let us know at [office@hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk))



**BARSTON. BICKENHILL. HAMPTON**

**Three Churches Together**

* Sharing God’s Love
* Growing Faith
* Worshipping Together

**5th January 2025 Epiphany.**

Ephesians 3 v1-12; Matthew 2 v1-12

**Thought for the week**.

Among all the depressing news of safeguarding failures in the Church of England, I have clung onto some hope close to home. Steph Haynes, Birmingham C of E’s safeguarding lead, is a former police officer with specialist experience in child

protection. I value and trust the advice we’re given by her and her team.

The wise men assumed that the Messiah would be found in the King’s palace in

Jerusalem. Not so. The star took them to a humble building six miles away.

We shouldn’t assume or even expect that we’ll find Jesus in the corridors of power.

He generally sought out people who were ostracised from society, not running it. All

the same, we need Christ-like voices to be heard loud and clear in the decision- making of our church and society. I, for one, am thankful for the likes of Steph.

**M.C.**

**Collect**

Creator of the heavens,

who led the Magi by a star

to worship the Christ-child:

guide and sustain us,

that we may find our journey’s end

in Jesus Christ our Lord.



**The Alpha Course** is running at Knowle Church on Wednesday evenings 7.30-9.30pm starting on 22nd January 2025. This provides a chance to freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone is very welcome. To book e-mail [alpha@kpc.org.uk](mailto:alpha@kpc.org.uk) or phone Knowle Parish Office 01564 779123.

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**Hampton**

* A reminder that next Saturday (10-12am) is our **table top sale** in the church hall to raise much needed funds for our church. Please consider either having a table (book through Anna) or come along and support the stallholders and have some refreshments.
* Tea and Toast Friday 10th January 9-10.15am.
* Help needed to fund a car taking supplies to Ukraine, donations to Kim Rawson.
* Our focus for our next **foodbank donation** to the Community Essentials project in Olton will be pasta sauces and dog/cat food. These are things the team run particularly short of but all donations as usual are gratefully received.
* Pamela Wilson’s funeral will be held at 1.30pm on January 9th at Robin Hood Crematorium.
* **Thank you** to Priscilla for taking down the church Christmas decorations and packing them away for next year.

**Barston**

* **No Big Breakfast this month.**
* Tuesday 7th January Hobby House 10-12am and Tea Club at 2-4pm. Consider who you might like invite to either of these events. There is always space for more folk.
* Wednesday 8th January Service at **Eastcote Park** at 11am. A new year and the first service of 2025. An opportunity to have a service with the residents at the home. A big thank you to Charles for organising this twice a month and for those who take part in this worthwhile village ministry.
* Thank you to all those helping to take down Christmas decorations, a time-consuming job!