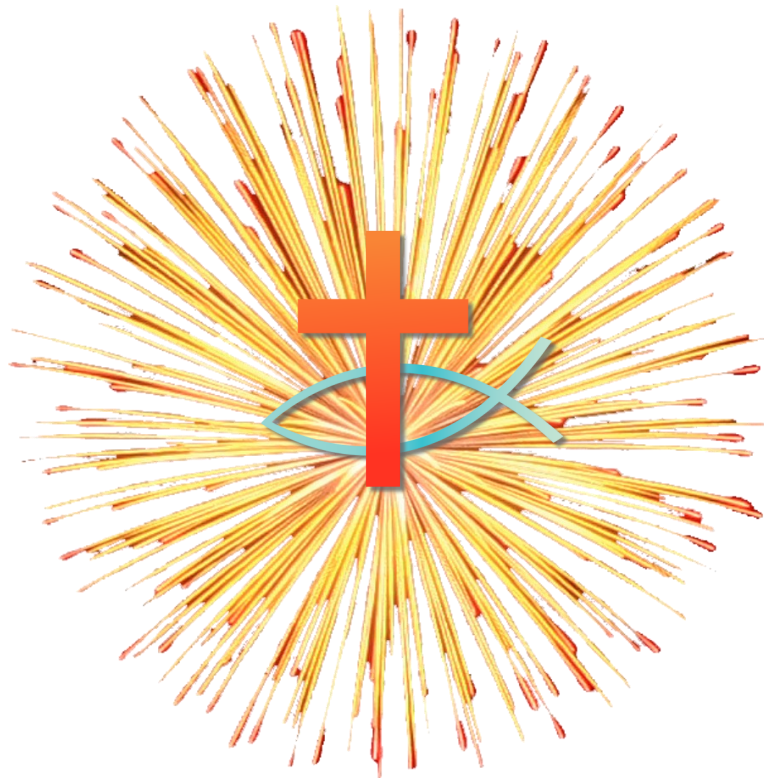


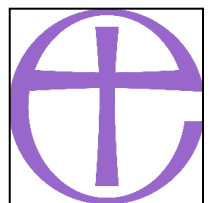
The Churches of Lilleshall and Muxton **January**

50p



Wishing you all treasured memories,
beautiful moments and God's blessings in...

2024



Wrekin Creative Textiles Group at St John's Church

We meet 7.45pm on the 4th
Wednesday of the month
(except December)

24th January 2024
Workshop with Hilary Adams

For details contact
wrekinsecretary@gmail.com



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PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

On 6th January the Church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany. It's good to remind ourselves of what we understand by 'an Epiphany'. It's an occasion when God reveals himself to us in a particular way - when he touches our life through the power of a particular experience.

In Ephesians 3: 2-3, St Paul makes reference to his great personal Epiphany, when God revealed Himself to Paul in dramatic fashion on the road to Damascus - not only bringing about Paul's conversion to Christianity, but also resulting in him being assigned a particular vocation, described here as a 'commission of God's grace'; namely to bring the gospel to the non-Jewish peoples.

But when the Church refers to 'The Epiphany' we are remembering and celebrating the visit of the wise men from the East to the infant Jesus. And in this instance too we are recalling how God touched those wise men through the power of their experience. They wouldn't have been able to capture a photographic image of the Holy Family but we can be sure that they carried with them a mental image of that scene for the rest of their lives, and we can imagine what a source of inspiration that would have been. When Matthew speaks of them returning to their country 'by another road' he may indeed be suggesting that their lives had fundamentally changed course as a result of the encountering the Christ child.

So what might it mean for us to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany? Surely it has to be a second-hand experience, because we can't see the Holy family in the same way as the wise men, we can't channel the power of their experience...

Perhaps not, but today we can celebrate our own Epiphanies, our own moments, times of revelation by flicking through the album of our own faith journey. Whose are the faces we see, the people who speak to us of God? Who have been our guiding stars? And what are the situations, events, conversations, that remain imprinted on our memory, because, through them, we felt that God had come close to us?

The 'album' of our faith is the most precious possession that we have because it is uniquely personal to us, a series of pictures, whether mental 'snapshots' or those in physical form, which represent key points in our journey of faith. An Epiphany resolution that we might do well to consider, is to find opportunities, initially perhaps within our church families, to share with one another snapshots from our faith journeys. It might bring us closer together, deepening our understanding of one another. But it might also serve as a dry run for our own version of Paul's mission to the Gentiles, because talking about the power of God in our lives is the most effective form of evangelism.

We do not know how the wise men bore witness to their Epiphany though we certainly know how St Paul bore witness to his. The question for us, is how to bear witness to ours?



ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS', LILLESHALL SERVICES IN JANUARY

9.30am

Time unless
otherwise stated

<i>7 Jan</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>
14 Jan	Morning Worship
<i>21 Jan</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>
28 Jan	Morning Worship

WORSHIP



LUNCH

and
MUSIC



All welcome!

St Michael's Church, Lilleshall at 12noon

At St Michael's Church, Lilleshall there is a service of Holy Communion at noon followed by a lunch and a short recital on the first Thursday of each month and weekly during Lent.

Our Worship Lunch and Music in **2024** begins on

**Ash Wednesday 14th February followed by weekly on
22nd & 29th February**

There is no cost for lunch, but a donation is invited.

St John's , Muxton - Services in JANUARY

11.00am

(unless otherwise indicated)

<i>7 Jan</i>	<i>Morning Worship</i>
14 Jan	Holy Communion
<i>21 Jan</i>	<i>11am Morning Worship 6.30pm Now Worship</i>
28 Jan	Holy Communion

Our services are also livestreamed over YouTube...St John's Muxton
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB6N81vubkdzSYD7rCPfw5Q>

BUILDING MANAGEMENT TEAM

The BM Team have their meeting on **Monday 8th January 7.30pm**
(Subject to change)

EVANGELISM TEAM

The Evangelism/Sub Group committee are meeting next on
Monday 8th & 29th January @ 7.30pm



St John's Lunchclub

...meets in January on...

Friday 5th at 12noon
at a cost of £5 (2courses)



Are you interested in joining a like minded group of people knitting/crochet and doing some crafts over a good old chat and a cuppa?!

We meet together on a Tuesday afternoon 2-4pm at St John's Church, Muxton.

If you are interested in coming along please contact 07948 094272 or the Church office 670033 for further details...

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TF3 3BQ

Tel: 01952 586646

E: admin@telfordcrisissupport.org.uk

W: www.telfordcrisissupport.org.uk

Stafford Park hub open between 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday.
See their website for a list of food and non food items needed.

What's on at St John's Church & Community Centre 01952 670033			
Monday	Slimming World - 2 x sessions		
Tuesday	Tiny Tots - 10am Term Time only	Knit & Natter 2-4pm	Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Rangers Term Time Only
Wednesday	Aerobics over '50s' 11am	In Stitches 3rd Wednesday 2-4pm	Community Choir 5.30-6.30pm weekly
	Muxton Ladies 1st Wednesday 7.45pm	'A Novel Idea' Book club 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm	Wrekin Textile Group 4th Wednesday 7.30pm
Thursday	Forget me Not Film (Monthly) - from 9.15am	Various housegroups throughout the day	Beacon - 7.45pm (Mid Week Church)
Friday	Lunchclub -12noon (over 50's) 1st Friday of most months	Join us 4 a Cuppa! Monthly 11am-1pm (usually 3rd Friday)	Youth Café Sub:Zero/Extra - 4.30-6.30pm Yr 7-13 Term time on a Friday
Saturday	Tuition 9am-10.30am	<i>Available for Hire</i>	
Sunday	Church Services	Limited Availability for Parties/Functions	

What's on at St Michael's Church, Lilleshall 01952 670033			
Tuesday	Bell ringing - Weekly 7pm		
Wednesday	The Coffee Lounge 9.30am-4.30pm	Bell ringing for beginners Weekly 7pm	Choir Practice Weekly 7pm
Thursday	Worship, Lunch & Music 1st Thursday of most months at 12noon and Weekly during Lent	<i>'Pop in for Coffee'</i> <i>2nd Thursday 10am</i> <i>(except during Lent)</i> BACK IN SPRING 2024	
Sunday	Church Services		



Are you in need of another adult's company and conversation?
Is your child in need of another child's company and conversation?
If so, come along to St John's Tiny Tots, St John's Church in Muxton.

We meet **Tuesday mornings 10am** during term time and we extend a warm welcome to all children under school age and their parents or carers. Cost is from £3 per family with up to 2 children (a small extra charge for additional children).

Youth Café at St John's Church, Muxton

**Calling all young people in Yrs 7-13....
come and join us EVERY Friday (term time only)**

New time of.... 4.30pm – 6.30pm

**Games Consoles, tuck shop, pool/snooker,
table football
and more.....**



Calling all walkers! We meet at St John's 10am on Wednesdays for a gentle, local walk of around an hour. All are welcome. Please contact 670033 for further information.

The new year often begins for many people with resolutions on how we can improve our lifestyle or learn something new in the coming year. These aspirations often focus on health and physical fitness goals, but it's also a good time to review our mental and spiritual wellbeing – maybe reflecting on questions such as, what interests me, what can I offer, what's my role, how could I serve my congregation and community? These are questions we would call 'vocation' questions.

We've had a popular introductory course for thinking about vocation in Lichfield Diocese for many years, and after a short break the Pathways course is back! The Vocations and Training team have reimagined Pathways to make it more flexible and accessible and we'd love you to come and join us.

Pathways has three modules that run throughout the year. The modules are designed to prompt people to explore vocational questions through different books of the New Testament (The Gospel of Mark, 1 Corinthians and the Book of Acts). People can complete one, two or all three modules. Each module is design to be completed during an academic term, around 12 weeks in total. Each module is structured as below:

- Introduction – 1 hour Zoom gathering.
- 4 weeks of online content (one section per week, around 1 hour)
- A mid-way 1 hour Zoom gathering.
- 3/4 weeks of online content (one section per week, around 1 hour)
- Final 1 hour Zoom gathering.

There are points throughout the online content where we will ask you to leave a comment on an online discussion board (forum) as part of the course. And there is the option at the end of a module to provide a final reflection.

Our 'Exploring Vocation through Mark's Gospel' module begins on Wednesday 24th January, 7.30 – 8.30pm with an online Zoom together. Costs should not be a barrier, but we ask for £10 from your parish, per module. Please contact us if this is an issue.

Applications need to be submitted through our online booking form which can be accessed from the website (search for Pathways). You will need your Incumbent/Vicar's agreement to join this course as well as access to a laptop/computer. Any questions please contact Helen (helen.scheven@lichfield.anglican.org)

There is also the option for deaneries to facilitate an in-person Pathways module(s) locally should you have the numbers for this – please contact Helen for further information about this option.



Helen Scheven is the Training Coordinator for the diocese's Vocations and Training department with an oversight of the Pathways course.

For further information and application form, please see lichfield.anglican.org/vocations-and-training/pathways-to-ministry



Forget Me Not Films

Come and join us *usually* on the 3rd Thursday of each month to watch a classic film and enjoy tea and cake.
All welcome!

Where? St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton

When From 9.15am to 12noon (film starts at 9.30am)

Cost? Free!

For more information contact Jo Lefroy on 01952 604281

Next Film: Big Red

On Thursday 18th January 2024



Join us 4 a Cuppa!

Monthly on a Friday



on Friday 19th January 11am - 1pm

Light refreshments available

Bring & Buy

at St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton



Winter Moths

When the nights are long and cold, we do not think of seeing insects, but spare a thought for the Winter Moth which can withstand freezing temperatures and can be seen on the wing between October and January.

For many of us, we see the Winter Moth in car headlights when driving in small lanes after dark, it is pale brown in colour and can be seen fluttering. They are attracted to light however, and so will come to a moth trap if you want a closer look. Winter Moths are widespread, occurring in many places with trees and shrubs, so not particularly a churchyard species but, as with so many other creatures, churchyards will be a haven for them, particularly if they provide a space away from artificial lights which can be so disorientating to insects.

Unusually, females cannot fly, they have small stubby wings and are dark grey, giving them camouflage as they clamber up tree trunks to summon males. The females attract a mate by giving off pheromones, which draw in the flying males. Their eggs are then laid on the bark of the tree and don't hatch until spring, when tiny green caterpillars emerge. The caterpillars feed on tree leaves, eating a range of species including oak, sycamore, beech and willow. Caterpillars can also travel from tree to tree by spinning long threads of silk which act as a sail, carrying them through the air.

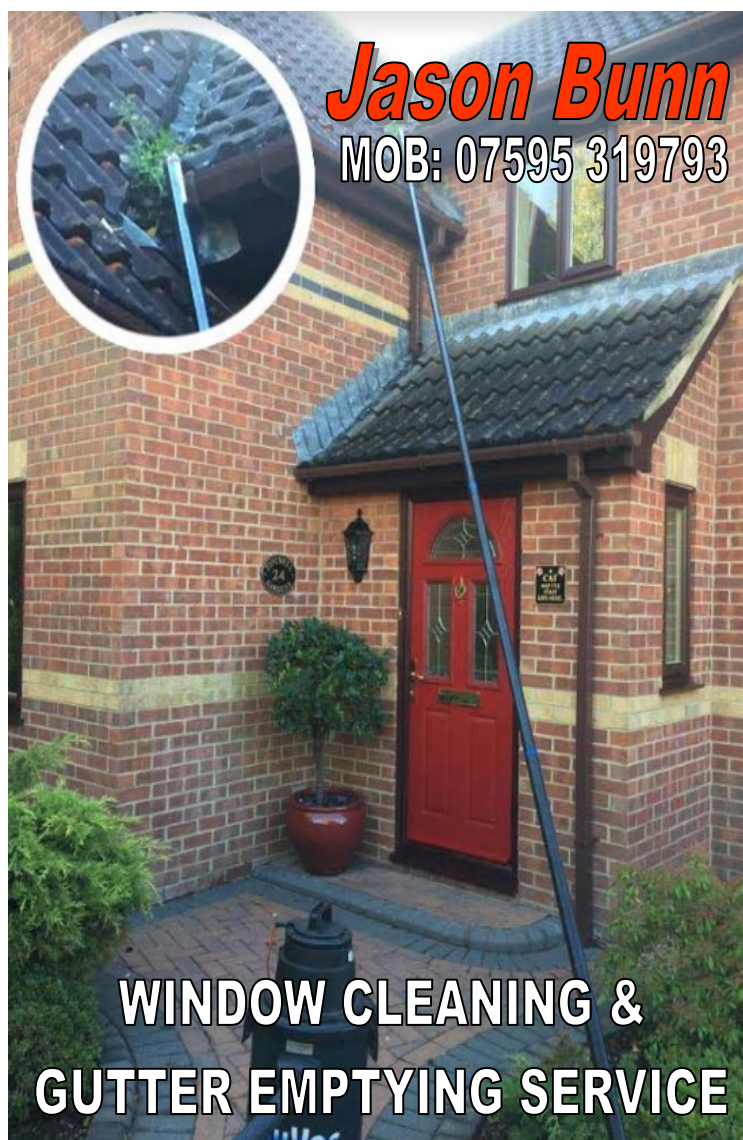
In the spring Winter Moth caterpillars are an important food for woodland birds, particularly the tit family. In January there is less food around and these small birds can be seen searching within the crevasses and nooks and crannies of trees for a range of adult invertebrates including Winter Moths, and also the overwintering larvae of other species.

Why not take a torch-lit walk and see if you can see a Winter Moth or even, if you are lucky, a female on a tree trunk. Alternatively wait for spring and look in April or May for the caterpillars chomping leaves, or a bluetit eating a caterpillar! The caterpillars are tiny, green and have a dark stripe on the top of their bodies. If you care for a church or churchyard then please consider the insects when planning outdoor lighting, having dark areas or lights which go off for part of the night can be beneficial to many species.

All the best, Harriet Carty



Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor, harriet@cfga.org.uk,
www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**



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Enquiries: Church Office 01952 670033

Thank you!



.Dear friends. Thank you so much St Michael's for your recent gracious gift of £200 to CARE. We really appreciate and need your support for our ongoing work. www.care.org.uk

tearfund

Thank you St Michael's for your church's gift of £200. Your generosity is helping to provide a livelihood and hope to people. www.tearfund.org



Thank you St Michael's for your cheque for £200. We are a voluntary organisation that relies on grants and donations, so we are always very grateful for the support of churches.



Thank you St Michael's for the very kind donation taken from your Remembrance Day Service totalling £80.05. Donations are vital to help our serving, ex-service and veterans of the Armed Forces.



Thank you St Michael's for your latest donation of £200 to CPAS supporting the vital ministry to enable us to equip church leaders for local mission. www.cpas.org.uk

Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

MUXTON LADIES' CLUB

Wednesday 3rd January



Meetings are held at St John's Muxton
at **7.45 pm** on the first Wednesday of the month

LILLESHALL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Tuesday 16th January
Competition: A soothing CD

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Meetings are held in Lilleshall Memorial Hall
At 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month



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ROTAS FOR JANUARY

ST MICHAEL'S

Sidespersons

9.30am

7 Jan Janet
14 Jan Cedric
21 Jan Harry & Katrina
28 Jan Fran

6.30pm

Coffee

9.30am

Philippa & Dee
Dave & Sue
Dave & June
Clive & Julie

Brass Cleaning

2 Jan
7 Jan
24 Jan
Jan Fran

Holy Dusters

Jean & Louise
Gill R

Flowers

Fran

ST JOHN'S

Sidesperson

7 Jan Wendy & John
14 Jan Cathy
21 Jan Stan & Susan
28 Jan Dom, Martie & family

Coffee

Wendy & John
Chris K & Sue F
Jo & Di
Dom, Martie & family

Communion

Pam & Simon T
Geoff & Judith

Flowers

21 Jan Ann L

Church Office Hours

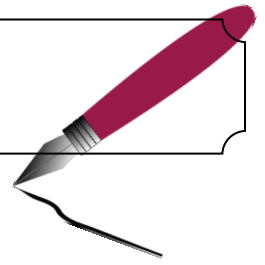
Monday 9am - 3pm

Tuesday 8.30am - 12noon

Friday 9am - 3pm

01952 670033

FROM THE REGISTERS



WEDDINGS

28 Dec Service at St Michael & All Angels' Church, Lilleshall
Benjamin HIMSWORTH and Scarlett JONES of Church Road, Lilleshall

We congratulate Ben & Scarlett as they begin married life! We pray that they will experience the presence of Christ holding them together in love and faithfulness now and in the future.

FUNERALS

In their sadness, may those who have lost loved ones know the peace of Christ upholding them at this time. We extend our sympathy and prayers to those who have recently been bereaved.





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TABLATURE



WHO'S WHO

Vicar:	Matthew Lefroy	25 Church Road	604281
Curate:	Vikki Day		764568
Ordained Local Minister:	Jane Evans	Collett Way	291340
Readers:	David Pierce	Burlington Farm	850231
	Robyn Evans	Collett Way	291340
	Heiko Capper	The Stables	677780
	Paula Capper	The Stables	677780
	Jon Rawson	Woodspring Grove	605400
Evangelism Minister:	Jan Stackhouse	Muxton Lane	604775
Church Administrator:	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
Baptism Coordinator:	C/O	St John's Office	670033
Office e-mail address:	admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk		
Web Site address:	www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk		

ST MICHAEL'S, LILLESHALL

Churchwarden:	Frances Taylor	Gower Close	604718
Assistant Wardens:	John Morris and David Lawrence		
PCC Secretary:	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
PCC Treasurer:	Cedric Ayres	Willmoor Lane	606053
Gift Aid:	Stuart & Chris Rutherford	Pine View	604330
Pastoral Coordinator:	Angie Vann		606008
Organist:	Ann Jones		07866 142096
Bell Ringing Leader:	Matthew Lawrence		228795
Web Site address	www.stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk		
Office e-mail address	admin@stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk		

ST JOHN'S, MUXTON

Churchwarden:	Andrew Hambler	Coniston Drive	200351
	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
PCC Secretary:	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
PCC Treasurer:	Simon Hartridge	Wellington Road	670033
Gift Aid:	Please ring Church Office		
Pastoral Coordinator:	Julie Shelley	Roe Deer Drive	07974 625977
Music Leader:	Nigel West	Muxton Lane	606804

CHURCH & VILLAGE HALLS

The James Memorial Hall, Lilleshall:

Manager (Hall Hire):	Chris Bird 01952 929852 or 07776156575
Caretaker:	Paul Davies 01952 273480 or 07896488958

St John's Church, Muxton: Administrator & Building Manager 670033

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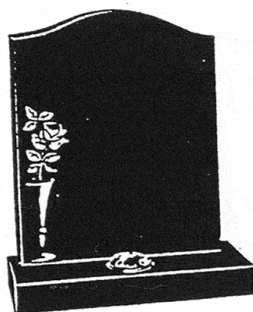
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LILLESHALL RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY

(Registered Charity No. 216246)

The Lilleshall Relief in Need Charity is able to give small grants to people who live in the ecclesiastical parishes of Lilleshall, Muxton and Donnington who are encountering financial difficulties. It usually makes modest one-off payments to help with specific expenses or arrears. Applicants need to complete an application form which includes details of income & expenditure. All information is treated with the strictest of confidence. If you think Relief in Need can help you please contact St John's Church Office 670033.

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