

UNITED BENEFICE OF CRADLEY MATHON AND STORRIDGE

Essential news from around the benefice on Sunday 20 January 2019 ;
3rd Sunday of Epiphany (BCP Epiphany 2)

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

Readings: Isaiah 62: 1-5 (At Mathon Job 37: 14-24); John 2: 1-11

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| 9.30 a.m. | Mattins – Lay led: Address by David Armitage | Mathon |
| 9.30 a.m. | Holy Communion (BCP) | StorrIDGE |
| 10.30 a.m. | Morning Service -Lay led: Address by Kevin Brewer | Cradley |

WEEKDAY SERVICES

EVENING PRAYER Monday 4.30pm at Cradley, Tuesday 6.30pm at Mathon, Wednesday 4.30pm at StorrIDGE

HOLY COMMUNION (CW) on Wednesday at Cradley at 10.00 a.m.

EVENTS & MEETINGS

BENEFICE CHURCHWARDENS MEETING: Monday 21 January 7.30 p.m. at Yew Tree House, Mathon (courtesy of the Seymours)

STORRIDGE PCC CHANGE OF DATE TO 13 February 7.30 p.m. at Scots Craig, courtesy of the Hurlcs.

'SOUP AND PLOUGHMAN'S SUPPER EVENING' at Cradley Village Hall on Saturday 26 January, including a presentation about the work of David Fanshawe, composer, musical explorer and sound recordist, during travels in Africa, Arabia and the Pacific. Tickets £10.00, from Ian Bailey (01886 884682).

This year's BENEFICE MORNING is planned for SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY, 9.30am - 12.30 at Cradley Village Hall - to discuss priorities in our three parishes and as a United Benefice for the next 12 months. Please make every effort to come, and put the date in your diary now!

DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Teach us to pray often, that we may pray oftener. (Jeremy Taylor, 1613-67)

TODAY IN OUR PRAYERS: World Religion Day, today, was first celebrated in Portland, Maine under the title of "World Peace Through World Religion." Pray that religion may be a force for peace, understanding and justice in today's world. Pray also for events and services today within the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.. **In the wider Church**, pray for The United Church of Bangladesh, for The Most Revd Paul Shishir Sarker - Moderator, Church of Bangladesh & Bishop of Dhaka, and all who are part of the church community in that part of the world. Pray for the church where it is persecuted or opposed, and for all who face discrimination because of their beliefs. **In our diocese**, pray for all that helps and encourages outreach to and work with families and young people within our Diocese, and for all involved in (e.g.) Messy Church, Open the Book, innovative family worship and community groups. **In our country** pray for all involved in negotiations about 'Brexit': for our country's future relations with Europe and the rest of the world, and for all who are anxious or worried about the future. **In the wider world**, continue to pray for "Peace on Earth". Pray for an end to the conflicts in Syria, Yemen, Sudan, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Palestine (especially Gaza), and Myanmar / Burma: and all other places where there is war. Pray for all places of fear and conflict, and for all who work for peace: for every family where there is division: for all victims of famine and for communities damaged by natural disaster. **Among the sick**, we pray for Heather George, Christine Washbrook, recovering from surgery: for Brenda Harrison, Natalie, Elspeth Barks, Margaret Adams, Frank Davies and any others known to us, with all who support and care for them. **Remember all who have died recently**, among them Steve Ireland. Pray for their families and all who mourn.

NEXT SUNDAY -Sunday 27 January: Epiphany 4, (BCP 3rd after Epiphany)

Readings: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a; Luke 4: 14-21

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| 9.30 a.m. | Shorter Mattins | Mathon |
| 9.30 a.m. | Mattins -Lay led | StorrIDGE |
| 10.30 p.m. | Family Communion (CW) | Cradley |

Rector: Revd. Robert Ward, Tel: 01886 880438, E-mail: robert.ward776@gmail.com (Day off: Friday)

www.cradleychurch.org.uk; www.mathonchurch.org.uk; www.storrIDGEchurch.org.uk