

There will be **no** weekday services this week.

All this week we pray particularly for those who live or work along **Mill Lane** and **Mill Road** in Great Witchingham.

**Please continue to pray for the sick & those in need:**

*Sheila Crane; Stella Green; Eunice Hutchins; Margaret; Tottie Ottaway*

**RIP** Ray White

### Next Sunday: Epiphany 2

8:00 am The Eucharist at Swannington  
9:00 am Holy Communion (1662) at Ringland (Canon Peter Halls)  
10:00 am Holy Communion (1662) at Great Witchingham  
10:00 am Children's service at Swannington  
6:00 pm Evensong at Alderford

### Future Events:

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> 3:30 pm 'All Saints Alive' after-school club  
at Great Witchingham School  
Wed 21<sup>st</sup> 7:30 pm Swannington singers rehearse at The Firs  
Thur 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 pm Women's World Day of Prayer service planning  
meeting at The Old Hart, Weston Longville

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January: The Conversion of St Paul

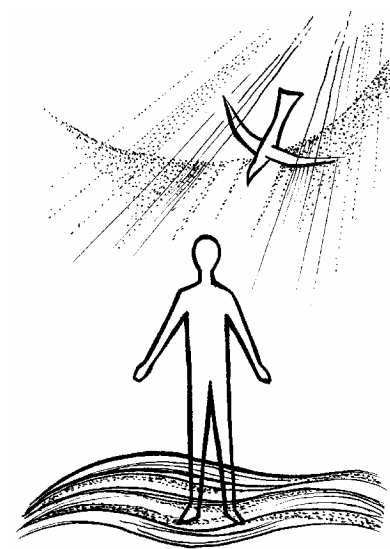
8:00 am Holy Communion (1662) at Great Witchingham  
9:00 am Morning Prayer (Common Worship) at Ringland  
led by the churchwardens  
10:00 am The Eucharist at Alderford

**NB** No Evensong at Weston Longville; the farewell service  
for Archdeacon Martin Gray is Evensong at the cathedral at 3:30 pm.

## ST MARGARET, SWANNINGTON

Sunday 11 January 2009

10:00 am



*The Eucharist*  
for *The Baptism of Christ*

Awake! Awake!  
    fling off the night,  
for God has sent  
    his glorious light;  
and we who live  
    in Christ's new day  
must works of darkness  
    put away.

Awake and rise,  
    like men renewed,  
men with the Spirit's  
    power endued.  
The light of life in us must glow,  
and fruits of truth and goodness  
    show.

Then sing for joy, and use each day;  
give thanks for everything alway;  
Lift up your hearts; with one accord  
praise God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Lord be with you  
*and also with you.*

**Please sit down**

*Words of welcome and explanation, and possibly a short congregational music practice,  
before we **stand again** and say together:*

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.*

Let in the light; all sin expose  
to Christ, whose life  
    no darkness knows.  
Before his cross  
    for guidance kneel;  
his light will judge,  
    and judging, heal.

Awake, and rise up from the dead,  
and Christ his light on you will shed.  
Its powers will  
    wrong desires destroy,  
and your whole nature  
    fill with joy.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;  
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,  
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,  
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;  
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;  
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;  
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;  
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:  
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:  
be thou mine inheritance now and always;  
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;  
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun,  
O grant me its joys after victory is won;  
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

108  
Go in peace to love  
and serve the Lord In the name of

110  
Christ, A men

*After communion:*

Let us pray

**Please sit or kneel, as you are comfortable**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
who opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through the same, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood  
of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.*

May God the Father,  
who led the wise men by the shining of a star  
to find the Christ, the Light from Light,  
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.  
May God the Son,  
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,  
transform your lives and make glad your hearts.  
May God the Holy Spirit,  
who came upon the beloved Son  
at his baptism in the river Jordan,  
pour out his gifts on you  
who have come to the waters of new birth.  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

#### COLLECT OF THE DAY

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Please sit**

#### OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 1.1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day,

and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

## PSALM 29

**Response:** *May the Lord bless his people with peace.*

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. *(Response)*

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.  
The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;  
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. *(Response)*

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
he makes Lebanon skip like a calf  
and Sirion like a young wild ox. *(Response)*

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. *(Response)*

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare;  
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!' *(Response)*

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.  
The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. *(Response)*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

***Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.***

*Communicant members of all Christian churches are warmly invited to receive communion. If you are not a communicant, but would like to receive a blessing, please bring this service booklet to the altar rail with you.*

*At the distribution:*

The Body of Christ. ***Amen.***

The Blood of Christ. ***Amen.***

*During communion, the choir will sing the hymn Christ, be our light by Bernadette Farrell. Please join in with the refrains if you wish.*

Longing for light, we wait in darkness;  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see:

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered today.*

Longing for peace,  
our world is troubled;  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone  
has power to save us;  
Make us your living voice:  
*Christ, be our light . . .*

Longing for food,  
many are hungry,  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread,  
broken for others,  
shared until all are fed:  
*Christ, be our light . . .*

Longing for shelter,  
many are homeless,  
Longing for warmth,  
many are cold.  
Make us your building,  
sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone:  
*Christ, be our light . . .*

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts  
that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come:  
*Christ, be our light . . .*

71 *♩ = 76*  
 (Organ) O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the

94  
 sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

97  
 O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, have

100  
 mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God, that

103  
 tak-est a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace

## NEW TESTAMENT READING: Acts 19.1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Please stand**

The sinless one to Jordan came  
 To share our fallen nature's blame;  
 God's righteousness  
     he thus fulfilled  
 And chose the path  
     his Father willed.

Uprising from the waters there,  
 The voice from heaven  
     did witness bear  
 That he, the Son of God, had come  
 To lead his scattered people home.

Above him see the heavenly Dove,  
 The sign of  
     God the Father's love,  
 Now by the Holy Spirit shed  
 Upon the Son's anointed head.

How blest that mission then begun  
 To heal and save a race undone;  
 Straight to the wilderness he goes  
 To wrestle with his people's foes.

Dear Lord,  
     let those baptised from sin  
 Go forth with you a world to win,  
 And send the Holy Spirit's power  
 To shield them  
     in temptation's hour.

On you shall all your people feed  
 And know you are  
     the Bread indeed  
 Who gives eternal life to those  
 That with you died,  
     and with you rose.

**Please remain standing**

**THE GOSPEL: Mark 1.4-11**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark:



John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**Please sit for the sermon**

**Please stand for the hymn:**

**Please kneel or sit as you are comfortable**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

*Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
*Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.*

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:  
***Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.***

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of  
the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Margaret and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Now is eternal life  
if ris'n with Christ we stand,  
In him to life reborn,  
and holden in his hand;  
No more we fear  
                  death's ancient dread,  
In Christ arisen from the dead.

Man long in bondage lay,  
brooding o'er life's brief span;  
Was it, O God, for naught,  
for naught, thou madest man?  
Thou art our hope,  
                  our vital breath;  
Shall hope undying end in death?

And God, the living God,  
stooped down to man's estate;  
By death destroying death  
Christ opened wide life's gate.  
He lives, who died;  
                  he reigns on high;  
Who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine,  
reign thou  
                  within my heart;  
From thee nor depth nor height,  
nor life nor death can part;  
My life is hid in God with thee,  
Now and through all eternity.

#### **Please turn to face the font**

*The priest pours water into the font and says*

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.  
***Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.***

*To bless the water the priest says the following prayer*

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
for your gift of water in creation;  
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,  
bringing light and life;  
for your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
baptized in the river Jordan.

We bless you for your new creation,  
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,  
and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,  
washing away our sins.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit  
move upon these waters.  
Restore through them the beauty of your creation,  
and bring those who are baptized  
to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement,  
anoint your children with power from on high,  
and make them one with Christ  
in the freedom of your kingdom;  
for all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,  
now and for ever. *Amen.*

God of truth,  
as you are faithful to the covenant you have made with us,  
look in mercy on your people.  
From all our sins, O Lord:  
*wash us, and we shall be clean.*

We have broken the pledges of our baptism,  
and failed to be your disciples.  
From all our sins, O Lord:  
*wash us, and we shall be clean.*

Though we are saved by Christ  
and dead to sin through the deep waters of death,  
we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.  
From all our sins, O Lord:  
*wash us, and we shall be clean.*

We have shown indifference to those in need  
and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth.  
From all our sins, O Lord:  
*wash us, and we shall be clean.*

We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember  
your repeated forgiveness of our sins.

78

Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the name of the

81

Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

**Please remain standing**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

68  $\text{♩} = 52$

(Organ) Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

72

hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo - ry.

75

Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord most high.

From all our sins, O Lord:  
*wash us, and we shall be clean.*

Today we rejoice and give thanks  
because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the Jordan;  
and because through the waters you have given us the mystery of baptism  
for the remission of our sins.  
From all our sins, O Lord:  
*wash us, and we shall be clean.*

Through water and Spirit  
you give us new life as the people of God,  
and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant.  
From all our sins, O Lord:  
*wash us, and we shall be clean.*

Almighty God,  
as in our baptism you have consecrated us  
to be temples of your Holy Spirit;  
so may we, whom you have counted worthy,  
nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith,  
and worship you with upright lives;  
through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

‘Come,’ say the Spirit and the Bride.  
‘Come forward, you who are thirsty,  
receive the water of life,  
the free gift to all who desire it.’

May almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you your sins,  
and bring you to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The water is sprinkled over the people as the priest returns  
to the front of the church.*

God has made us one on Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us, and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*And also with you.*

*We offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.*

Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar;  
Branch of royal David's stem  
in thy birth at Bethlehem;  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest  
and King supreme;  
and at Cana wedding-guest  
in thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in power divine,  
changing water into wine;  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill;  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
stars shall fall,  
the heavens shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine,  
all will see his glorious sign;  
all will then the trumpet hear,  
all will see the Judge appear;  
thou by all wilt be confessed,  
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
mirrored in thy holy Word;  
may we imitate thee now,  
and be pure, as pure art thou;  
that we like to thee may be  
at thy great Epiphany;  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in man made manifest.

### **Please remain standing**

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts.

*We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*It is right to give thanks and praise.*

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

You celebrated your new gift of baptism  
in signs and wonders at the Jordan.  
Your voice was heard from heaven  
to awaken faith in the presence among us  
of your Word made flesh.  
Your Spirit was seen as a dove,  
revealing Jesus as your servant,  
and anointing him with the oil of gladness  
to preach the good news to the poor.

Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven,  
we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven  
for ever praising you and singing: