

given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2.1–12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Post Communion

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THIS WEEK

Sunday 4 January - Christmas 2
8.30am Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel
10am Holy Communion and Zoom
 Prayer Ministry after this service.

Monday 5 January

Please pray for children as they return to school
 Fleets Lane and Foxholes Road

Tuesday 6 January

Please pray for Gods love to be revealed to all
 Greenfield Road and Heath Avenue

Wednesday 7 January

Please pray for our church administrator Sue Pouton
 Hennings Park Road and Hiley Road
10am Holy Communion in the Choir vestry

Thursday 8 January

Please pray for our 2026 Charities: Poole Wau Partnership, RB Project Q and Action for Children
 Johnston Road and Kenyon Close

Friday 9 January

Kenyon Road and Kirby Close
 Please pray for thoughtful recycling of Christmas trees and unwanted gifts

Saturday 10 January

9am Prayers for the Parish on Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8430477988?pwd=VFpUVlplXU0VwUzFjSWp3WHZNTGpWdz09>
 Meeting ID: 843 0477 9888 Passcode: 266213
 Please pray for all St George's services
 Lime Close and Marlott Road

Sunday 11 January - Baptism of Christ

8.30am Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel
10am Holy Communion and Zoom
JaM Family Ministry in the small hall

Readings:
Acts 10. 34-43
Matthew 3. 13-end



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Community Afternoon Tea—18th January—a list of provisions is at the back of the church. Please consider what you are able to donate.



THIS WEEK AT
OAKDALE ST GEORGE
Sunday 28th December 2025 - Christmas 1
and
Sunday 4th January 2026 - Christmas 2

Dear Friends,

As the world already moves on, we continue to journey through the Christmas Season. And on Sunday 28th we come to the most upsetting part of the Christmas Story - the Massacre of the Innocents.

We may ask: 'Where was God?' And we would not be the first.

Our history books are full of horrors through the ages and our TV screens have continued to reveal recent horrors day by day. And we may cry, 'Where is God?' And we are not alone.

But God was there, and is here now. Emmanuel, God with us, is in all these things, feeling the pain and suffering. And Emmanuel, God with us, is in us when we take action to bring comfort and peace to those in pain today.

So feel the pain of others, as God does; and respond with kindness and love, as God does.

On Sunday 4th we greet a New Year full of hope and promise as we journey through Epiphany as God is revealed to us and through us day by day

With every blessing,

Penny

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| | Please do stay in touch |
| | 01202 660612 Tuesday to Thursday 10am-12 noon. Church open for private prayer during office hours |
| | admin@stgeorgesOakdale.com |
| | www.stgeorgesOakdale.com |
| | Search Oakdale St. George on Facebook |
| | DONATE To make a one-off donation please use the card payment machine, cash can be placed in an envelope and handed to the office. If you would like to make a regular contribution to St George's please ask the office for details of the Parish Giving Scheme. |
| | Hearing loop available in church. Turn your hearing aid to the T switch. |

Sunday 28 December 2025 - Christmas 1

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, in your humility you have stooped to share our human life with the most defenceless of your children: may we who have received these gifts of your passion rejoice in celebrating the witness of the Holy Innocents to the purity of your sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; for you are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings

Hebrews 2.10–end

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.' And again, 'I will put my trust in him.' And again, 'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.' Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Matthew 2.13–end

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: 'A voice was

heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

Post Communion

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Please pray for

Worldwide: The Church of Canada



Diocese: Lower Nadder, Chalke Deanery

Local: Christopher Crescent and Cobbs Lane

Immediate Prayer: Bethany Cook, Jacob Mason, Beverley Mitchell, Alison, Frances, Jean, Judith, Nancy, Tilly, Willow.

Continuous Prayer: Mandy Barrington, Carol Burridge, Tony Bursey, Hazel Day, Barbara Fairbrother, Pat Friend, Richard and Anita Glynn, Hilary Henson, Peter Hooper, Geoffrey Kenyon, Jim L, Chris Moody, Carrie Spencer, Ginny Williams, Alan, Chris, Dorothy, Julie, Kezia

Also we remember those who have died recently **RIP Laura Mackenzie** and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: **Joan Plant, George Bailey, Dominick Gillespie**

Sunday 28

8.30am Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel

10am Holy Communion and Zoom

Please note there will be no refreshments after the 10am service.

Monday 29 December

Please pray for those who feel lonely and far from home

Collwood Close and Connell Road

Tuesday 30 December

Please pray for the emergency services at this time
Curlieu Road and Daisy Close

Wednesday 31 December

Please pray for those celebrating and seeing in the New Year. Dale Close and Dale Valley Road

NO 10am Holy Communion

Thursday 1 January 2026

Please pray for hope in the New Year
Darbys Lane and Darbys Close

Friday 2 January

Please pray for all St George's services
Dingley Road and Dorchester Road

Saturday 3 January

9am Prayers for the Parish on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8430477988pwd=VFpUVlpXU0VwUzFjSWp3WHZNTGpWdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 0477 9888 Passcode: 266213

Sunday, 4 January 2026 – The Epiphany

Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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.**

Ephesians 3.1–12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was