

## Notices

**Every service is a "Family Service".** Children of all ages are welcome and will have something to help us out with if they want to. Carrying the cross, the offering plate round, even giving us lovely sounds of baby chatter (it's not crying to us). There is a children's corner too.

**Baptism** does not have to wait, kindly contact us to fix a date.

Email Tayo for **Home Communion Service** on Sundays.

## In Our Community: News & Events

### **In loving memory**

If you have someone you would like remembered on the pew sheet during January, please email details to the office: [muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com](mailto:muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com)

**Afternoon tea** on the first Sunday every month, 3 - 5 pm at Albury Village Hall.

**Much Hadham Baby and Toddler Group** meets on **Tuesdays** in term time 9.30- 11.30 in Much Hadham Village Hall.

*Remember you can keep up to date with upcoming events on the River Ash Churches website and Facebook page.*

## Benefice Contact Details

### **St Mary's Albury. Post Code: SG11 2JQ**

Warden: Vanessa Ripsher  
Tel: 01279 771205

### **St Cecilia's Little Hadham. Post Code: SG11 2DY**

Warden: Karin Green  
Tel: 01279 771532

### **St Andrew's Much Hadham. Post Code: SG10 6DH**

Warden: Nick Brent  
Tel: 01279 842615  
Warden: Mark Crane  
Tel: 07887 898282

## Our Priest-in-Charge:

Revd Ibitayo O Wale-Falope (Tayo)  
Email: [revdtayo@falope.com](mailto:revdtayo@falope.com)

## Benefice Rectory & Office:

Benefice Church Admin Assistant Fiona Forth  
The Rectory, High Trees, Station Road,  
Much Hadham SG10 6AX  
Email: [muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com](mailto:muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com)  
Tel: 01279 842 609  
Website: [www.riverashchurches.org.uk](http://www.riverashchurches.org.uk)  
Facebook: The River Ash Churches

**Sunday 4 January 2026**

**Epiphany**

**@ St Mary's Albury**

**The Benefice of Albury, Little Hadham  
& Much Hadham**

***We Are Living God's Love***

*Our Church is for more than  
"hatched, matched, dispatched & jingle bells".  
It is our history, handed over to us by our  
grandparents for our grandchildren.  
Keep it alive. Attend & support your church.*

*Bank details:*

*Albury Parochial Church Council*

*Sort code: 20-36-98 Account No. 00106887*

***Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Tayo Wale-Falope***

## **Looking Ahead: January**

### **TONIGHT 5-5:30 pm**

Benefice Evening Worship  
@ St Andrew's Much Hadham

### **Sunday 11 January 2026**

**9:15 am Baptism of Christ**  
Benefice Holy Communion  
@ St Andrew's Much Hadham

### **Sunday 18 January 2026**

**9:15 am Epiphany 2**  
Benefice Holy Communion  
@ St Cecilia's Little Hadham

### **Thursday 22 January 2026**

**10 am**  
Mid-week communion  
@ St Cecilia's Little Hadham

### **Sunday 25 January 2026**

**9:15 am Epiphany 3/Conversion of Paul**  
Benefice Holy Communion  
@ St Andrew's Much Hadham

## **Please Keep In Our Prayers:**



Stuart Sagers  
Joanne Luxford

David Stroud  
Tamsin Farrell

## **And the bereaved families of:**

Peter Radley Claire Titcomb

## **In loving memory (January):**

## **Our Hymns for this service are:**

Opening: CP 83 As with gladness  
Gradual: CP 85 Earth has many  
Offertory: CP 84 Brightest and best  
Closing: CP 89 O worship the Lord

### **We Pray The Collect Together:**

**God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake.**

### **We Listen To God's Word**

#### **Psalms 72.1-15**

<sup>1</sup> Give the king your judgements, O God, and your righteousness to the son of a king.

<sup>2</sup> **Then shall he judge your people righteously and your poor with justice.**

<sup>3</sup> May the mountains bring forth peace, and the little hills righteousness for the people.

<sup>4</sup> **May he defend the poor among the people, deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup> May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

<sup>6</sup> **May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, like the showers that water the earth.**

<sup>7</sup> In his time shall righteousness flourish, and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

<sup>8</sup> **May his dominion extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.**

<sup>9</sup> May his foes kneel before him and his enemies lick the dust.

<sup>10</sup> **The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.**

<sup>11</sup> All kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall do him service.

<sup>12</sup> **For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, the needy and those who have no helper.**

<sup>13</sup> He shall have pity on the weak and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

<sup>14</sup> **He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

<sup>15</sup> Long may he live; unto him may be given gold from Sheba; may prayer be made for him continually and may they bless him all the day long.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen**

#### **Ephesians 3.1-12**

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>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: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 2.1-12**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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.' <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>"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."'<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.' <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you O Christ**