

# Eccleston & Pulford Church of St Mary's – Jan. 19th



St Mary's Church Eccleston, Church Rd, Eccleston, CH4 9HT

St Mary's Church Pulford, Wrexham Rd, Pulford, CH4 9DG

<https://ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org>

[admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org](mailto:admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org)

**Rector: Rev Dr Stephen Torr.**

**Associate Minister: Rev Holly Torr.**

## SERVICE TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan: Epiphany 2 - HC	Pulford Church 9.45am
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan: Messy Church	Pulford Village Hall 10.45am
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan: Epiphany 3 - HC	Eccleston Church 11.15am
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb: Presentation of Christ - HC	Pulford Church 9.45am
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb: 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Before Lent - HC	Eccleston Church 11.15am

## PARISH INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Rector: Rev Dr Stephen Torr:	<a href="mailto:rector@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org">rector@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org</a>
MessyChurch: Rev Holly Torr:	<a href="mailto:messychurch@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org">messychurch@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org</a>
Admin/Website/Newsletter:	<a href="mailto:admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org">admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org</a>
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Choir Director:	<a href="mailto:choir@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org">choir@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org</a>
Safeguarding:	<a href="mailto:safeguarding@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org">safeguarding@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org</a>
Lay Reader:	<a href="mailto:jeanette@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org">jeanette@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org</a>
Pulford Village Hall Hire:	<a href="mailto:PulfordVillageHall@gmail.com">PulfordVillageHall@gmail.com</a>
Eccleston Village Hall Hire:	<a href="mailto:JeffBrettRoberts@hotmail.co.uk">JeffBrettRoberts@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Electoral Roll Officer:	<a href="mailto:clwillan@hotmail.com">clwillan@hotmail.com</a>

## READINGS FOR SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY - Epiphany 2.

### Isaiah 62:1-5 Zion's New Name.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow. You will be a crown of splendour in the Lord's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the Lord will take delight in you, and your land will be married. As a young man marries a young woman, so will your builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.

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## **John 2:1-11 Jesus Changes Water into Wine.**

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so, they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## **PRAYER INTENTIONS**

We pray for those known to us who are poorly or recovering from surgery; those who have died recently; and those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

## **HOMILY (by Rob Hughes)**

Rob's homily this week focuses on the Wedding Feast at Cana

<https://www.ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org/homilies-by-rob-hughes>

## **Desiring God (by John Piper)**

Pastor John Piper delivers another of his excellent daily devotionals based on Job 6:26 ("Do you think that you can reprove words, when the speech of a despairing man is wind?")

[Words for the Wind | Desiring God](#)

## **The Bible with Nicky and Pippa Gumbel**

An extremely good source of daily commentaries based on Bible readings from both the New and Old Testament can be found on The Bible website and app (formerly known as Bible in One Year).

[The Bible with Nicky and Pippa Gumbel](#)

## **Parish Council Meeting**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting are now available to read on the church website at: <https://www.ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org/2025/01/16/pcc-minutes-24th-november-2024/>

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7pm Wednesday February 29<sup>th</sup>. If any of our readers would like to raise a suggestion or concern, please email Rev Steve or one of the church wardens by the 29<sup>th</sup> Feb.

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## STAINED GLASS WINDOW - St Daniel (Saint Deiniol of Wales): The Shepherd of Learning and Faith. Eccleston St Mary's Church (S5a)



Saint Deiniol (c. 6th century) was a trailblazing bishop and a cornerstone of early Welsh Christianity. Born into the royal lineage of the northern British kingdoms, Deiniol was the son of Dunod Fawr, a powerful leader who converted to Christianity. With faith running through his veins, Deiniol devoted his life to spreading the Gospel in a turbulent era of war and shifting allegiances.

Deiniol's mission brought him to Gwynedd, where he became a spiritual pioneer. In the shadow of the towering mountains of Snowdonia, he founded the *Clas* (monastic community) of Bangor Fawr, later known as Bangor Cathedral. This spiritual center quickly became one of the most significant seats of learning and prayer in medieval Wales. Deiniol's leadership and vision transformed Bangor into a beacon of enlightenment and faith for the Celtic world.

Renowned for his wisdom and charisma, Deiniol was a skilled peacemaker, uniting warring factions and guiding his flock through turbulent times. His influence extended beyond the walls of Bangor, and his reputation reached the ears of King

Maelgwn Gwynedd, one of the most powerful rulers in Wales. Recognizing Deiniol's sanctity, Maelgwn endowed the community generously, ensuring its lasting prominence.

Deiniol's dedication to Christ and his people earned him the title of the first Bishop of Bangor, making him a cornerstone of the early Welsh Church. He tirelessly worked to nurture the faith, blending monastic discipline with pastoral care, and left a legacy of unity and learning.

Saint Deiniol passed away around 584 AD, but his legacy thrives. The cathedral he founded stands as a monument to his vision, and he is venerated as a patron saint of scholars and Welsh Christians. Saint Deiniol's life reminds us of the power of faith to transform not only individuals but entire nations, cementing his place as one of Wales' greatest spiritual leaders.

*Thank you to Robin Glaze for allowing me to use his photo of this stained-glass window at Eccleston.*

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## NEWS

### **2025 READER/INTERCESSOR/SIDESPERSION/CLEANER ROTA**

The new 2025 (Jan to March) reader/intercessor/sides-person/cleaner rota is now available. This can be viewed from the church website at the following URL: [Rota - ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org](https://ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org) . Should you wish to make changes or volunteer for any of these roles, please contact Hilary Garrard at [hilarygarrard@btinternet.com](mailto:hilarygarrard@btinternet.com)

### **Tower Captain Needed for Eccleston Church**

We are *desperately* seeking a tower captain for Eccleston Church. Anyone wishing to volunteer for this role, please email me at [admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org](mailto:admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org)

### **Foodbank**

Thank you to everyone who has left food items at the back of Eccleston and Pulford Churches for the foodbank.

### **Pulford & Poulton Local History Group**

The next History Group event will be at Pulford Village Hall on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm. The talk will be by Dr Tim Astrop on “Fossil Forest - Brymbo”. For further details please see [Pulford & Poulton Local History Group - Programme](#)

### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 Service - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 3pm**

You are warmly invited to a 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service' with Andy Flannagan on Sunday 19th January 2025 at Hoole United Reformed Church, Hoole Road, Hoole CH2 3NT. The Service will take place at 3pm and will be followed by some refreshments. All are welcome! To find out more about Andy Flanagan please follow this link <https://andyflan.com/>"

### **Additional Church Warden at Eccleston Church**

We are desperately seeking an additional Church Warden for Eccleston Church, to help with the Messy Church and School services held in the Church.

### **Chester Diocese Significant Dates:**

[Significant Dates - Diocese of Chester](#)

*Newsletter #84 - Please email Prayer Intentions and News Items suitable for publication in the Parish News to Stephen Hutchinson at [admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org](mailto:admin@ecclestonandpulfordchurches.org)*