

The Evangelist

The Magazine of
Newbold Parish Church

December 2017



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Christmas at Newbold Parish Church 2017



the
11
O'CLOCK
service



Sunday 10th December

11.00 am 'Advent'ures

An all-age service of preparation for
Christmas

Sunday 24th December

Christmas Eve

11.00am Nativity Service with a twist...

Christmas Eve

8.00am & 9.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

11.30 pm Midnight Mass



Christmas Day

9.30am

Family Celebration
with Holy Communion

Dear all,

This month's letter is split into two parts. The first being something of a rant at the commercial freight train currently airbrushing the Christian faith out of Christmas. The second being a collection of more positive thoughts on what Christmas might mean to us if we let it.

As Advent approaches I feel an internal struggle going on as the Christmas ad campaigns ramp up and the latest trends hit the shelves. My inner 'Ebenezer Scrooge' is currently fighting my inner 'Buddy the Elf' for control of my Christmas cheer...

This year the countdown to Christmas has taken a bit of a bizarre turn. In recent years popular culture has approached the season of Advent by offering a handful of chocolate calendars as a way of counting down to Christmas. Although it is often hard to find a Christian theme on the calendars (except for the fair-trade 'Real Advent Calendars') it seems a fairly innocent tradition. Usually far more attention is given to the pre-Christmas sales, black Friday, and three-for-two offers. However, this year the countdown to Christmas has gone beyond anything I could have imagined.

A huge number of companies have chosen this year to jump on the Advent calendar bandwagon. The result is that now, rather than simply opening a small perforated card door to reveal a little chocolate, you can work your way through artisan gins, scented candles, craft beers, beauty products, wine miniatures, Hama beads, Playmobil farm scenes, Lego snow & Star Wars scenes, perfumes, and a whole lot of other products hiding behind 25 doors.

The luxury Advent calendar business has exploded with the number of variations available this year being quite astounding. The most expensive I have seen so far is the Selfridges 'Diptique' beauty product advent calendar at an eye-watering £300! (At that price I'll have two)

However, my indignation at the expense of these luxury Advent calendars pales into insignificance when compared to my feelings of despair at the complete absence of anything relating to the celebration of the world changing event they are supposedly counting down to. For example, the Guardian's 'countdown' of the best luxury Advent calendars, which ran to 17 recommendations, did not show any reference to Jesus' birth whatsoever. There were plenty of Victorian decorations, Santa's, snow covered roofs, penguins, etc. But not a single nativity scene in sight. As the old phrase goes - where is the 'Christ' in Christmas?

Perhaps I should not be so surprised. In many ways the first Advent is a long way from the culture we live in today. There were no town centre Christmas lights, no Christmas tree festivals, no Christmas Fayres, no decorations to be seen. But there were people waiting for something special. There were the faithful Jews longing for a messiah, there were prophets foretelling the event across several centuries, and there were two parents waiting expectantly for the birth of their first child.

With all of the excitement surrounding the run up to Christmas it is easy to forget the real hope and expectation that existed around the birth of Jesus. The hope of a saviour, the hope of God's plans unfolding, and the hope of a baby on the way. Before Advent became a season of counting down to Christmas day, it was a time of longing for God to change the world.

So this Advent I am trying hard not to think about the changing numbers on the calendar, or be distracted by the opening of little cardboard doors to reveal a chocolate (although I do like chocolate!). Instead I am trying to think about the change which has come to us in the person of Jesus Christ. The change which means we can have a personal relationship with God.

God in Jesus shows us how to live. God in Jesus shows us that death is not the end. God, through the Holy Spirit which Jesus promised, shows us that we can have his presence within us.

So, as we look forward to Christmas, and enjoy the celebrations around it, let us try not be distracted by enticing adverts and overpriced paraphernalia. Let us thank God for the hope we have because of Jesus, and let us ask God to change us from the inside out.

I pray that during these seasons of Advent & Christmas we will see more and more people discovering the real hope on offer to us all, and celebrate Christmas for what it really is.

Yours in Christ,

Ben

Revd Ben Griffiths MA, Rector of Newbold.

People Getting Ready - an Advent reflection by Stuart Grey

*People preparing
getting ready
for the next challenge?
For big change?
Or maybe I'm just preparing for the feast?
There's more to life than the feast.*

*Are we getting ready for Jesus?
Because Jesus has been faithful.
He's given us wisdom
to chart stormy seas.*

*So I'll clear the way in my life...
... I'm looking for where he is.
This year...
... I've decided.
On this life's journey...
I'm following Him. I am His.*



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

'Anti-Bullying Week' 2017

Last week we spent some time thinking about bullying by taking part in national anti-bullying week with the theme this year being 'All Different, All Equal'.

I launched the week with an assembly based around the theme of bullying, in particular focussing on what to do if you were being bullied or knew that someone else was.

As usual, our children had lots to say and I was moved by their sensible, thoughtful comments and willingness to help others should they need to.

'If you were getting bullied you would need to talk to a grown up that you can trust. They can help and will make sure that it stops' (Jude Y6)

'Bullying isn't a one off thing; it's when someone is purposely being mean time and time again' (Regan Y6)

'If I saw someone being a bully I would tell my mum and tell my teacher' (Elly Y2)

I showed the children a short video clip all about differences between us and the remarkable way that children do indeed see things differently. The clip is funny, heart-warming and definitely got us talking!

Watch it if you can at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/episode/p056mtxw/cbeebies-preview-everyones-welcome>

We showed our support and raised awareness of anti-bullying by taking part in odd sock day where children and staff were invited to wear odd socks for the day to celebrate difference.

We certainly looked an odd bunch but it made for a good talking point and helped bring the theme to life for some of our younger children.

'I am wearing a red sock and a stripy sock that are not the same but are still socks' (Joshua Y2)

'I am wearing a football sock on each foot but they are not the same team. They are different teams and I like them both' (Tyler Y2) – (he had one Manchester United sock on and the other was Real Madrid for those who may be wondering!)

'I like all the odd socks it looks funny' (Evie Y1)

'My socks are different and we are all different' (Riley Y1)

Claire Riley, Y2 teacher.

A Christmas Eve prayer

Gracious God:

for children who wait excitedly for the morning, we pray joy;
for children separated from those they love, we pray comfort;
for children in hospital, we pray healing;

for children in places of violence, we pray safety;

for children who are hungry, we pray sustenance.

For all children, Lord Jesus, child of hope and light of the world;
we pray new blessings, this Christmas and always. Amen.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL OUR READERS, CONTRIBUTORS
AND ADVERTISERS

JiGSaW NEWS

We met on Sunday 5th November. The theme was - 'What lies beneath' related to Matthew Chapter 23: verses 1-12. Following Kim's Game Wrapped up, (where the children had to guess what several wrapped up items were,) and prayers, we explored the gospel, dressing Josh up in a cope, glasses, badge and ring to represent the Pharisees in the story. Games of Call my Bluff and Charades followed this. Honest Confessions rounded the meeting off – writing things we had done wrong on a mirror and then wiping them off to show we are forgiven.

When we met on 19th November the theme was 'Settling Accounts' based on Matthew Chapter 25: verses 14 -30. As the children arrived, they cut out letters to go on a poster. Before the story, Chloe and Josh built a large tower whereby it became apparent that to build a tall tower in a short time – risks had to be taken. This led us into the bible story, The Parable of the Talents. Heather used outline drawings of three people and coins to illustrate what happened in the story. Next, we painted two abstract pictures to illustrate how we see God. These formed the bottom of our poster to go on the board. The letters were re-arranged to read – Our God is a Great Big God – which prompted the group to burst into action and sing. The children have requested to sing this at the end of a 9.30 service. Please see Facebook or look at our notice board in the parish room.

JiGSaW meets on alternate Sundays in term time from 9.15 a.m. in the Parish Room. Application/consent forms are available from Heather 07746 840 748 Email:

heather.peet@hotmail.co.uk

**Dates we are meeting in December/ January are:
December 3rd & 17th; January 7th & 21st.**

Each meeting includes – an opening activity as children arrive, prayer, bible story, craft activity, perhaps a game. We may practice something to do at our 11 o'clock service. Perhaps you know people with children aged three upwards who may be interested in coming along?

The 11 o'clock service

**Join us for Adventures on 10th December (Advent 2)
& our Nativity on Christmas Eve.**

All are welcome!

On **12 NOVEMBER**, the theme for our **11.00 O'clock service** was Remembrance. Ben led the service and we welcomed the uniformed organisations who took part in our service with readings and prayers. They also paraded their flags into church.

Poppy and cross collages were made and there was poppy finger painting afterwards along with sheets to colour in. Ben and the uniformed organisations left church around noon to go to the service at The Cenotaph.

Our second service in November falls on the day the magazine goes on sale. A report will appear in the January magazine.

We welcome everyone to join us in our preparation to welcome the Christ child into their hearts and lives this Christmas.

Quiz Night – 25th October 2017

The Quiz Night was organised for the church by Diane Peet & Michael Nuttall.

When we arrived the church was full of chattering and laughter and there was the wonderful smell of food in the air.

We started the evening with light refreshments followed by delicious jacket potatoes (with a variety of fillings), cakes and hot drinks. Ruth and Bob Cable's homemade wine was also part of the refreshments – always a winner.

The evening was well attended by 47 people of all different ages. We had organised ourselves onto 8 tables and then had to choose a name for our team. There were lots of interesting team names – our team name was Little Mix, chosen by Millie.

The quiz was divided into a variety of topics with challenging questions. There was a lot of whispering around the tables as teams discussed the answers. Diane and Michael had obviously spent a large amount of time preparing such a great quiz.

There was a raffle with lots of lovely prizes and I was one of the lucky winners too.

We marked the quiz questions and the scores were put onto a board. After totting-up all of the scores, Revd. Ben's team came in first place. The winning team was presented with a trophy and medals.

A big thank you to Diane, Michael and all helpers for an enjoyable evening. The event raised £290 for the New**BOLD** Building Project.

Hayley Burrows

THE MONDAY CLUB

The programme for December is as follows:

Monday 4th – Social afternoon with music 1.45 in the Parish Room

Monday 11th – Christmas lunch at Café Selin at 12pm

Monday 18 th - Lunch (venue TBA) followed by a visit to Revolution House which is decorated for Christmas 12.30pm

Monday 25th No meeting

**ADVANCE NOTICE: THERE WILL BE NO MEETING ON
MONDAY 1st JANUARY 2018 BANK HOLIDAY**

The club welcomes new members at any time to join this friendly group who meet in the Parish Room which is situated round the back of the Parish Church, on Monday afternoons between 1.45pm – 4.00pm unless going out for lunch or visiting places of interest.

If you wish to find out more about the club please contact Margaret Beasley whose telephone number can be found on the back of this magazine.

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A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May love come alive within your heart,
As Christmastime draws near.
May hope fill each room you decorate,
And bring joy to those you hold dear.
May peace be before you at every meal,
And faith ring through every song.
For Christ is alive, the Light of the World.
May He bless you all season long.

.....

LET US SMILE

A senior citizen's perspective of Facebook.

For those of my generation who do not comprehend why Facebook exists, I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook, applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passersby what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom.

I give them pictures of my family, my dog, of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them the 'thumbs up' and tell them I like them. And it works just like Facebook.

I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.

.....

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Following the recent retirement of our pianist, we are in need of a replacement to join us.

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Thank you

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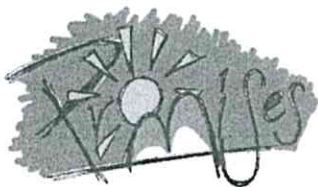


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A SERMON FOR ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 2017

The following is a copy of Ben's sermon notes from All Saints Sunday. The gospel reading was from Matthew 5:1-12, also known as the beatitudes.

This morning, as we celebrate the feast of All Saints, our gospel reading presents us with one of the most famous of Jesus' extended pieces of teaching. Now, we don't know if this was said all at once, or if this is made up of several teachings Jesus gave, but we do know that it quickly became essential to the early Christians. And it is fitting that, as we give thanks for the saints that have gone before us, we recognise the radical nature of the words Jesus spoke. Words which saints across the ages have taken seriously. Words which have revolutionised people's lives, but also words which have led people to death at the hands of those who could not cope with their radical nature.

The question I would like to pose for us this morning, is one that I have heard asked before...

'What if Jesus really meant what he said??'

Many of the statements Jesus makes, whether through parables, or as we see this morning in pretty forthright statements, are the complete antithesis of modern western culture.

The beatitudes, which we often call the sermon on the mount, are meant to be radical.

To me they are about comforting the afflicted, and afflicting the comfortable... With each statement Jesus turns the prevalent world view on its head.

If you were to come up with a list of the things that matter to western culture in the 21st century, the beatitudes would be the polar opposite...

'Blessed are the poor, the merciful, the meek...'

The question which our society would ask is: "HOW?", "How are they blessed?"

We don't have to look too hard to see that the ideals at the heart of our society are - the pursuit of wealth, fame, power...

And if we focus on these things we lose Jesus...

We are supposed to lose the things of this world in order to find the things of God.

One of the biggest issues for Christians, and I know this myself, is that when we talk about repentance we equate it almost exclusively to putting to death our sinful behaviour. The things we do which are not of God.

Now, don't get me wrong, putting to death our sinful behaviour is absolutely part of what it means to repent.

But what we so often ignore, is that repentance is also about changing our perspective on the world, so that we see things as God sees things.

The kingdom of the world says:

blessed are the rich for theirs is a kingdom of their own making...

blessed are the content for they have no need for anything...

blessed are the powerful for they get what they want...

blessed are the well educated for they will get good jobs...

I could go on. But you get the point.

If we are honest, we live in a world which values status, power, and material gain above all else. This is at odds with the way Jesus sees things...

In the kingdom of heaven it is the poor that have God's favour.

When Jesus say it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven, he wasn't joking.

The more value we put on our material things, or on our intelligence or our social standing, the less we are able to really see things as God see them. When it comes down to basics we are all human beings - made in the image of God.

The beatitudes stand as words of protest against systems which denigrate the poor. Against systems that don't hear the cries of the hungry. Against a culture which struggles to see the worth in people because it has decided that life is about acquiring wealth and comfort. Things that some people will never see...

We are to see those who are on the margins of society as honoured by God. Just as we see those who offer mercy and peace as honoured by God.

That is not to say we must become poor, or morn, or be hungry, to be blessed. But what it does say is that God meets people in those places. God's favour is on those who are in those places... And if I can be controversial for a moment... It is easier for God to meet the poor than the rich... It is easier for God to meet those who morn than those who think they have happiness... It is easier for God to meet those who are hungry than those who are full of food...

Because in each of these cases there is something masking our real human need...

If we are to be truly merciful, to be pure in heart, to be peacemakers, we need to see those in need not as failures needing to be saved, but as those who already have the favour of God.

The saints who we honour today often found God in the places others were not looking.

The challenge for us in this parish today, is to be looking beyond ourselves to the people around us. To see those people which society struggles to see. And to introduce those who don't know Jesus to his radical kingdom. A kingdom which invited them, as it has invited us, to be sons and daughters of the king. To be blessed. To be counted among the saints. I want that for Newbold...

Amen

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

5 Nov Sarah Spencer
Amelia-Rose Cooper

19 Nov Emily Grace Green
Amber Rose Wainwright

*May all things belonging to the Spirit
live and grow in them*

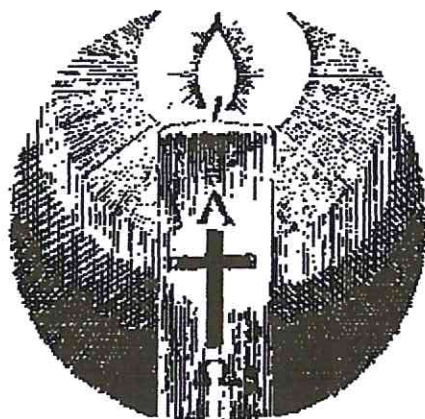
Funerals

1 Nov Hilda Mann aged 88

Churchyard [burial or interment of ashes]

6 Nov Emerson Oswald McCollin
7 Nov Angela Jane Margaret Brown
22 Nov Mary Annette Cheetham
22 Nov Beryl Hoskin

May they rest in peace and rise in glory



DIARY FOR DECEMBER 2017

2	Sa	10.00	Coffee Morning [PR]
3	S		First Sunday of Advent (S1)
		08.00	Mass
		09.30	Parish Mass & JigSaW
		11.30	Holy Baptism
		12.00	Walking Group
4	M	13.45	Monday Club [PR]
		19.30	PCC Meeting [PR]
5	T	09.15	Mass [PR]
6	W	09.45	Church School Christingle Service
		19.00	Newbold Women's Group Carol Service & Party
			[Church & PR]
9	Sa	10.15	Church Open (till 11.45)
		13.00	Flower Arranging Workshop [PR]
10	S		Second Sunday of Advent (S2)
		08.00	Mass
		09.30	Parish Mass
		11.00	11 O'Clock Service
11	M	13.45	Monday Club [PR]
12	T	09.15	Mass [PR]
13	W	09.15	Church School Christmas Mass [School]
15	F	09.30	Dunston School Christingle
16	Sa	09.00	Churchyard Morning (till 12.00)
		10.15	Church Open (till 11.45)
17	S		Third Sunday of Advent (S3)
		08.00	Mass
		09.30	Parish Mass
		11.30	Holy Baptism

18	M	10.00	Cavendish School Christmas Service	
		14.00	Church School Carol Concert Rehearsal	
		18.00	Church School Carol Concert	
19	T	09.15	Mass [PR]	
			Last day of Church School Term	
23	Sa	10.15	Church Open (till 11.45)	
24	S		The Fourth Sunday of Advent (S4)	
		08.00	Mass	
		09.30	Parish Mass	Christmas Eve
		11.00	11 O'Clock Service - Nativity	
		18.30	Service of Lessons & Carols	
		23.30	Midnight Mass	
25	M	09.30	Parish Mass	Christmas Day
26	T		Bank Holiday	
30	Sa	10.15	Church Open (till 11.45)	
31	S		John the Evangelist – Patronal Festival (S5)	
		08.00	Mass	
		09.30	Parish Mass	

Please check the weekly Pewslip for a more detailed diary.

COFFEE MORNING

This month's Coffee Morning is on Saturday, December 2nd 2017

10.00 until 12.00

in the Parish Room

Please invite folks to come!

Everyone welcome

*Items for the January Magazine
to the editors by Sunday, 17th December 2017, please.*

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

- 1 In the film *Love Actually* who plays the part of the Rock and Roll legend Billy Mack?
- 2 On which date is St. Nicholas day celebrated?
- 3 Two of the reindeers are named after weather phenomenon. Name the reindeers.
- 4 Which popular Christmas carol also moonlights as a lullaby?
- 5 In which novel does the following appear?
"For it is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas when its mighty Founder was a child Himself".
- 6 Who plays the central character of Buddy in the 2003 film *Elf*?
- 7 Which country follows the tradition of lighting candles on the graves of relatives on Christmas Eve?
- 8 What is Santa Claus called in France?
- 9 In 1948, Spike Jones and The City Slickers recorded *All I want for Christmas is.....*
- 10 Which song's second line begins with *They looked up and saw a star?*
- 11 How do you say *Merry Christmas* in Spanish?
- 12 In 1946, Nat King Cole recorded a hit with a song about *chestnuts roasting over an open fire*. What is the name of this song?
- 13 What would you be drinking if you had *Gluhwein*?
- 14 True or false: Before turkey, the traditional English Christmas dinner included a pig's head smothered in mustard?
- 15 Complete the next line of the poem written by Clement Clarke Moore – *'Twas the night before Christmas.....*
- 16 From which Christmas song does the following appear –
Later we'll have some pumpkin pie and we'll do some carolling
- 17 In which year was the world's first Christmas card sent?
- 18 Which present day royal was born on Christmas Day?

DISCIPLESHIP

In this time of remembering, in the weeks after the Sundays in Trinity and the beginning of Advent, called the Kingdom Season, we have had the feast of All Saints. When we think of the Saints we remember those men and women of prayer and action down the ages who have followed the way of Christ. The first followers of Jesus left behind their boats and nets and tax collections and became his disciples.

Disciples are basically learners. They 'direct their minds' as apprentices do towards the teacher they follow. Jesus' disciples watched him, listened to him, walked and travelled with him. They ate, talked, probably laughed with him, and shared and learned from him how to live in God the Father. They didn't pass exams in a Rabbinical college, but became apprenticed to the work of the Kingdom. So eventually they became Jesus' fellow workers.

So what about us- what does this say to us about our discipleship? How do we act out our call to be a fellow worker of Jesus, to help to bring in the Kingdom here in Newbold and beyond?

Firstly, I suggest we need to really get to know Jesus. Every Sunday we hear the gospel read to us, but how about the rest of the week. Do we take time to read more of the things he said and taught, the stories he told? Do we talk about it with family and friends (and here I include church family)? Do we take time to really get to know Jesus and love him. He points us to the Father, he shows us what God is like and, more importantly, what God wants us to be like.

Secondly- do we take time to pray? As followers of Jesus we are privileged to know that we are loved by God as sons and daughters. It would be an odd thing if family members didn't take time to talk to each other. What kind of a relationship would there be if a child never told its parents about its needs or hopes. Praying is about relationship with God. If you're going

to have a busy day-and who doesn't these days- tell God about it as you drive to work or sit on the bus.

Or save it all to the end of the day and go over all the day's events and talk them over with your Heavenly Father.

In my confirmation class over 50 years ago we were taught the simple way of praying using the word ACTS.

Adoration- loving God for Himself.

Confession- saying sorry.

Thanksgiving- for all we have received.

Supplication-asking for things you and others need.

Not a bad shorthand way to lead us into a more prayerful life.

Getting to know Jesus, talking to him, striving to become like him- being faithful disciples; our actions and our prayers help to bring in the Kingdom and makes saints of us all!

.....

Your kingdom come

Lord God,
as we welcome you this Christmas
and celebrate your birth, help us to pray:
with your words, your longing, your hope,
your joy, your compassion.
That your kingdom may truly come
and all creation celebrate your presence among us
through pain and happiness,
where there is need and where there is plenty.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Child of the crib and Prince of peace. Amen.

Our annual CHRISTMAS FAYRE took place on SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER. Willing volunteers ran a variety of stalls – Lucky carrot and a coin for Rudolph, which attracted folks young and old! Animal Auction. Adult and Children's tombola stalls, Crafts, Second hand Books, Toys, Games, Jewellery, Handbags and Dresses. Delicious homemade Cakes and Preserves; Personalised Baubles, Pick a Card, Jumble Jars and Win Wine, which was so popular it had to be re-stocked! There was a raffle too and tasty treats being served in the Manna House with 18 varieties of cake in addition to cheese scones and sausage rolls. Toasties, soup and quiche were available from mid-day. One of the Evangelist's editors ran In The Box and there was a giant teddy's name to guess. We were entertained with background music played from CDs and by our organist Stuart Watkinson. His rendition of Walking in the Air sounded wonderful on the digital piano; I hope we hear this again over the festive period.

Our efforts were rewarded with a good crowd of folks, many from outside our congregation, coming to browse, to buy, to have a go and taste. It was not only a fundraising but also a fun-mission day where we as a church worked with and engaged with folks outside our number. It was good to welcome new folks and old friends. Our visitors came from near and far (Liverpool, Huddersfield and Sheffield); most people left the building with a prize of two and something, which caught their eye.

The question you are asking is what did we make? As we go to press the total stands at **£2,395.72.**

To those of you who came – **thank you.** To those of you involved in any way in staging the event – **thank you.** To those of you who prayed for it to be a success – **thank you.** To those who sold raffle tickets before the day – **thank you.** To those who helped to publicise the event – **thank you.** To those of you who did none of the above – **I invite you to come and join in with us next time.**

PRIZE WINNERS:

The bear was called **David** and was won by Brian.

In the box was won by R. Reed who won £46.

Raffle Prize winners and numbers are as follows:

£100 – Evelyn Lowe 2147 Claimed

Food Hamper – P. Hill 287 Claimed

£35 Marks & Spencer Vouchers – H. Burrows 377 Claimed

Armani Diamonds Perfume – Helen Bagley 83 Claimed

Knife Set in a Case– June Shaw 1497 Claimed

Jack Wills Gift Set – Griffiths 686 Claimed

Bottle Gin – Michelle Hague 2111 Claimed

Port in Decanter Bottle – Lesley Howard 926 Claimed

Half Bottle Whiskey – Eileen Lerner 989 Claimed

Panettone - Gail Smith from Scotland 755 Claimed

Tin Chocolate Biscuits – Neil Adams 19 Claimed

Christmas Crackers – Jonathan Laban 966

[Expenses (Raffle tickets, prize money, clothes rail) were £211]

In addition to receiving donations of £240.00 (mainly from folks unable to attend) this is where the money came from:

A Coin for Rudolph	£5.62	Jumble Jars	£55.00
Animal Auction	£32.00	Lucky Carrot	£26.50
Children's Tombola	£38.00	Personalised Baubles	£34.00
Crafts	£386.35	Pick a Card	£100
Books	£29.50	Raffle	£665.30
Games and Toys	£58.70	Manna House Refreshments	£290.35
Handbags & Jewellery	£67.40	Tombola	£102.00
In the Box	£93.00	Win Wine	£80.00
Jams & Preserves	£91.25	Name the Bear	£72.00
Homemade Cakes	£139.75		

THE HARVEST APPEAL

Our chosen charities for this year were Water Aid and the Bishop's Appeal and the amount raised to be shared equally was £252.80. Thanks to all who donated and to Julie who organised the Harvest Supper and to everyone who attended.

.....

ANSWERS TO THE CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1 Bill Nighy 2 6th December 3 Donner, which means 'thunder' in German and Blitzen meaning 'lightning' 4 Away in a Manger
5 A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens 6 Will Ferrell 7 Finland
8 Pere Noel 9 My two front teeth 10 The First Nowell
11 Feliz Navidad 12 The Christmas Song 13 Mulled Wine 14 True
15 'When all through the house, Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.'
16 Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree by Brenda Lee 17 1843 18 Princess Alexandra, The Honourable Lady Ogilvy, cousin to the Queen

thomasheald

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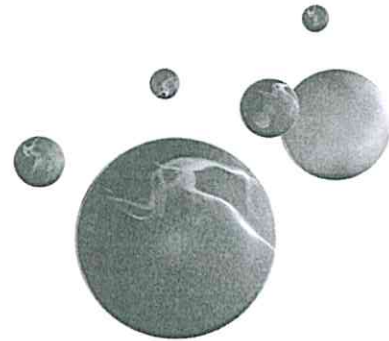
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Quiz Night

Quiz night on Monday 22nd January 7 p.m.
in the Parish Room.

Pie and pea supper included.

Tickets available after Christmas.

Come and have some fun.

Tickets £7 Adults £5 Children



All proceeds will go towards the New**Bold** building project

A reflection: Christmas Eve

In shadows

In light, fragile and flickering

Excited, unprepared

We wait, Lord.

As night dismisses the day and we hover on the cusp of
Christmas

We wait

In cautious joy

In unfamiliar expectancy

In tingling hope

In spite of ourselves

We wait

So come, Lord

Come in the first breath of the morning

And call us by name

Amen.

THE WOMEN'S GROUP GO OUT FOR DINNER.

On Wednesday 1st November twenty-one ladies enjoyed themselves with a meal out at The Peacock at Cutthorpe. The staff were very pleasant and it was nice having an eating area to ourselves where we were able to sing Happy Birthday to one of our group without disturbing other guests.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 6th December at 7.00pm when we hold our annual Carol Service in church followed by our Christmas party in the Parish Room.

Jean Lee

200 CLUB

The Club winners for October 2017 were as follows:-

First prize	(£35)	S Franks	(Number 122)
Second prize	(£17)	C Burrows	(Number 16)
Third prize	(£6)	J Such	(Number 84)

New members are always welcome. Please contact either Richard Peet (Tel. 520697) or Stephen Hewitt (Tel. 275225) for more information.

The next draw will be held on Sunday 11th December 2017

NEWBOLD MOTHERS' UNION

We wish everyone at St. John's a very happy Christmas and maybe hope to see some of our members at the Women's Group Carol Service on 6th December in church at 7pm.

Ruth Cable (Secretary)

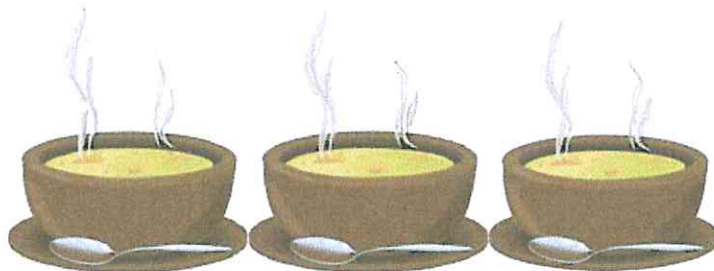
WALKING GROUP

What wonderful weather we had for our walk on Sunday 5th November. As we drove towards our destination we were amazed at the great number of parked cars on the roadside and realised that we would probably have a problem at getting three cars parked near to the start of the walk. The sight of clear blue skies and sunshine had brought families out for picnics and strolls along the paths. Fortunately we were able to park in Hollins Bank car park and Trish Law started our walk by leading us along a track marked to Hathersage and Bakewell. After climbing a ladder stile we eventually arrived at a fast flowing stream where we had to negotiate our way over stepping stones partly submerged by the water. With everyone helping each other we reached the other side without too much trouble.

We passed a field which had cows, calves, sheep and a single goat all grazing together before we trudged through squelchy mud at a farm gate. Throughout this walk we had wonderful views of the surrounding landscape and made numerous stops to enjoy this scene. We had a steady climb towards Stanage Edge, where many rock climbers were assembled along the bottom of the ridge. When we reached the top we admired the views all around us, before descending the Roman road – The Long Causeway – and returning to the car park.

The 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ mile walk on Sunday 3rd December will be led by Steve and Julie Franks from Eyam, passing the Riley Graves. As usual, we will meet at 12 noon at the church gates with a packed lunch.

After the walk we will be welcomed by Bob and Ruth Cable at their home for homemade soup and mince pies.



Once again Dunston Garden Centre has very kindly donated a Christmas tree to our church. Happy Christmas to you all!



December 2017

Our Diocese

A monthly snapshot of Church of England life around Derbyshire

Revd Canon Tony Kaunhoven writes:

'The Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we have seen his glory'

I was struck by one of the reasons an online blogger gave for people staying away from the Church, "People don't need to be dazzled with big churchy words, eschatological frameworks and theological systems." He went on to call for down to earth talking about love, joy, forgiveness, death and peace, not forgetting God, and by doing so, "they'll be all ears".

Christians certainly have a gospel to proclaim that has all of these things and more, but in the sharing and proclaiming we need to bear witness to, and leave room for, some awe and wonder, as well as mystery in order for people to be able to think, reflect and want to learn and discover more about the nature and purpose of God.

I think as Christians within the Diocese we connect with the message that the Church needs to adapt, become more mission focused, change the way we do things and to be open to God's Spirit forming and shaping vision and helping us to remember that it is not about believing God is in charge, but then planning and behaving as if we are. However, what many feel is the need to engage and grow more confidence in their understanding of what it means to be a disciple, a follower of Jesus and to speak personally to others about what it means to be beloved by God, filled with the joy of knowing a God who entered our world as a child, died and rose from the grave in order for people to know the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life.

Put like that, they aren't big churchy words, but if they are to mean anything to other people they need to be spoken within a personal story of finding faith, knowing and loving God, feeling that through being found by Jesus and strengthened by the energy, love, joy and peace of God's Spirit we can find a way through times of sadness, despair and uncertainty as well as to live lives that try to mirror the image and command of God to love and serve. Talking like this is one way other people's ears may begin to turn towards the gospel of hope, but amidst the ideas and resources to underpin Diocesan, Deanery and Parish change and initiative is the need for Christians to explore what they believe, what it means and how it transforms personal lives in ways that isn't dramatic or sudden for most of us, but healing, renewing, fulfilling, challenging and life changing all the same.

Amidst the glitter, yearning for a traditional Christmas, the stress, overspending, worries about who to spend Christmas with etc etc is the reason for the season- God-being-with-us in all our states and situations, bitterness and division, love and rejection. He comes to share our lives, to shine light into darkness, bring hope into despair, and life into death. Incarnation- the awe and wonder. Mystery- why would God do that for me?

A peaceful and blessed Christmas to you and all humanity.

A. P. Kaunhoven



Parliament Week 2017

Classes from fourteen Derbyshire primary schools joined Bishop Alastair to learn more about the environment and climate change at a special event held at Derby Cathedral on 16 November.

Youngsters took part in a parliamentary style debate, led by The Mayor of Derby, on the subject of Fracking in the Peak District.

Dr Michael Sweet from Derby University led a session on The Environment and Natural World. The session focused on marine life and introduced the children to 'Duncan the Coral' and encouraged them to make their own sea creatures for a display.

Derby based Rolls Royce led an Innovation Creative workshop which allowed children to experience new technologies such as virtual reality.

As series of interactives displays around the Cathedral allowed students from different schools to work together and learn more about the subjects.

Each school was invited to build an environmental themed model using waste materials. The standard was incredibly high with each school interpreting the brief in a different creative way. The models were displayed around the Cathedral.

Photos of all the exhibits are available on the diocesan website, www.derby.anglican.org

Primary Schools taking part in the event:

South Darley CE Primary School, Elton Primary, St Luke's, St Joseph Bolsover, St Peter's Littleover, St Peter's Netherseal, William Gilbert School Duffield, Turnditch Primary School, Shelton Juniors, Pilsley Primary School, Ravensdale School Mickleover, Newbold Primary School, Bakewell Primary School, Winster Primary School

The next day, Derby Cathedral welcomed Sixth Form students from Ockbrook School, Derby College, Derby Grammer School and Littleover Community School to join Bishop Alastair for a Parliament Week event titled: The Environment: Responding through Politics and Innovation.

The event included a keynote talk by Margaret Beckett on the effect of green legislation on the economy.

The Rolls Royce Innovation Team led creativity workshops to look at how new products are formulated from ideas and discussed innovation Rolls Royce's impact on Derby and global.

The final session of the day allowed students to pitch new products, Dragon's Den Style, to a panel made up of Bishop Alastair, Adam Buss, Derby Quad and Julia Goss, Head of Rolls Royce Innovation.

Parliament Week Awards

Primary Schools

Bishop of Derby Award for Commitment to the Environment

St Peter's Littleover and Turnditch Primary School

Bishop of Derby Award for Creative Interpretation

Ravendale School, Mickleover, Elton Primary and St Joseph's Bolsover.

Bishop of Derby Award for Best Sculpture

St Peter's Netherseal, South Darley CE Primary School and Shelton Juniors

Sixth Forms

Rolls Royce Innovation Prize

Ockbrook School

Bishop of Derby Prize for Healthy Living

Littleover Community School



Rolls Royce staff allowed students to experience virtual reality

Join the Mothers Union as they campaign to end Gender Violence

The Mothers Union has organised a series of vigils in the Diocese. This is part of an international campaign "16 Days of Activism". These events are aimed at bringing people together to talk about gender violence. Working in partnership with local organisations supporting victims. The vigils are aimed at developing understanding and a sense of solidarity. The campaign will lobby people with power to stop blaming victims. People of faith and of no faith are welcomed. We expect people with lived experience and those with none.

For resources see <http://www.mothersunion.org/16-days>

Derby: 1st December 10.30am - 12noon,
Derby Cathedral

Swanick: 28th Nov St Andrews Church,
7.30pm.

Glossop: 28th November, All Saints Glossop,
10am - 12 noon

Chesterfield: 5th December, The Crooked Spire
(St Mary and All Saints), 5pm

For more information contact Wendy Fitch
President of the Mothers Union Derby Diocese
dp.muderby@gmail.com



Students pitched their ideas to the panel 'Dragon's Den Style'.

Resources and Ideas

Christmas Lunch of Jesus

Christmas Lunch on Jesus will once again be providing hampers containing everything needed for a really enjoyable Christmas lunch. Recipients are referred by social services, churches and schools. You can be involved by helping to pack the hampers on Friday 22 December or by contributing towards the £30 cost of a hamper. For more information contact St Peter's in the City on 01332 360790 or visit www.servethecity.org.uk



Christmas Alone

Christmas Alone is a campaign run by Premier to give people the choice of somewhere to go on Christmas Day if they don't want to be alone; something thousands of people across the UK struggle with. You can find the UK wide map at www.premier.org.uk/christmasalone



If your church is organising an event on Christmas day, beyond a morning service, please complete the form on the site to add your event to the map. You can also download a free resource pack.

Free Christmas HOPE magazine

HOPE has produced a free glossy magazine for churches to give away this Christmas. The magazine features comedian Miranda Hart, Sky Sports presenter Simon Thomas and toy store entrepreneur Gary Grant. As well as competitions and giveaways there is a feature on churches who give away Christmas hampers, a focus on response pastors, a children's story and Christmas quiz. Churches can order the magazine for free (handling and postage charges apply) to give out to congregations or distribute door to door over the festive period. You can preview the magazine and order copies at www.hopetogether.org.uk/christmas



Tidings of Comfort and Joy: Pam Rhodes

Pam Rhodes is much loved by the nation as the familiar face of BBC's Songs of Praise. In this Christmas gift book, Pam offers a selection of her favourite carols, poems, stories, Bible readings and other inspirational passages from a wide range of sources. Alongside the items themselves, Pam shares some of her own Christmas reminiscences and explores the resonance of the Christmas story for all our lives, in her trademark inviting and heartwarming style.

For a chance to win a copy email your name and address to communications@derby.anglican.org by 14th December 2017.



Dates for your diary...

Wednesday 6th December

9.30am Newbold Church School Christingle Service in church.
(Christingles being made at School on the day from 9am)

Sunday 10th December

11.00 am The 11 o'clock service – 'Advent'ures'
An all-age service of preparation for Christmas

Wednesday 13th December

9.15am Church School Christmas Mass in school.

Friday 15th December

9.30am Dunston School Christingle Service in church.

Monday 18th December

10am Cavendish School Christmas service in church
6pm Newbold Church School Juniors Christmas Carols
(in church)

Sunday 24th Dec Christmas Eve

8.00am Holy Communion (said)
9.30am Holy Communion (with hymns / carols)
11am The 11 o'clock service - Nativity
6.30pm Carols by candlelight
11.30pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th Dec Christmas Day

9.30am Family Celebration with Holy Communion

Tuesday 26th Dec Boxing Day

Bank Holiday - No Service

Sunday 31st Dec St John's Day

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Patronal Festival Holy Communion