

DECEMBER
2020



The Bridge



BEELEY WITH EDENSOR
including CHATSWORTH, CALTON LEES & PILSLEY
PARISH MAGAZINE

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The Vicarage, Edensor, Bakewell,
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(Church website -www.stpetersedensor.org)

December 2020

At the time of writing this article we are in lockdown. The churches are closed and we await to hear what will happen after 2nd December. This of course is a frustrating time for us all but we must follow the guidelines and hope for a positive outcome.

Whatever happens after this lockdown it doesn't stop us from celebrating the real meaning of Christmas. It doesn't stop us from recalling the journey that Mary and Joseph made from Nazareth to Bethlehem. This wasn't a jolly, they had to travel the 70 miles to register for the census. No buses or trains, just camels and donkeys. No hotel when they arrived only a manger in the basement of a public house. We can often get carried away with nativity plays and romantic ideas that this was a lovely Christmas scene. Far from it. The reality was pretty grim. Imagine Mary giving birth in a smelly, filthy stable. No running water, hot, humid and animal waste all around them. Why did God allow a birth to happen in this way to a baby who was to be the King of the world? It is because he wanted the child Jesus, to grow up and identify with human nature, understanding totally the joys and sorrows that we experience in our lives.

Angels, Shepherds and Wise Men are all part of the story – this we rejoice in but, the down to earth way in which Jesus was born is what I want you to remember this Christmas.

For instance, I wonder if the inn was really full? Maybe the innkeeper had a couple of rooms left, surely he could have found somewhere safe and quiet for a woman who was nine months pregnant and about to give birth? But he didn't, and so Jesus wasn't born in the inn, he was born in the stable and laid in a manger. We don't know the name of the inn. Was it the Bethlehem Hotel? The Star and Shepherd? The Angel? The King's Arms? We will never know. But I wonder if the innkeeper ever realised who he had turned away. This isn't a story about an innkeeper who missed a chance to open the doors to Christ over 2000 years ago. This is about what God did, and what God still does. Christ still comes to this world. Sometimes God knocks on our doors and we are asked if there is room in our lives for him. We are

asked if there is room in our heart, in our home and in our lives for Jesus.

God is still speaking to us today. Not only is he speaking, but he is active in the world. God is still writing the Christmas story.

The innkeeper will be remembered as the person who closed his doors when God came knocking. We need to learn from that. When God knocks on the door of our life we need to answer joyfully, willingly and invite him to come in and stay. I don't want to be someone who closes my heart to the message and call of God. I want to be someone who hears what God is doing and join in. When God works in this world, I want to be part of what he is doing. Like the angels, shepherds and wise men, I want to be part of the story. The good news of Christmas is that I can be. So can you.

When the tree is taken down, when the mince pies have been eaten, when the decorations go back into their boxes, the love and peace of Jesus is still here. The real test of how well we have celebrated Christmas, even during these challenging times, will not be in the presents we may have given or received, in the things that we can see or the things we can hold in our hands. The real test of Christmas is whether we have opened our hearts to Jesus, and let his love fill us, forgive us and change us. May that be something we all do this Christmas, and always.

Every Blessing
Canon Dave



Telephone Numbers

<u>St. Anne's</u>	Wardens:-	Rupert Turner	01629 732794
		Fiona Swain	<i>ex directory</i>
<u>Both Churches</u>	Treasurer:-	Fiona Lichfield	01629 813382
	Safeguarding:-	Sarah Porter	01629 732365
<u>St. Peter's</u>			07866695132
	Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
		David Jackson	01246 583452
	Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 582245
		e-mail: mtitterton@me.com	

A Message from Pilsley Post Office & Village Shop



In these difficult times, especially with our maturing local residents still being careful, I am very happy to deliver any emergency grocery items/essentials to you in Pilsley and Edensor. We can arrange payment over the phone by card.

Let's show that the Pilsley and Edensor community can support each other!

Best wishes
Sarah Titterton

Sarah is also able to collect prescriptions from Baslow surgery for residents of Pilsley and Edensor, just contact her to let her know.



'THE BRIDGE'

Your magazine subscription for 2021 is now due - £1 per copy - £12 per year.

Please give the money to the person who delivers your magazine - this year a cheque might be easier than cash. **Cheques should be made payable to Edensor PCC.**

If I post the magazine to you please enclose a book of stamps, or include payment for a book of stamps with your subscription (a book of second class stamps is £7.80 bringing the total to £19.80) and post the cheque to me, Liz Bradshaw.

Thank you for your continued support, especially during what has been, and will continue to be, very strange times.

Let's Celebrate ~ 150 years of St. Peter's

This year, 2020, celebrates 150 years of the present St. Peter's Church, when the final payments for the work of re-building were made.



Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all the events that were planned to celebrate this milestone had to be cancelled.

However, we hope that we will be able to stage these events at some time in the not too distant future!

Watch this space!

CHRISTMAS GREETING

via 'THE BRIDGE'

Donations to Church Funds



With all good wishes for Christmas & the New Year

To friends, fellow members of both congregations and readers of 'The Bridge' from:

Maureen Adams; Jennie Ball; Pat & Roy Bosett; Jayne Boyd;

Liz & Ray Bradshaw; Lynne & Joe Clark; Mavis Cunningham;

Cynthia & Duncan Gordon; Jill & Michael Gowdey; Ann Hall;

Lisa & David Hartington; Ann & Tony Hubbuck; Margaret & David Jackson;

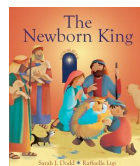
Janet & Peter Machin; Molly Marshall; Pauline Mather; Margaret & Gary Nelson;

Gloria & Roger Sherwood; Diana & Dick Walters;

The Newborn King

By Sarah J Dodd and Raffaella Ligi, Lion Children £5.99 (Book Review)

This is an engaging retelling of the first Christmas, with bright and appealing pictures that bring the wonderful scenes to life for younger children. A new king is born! His name is Jesus. See the gladness of Mary, the joy of the shepherds, and the journey of the Wise Men.



Easy Fundraising

If you already SHOP ONLINE, or if you haven't yet done so, then why not use Easy Fundraising and help raise money for St. Peter's Church? There is no extra cost to you and a percentage from your purchase will come back to the church.



To Register

- Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- Click on **Register**
- Choose **Saint Peter's Church - Chatsworth Park** as your charity and fill in the rest of the form

To Shop

- Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- Search for your store in the alphabetical list
- Go ahead and shop

Choose from over 2000 of the UK's best-known retailers including names such as Amazon, M&S, Argos, John Lewis and HMV and when you shop using the links on the easyfundraising site up to 15% from every purchase you make is donated to St. Peter's Church.

JUST GIVING AT ST. PETER'S

We now have a **JustGiving** page, where people can donate to St Peter's at any point, the link is <https://www.justgiving.com/edensor-stpeters>.



If you normally give to St. Peter's through an envelope in Church, you can still support our mission by giving online and following the link at Just Giving. <https://www.justgiving.com/edensor-stpeters>.

Stark sign of the times



Children's piggy banks have been raided by a quarter of parents this year, struggling to pay their bills during lockdown.

A survey by Direct Line Life Insurance has found that buying food was among the most common reasons for 23 percent of adults admitting they had actually had to dip into their children's savings.

ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY

TheGivingMachine is a unique registered charity that enables you to generate sales commissions with every online purchase. They convert these commissions into free donations for the schools, charities and other community

organisations you choose. **St Anne's, Beeley** is one of the organisations you can support. The donation is calculated without going via another website so doesn't affect your shopping experience.



Please sign up at <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk>

St. Peter's Church 100 Club October Draw 2020

1st prize £30 no. 12 Gloria
Sherwood

2nd prize £20 no. 19 Molly Marshall

**Funds to church this month -
£50**

Ann Hall

Subscriptions for 2021 are now due in order to be eligible for the January draw.

These are payable at £12 per number held. Please make out cheques to:-

St. Peter's Church 100 Club.

Please could you put your subscription in an envelope with your name and total numbers held. These can either be posted to me or put through my letterbox or the

Vicar's, as we may be unable to meet in the usual way:-

Ann Hall,
Rose Cottage,
Edensor,
Bakewell,
Derbyshire
DE45 1PH

Thank you for your continued support.

We would like to invite new members for 2021 to ensure a membership of 100 throughout the year.

Membership is open to everyone from the villages and the church and their families and friends.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Ann Hall

The Padley Centre

We continue to collect food and clothing for the Padley Centre in Derby and with Christmas and the colder weather on the way, we need to give even more thought for those less fortunate people who know what it is like to be hungry and homeless. Canon Dave has been delivering these donations throughout the last few months - the Padley has a booking system for dropping goods off.

They need warm clothing for adults, including waterproofs, warm socks, gloves, hats and scarves etc. Sleeping bags are very much appreciated as the winter approaches.

Food - tins of meat, fish, soup and tomatoes; dried pasta; rice; biscuits and chocolate and any other Christmas 'treats'; also toiletries including toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap and feminine hygiene products.

Donations can be brought along to a Sunday service if you are able to attend, or you can phone Canon Dave to arrange to drop them off at the Vicarage. Alternatively, you can phone David Jackson if you are in Baslow or Liz Bradshaw if you are in Pilsley and arrange to drop them off with them.



The Air Ambulance Service
Virtual Santa Fun Run
12th - 13th December 2020
Walk, jog or run either 1.5k or 5k anywhere
you like to raise funds for our lifesaving service

Tickets
Individual: £10
Family ticket*: £25
Includes a Santa hat and
beard for each participant

Join us for a fun, festive event with your family, friends or local club** Sign up at theairambulanceservice.org.uk/santa-fun-run

*Includes two adults and any amount of children as long as they are all from the same household
**Please ensure you are following the most up to date government guidance when completing any activity that requires you to leave your home or have contact with others.

As the year draws to a close:

Lines from Invocation of Peace

Deep peace, pure white of the moon to you;

Deep peace, pure green of the grass to you;

Deep peace, pure brown of the earth to you;

Deep peace, pure grey of the dew to you,

Deep peace, pure blue of the sky to you,

Deep peace of the running wave to you,

Deep peace of the flowing air to you,

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

By Fiona Macleod (19th century Celtic visionary and romantic)

0300 3045 999

fundraising@theairambulanceservice.org.uk



Brief Notes from St. Peter's PCC Meeting held via Zoom on Wednesday 21st October 2020

Nine members of the PCC were present.

Canon Perkins opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th August were agreed and signed as a true record.

Report from the Chair: Canon Dave said that a Foundation Governor needs to be appointed for Pilsley School and he has had a conversation with Richard Sherwood, who has expressed an interest. Richard has a daughter at the school and is a regular worshipper at St. Peter's so would be the ideal candidate. It was proposed by Canon Mark and seconded by Cynthia Gordon that Canon Dave should discuss the matter further with Richard. The meeting agreed.

David Neale, who is a licensed reader in the Sheffield Diocese, is having his license transferred to Derby Diocese. This will take place in early November in Derby Cathedral.

Canon Dave said that he was pleased with how well the Sunday services have been working since the re-opening of church in early August. The diary system of booking a place is working well, with people not wanting to come every Sunday, which enables everyone to come at some point. His emailed weekly message has been very well received, both locally and further afield, and especially by those who still feel unable to attend church in person, and for this reason he said that he is happy to continue doing the message for the time being. Canon Dave said that now that areas closer to us, such as Sheffield, have moved into Tier 3, he will keep a close watch on where those booking a place in church live so that everyone can be kept safe.

Canon Dave said he had been in touch with the solicitors handling the estate of Gladys Hopkins and they have confirmed that a bequest in the region of £70,000 will be coming to both St. Peter's and St. Anne's shortly.

The weddings due to have taken place this year have been transferred to 2021/2022.

Canon Dave said he was waiting to hear from Ian Woodhead as to whether he was interested in the contract for the mowing of the churchyard.

Financial Report: The PCC thanked Canon Mark for his very clear report of the financial situation received before the meeting. The meeting was shown the balance sheet as at 30th September 2020, the total current funds stand at £123,505.89, compared with £93,423.14 at the same date last year. On the face of it, this looks very healthy, but the figure includes the £40,000 bequest from Lady Elizabeth, and if this were not part of the equation, the current funds would stand at £83,505.89, a shortfall of just under £10,000. Given that we have commitments in the region of £53,000 to the toilet project, and it is a sad fact of the pandemic that churches across the country are in effect burning money just to be there, this is a great cause for concern. David H asked what the projected losses would be until the end of this financial year, and Canon Mark said in the region of £4,000. Lynne said that if we need unrestricted funds of £17,000, as we usually do, would we be able to manage? Canon Mark said that with the generous bequest from Gladys Hopkins, we should be able to manage, but should

not be complacent about the seriousness of the situation. He said that although regular planned giving is still happening, the real problem is the 'casual' giving which is now severely limited due to the reduced congregation numbers and the fact that the church is locked during the week. Canon Dave offered to email those giving by the plate to see if they would re-consider regular giving and the meeting thought that was a good idea.

Schedule of Works: Minutes of a pre-contract meeting had already been sent out to the PCC. We are waiting for a sample area of the present floor tiles to be sealed and the colour of the oak used for the screen.

Re-gilding of the clock dial: We are awaiting the Faculty for this work, which needs to be undertaken in good weather conditions as it would be from roped access.

Update on Grants: Liz said the grant from the Raymond Ross Fund should be in the church account soon. Sarah Porter has helped with an application for emergency grant funding from the All Churches Trust toward the gutter project, using revised figures for the north side only. It is doubtful this will be successful as there are always more applicants than grants.

Fundraising: Sadly, there have been no fund raising events recently due to the pandemic. It is hoped that the events/play/quiz postponed from this year will be able to go ahead in 2021. The PCC looked forward to this prospect.

A.O.B.: Christine said that it had not been possible to organise the Church Christmas lunch due to the pandemic.

The meeting discussed whether or not to have a Christmas tree in Church this year, as to spend £40 for a tree that will be seen for such a short amount of time and by so few people seems a waste of money. Cynthia suggested spraying a large branch white and then hanging the decorations on that, which the meeting thought would be a good idea. Other artificial decorations usually at the altar could also be brought forward to the chancel steps, and garden greenery and candles could be placed on the windowsills.

As Edensor village will still be having their individual lights, Liz suggested having St Peter's lights just on the tree on the north side of the church and not having them along the path this year as there will be no evening services.

Date of next meeting: Canon Dave suggested leaving the next PCC meeting until we see how the work is progressing for the toilets, and calling a meeting in due course.

Christmas Services: There will be no Carol Service this year as carols cannot be sung. There can be no Midnight Mass this year, as there will be a service on Christmas morning (Friday), and then again on Sunday 27th December. Canon Dave said that he will be fair regarding the allocation of spaces for these services.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm, followed by The Grace



Councils launch digital lifeline for Derbyshire high streets

Calling all Derbyshire retailers – there's a new way of reaching customers in your town and it can be done from the comfort of their own home.

ShopAppy.com is a website which allows shops, cafes, bars and local businesses and community organisations to display their goods and services online.

In partnership with district and borough councils we're paying for free and unlimited use of the website for local groups and businesses for 12 months.

It's a very difficult time for high streets across the county and we hope this project will help support small and independent retailers.

We would encourage businesses and groups which would like to get involved in the scheme or find out more to register on shopappy.com/ vendor or email info@shopappy.com"

Derbyshire Dales District Council - Face covering guidance

Which is best - a reusable covering or a disposable/single use face covering?

Using a reusable face covering has a number of advantages:

- You can buy or make the covering using a comfortable material
- The covering can be easily washed and used again. This might help you save money, especially if you need to regularly wear one.
- They are more sustainable and better for the environment
- You can make your covering using material you potentially already have at home

There is no additional benefit in using a disposable covering versus a washed and clean reusable cloth one. It is best to use a reusable cloth covering if you can.

Medical grade masks should not be worn for general use as face coverings. For more details on where and when you need to wear a covering please visit the government guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

In anticipation of lockdown restrictions easing, Derbyshire Dales District Council is reintroducing free parking across the district for a month from 1st December.

In a scheme designed to boost trade, for the 13th year in a row it will be free to park in any District Council pay and display car park after 2pm throughout December.

District Council Leader Councillor Garry Purdy said: "It has never been more important to encourage local people to support our business community during the continuing Covid pandemic.

"Christmas is always a vital time of year for Derbyshire Dales traders

and we really do hope the current government restrictions will have been eased as we get into December to enable us all to shop local throughout the month."

Free parking permits were issued to every one of the 34,000 households across the Derbyshire Dales back in March.

It means Dales residents have free parking for 21 hours each day over the festive period, which helps local people and local traders.

Free parking extends to midnight each day and motorists are reminded not to leave anything valuable in their vehicles as the lead up to Christmas can also be a choice time for thieves.

Bishops warn of a 'divided nation'

The Government should give more financial aid to our poorest communities, as they are suffering disproportionately from the pandemic. Otherwise, it runs the risk in a rise of "disillusion and unrest".

So warns the Archbishop of York and the Bishops of Manchester and Leeds.

In a recent article jointly published in the Yorkshire Post, the bishops warn of the "terrible double whammy" of poverty and exposure to coronavirus, because "those in more deprived communities, urban and rural, are also most likely to be living in smaller and more cramped homes."

Christmas can't come too early

The Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the CofE, considers a new response to a yearly complaint.

Every year it happens. I hear Christians lamenting how 'Christmas comes earlier every year.'

Since this September (or before!) supermarkets, shops and garden centres have been selling Christmas jumpers, socks and pyjamas and all kinds of other seasonal merchandise. Should we be annoyed or exasperated? Should we have gone around reminding people that it's much too early for tinsel and mistletoe?

This year, of all years, the answer from churches and Christians of all denominations must surely be a resounding 'NO.'

As people began looking to Christmas for some light in the gloom of the pandemic – and hard-hit businesses desperately need to increase their income and chances of survival – it sounds a woefully wrong note if the Church is saying 'hold back, it's not time yet...'

Because Christmas is that time of year when increasing numbers of people want to come to church

services and share in the story of the new-born King. It is when carols are played in shopping centres, and there are openings to speak of the meaning of the season.

Churches might not be able to host big indoor carol services this year, but the challenge is how we take the Christmas message out into the streets and neighbourhoods around our buildings.

This year has been one like no other for millions of people, with little prospect of better news into the New Year. So we need to be declaring the Christmas message of hope and light and joy in the darkness. And to be doing so at every opportunity.

But also, we need to be doing so with sensitivity and care, for the many who will find it hard to be celebrating this pandemic year, and with the prospect of large family gatherings in doubt because of Covid-19 regulations.

Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, wrote in his 2009 book '*Do Nothing Christmas is Coming*', "Christmas is one of the most joyful times of the year. It is also one of the most stressful. It is laden with expectations. It is often overtaken with grief. It might be the season of good will, but it can feel like the last straw on an already overburdened

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camel.” He added ruefully, “Wise men would not ride this one.”

Archbishop Cottrell is right that Christmas has to be approached sensitively, that we need to take care in how we celebrate, that for many people who have lost loved ones and livelihoods during this traumatic year, Christmas will not be easy.

We come alongside people with the news that the baby born in the manger grew up to be the Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief, who experienced suffering and

bereavement. God, born as Man, who shared our pain as well as our celebrations, ultimately died on a cross to rise again.

Our mission is to bring a message of hope, and to do so with love, humility and sensitivity to a hurting, disorientated world – one that’s eager for light in the gloom.

The Revd Peter Crumpler is a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, a former Director of Communications with the CofE, and the author of [‘Responding to Post-Truth’](#) (Grove Books).

Cathedrals battered by the pandemic

Cathedrals have struggled this year, as Covid-19 drastically cut visitor numbers, and thus income has plummeted. Numbers of lay staff in cathedrals across the country have been facing possible redundancy, as the financial impact of the pandemic continues to hit.

Westminster Abbey alone is losing 20 per cent of its staff as it faces a

“breath-taking” loss of up to £12million next year.

Now 20 other cathedrals have been handed a lifeline by the Government’s £1.57billion Culture Recovery Fund. They include Canterbury, Chichester, Coventry, Derby, Ely, Exeter, Gloucester, Hereford, Leicester, Lincoln, Liverpool, Portsmouth, Salisbury, Southwell Minster, St Albans, Sheffield, Truro, Wells, Winchester and Worcester.



It was 30 years ago, on 1st December 1990, that British and French construction workers on the Channel Tunnel broke through the last wall of rock separating the two halves, and Britain and France were linked for the first time in thousands of years.

BEETHOVEN: 'from the heart to the heart'

The Revd Michael Burgess considers the life and work of a genius.

This year, 2020, is a special year for Beethoven: it marks the 250th anniversary of his birth on 16th December 1770.

And so it was very fitting that back in August, at the first Live Prom this year in the Royal Albert Hall, the BBC Symphony Orchestra played his 3rd symphony, the *Eroica*.

Beethoven composed it in 1804. A few years earlier he had noticed the first symptoms of his deafness. He wrote in a letter to his brothers that was found after his death, *'I must live like an exile.'* The deafness brought in its wake depression and thoughts of suicide, but Beethoven wrote that *'the only thing that held me back was my art.'*

He went on to compose works which expressed the tragedy this cross of deafness brought, but also conveyed the power of the human spirit which proved indomitable in the face of that struggle. *'Music,'* he wrote, *'is the electric soil in which the spirit thinks, lives and invents.'*

Beethoven was to compose six more symphonies after the *Eroica* and a wealth of other music up to his death in 1827. He spent most of his

life in Vienna, but through his music his creative genius travelled far and wide.

Scholars divide his work into three stages. Up to 1800 he composed very much in the classical tradition. That year marked a second stage with works like the 5th Symphony, which opens with the famous eight-note motif of fate knocking at the door, and his opera *Fidelio*. Then in 1817 came a final stage when his compositions explored new territories of the human spirit altogether.

Although his deafness brought loneliness and isolation, he found in music the means to express those experiences: his struggle with Destiny, his love of Nature and that search for an inner peace and serenity. Weighed down by physical limitations, he found a freedom to express himself and his longing for transcendence and light.

It is there in the Prisoners' Chorus in his opera *Fidelio* as they emerge from the dungeon into the sunlight. And it is quintessentially present in his last great works: the late String Quartets, the 9th Symphony with its exultant hymn to Joy, and the Missa Solemnis where there is a beauty and a serenity in the Benedictus and Agnus Dei.

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On the score of this work, Beethoven wrote above the Kyrie It comes from the heart - may it go to the heart. In this month which marks the 250th anniversary of his birth, we give thanks for his music which continues to speak to hearts in every age. It is music that tells us of the

pain and struggle of life, but also the discovery of a courage and freedom that can help us to step out in his company and welcome the light and the joy, the peace and the beauty.

John Lennon – 40 years since his death

Tim Lenton recalls an assassination that shocked the world.

It was 40 years ago, on 8th December 1980, that John Lennon – rock musician, peace activist and a founder of the Beatles – was shot dead, aged 40, outside his New York City apartment by Mark Chapman, a deranged fan.

Lennon is usually regarded as anti-Christian, but he denied being “anti-Christ or anti-religion”. Three months before he died he said he had a spiritual side, but “the whole religion business suffers from the 'Onward, Christian Soldiers' bit. There's too much talk about soldiers and marching and converting”.

As a youngster Lennon attended St Peter's Anglican Church in South

Liverpool, where he was a member of the youth group, but his post-Beatles single Imagine is widely regarded as being an “atheist anthem”, and his remark in 1966 that the Beatles had become more popular than Jesus led to threats, protests and record-burning in America.

However, in the 1970s Lennon did in fact show a strong interest in Christianity, saying the Beatles were always on the side of Christ. In 1977 he wrote some Christian songs and told friends he had become a born-again Christian. But his wife Yoko Ono took him to Tokyo and pulled him away from this; eventually he was said to have retained only universalist ideas.

It was 60 years ago, on 9th December 1960, that the first episode of the television soap opera Coronation Street was broadcast in the UK.

17th December: Eglantyne Jebb – founder of ‘Save the Children’

Here is a modern-day saint whose compassion and determination has saved literally millions of lives.

Eglantyne did not begin as an obvious ‘mover and shaker’ of people. Born in Shropshire in 1876, she grew up in Ellesmere, studied history at Lady Margaret Hall in Oxford, taught at Marlborough, and then resigned as she was not physically robust.

Eglantyne moved to live with her mother in Cambridge, and it would have been so easy to settle for a life of peaceful obscurity. But she was a Christian, and at Oxford she had developed a passion for social concerns, so this compassion now drove her to take action.

She began in 1906 by publishing research on the poverty she’d found in Cambridge.

Then in 1912 the Balkan Wars broke out, and Eglantyne left Cambridge for Macedonia. Her months among the refugees led her to decide that long-term constructive aid was more effective than short-term handouts.

The First World War left Eglantyne horrified by the prolonged Allied blockade on Germany and Austria-Hungary, which even after Armistice

meant starvation for millions of civilians, especially children.

And so in 1919 Eglantyne and her sister Dorothy Buxton helped found the ‘Fight the Famine’ Council, which wanted to end the blockade and establish a League of Nations.

One day during a rally in Trafalgar Square, Eglantyne was arrested for distributing a leaflet showing starving children which read: “Our blockade has caused this – millions of children are starving to death.”

She ended up in court and was fined, but the judge was so impressed with Eglantyne’s commitment to children that he himself paid her fine. His money became the first donation to Save the Children, the new charity just set up by Eglantyne and Dorothy.

Save the Children was officially launched at the Albert Hall in May 1919, with the aim of helping the starving civilians of central Europe. It was a success, raising £400,000 in that first year alone.

When in the autumn of 1921 Russia was facing famine, Save the Children chartered a cargo ship, the *SS Torcello*, to carry 600 tons of lifesaving food and medical supplies to Russia – saving hundreds of thousands of lives.

By 1922 Save the Children had

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Christmas: Celebrating the Incarnation

The Revd Dr Roger Roberts considers Christmas...

C.S. Lewis called it the Grand Miracle and the Central Miracle. He noted that “Every other miracle prepares for this, exhibits this, or results from this...The fitness, and therefore credibility, of the particular miracles depend on their relations to the Grand Miracle.”

So if you can believe in Christmas – the incarnation of the Son of God: the Grand, the Central Miracle, you should have no problem believing the miracles in the Old Testament narratives or the miracle of the Virgin Birth, the miracles Jesus performed of feeding the multitudes, of His healing the sick, raising the dead, walking on water and calming the storms. You also need have no

problem in believing in the bodily resurrection of Jesus and His ascension back into the heavenly realms, where He reigns as King of kings and Lord of lords.

In other words, to believe the essence of the Christmas story is to believe the miracle that will open the pathway to faith and eternal life, a life of following this risen Jesus as your Lord. To understand and believe the truth of the Incarnation will not only transform your idea of Christmas—it will change your life now and your everlasting destiny.



It was 65 years ago, on 1st December 1955, that African American civil rights activist Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama, violating the city's racial segregation laws. This incident led to the birth of the modern American civil rights

Continued from previous page..

become one of Britain's biggest charities. Eglantyne's Declaration of the Rights of the Child, written in 1923, was adopted by the League of Nations the following year. The present-day UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is derived from it.

But ten years of running Save the Children sapped Eglantyne's fragile strength and she died in Geneva in 1928 aged only 52.

MISTLETOE

We continue our occasional series on different common flowers by Kirsty Steele, a retired teacher and active church organist.

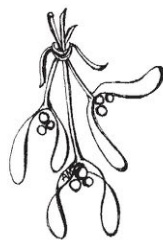
This time of year you can see all sorts of traditions played out with regard to Christmas decorations. Strict adherents use holly, ivy and of course, mistletoe. While holly and ivy are to be found in gardens and hedgerows, mistletoe usually only appears in greengrocers' shops, or high in a tree well out of reach.

Mistletoe is hemiparasitic, meaning that although its leaves enable it to feed itself through photosynthesis, its roots invade the host tree or shrub to extract water and other nutrients. Its favourite host trees are apple, lime, hawthorn, poplar or oak and it normally hangs as a large globe, tantalisingly high and totally visible once winter arrives and it is the only green left on the tree. There are some spectacular examples in Windsor Great Park, clearly visible from the path on the opposite side of the River Thames.

We all know about the almost translucent white berries, fleshy

and sticky, which form in the forks of mistletoe's many branches. While they are toxic to humans, they are attractive to birds. When birds have enjoyed the juicy flesh, they wipe the remaining seeds off their beaks onto the nearest branch [somewhat like small children wiping sticky hands on any surface close by – mummy's face or clothes?]. With luck the seed remains stuck to the bark and solves mistletoe's problem of reproduction.

In Greek mythology, mistletoe gave access to the Underworld. Romans thought it represented Peace, Love and Understanding and perhaps that is how it has sidled into our Christmas celebrations. The earliest documentary evidence for kissing under mistletoe dates from the sixteenth century. Some people think a berry should be removed after each kiss. Given the small size of pieces generally available these days, perhaps that is a practice not to be pursued!



Journeys or lockdown this Christmas?

by Lester Amann

Christmas is a busy time for travel, as many of us venture a great distance to see family or friends again. But this year coronavirus has put an end to all that. Seeing all our loved ones this Christmas will be difficult, if not impossible. Soon we may not be travelling anywhere very much at all.

Have you noticed that the Christmas story is about journeys? It begins with Mary and Joseph travelling from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Then, some shepherds receive news from an angel about a special birth. They travel through the night, across dark fields and down unlit streets to search for the baby Jesus.

After this, in an eastern country some wise men see a new star, one that heralds a new king. They leave home and set out with only the star to guide them, and their faith to reassure them that Someone special is waiting at the end of their journey.

All these travellers must have wondered what really lay ahead. Nothing was fully understood, carefully planned for, or safe. They all travelled with questions and uncertainties. But God had come unexpectedly into their lives, and suddenly they were given new roles to serve Him. Despite worldly

circumstances that could have crushed them, they stood firm and trusted God all the way.

These travellers' tales tell us that God may suddenly enter into our familiar, or this year, unfamiliar circumstances. He may come in surprising ways, to prompt us into new avenues of service. At first His call on us may be uncomfortable and challenging.

If our response is anything like Joseph, Mary, the shepherds and wise men – to be obedient to His call in serving, witnessing and worshipping - we shall be greatly blessed and rewarded.

We are all on life's journey. If we travel with God, He will be faithful and lead us to His heavenly Home.



God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith. www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/churches and <http://www.cis.org.uk>

Follow the Star

Jesus' welcoming committee included Eastern scholars who learned about His birth through their study of astrology. I can't help thinking that the arrival of these people at Bethlehem is a link between a very early form of science (albeit mixed in with their own form of religion) and Christian faith. What better way to discover God than to explore the world and follow the evidence wherever it leads? But what exactly was the star of Bethlehem? Scientists have investigated this question over the centuries, coming up with a variety of answers.

First, there is the idea of a supernova: the massively bright explosion caused by a dying star. On rare occasions a supernova can be seen from Earth with the naked eye, remaining visible for several months. We now know that Herod the Great died around 4BC, so the actual date of Jesus' birth must be a little earlier. The supernovae that might match this timing were one in the Andromeda galaxy between March 8BC and September 7BC, and another in the constellation of Capricorn in the Spring of 5BC.

Next, comes a planetary conjunction. The alignment most commonly associated with the star of Bethlehem was between Jupiter and Saturn in the constellation of Pisces in 7BC, but not everyone is sure whether this would be extraordinary enough to be the 'star' mentioned in the Bible.

Finally, the bright astronomical object that drew the Magi could have been a comet. This idea came from Sir Colin Humphreys, Professor of Materials Science at Cambridge University, and Oxford astronomer WG Waddington, who found that a comet was recorded by Chinese astronomers between March and May, 5BC. Humphreys' then speculated that the 'no room at the inn' scenario came about because Jesus was born during Passover, and the Magi visited Jesus in May or June.

People interpret the biblical account of Jesus' birth in all sorts of ways, but there's very little argument from serious historians that Jesus of Nazareth actually existed. Whatever the true explanation for the 'star of Bethlehem' may be, there's plenty of evidence that an astronomical event could have happened at the time of His birth.

I think it makes perfect sense that if God was going to enter His own creation and take on the form of one of His own creatures, it should be marked by a very significant physical event!

Struggling for relinquishment.

Here is the second of a three-part series by Tony Collins. He considers the question of how much BUSYNESS do we really need in our lives?

In October I wrote about my addiction to cars. But how about the addiction to a busy life?

Until a few years ago I ran a couple of imprints at a well-known publishing company, and feared I was slacking if I didn't receive a hundred emails a day.

I regularly attended events such as the Frankfurt Book Fair, where the diary took months of planning and each day was divided into thirty-minute slots. The buzz was intense: I have rarely felt more alive. I was publishing 60 books a year and keeping my feet in the complex web of relationships that that required. It all took intense concentration.

Like many business folk, I have been an adrenaline junkie. Which is another way of saying: your life is probably at war with your ethics.

If you fill every minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance run, as Kipling had it, you cannot think critically. This is where relinquishment comes in. It helps us stop trashing the planet, for a start.

Relinquishment allows us to concentrate on priorities. If we are trying to live a sustainable life, to eat meat from animals farmed with

integrity and butchered without cruelty; to seek out fruit and vegetables that are locally sourced, grown without artificial fertilizer, and packaged without plastic; these things require space to think. Pollution, land degradation and climate change all result from the premise that more = better, which is the lie behind our enslavement to the Gross Domestic Product. We cannot afford to keep going as we are.

In the everyday routine of our lives, if we are to live as faithful disciples, we must undertake the detailed work of finding out and considering the implications of our choices as voters and as consumers. We should ask, 'Who made this shirt? Why is it so cheap? Where was the cotton sourced? How was the factory run? What were the workers paid? Did they work reasonable hours? As a customer, am I a partner in their wellbeing, or exploiting their vulnerability?'

It takes time to make considered decisions – and relinquishment creates time.

These ideas, and many more, are explored by Pen Wilcock in her new book [Relinquishment: Making Space for What Really Matters](#), available from Amazon in paperback and ebook.



Remembering Bonnie Prince Charlie

Tim Lenton looks back on the tragic life of a would-be king.

Three hundred years ago, on 31st December 1720, Charles Edward Stuart, commonly known as “Bonnie Prince Charlie”, was born in Italy. He was leader of the unsuccessful Jacobite rebellion of 1745-46 – a turning point in British history.

Charles believed the British throne to be his birthright as the grandson of King James II, a Roman Catholic who had been ousted to make way for the Protestant William of Orange in the Glorious Revolution of 1688. Charles intended, with the help of France and the Scots, to remove William’s Hanoverian successor George II – in his view a usurper.

Although Charles was a Catholic, not all his Jacobite supporters were, but they did believe a Stuart on the throne would give them relief from the austere Presbyterian form of Protestantism imposed on the Church of Scotland by William.

So they supported Charles, but despite big initial successes – the 6000-strong army got as far south as Derby – their cause eventually foundered at the Battle of Culloden, where Charles eschewed the advice of his brilliant general Lord George Murray (a Protestant) and was routed.

The backing of the French had waned after a 1744 invasion fleet was scattered by a storm. After hiding in the Highlands, Charles eventually escaped back to the Continent, had many affairs and died in 1788.

Ways to avoid stress this Christmas

Change your expectations this Christmas. Don't waste time lamenting what should have been. Instead, try and enjoy whatever is possible this year.

Make a list. Include sending cards, buying presents and organising food for the big day. Having a lists helps keep you in control of your life.

Set a reduced budget this year. With a pandemic raging, this no time to take on Christmas debt. If you can't pay for it this month, probably best not to buy it.

Exercise each day - it releases happiness-inducing serotonin. That will help you to keep calm and positive over the festive period.

Don't overindulge. Too much alcohol and rich food won't improve your life.

Keep calm and keep kind.

Make the most of Zoom this year with far-flung relatives and friends.

Most of all, include God in your Christmas! This is His Son's birthday - include Bible readings and carols in your family routine over the festive period.

How to impress the cat this Christmas

If you are going to spend Christmas in a house with a resident cat, it may be worth knowing how to win its favour on the big day.

Recent research at Sussex University has found that humans become more attractive to a cat when they slowly blink at it, and mimic what is known as a 'cat smile.'

Cats are more likely to slow-blink at their owners after their owners have slow-blinked at them. Cats are also more likely to approach an outstretched hand after a person has

slow-blinked the cat.

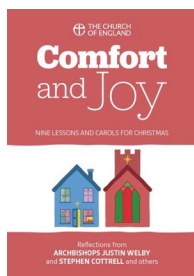
As one professor said, this is something 'you can try yourself with your own cat at home, or with cats you meet in the street. It's a great way of enhancing the bond you have with cats.' (Presuming you want such a bond!)

Try narrowing your eyes at them as you would in a relaxed smile, followed by closing your eyes for a couple of seconds. You should find they respond to you in the same way. You might even start a sort-of conversation.



Comfort and Joy – Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

By John Kiddie, CHP
(80p single copy;
pack of 10, £7; pack
of 50, £30)



Churches all over the country will be marking Advent and Christmas in both new and familiar ways this year. 'Comfort and Joy', the Church of England's 2020 Christmas campaign, will help enrich your Christmas

It features daily reflections for the Christmas season from Kate Bottley, Jonathan Bryan, Bob Chilcot, Martha Collison, Stephen Cottrell, Guli

Francis-Dehqani, Chine McDonald, Sally Phillips and Justin Welby.

Beginning on Christmas Day and ending on 2nd January, each day explores a Bible reading and a familiar carol, encouraging us to consider Christmas in these extraordinary times, and inviting us to hear again the message of the angels - good news of God's unfailing love for a world that is weary and hurting.

For more about 'Comfort and Joy', online services, and the free app featuring audio versions of all the featured carols, go to: www.churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy

6	9	3	7	1	8	2	5	4
2	4	7	3	5	9	8	6	1
8	1	5	6	4	2	3	9	7
1	6	9	2	3	4	7	8	5
7	3	2	1	8	5	6	4	9
5	8	4	9	7	6	1	3	2
9	7	6	4	2	3	5	1	8
3	5	1	8	9	7	4	2	6
4	2	8	5	6	1	9	7	3

November
solution



December
Sudoku



6	1			7				
					4	5		2
				8				3
	7		8			9		
		2				6		
		3			2		8	
4				5				
1		6	3					
				4			9	7

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Pilsley C of E Primary School

3 - 11 years

Our new and exciting Foundation Stage unit is now running all day Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday plus two afternoons (Monday and Friday).

The unit is led by a fully qualified Early Years teacher with two highly experienced teaching assistants.

Visits to our lovely school are warmly welcomed.

Please contact Emma Bond, Headteacher on 01246 583203.

Pilsley C of E Primary School Toddler Group

Every Friday morning (term time) from 9am - 10.30am

Everyone Welcome

£2 for a parent and 1 child -

50p each for additional children

Picture to make you smile...

The teacher asked her Sunday School class to draw a picture of a Bible story with a Christmas theme. She was puzzled by Kate's picture, which showed four people on an airplane. She asked her which story it was meant to represent. 'The Flight to Egypt,' was the reply.

Pointing at each figure, the teacher ventured: 'That must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. But who's the fourth person?'

'Oh,' explained Kate happily, 'that's Pontius - the pilot!'



Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow

www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk

Appointment Times: Clinicians are still available for consultations and medical advice. Please contact the surgery and a GP or Nurse will call you back to discuss your concerns and if necessary arrange to see you in person. Many problems can be dealt with over the telephone.

Patient Online: Have you registered to use the online service? This allows you to book or cancel appointments on line (during normal service) and order your repeat medications. You can also request access to your Summary Care Record, and Detailed Coded Data contained within your medical records. You can also look at your test results.

Telephone Numbers:

Reception: 01246 582216

Surgery Fax: 01246 583867

District Nursing Team 01332 564 900

Health Visitor: 01629 816633

Normal Surgery Opening Times

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri

8am-6.30pm;

(closed Bank Holidays)

(Phones 8am – 6.30pm Mon - Fri).

Surgery Closure for training -

There is NO staff training closure in December.

Ordering Repeat Medication

You can order repeat medications in the following ways:

- In writing or with our on-line access service

- Return your repeat request form to surgery by Post or Fax

Please allow **three** working days before collection and **collect between 8am and 5pm**

Prescriptions can be collected via the side window near the back door.

Samples – if you need to leave a sample with us please ensure it is labelled with your name and date of birth and returned in a bag, if provided, either through the letterbox or at the side window.

Test Results – Please ring for test results after 2.30pm as we do not receive test results back from the hospital until lunchtime.

Christmas & New Year – The surgery will close at 4.00pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

For Urgent Calls when we are closed call 111



***All services are subject to restrictions on public worship being lifted following Government guidelines and should be checked for confirmation beforehand.**

St. Anne's, Beeley (pre-booked places only)

please phone Canon Dave Perkins 01246 386385 to reserve a place*

24 Dec 6pm Holy Communion

27 Dec 9.30am Holy Communion

St. Peter's, Edensor (pre-booked places only) 10.45am

Sunday 6th December: Advent Two (Holy Communion)

Isaiah 40:1-11 *Reader: Christine Robinson*

Mark 1:1-8 *Stewards: Mr & Mrs Gordon*

Sunday 13th December: Advent Three (Holy Communion) 10.45am

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 *Reader: Roger Wardle*

John 1:6-8, 19-28 *Stewards: Diana Walters & Roger Sherwood*

Sunday 20th December: Advent Four (Matins) 10.45am

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 *Reader: Trevor Grimshaw*

Luke 1:26-38 *Stewards: Margaret Perkins & Liz Bradshaw*

Friday 25th December: Christmas Day (Holy Communion) 10.45am

Isaiah 9:2-7 *Reader: Duke of Devonshire*

Luke 2:1-14 *Stewards: Sue & Roger Wardle*

Sunday 27th December: Sunday after Christmas Day (Holy Communion)

Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3 *Reader: Gloria Sherwood*

Luke 2:22-40 *Stewards: David & Margaret Jackson*

Cleaning Rota for December

We are very grateful to those who are still able to clean the church. Would you please do the cleaning **on EITHER Thursday, Friday or Saturday**, this is to ensure your safety by keeping a 72 hour space after the Sunday service

6	Sue & Roger Wardle	20	Diana Walters/Wilma Day
13	Michael Pindar/Jennie Ball	27	Mr & Mrs Jackson

Items for the **January magazine** should reach me **NO LATER THAN MONDAY 7th DECEMBER** email to: liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk

*The Bridge Parish Magazine £1 per copy (£12 per year) from January 2020.