

INSPIRE



ST JOHN'S



ST KATHARINE'S

**THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR THE PARISHES
OF
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, FROME
AND
ST KATHARINE, EAST WOODLANDS**

DECEMBER 2020 / JANUARY 2021 50P

From the Editor

I'm so glad we delayed publication for a week! Only a few days ago the magazine was not looking very festive: although Janet and Karolyn had given me wonderfully Christmassy articles, Rosemary had made sure her book review was seasonal and Lois had sent in a lovely photo of the advent wreath, there wasn't much else that was festive, and even our Christmas services hadn't been decided at that point.

But on Thursday last week it all changed: the services got sorted, and I had a great response to my request for suggestions for services to watch online or on TV ... and then on Friday Neil and Rosemary made sure the Christmas tree at St John's was up and decorated so I could include a photo, and out of the blue one of our regular contributors, Chris, offered me an inspiring article about the carol service from his old college that he'd just been watching. In the space of some 24 hours it all felt much better! Added to this, Elaine returned from Dubai and immediately offered an article on her trip, and so the December/January double magazine was transformed into a bumper edition after all, and with a lot in it to lift our spirits. A huge thank you to everyone!

I have another bit of good news: I'm pleased to announce the temporary return of the *Weekly Extra* over Christmas/New Year to fill the gap between this edition of the magazine and the next at the end of January. Look out for it during the week beginning 21st December! Finally, a very happy Christmas to all!

Mandy Crook



Christmas card exchange

We know that our congregations usually like to exchange cards in church, which we can't do this year. For a lot of people, you will have their address and can send the card to them direct, but there will be some whose address you don't have. We are here to help! For those people whose address you don't know, please do one of the following before Thursday 18th December:

- give the cards to a steward at an individual prayer session at SJ;
- bring the cards to the service in St John's on the 13th; or
- put the cards through the letterbox of Church Cottage (the office)

We will then arrange for them to be delivered for you.

Dear Friends

In church terms a new year has begun as we enter the Advent season, but in human terms we feel the weight of 2020 and all its issues carrying on, rather relentlessly at times.

With all the constraints currently in place we may feel frustrated at things not being 'normal' or we may take the opportunity to recall that the first Christmas was very simple: no room at the inn, and the wise ones (the magi) not appearing until some while later.

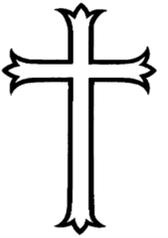
I write separately about the pattern of services (see page 16) in our churches – far fewer than we would normally have – but would like to give particular mention and thanks to the volunteers who have been stewarding at St John's to enable opening for private prayer and invite you to note the extra hours being made available around Christmas.

For the moment congregations still cannot sing in church – a real frustration at Christmas – but in moments of private prayer we can recall afresh that 'Silent night, Holy night' and in the midst of what for many is a practical and spiritual 'bleak mid-winter' we can share the simplicity of response "what I can I give him: give my heart".

Wishing you and your every blessing this Christmastide

Your Friend and Vicar

Colin Alsbury



Tiny Advent Poems

Each day from 1st to 24th December we are posting a short poem and a linked prayer on our YouTube channel (FromStJohnBaptist), website (www.stjohnsfrome.com), Facebook page and Twitter feed. Thanks to Karolyn Curle, Marian Alsbury, Beth Alsbury and Sam Alsbury who shared in voicing the poems. Engageworship (engageworship.org) published the original poems written by Amy Scott Robinson with images from Richard Lyall. They have made them freely available for church use, and co-leader Sam Hargeaves kindly said on seeing the first of the videos: "I love the way you've linked these into prayer. We hope they will be a blessing."





The last weekend before Lockdown 2.0

The last weekend before Lockdown 2.0 happened to be All Saints and All Souls-tide, so there were lots of candles in sight!

At St John's we usually have a special All Souls Day service during which we read aloud

names and invite people to light candles. All Saints Sunday is an occasion for lusty hymn-singing as we belt out *For All the Saints*. At St Katharine's we combine all the November Remembering into one service, as we celebrate the Saints, remember those we love but see no more and pay our respects at one of the war memorials.

This year, of course was different. Instead of an All Souls service at St John's, we set aside the time when the church was open for a time of private reflection in the Lady Chapel. Those of our congregations who had been bereaved this year received an invitation, and a number did come and spend time quietly in the Lady Chapel. Others who live further afield sent messages by email. From time to time we joined in prayers together, but some were grateful to sit in the stillness remembering. Visitors and members of the congregation arrived and spent a few minutes sitting with the flickering candles.

On All Saints Sunday at St John's we celebrated the great and the good, but we also spent time remembering those whose faces we still miss, and by the end of the service there were lighted memorial candles lining the nave. Well done to everyone for carrying out that manoeuvre in a dignified and Covid-secure way! The service ended, fittingly, with the choir's tremendous, one might almost say, defiant rendition of *For All the Saints*.

The candles I lit before Sunday's service were specifically for Joy, Irene, Elizabeth, Win, Joyce, Roger and Maurice, all of whom were with us during All Souls-tide 2019.

Janet Caudwell

Derek Angwin

We mark the death of another great servant of St John's. Derek was for many years a stalwart member of the choir, Clerk to St John's School governors and a loyal patron of the Parish Lunches.



When he and Joyce began their retirement in Frome thirty years ago Derek had already enjoyed a memorable life as a schoolmaster at Wellington. As soon as they arrived here they began to enjoy the many musical opportunities on their doorstep, singing with the Wells Oratorio as well as Frome Choral and, of course, St John's choir. Derek was at his meticulous best as Clerk to the Governors at St John's school in a pre-email era when everything had to be printed and posted to every governor. He always loved to hear news of the school, and I remember him being moved to tears one Christmas Lunch, fairly recently, when the school choir came and sang carols for us.

Once Derek's health began to decline, he still attended the midweek Holy Communion service and Parish Lunches, arriving from home on his mobility scooter, which he drove rather dashingly. Even when he was no longer independently mobile he liked to join St John's choir for special services, and last year a small group of St John's parishioners learned how to operate and drive his specially adapted car so that he could come to Evensong and Songs of Praise at St Katharine's. I shall miss his cheery response of 'Oh very well!' when I phoned to ask him how he was. I shall miss the notes we always exchanged about Choral Evensong on Radio 3. Several people have commented on the great courage and optimism Derek displayed in the face of declining health. He really was an inspiration to us all.

At the beginning of our morning service on the Sunday following his death, we remembered Derek and all those whose voices we no longer hear as I said this prayer, John Donne's marvellous evocation of heaven : *Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity: in the habitations of thy majesty and glory, world without end. Amen.*

Janet Caudwell



What a difference a year makes ...

For the past few months I have enjoyed dipping into the Parish Magazine of 1899, savouring the details of life at St John's, comparing and contrasting then and now, smiling at the similarities, chuckling over the differences.

'The past is a foreign country,' wrote LP Hartley, 'They do things differently there.'

But when I look back at my diary entries for December 2019, just a year ago, I seem to be glimpsing a distant planet, not a foreign country. A month crammed with carol services, Parish Christmas Lunch, a significant funeral and the usual wall-to-wall services over Christmas began, in 2019, with a Baptism at St Katharine's. Two friends arrived to visit the Independent Market (remember those?) and we all had a late lunch together. An already busy Advent Sunday ended with my leading the evening service at Christ Church.

As the month and the season progressed, there were school performances in church, the Guides and Frome College services. The Card Shop was bustling with people like me who had not sent their Christmas cards in November. The Refugee group were busy sorting out clothes. The Church That Meets In God's House was working its way through an Advent course.

On one Monday morning I had two meetings in church: one with Wendy to discuss the environmentally friendly non-crackers we were producing for the Christmas meal; the other with Clarissa to discuss her part in Maurice's funeral. On the following day the Christmas lunch took place, very successfully, despite the absence of several notable cooks. Meanwhile I was juggling members of my family who had visited for early exchange of Christmas presents. St John's School choir arrived with their jaunty Santa caps and entertained us delightfully.

On the Sunday we had the traditional Carols with Tea-Time at St John's at Keyford Heights, organised, as always, by Joyce. The following morning we sang carols at the railway station. Later that

week, St John's was full for Maurice's funeral – his friends and family crowded together in what was at once a sorrowful, but joyous, commemoration of a great St John's character.

December continued – a blur of carol services, Crib service, Midnight Mass, Christmas morning services, everyone shaking hands, hugging, sharing mince pies and mulled wine. A glimpse of a distant planet indeed. If you look back over all the things we did last year, you will see that most of them could not happen this year. As I write this, we are still anxiously trying to work out what we *will* be able to do during Advent and Christmas.

One thing we know. It will be different.

Janet Caudwell

***The light shines in the
darkness and the
darkness has not
overcome it.***

John 1:5

*Thank you to Lois for
preparing the Advent
wreath in St John's in
the absence of Elaine,
who was in Dubai; also
for sending in the photo
and the very
appropriate quotation
above, important to
remember in these
difficult times*



From St John's School



Remembrance: Thank you to our House Captains who have laid our school wreath at the Frome Memorial twice this year. Maple House Captains were included in Frome's virtual Act of Remembrance video online, laying it, temporarily, before Remembrance Sunday. Sycamore House Captains laid it finally on Wednesday morning, just before 11am, returning in time to observe the two minutes' silence with the rest of the school.



Our school has been specially chosen to participate in **'The Happiness Hunt'**, joining four other primary schools who have each been partnered with one of five care homes across Mendip. The idea is that the schools and care homes fill their boxes with letters, pictures, crafts and challenges and then swap them with their partners to spread the happiness, and 'Make the Sunshine'. Our Happiness Hunt partner is Rowden House Care Home in Frome, and this week, children in Maple class filled our latest Happiness Box and sent it to the residents. We also invited them to film themselves singing or waving, so that we can include them in our whole school Christmas performance, 'Children of the World'.



Seasonal scents and sensibilities

Many years ago, I worked as a shop manager in Bath for a small company called 'Culpeper the Herbalist', which sold a variety of natural products and gifts for the home. Each winter the store was filled with the heady scents of herbs and spices from around the world: cloves, nutmegs, cinnamon and vanilla. Display hampers overflowed with kits for mulled wine, Christmas puddings, citrus and spice potpourri and scented herb pillows. Every shelf, table and dresser was loaded with gift baskets and boxes, offering everything from curry kits for cooks to traditional toiletries for an aunt. Behind the scenes, the basement stockroom was transformed into a production line of gift basket production on an epic scale! One of our bestselling items was a Christmas cushion: the cover was printed with traditional sampler design featuring the following verse;



*Never a Christmas Morning
Never the old year ends
But somebody thinks of somebody
Old days, old times, old friends*

I've thought about those words each year ever since when I'm writing the Christmas cards, and this year the verse seems even more poignant. We may need to adjust some of our usual traditions and take a new approach as we mark the festive season in our homes, but we can still celebrate the joy of family and friends in our lives, whether we are together or apart.

And I won't just be thinking of old friends, but of new friends, too. This year I'm happy to be sharing Christmas cheer with Iris, who I met through 'Active and In Touch' in March, when I started volunteering as a telephone befriender. We talk on the phone together most weeks, sharing news and chatting about our hobbies, families and memories. So I'll be wishing Iris 'Season's Greetings' for now and will be looking forward to further chats in the new year.

Karolyn Curle

St Katharine's Church and Woodlands Hall News



Sunday 6th December Holy Communion 11am

Sunday 20th December Morning Service 11am

A big thank you to Terry Williams, who has kept us up to date with St Katharine's news for the past six years. She had decided to step down from the role at this point, and a new editor will be appointed once things get going properly again, i.e. when there is actually news to report!

Terry's poems over the last few months have been important in raising our spirits in difficult times, and I am very glad to say that she has agreed to continue to send in poems from time to time – but we will very much miss her cheerful informative articles.

She sends you all her very best wishes for Christmas and New Year and is signing out with the very appropriate poem opposite.

Thank you from us all, Terry!

St. Katharine's 100 Club

The winners of the November draw were:

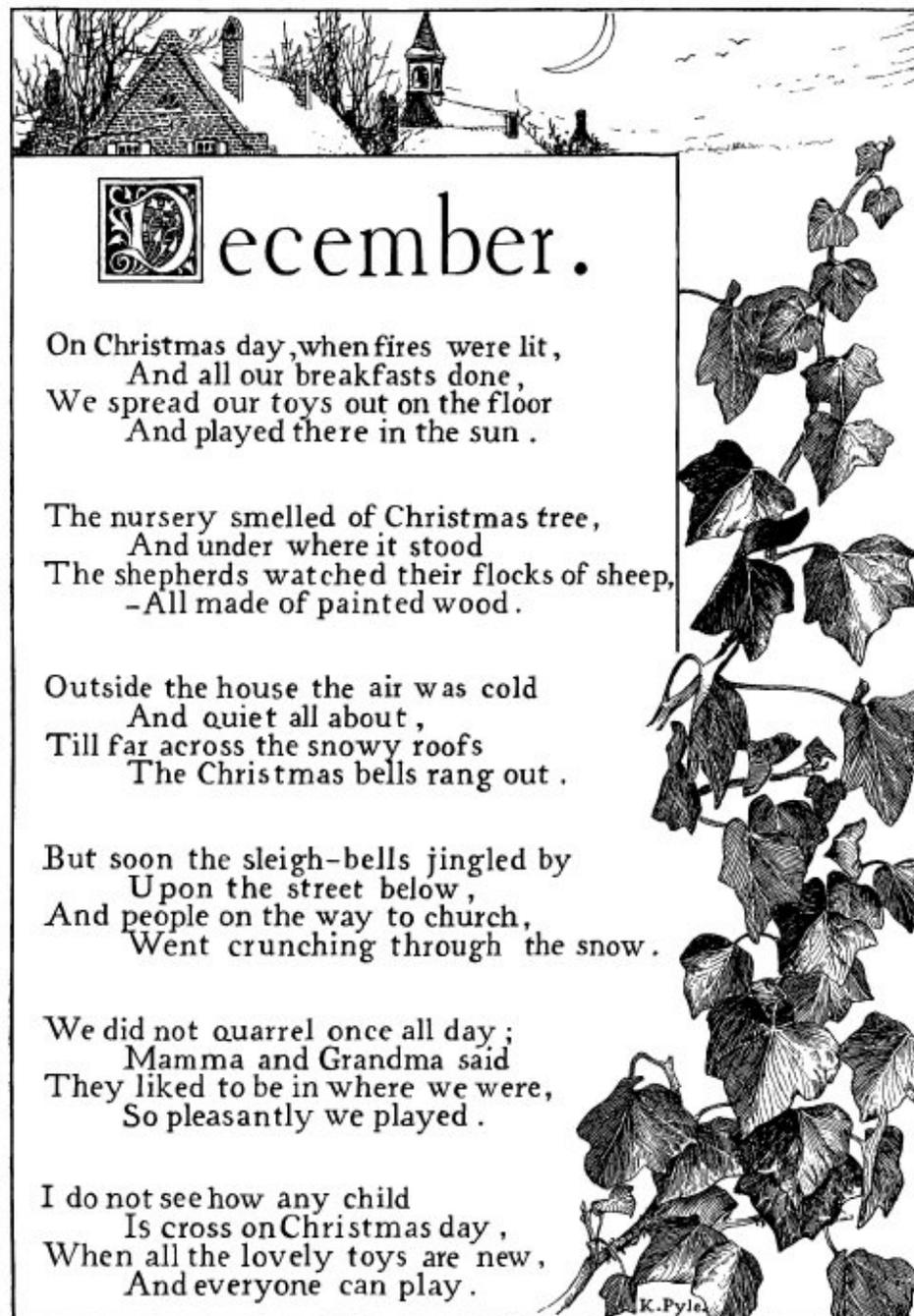
1st prize Tony Thornburn

2nd prize Pam Chapman

3rd prize George Howard

St. Katharine's PCC will once again be running a 100 Club to raise funds for the church. The annual subscription fee will still be £10 and there will be a draw every 2 months. If we are successful in getting 100 subscriptions, the first prize will be £30, the second prize £20 and the third prize £10. Last year the 100 Club raised £500 for Church funds and we hope to repeat or better this again next year. 2020 has obviously been a very difficult one for our church finances so it is even more important that every effort is made to raise funds this year. If you would like to take part then please contact Mandy Hulme, mhulme2909@aol.com or 01373461941 for an application form.

Good luck and thank you for your continued support.



December.

On Christmas day, when fires were lit,
And all our breakfasts done,
We spread our toys out on the floor
And played there in the sun.

The nursery smelled of Christmas tree,
And under where it stood
The shepherds watched their flocks of sheep,
-All made of painted wood.

Outside the house the air was cold
And quiet all about,
Till far across the snowy roofs
The Christmas bells rang out.

But soon the sleigh-bells jingled by
Upon the street below,
And people on the way to church,
Went crunching through the snow.

We did not quarrel once all day;
Mamma and Grandma said
They liked to be in where we were,
So pleasantly we played.

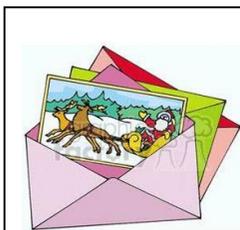
I do not see how any child
Is cross on Christmas day,
When all the lovely toys are new,
And everyone can play.



Covid Corner
(Good news only here)
Sniffer dogs

No sooner had my first article appeared in the magazine about the good news side of the present pandemic than we have been deluged by good news. This article is about the use of dogs to detect the virus. The charity Medical Detection Dogs, in conjunction with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and with the support of the government and the Bill Gates Foundation, are investigating the use of dogs to detect the coronavirus, and the results are very promising. People suffering from many illnesses have a distinctive odour that dogs can detect, and they have been used to detect cancer and malaria, with a success rate of over 90%. Similar results have been obtained for coronavirus. This is considerably better than the PCR test let alone the Lateral Flow Test, and the dogs can sniff 250 people in a day. They have been successfully used at Beirut and Helsinki airports to identify infected passengers, who are then given a PCR test. The dogs are able to detect infected people whether or not they are symptomatic. At airports the dogs smell people's socks, taken from their luggage, which is probably slightly less alarming for passengers than a dog sniffing them directly. Research has been slightly held up by the need to have the clothing of infected people to carry out the research and an appeal has gone out to nurses for this. It may be that the virus is tamed by vaccines before this research can really be put to use, but one advantage of all this scientific endeavour is that knowledge is acquired that can be useful in the future, possibly in a completely different context.

Neil McCormick



St John's Christmas cards: available to purchase in church on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, 1-3pm when the church is open for private prayer. Packs cost £3.50 each – payment by cash or cheque (payable to St John's Restoration Fund), please.

Private prayer at St John's this Christmas

- every Wednesday and Saturday during December, 1pm-3pm
- every day from Sat 19th to Thursday 24th inclusive, 1pm-3pm
- Saturday 26th December, 1pm-3pm



We invite you to leave a message on our Christmas tree to remember a loved one. The stewards will have tags and pens or you can come with your message ready prepared to hang on the tree.

If you cannot make it into church, please email the church administrator, Karolyn, (or ring her between 9am and 1pm on a Tuesday or Thursday) and give her your message, and we will put it on the tree for you.

Smile lines: 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!'



National Deaneries Network
Mental Health and Faithfulness
in an age of anxiety
With Rev Rob Menchant

Covid-19 has touched each of us in one way or another and coping with the restrictions imposed to combat the pandemic has brought the issue of mental well being for both clergy and laity into sharp focus. In this Briefing Rob draws upon his own experiences of living with a long-term mental health condition as a result of developmental trauma, to explore how we can enable safe conversations about mental well-being. This session involves reflection, top-tips, honesty, story, and most importantly, hope. Go to <https://youtu.be/p7aNI4MsRW8>

My Kitchen Notebook
A gluten-free treat for Christmas:

Mocha Roulade

This is a treat that can be enjoyed at Christmas even if you are following a gluten-free diet. (Of course, it can be enjoyed at any time of year – I have often made it for family celebrations.) It is almost a meringue but with the yolks as well as the whites, and after being covered with a damp cloth it has a sponge-like consistency. It is actually very quick and easy to make, but it always looks, and tastes, spectacular.

Begin by lining a 20 x 30cm swiss roll tin with baking parchment and heat the oven to 180° C (or 160° fan). It is quite important to use the correct size of tin as you don't want the final layer of cake to be too thick when you roll it up.

Then put 175g plain chocolate in a pan with 3 tablespoons water (45ml) and 1 tablespoon instant coffee granules. Melt over a gentle heat.

Separate 5 eggs. Whisk the yolks with 250g caster sugar until they are thick and creamy. Then fold in the warm chocolate mixture. Whisk the egg whites until they are stiff and fold these in as well, making sure they are well combined, but take care not to knock out the air!

Put into the prepared tin, and bake until firm to the touch. Allow to cool in the tin for about 5 mins and then cover with a damp tea-towel and put it in the fridge. The original recipe says overnight, but last time I made it I baked it in the morning to eat the same evening and it worked fine.

When you are preparing to serve it carefully remove the tea-towel. Don't worry too much if some of the crust of the meringue comes away at the same time. Turn it out onto another sheet of baking paper, liberally dusted with icing sugar.

For the filling: dissolve 1 tablespoon of instant coffee in 1 tablespoon of boiling water. Whip 284ml double cream with 1 tablespoon icing sugar until it is fairly stiff. Fold in the coffee. Spread evenly over the roulade, but don't take it quite to the edge as it will spread when you roll it! Roll like a swiss roll and serve!

Rosemary McCormick



Everything changes but stays the same



I was last in my college chapel in May 1963. I had thought never to be there again, but COVID has encouraged live streaming, so I signed up for a video carol service. I did not expect much. After all this is a minor college, with no world famous choir: unlike our Vicar's college, across the road from mine, it does not have a cathedral within its walls. Given that since I left, churchgoing has dropped by perhaps two-thirds, I thought they might have difficulty in getting enough people in the chapel to make it worthwhile.

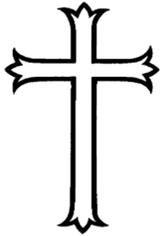
I need not have worried. The service was a strong mixture of the old and the new: in 1963 the chaplain was Colin, the organ scholar Lionel, strong performers in their time. Their modern equivalents are if anything stronger. The chaplain Andrew is an imposing figure, with a strong academic pedigree: there are two organ scholars: Andrew and Sophia (no women in 1963). The master, who gave the address, is a retired Lord Justice: the choir now has good female voices in it and sang lustily and accurately in four parts, with strong descants.

The music was mainly well-known: carols were old favourites, but Sophia gave a world premiere of an elegy for the piano, and Andrew finished with a strong rendering of Bach's chorale prelude *In Dulci Jubilo*. Readings were winter/Christmas related but different. Young ladies 60+ years my junior read modern poems: Yeats' *Magi: 'the uncontrollable mystery'*, Hardy's *Oxen: 'Now they are all on their knees'*, Frost's *Stopping by woods: 'I have promises to keep'*. Young men read Christmas stories from the Bible and the Master from St John.

I was left reassured. Whatever the patterns of worship outside, my college has enhanced its worship since 1963. Today's students will soon disperse to their various parts of the world rather stronger in their faith than we were. I hope they will be less inclined to bend to secular winds than my generation has been.

Chris Lewis

Ed: Some of the many carol services online this year are listed overleaf. I hope that listening to one of them may inspire you similarly



Church services

through Advent, Christmas and into Epiphany

Unfortunately detailed guidance from the government and the national church about places of worship and what we can do under Tier 2 and during the Christmas five-day window is only fully emerging as I write (3rd

December), meaning that it has been very difficult to make clear decisions about our pattern of services.

Whilst under Tier 2, we are bound to be a little more careful than we were before the November 'lockdown', and I know that it will feel very strange to many to come into church and not be able to greet others from outside our household or 'bubble'. There is a real sense in which the brief social interactions that we normally have – recognising each other, acknowledging how long it has been since we saw each other, checking how each other and those we know are – are part of the gathering of the people of God, an informing of our intentions for prayer and a ministry of reconciliation, which are part of the very nature of the Eucharist – the people of God coming together to be reconciled to one another and to God and to receive God's grace in word and sacrament for our service of the Kingdom in the world.

For each other's safety and wellbeing I'm sure that folk will recognise that they should keep to the new rule about not mixing or socialising in the church building, but I assure you that I understand that this makes the experience of coming to church feel less than full communion with one another in Christ.

In shaping the pattern of services for the coming weeks we have had to be mindful that the pattern of having services on 'Zoom' during the November 'lockdown' has been good, and has allowed people to join in singing which they cannot do for the as yet foreseeable future in church. But 'Zoom' services exclude a good number such as those who have no online access. Equally in resuming physical services we have to be mindful that many are clinically vulnerable and should be isolating or shielding – or are simply not yet feeling confident or safe enough to be out and about where others are in any number. We will

therefore be operating a bit of a 'mixed economy' of physical and 'Zoom' services for the next few months.

Given the number of folk who might attend services in the period closest to Christmas, many of whom are not part of our immediate contact network through magazine, notice sheet, etc, and the larger 'bubbles' that are to be allowed over Christmas itself, we are following the national guidance in making the services on 20th December and 25th December ones where prior booking is essential.

As well as providing the services that we will hold in our churches, we will aim to publicise a good number of the many opportunities for worship that will be available online. We know that we can't hope to please everyone, we will miss someone out in our communication, but we are working hard to keep worship both safe and spiritually sustaining for those who attend and those who lead and steward.

Colin Alsbury

CofE: Preparing for Advent and Christmas 2020

Comfort and Joy

Comfort and Joy holds together the hope that Christmas will bring joy and celebration after a uniquely difficult year with an acknowledgement that – for those who have lost loved ones or livelihoods, or who are potentially still not able to be together with loved ones – it may be the Church's role, both nationally and locally, to provide consolation, rather than assume everyone will be ready to join in jubilation. Sign up for these reflections at:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/preparing-advent-christmas-2020-comfort-and-joy>

Meetings via Zoom

• Virtual get together for coffee and chat – Sundays 11.30am

To join in contact twbushell@gmail.com

• Singing – via Fridays 6.30pm

Check the weekly sheet for which Fridays this will be happening as some weeks there may be choir practice

To join in contact rosemarymccormick@hotmail.com



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

As we are unable to hold as many services as usual ourselves this year, in addition to our own services we list a range of other services we know about – actual services at Wells Cathedral as well as services on TV and radio and a selection of the services available online. Thank you to everyone who has contributed, and we hope you find something here to inspire you this Christmas.

Services at St John's and St Katharine's

Sun 20th December	10.00am	Holy Communion at St John's. <i>Advance booking required</i>
	11.00am	Service of Christmas Music at St Katharine's. <i>Advance booking required</i>
	tbc	Service of readings and carols via Zoom
Fri 25th December Christmas Day	10.00am	Christmas Communion at St John's <i>Advance booking required</i>

Services at Wells Cathedral

Seats must be pre-booked by going to:

<https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/worship/pre-booked-services/>

or contacting the marketing department on 01749 832207

Sun 20th to Wed 23rd	6pm	Carol services
Thu 24th Christmas Eve	2pm & 3.15pm	Crib services
	5.15pm	Evensong
	11pm	Eucharist of Christmas Night
Fri 25th December Christmas Day	9.30am	Cathedral Eucharist
	11.30am	Choral Matins

Services on television and radio

Thu 24 December	3.00pm	Radio 4	A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from the Chapel of King's College Cambridge
	5.30pm	BBC2	Carols from King's
	11.30pm	Radio 4	Midnight Mass live from Manchester Cathedral
	11.45pm	BBC1	Midnight Mass live from the Roman Catholic Church of St Peter and St Paul, Clifton, Bristol
Fri 25 December	9.00am	Radio 4	Christmas Service
	10am	BBC1	Christmas Day Eucharist from Birmingham

A selection of online services

At any time	Salvation Army Carol Concert	https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/events/christmas-carol-concert-2020
Sun 6th 7pm	South West Carols	https://www.southwestcarols.com/
Sat 12th 6pm	Churches Conservation Trust Big Carol concert	https://www.visitchurches.org.uk/what-we-do/news/the-big-christmas-carol-service.html
Tue 15th from 9am	Children's Society Christingle Service	CofE website and YouTube channel
Wed 16th 7.30pm	National Churches Trust Carol Concert	https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/christmas2020 (by ticket only)
Thu 17th 7.30pm	Mothers' Union Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	Mothers' Union Facebook and YouTube channel
Tue 22nd 7pm	A Service for Christmas	https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/live
Thu 24th 3.30pm	A Family Service	https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/live
	5.30pm	Festal Evensong
11.00pm	The First Eucharist	https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/live
Fri 25th 11.00am	The Eucharist	https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/live

DECEMBER 2020 and JANUARY 2021 SERVICES

Sunday 6th December 2nd Sunday of Advent			
10.00am	Morning Service	Zoom	Isaiah 40.1-11 2 Peter 3.8-15a Mark 1.1-8
11.00am	Holy Communion	SK	
Sunday 13th December 3rd Sunday of Advent			
10.00am	Holy Communion	SJ	Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24 John 1.6-8, 19-28
Sunday 20th December 4th Sunday of Advent			
10.00am	Holy Communion <i>Advance booking</i>	SJ	2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16 Romans 16.25-end Luke 1.26-38
11.00am	Service of Christmas Music <i>Advance booking</i>	SK	
tbc	Service of readings and carols	Zoom	
Friday 25th December Christmas Day			
10.00am	Holy Communion <i>Advance booking</i>	SJ	Isaiah 52.7-10 Hebrews 1.1-4 John 1.1-14
Sunday 27th December First Sunday of Christmas, John, Apostle & Evangelist			
10.00am	Morning Service	SJ	Exodus 33.7-11a 1 John 1 John 21.19b-end
Sunday 3rd January Epiphany			
10.00am	Morning Service	SJ	Isaiah 60.1-6 Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12
11.00am	Holy Communion	SK	

DECEMBER 2020 and JANUARY 2021 SERVICES cont'd

Wednesday 6th January			
7.00pm	Epiphany service	Zoom	
Sunday 10th January Baptism of Christ, 1st Sunday of Epiphany			
10.00am	Holy Communion	SJ	Genesis 1.1-5 Acts 19.1-7 Mark 1.4-11
Sunday 17th January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany			
10.00am	Holy Communion	SJ	1 Samuel 3.1-10 (11-20) Revelation 5.1-10 John 1.43-end
11.00am	Morning Service	SK	
Monday 18th January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity			
7.00pm	Service	Zoom	
Sunday 24th January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany			
10.00am	Holy Communion	SJ	Genesis 14.17-20 Revelation 19.6-10 John 2.1-11
Monday 25th January Conversion of St Paul			
7.00pm	Service	Zoom	
Sunday 31st January 4th Sunday of Epiphany, Presentation of Christ in the Temple			
10.00am	Holy Communion	SJ	Malachi 3.1-5 Hebrews 2.14-end Luke 2.22-40
Tuesday 2nd February Candlemas			
7.00pm	Service	Zoom	
Sunday 7th February 2nd Sunday before Lent			
10.00am	Morning Service	SJ	Proverbs 8.1, 22-31 Colossians 1.15-20 John 1.1-14

Coming out of lockdown: Dubai in November

Chris and I travelled to the United Arab Emirates at the beginning of November, just before the UK's second lockdown – it had been 11 months since we last saw our family in Dubai and we were getting desperate to see each other and celebrate an early Christmas Feast as we can't be together on Christmas Day. Zoom has been brilliant, but it doesn't beat hugs and face to face.



Getting the trip arranged had been quite an effort – we originally planned to leave the UK on 5th November and return on 3rd December but second lockdown rules (on travel within the UK) meant that we had to go a day earlier. In fact we arrived at the airport to find the luggage drop-off point packed and were told that there would be no social distancing on the aircraft as all the seats were fully booked. We later learned that the airline had also put on an extra flight that day to meet demand.

Before we went we'd had to take COVID-19 tests within a 96 hour window before arrival in the UAE, so we duly sent the tests back on the Monday before travel – same post box, same time. Chris's arrived in the guaranteed 24 hours; mine did not. He got his results back quickly; mine were eventually emailed through on the Friday. Fortunately the UAE had, that week, relaxed their entry rules, so I could enter the country without test results but instead had to take a test on arrival. I then was required to quarantine for up to 48 hours until the results came through. Those results still beat the UK test – so I didn't have to quarantine long .

Once out and about in Dubai, we quickly got used to having our temperature checked before entering supermarkets, shopping malls, visitor attractions, schools and gyms (the latter to watch the grandchildren – not partake ourselves!) There were thermal cameras at the bigger venues and hand-held digital devices at the smaller ones. Adults and older children have to wear face masks all the time outside of home (apart from in coffee shops and eateries) and there were hand-sanitizer points all over the place. There's an on the spot fine of AED3000 (about £650) for failing to wear a face mask in public so we saw very few who flouted the law.

Apart from that, and Perspex barriers between tables at restaurants, life seemed much the same as our pre-COVID visits and we had plenty of day trips.



UAE Day fireworks on 2nd December – to celebrate 49 years since the UAE came into being. Next year's 50th coincides with the country's six-month long hosting of the World Expo.

It was not, however, like that at the start of the pandemic. I kept a comparison for a while on UAE versus UK figures – at the beginning of March the two countries were on a par in terms of total COVID cases and deaths – those figures are now 1,674,134 and 60,113 for the UK against 174,062 and 586 for the UAE. There are obviously mitigating factors such as the more aging UK population, but against that the bulk of the UAE's population is concentrated in two cities.

Among the early restrictions enacted in the UAE were night-time curfews where no-one was allowed out from 8pm to 6am – and during which time all public places were disinfected. There was also a 24 hour ban from anyone leaving home unless they had obtained an online permit for essential errands.

On a lighter note, the picture below is of some local residents on our estate last week – without their owners' permission and clearly unmasked! Remember the Tamworth Two? Well, this was the Dubai Ten!

Elaine Gilbert



Church leaders
Libby and Sarah
A new age of women bishops

This continues the series about church leaders, talking about recent appointments of female bishops.

Many of us will recall the long discussions before the first ordinations of women as priests in the Church of England in 1994 and the further 20 years discussing whether they should become bishops. Since 2015, when the first female became a bishop, the situation has changed considerably: there are now 9 diocesan and 14 suffragan/area female bishops in England and Wales. We have our own Ruth as Bishop of Taunton. This month and next we look at some of the more significant appointments.



Libby Lane was the first female bishop in England, when she became Bishop of Stockport in January 2015. She was born in 1966, the same year as my daughter, grew up in Derbyshire, attended Manchester Girls School and St Peter's, Oxford University, where she studied Theology. She married in 1990 and has two children. A further example of change is that when I studied at Oxford in 1960 and went to St Peter's for Maths tutorials, there were no women students there at all, and it wasn't

even a college at that time. In 1994 she was ordained as a priest, after further studies at Durham University. Her husband, George, is also a priest and they met as students at Oxford. She served a curacy in Blackburn and later worked in the diocese of Chester. Prior to becoming a bishop she was a 'participant observer' for the House of Bishops, for the NW of England.

In 2015 she was consecrated Bishop of Stockport in York Minster by John Sentamu, the Archbishop of York. In 2018 she was promoted to be Bishop of Derby - where she had grown up - with a seat in the House of Lords. On appointment she was quoted as saying:

"I grew up here and my vocation was fostered here. Derbyshire nurtured me and brought me to faith and I want to love Derbyshire back. I want to lead a church in Derbyshire where people find hope because they know they are loved by God in Christ, and I pray that hope sets us free to live our lives in ways that bring change for good."

Derby is the first diocese where, for two years both the diocesan bishop and her assistant, the Bishop of Repton, were females. Libby has recently been pictured (see right – in bishop's pink hard hat) 'topping-out' one of her churches.



As a 'modern bishop' she, of course has her own Facebook page updated every week (<https://www.facebook.com/BishopLibbyLane/>): recent entries include pictures of Libby on a charity walk, comments about food banks and mental health issues, links to pictures from her recent ordinations and a video introducing the new Bishop of Repton, Malcolm MacNaughton. Just as we now are not surprised by female bishops, we should not be dismayed by a female bishop being succeeded by a man. She does not hesitate to comment on public affairs, expressing support for the Domestic Abuse Bill going through Parliament while calling for it to go further.



Born in 1962, Dame Sarah Mullally studied at a comprehensive school in Surrey and trained to be a nurse at St Thomas's Hospital, London. In 1987 she married Eamonn, who is a business architect, and they have two children. After a series of nursing appointments, including many leadership roles, she became the Chief Nursing Officer for England in 1999. She was ordained in

2002, being part time minister in South London, while continuing as Chief Nursing Officer. In 2004 she decided to go into the full-time ministry and gave up being the Chief Nursing Officer. In 2006 she became the team rector of Sutton team ministry at St Nicholas's Church in Sutton, south London. In addition to her parish work, she taught ethics in the Diocese of Southwark, was involved in an Anglican clergy leadership programme and sat on the dioceses commission. In 2012 she was promoted to become canon treasurer at Salisbury Cathedral, ensuring the care and maintenance of the cathedral. In 2015 she was consecrated Bishop of Crediton in Devon, being the first female bishop in the South West. Following the retirement of Richard Chartres in 2018 she became the 133th Bishop of London. This role is the third most senior bishop in the Church of England. In 2020 she became the first female bishop to consecrate new bishops. She is also the first female to be Dean of the Chapel Royal.

Sarah has also embraced social media as part of her ministry and can be seen on Twitter most days, where she describes herself as 'Mum, Bishop of London and poor potter', perhaps reflecting her priorities. Her (re-)tweets reflect her pastoral roles, as well as her tendencies towards feminism and liberal values. She has also recently given her prayers for the Armenian Church and victims of the ongoing conflict; supported those in the theatre industry suffering because of COVID-19; and called for Parliament to have a greater say in decisions about COVID. She also expressed her hope of a 'just and merciful release' for Nazanin Zaghari-Radcliffe. Her most recent tweet after the announcement of the latest lockdown was the trenchant message to the government *'The sacramental life of the church cannot be seen as an optional extra. I shall make this clear when I speak to the government today.'*

Libby, Sarah and the many other female bishops have embraced their episcopal offices with competence, prayerfulness, grace and style, showing how absurd was their previous exclusion. Moreover, the 'personality cult' encouraged by some male bishops of the past has gone completely. The door that was opened less than six years ago will never again be closed. That future generations will regard female

bishops as the norm has much to do with the calm authority displayed by the first ladies who have worn the bishop's mitre.

Chris Lewis

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Churches of Great Britain

Norwegian Church / Eglwys Norwyaid, Cardiff



Church surrounded by boats.

Nowadays, sailors on merchant ships tend to get flown home frequently, so they are not parted from their families too long. However, in the past they could be away from home for months or even years. They would arrive in Cardiff knowing that they might spend several weeks there before they could sail back. With so many ships from Norway, Cardiff built up institutions and businesses, sometimes run by

foreigners themselves: a ship broking company Aadnessen & Dahl was set up in Cardiff by Harald Dahl from Oslo in 1880.

Ships also carried passengers, often Jewish refugees from Russia. By the early years of the 20th century the mix of nationalities in Cardiff and neighbouring towns was at its height. This is evidenced by my mother going to primary school with boys with non-Welsh names such as Hrothgar John Habbakuk and Leo Abse, while in the 1950s I was at school with Maroulis, Arroyo and Pereira.

By the start of the 19th century, Cardiff, like many UK ports, had buildings for the religious and social needs of many foreign sailors and other immigrants. There were many roman catholic churches and synagogues, of course, but South Wales ports also had churches for Lutheran and Orthodox believers. This month we tell the history of the Cardiff Norwegian Lutheran Church.

South Wales had a close relationship with Norway: coal pits needed wood props; Norwegians needed Welsh coal. There were many Norwegian seaman. Wales was a welcoming country. Many young Norwegian sailors, while waiting in Cardiff, paired off with Welsh girls. Sometimes this led to a 'girl in every port' but more frequently to marriages and families. Because Wales was much warmer than Norway, few Welsh girls were willing to emigrate, and many Norwegians took shore jobs in Cardiff.

In the 1860s the Norwegian fleet was the third largest in the world and Norwegian ships frequent visitors to Cardiff. The local landowner, the

Marquis of Bute, gave land for a church to be built for Norwegian seamen in 1868. Because the docks were continually being extended, the church was built so it could be moved around: it was originally clad in iron sheets and known as the Norwegian Iron Church; later it was clad in white wood becoming known as the Little White Church. It was designed like a village church in Norway and was a haven in the bustling port where seamen could meet, worship, read periodicals from Norway or write letters home. It extended its range to all seamen, so by WWI around 80,000 sailors a year used it. Between the wars its use fell, but during WWII, when Norway was occupied, it came back into its own. However, after 1950 and the decline in the coal trade, few used it, leading to its closure in 1974.

Before the church was dismantled, when it was not clear when or even if it would ever be re-erected, local people took photos, painted pictures and made models of the church to ensure there would be enough detail to re-erect it properly.

A local artist Dulcie Stephens, a friend of my father, painted a watercolour (see left) of the church surrounded by derelict wharves, boats and other buildings. My father paid 8 guineas for it and passed it on to me.



The derelict church around 1975

Harald Dahl and his first wife worshipped at the church until her death in 1905. Harald then remarried and his son Roald Dahl was baptised in the church in 1916. Roald later achieved international fame as an author of books such as *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *James and the Giant Peach*. Although he moved to England he retained close links with the church.

In the 1980s, the Cardiff Bay redevelopment was planned. By then the church was derelict, unloved and the idea was to demolish it to make way for new buildings and roads. Dahl and others were devastated that their church would disappear for ever: they started the Norwegian Church Preservation Society and raised £250,000 in the UK and Norway

to dismantle the church and store it until the time came for it to be re-erected. It was dismantled in 1987 and re-erected and opened to the public again on a new site in 1992.

When the time came to re-erect the church, the wooden pieces were still intact but there was little in the way of plans to put them together again. Luckily local people had kept their records. In particular a 2 foot high model of the church by Mr Amundson, a descendent of a Norwegian seaman himself, and Dulcie Stephen's painting gave enough detail for the re-erection to take place. A prominent position had been found for it, alongside the new lake created by the Cardiff Barrage, with a good deal of car parking around it, close to the Welsh Assembly and the new Millennium Centre.

The restored **Norwegian Church Arts Centre** is now one of the landmark buildings situated in Cardiff Bay and has panoramic views over the waterfront. It has proved a great hit with visitors and more money has been raised to increase its attractions. It now serves as a heritage centre, café and a memorial to past glories. It is a venue for arts exhibitions and events, and meetings of the Welsh Norwegian Society. The cafe serves food influenced by Scandinavian cuisine. A gallery upstairs at the church hosts temporary exhibitions of photography and art by local artists. Naturally, it was been named the Dahl Gallery. If you visit, look out for the silver christening bowl used for Roald Dahl's christening in 1916, on show in the gallery.



The restored church as an arts centre

Chris Lewis

Smile line

The young minister was tense as he announced a Christmas carol for his first live-streamed church service. 'Our next hymn,' he said, 'is "Angels We Have Heard Get High".'







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Inspired to Read?

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

I thought I would read this seasonal classic for this month's review. I will confess that I struggle with Dickens, and even though this novella (in the edition I have) is only 79 pages long, it took quite a lot of reading, and I found myself falling asleep over it more than once. But more on that later.



About the author

The son of a Naval pay clerk, Dickens was born near Portsmouth in 1812. His father struggled to provide for his family and at one stage was locked up in a debtors' prison, with young Charles (then aged 12) being sent to work in a factory. Many of his childhood experiences inspired his later novels, which often feature poverty, hardship and grotesque characters. These books earned him fame and fortune, not least because of the Victorian belief in literacy for all, and the popularity of printed papers. Many of Dickens's books were first published as serialisations in journals; indeed, Dickens himself edited one such publication. He was an astute business-man; he knew that a cliff-hanger ending to an instalment would ensure good sales the following month. He also travelled around the country delivering readings of his works, and these were always popular. His books have never been out of print, and when he died in 1870 he left an estate of £80,000, equivalent to about £8,000,000 today.

From the cover of my edition – which includes other seasonal writings
In these five stories, written specifically for Christmas, Dickens combines his concern for social ills with the myths and memories of childhood and traditional seasonal lore. A Christmas Carol has become a touchstone of English festive fiction and an enduring favourite internationally. Repeatedly adapted, parodied, staged and filmed, this richly influential tale is powerfully vivid and moving.

A short extract

The Grocers'! oh, the Grocers'! nearly closed, with perhaps two shutters down, or one, but through those gaps such glimpses! It was not alone that the scales descending on the counter made a merry

sound, or that the twine and roller parted company so briskly, or that the canisters were rattled up and down like juggling tricks, or even that the blended scents of tea and coffee were so grateful to the nose, or even that the raisins were so plentiful and rare, the almonds so extremely white, the sticks of cinnamon so long and straight, the other spices so delicious, the candied fruits so caked and spotted with molten sugar as to make the coldest lookers-on feel faint and subsequently bilious.

Dickens is, in my opinion, guilty of never using just one word when a hundred could make his point just as well! It is such long, rambling sentences as the one quoted above that renders Dickens's prose, for me at any rate, almost impenetrable (and sends me to sleep!). We had to read Dickens when I was at school – I just about got through *Great Expectations* but have never made it past the first chapter of *David Copperfield*. There can be no question that he could create wonderful characters, or tell great tales, but most of us nowadays (correct me if I am wrong) have come to know them through the excellent adaptations of film and TV that we have watched over the years. The stories and characters have become part of the literary fabric of our society, much like Shakespeare, but that we know the names Mr Micawber, Uriah Heep and Miss Havisham is mostly thanks to the film directors of the past fifty years. I can still visualise the opening sequence of the 1981 BBC adaptation of *Great Expectations* with the mists rising over the river (in black and white when I saw it!)

A Christmas Carol has been adapted, staged, serialised perhaps more than any other of Dickens's novels. The transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge through the intervention of his four ghostly visitors makes excellent feel-good entertainment, and Tiny Tim's benediction "God bless us, every one!" is a sentiment that will doubtless be in all our hearts as we try to make a festive Christmas at the end of this dark and difficult year. I can honestly say I am glad that I have finally read it; indeed, by the end I had started to get used to the style and almost enjoyed it, although I skimmed over some of the longer descriptive paragraphs. There is humour in the writing, and above anything else it

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is a good story! I might even attempt another Dickens at some stage (maybe *The Tale of Two Cities*), but I don't think I'm ready for David Copperfield yet!

I do hope some of you will be inspired to read this book, and I should love to hear your thoughts about it. While we can't chat face to face I have enjoyed talking books with you on Zoom, and I am including books suggested to me by Janet and Val in my forthcoming list so please keep the suggestions coming and please email me with your thoughts and ideas. (rosemarymccormick@hotmail.com)

My plans for the next few issues are:

February: *Educated* by Tara Westover – a memoir.

March: *The Pull of the Stars* by Emma Donoghue – set in Dublin during the 1919 Spanish flu pandemic.

April: *A Single Thread* by Tracy Chevalier – a novel about kneeler-makers and bellringers!

If you have any thoughts about these books or would like to suggest a title for future reading please remember that the magazine deadline is the 15th of the month!

Rosemary McCormick



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WORD SEARCH: Silent Night

This much-loved carol comes from Austria, where it was first sung as *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht* on Christmas Eve, 1818. It was written by Father Joseph Mohr, a young priest at St Nicholas parish church, in the village of Oberndorf bei Salzburg. As Christmas 1818 approached, he asked the local schoolmaster, Franz Xaver Gruber, to compose a melody for his carol. Gruber was organist in the nearby village of Arnsdorf, and so was happy to oblige. On Christmas Eve they presented the carol to the church during the midnight mass. The carol went on to become loved worldwide; and the version sung by Bing Crosby is the third best-selling single of all time.

Silent
Night
loved
carol
Austria

first
sung
Stille
Nacht
Heilige

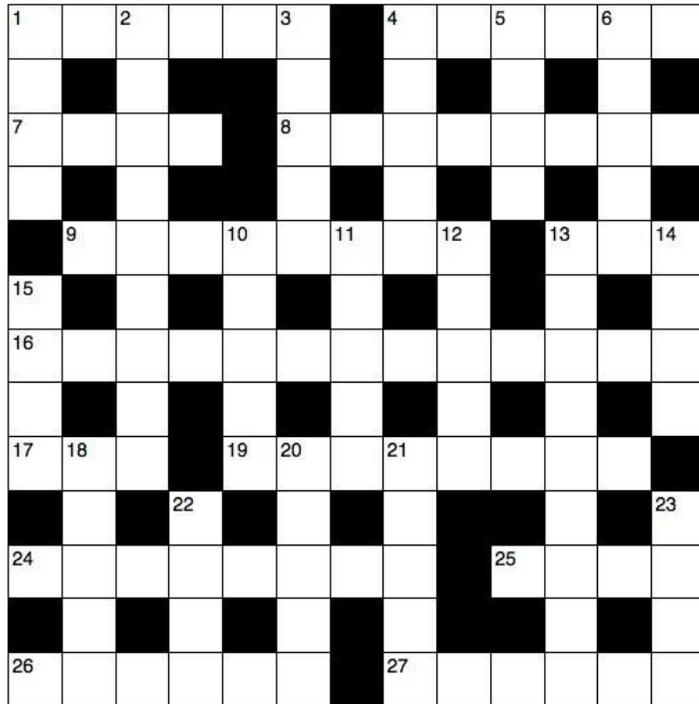
Christmas
Eve
Father
Joseph
Mohr

young
priest
organist
midnight
mass

melody
single
Bing
version
third

S	I	I	O	E	V	E	T	E	T	A	L
T	H	I	R	D	G	H	N	L	F	Y	E
T	V	O	G	G	G	I	E	G	A	O	L
I	E	I	A	I	N	E	L	N	T	U	O
P	R	S	N	I	J	U	I	I	H	N	R
B	S	D	I	H	R	O	S	S	E	G	A
S	I	E	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C
M	O	V	T	F	I	T	S	E	I	R	P
C	N	O	S	L	I	R	H	U	P	E	T
I	E	L	L	A	H	R	V	G	A	H	U
V	M	E	L	O	D	Y	S	B	I	N	G
S	S	A	M	N	A	C	H	T	H	N	H

DECEMBER CROSSWORD



The Bible version used in this crossword is the NIV.

Across

- 1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)
 4 'He stretches out the heavens like a — , and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)
 7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)
 8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)
 9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)
 13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)
 16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)
 17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)
 19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)

- 24 Able dock (anag.) (8)
 25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)
 26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)
 27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

Down

- 1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)
 2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)
 3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)
 4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)
 5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)
 6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)
 10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)
 11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)
 12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)
 13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)
 14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)
 15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)
 18 Narnia's Lion (5)
 20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)
 21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)
 22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)
 23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)

Answers, November's crossword: ACROSS: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner. 8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Compare. 11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts. 17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papyrus. 22, Frail. 23, Listen. 24, Hyssop. DOWN: 1, Trench. 2, Ashamed. 3, Karma. 5, Ananias. 6, Neigh. 7, Reheat. 9, Areopagus. 13, Observe. 14, Satraps. 15, Compel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes. 20, Lofty.

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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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YOUR MAGAZINE TEAM

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Please send in material for *Inspire* to the editors by the 15th of the previous month (please give St Katharine's news to the St Katharine's editor).

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To advertise, please contact the editor
(amandacrook@blueyonder.co.uk)

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	Vacancy
Deputy warden	Mrs Amanda Short
PCC Secretary	Mrs Mandy Hulme
PCC Treasurer	Covered by vicar and warden
Organist/Choir leader	Ms Diana Carrington
Flowers	Mrs Vicky Turner
	Mrs Mandy Hulme
Magazine contact	Mrs Terry Williams

East Woodlands Hall

Hall Bookings	Mrs Sara Charlton	01373 229386
		sarajaynechar@yahoo.com
Hall website		www.ewvh.co.uk

St John's Church School (Aided)

Headteacher	Mrs Claire Marsland	01373 462251
Chair of Governors	Vacant	c/o school
Clerk to Governors	Ms Rosemary Conway	
	<i>Email: rconway@educ.somerset.gov.uk</i>	

FACT

Frome Area Christians Together

Chair	Vacant
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We have tried to get all the key contacts on these lists; if you have any corrections or suggestions to be added to the list please contact the editors.



"Nice idea, Amelia, but I don't think that the Angel of the Lord Zooming with the shepherds would have the same dramatic effect."

**Material for the February magazine to the editor
by 15th January, please.**