

# PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019



As I write this we are about to begin the season of Advent, and Christmas is starting to feel quite close as we begin preparations for the various services that will be held in December.



There is something reassuring and comforting about the traditions which these preparations embody, but of course behind them is the remarkable story of God, the creator of the universe, being present on earth in the defenceless and vulnerable baby born in Bethlehem.

Attempts to grasp such a paradox have left humanity often struggling for ways to express the significance of this event.

Nevertheless, traditions have grown up over centuries of Christian thought and practice which have acted as aids to our contemplation of this mystery, and in the spirit of a season of great joy they have added to the fun and festivities.

One of these traditions is the election of Boy Bishops. This custom allowed for a boy chorister in a cathedral to assume the role of the Bishop, meanwhile the actual Bishop was deposed, and his staff were also temporarily replaced by other choristers. It was in fact an inversion of the normal structure of life in the Cathedral, and perhaps served to illustrate how the presence of God incarnate in a dependant baby is a truly revolutionary event.

Perhaps a similar thought lies behind the military custom of officers serving the Christmas lunch to other ranks. Again this represents an over-turning of the normal order.

The point that lies behind these customs remains as relevant today as it ever was, that Christmas, for all its wonderful comfort and familiarity, is about a revolutionary event which overturned the certainties of life and death, and in doing so gave humanity new and unfailing hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago.

Do come and join us at one or more of the services over Advent and Christmas as we celebrate that wonderful hope. You will be very welcome.

This past year has been a busy one in the parish, and many people have been working behind the scenes contributing to our fundraising projects. This seems an appropriate moment for me to thank them all, and also the many people who have donated, or given of their time or talents. Thank you to everyone who has supported and encouraged us.

Lastly, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

*Fr Matthew*

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### **From the Registers:**

#### **Funerals**

October 30<sup>th</sup> Olive Margaret Williams

#### **Celebration of light**

Since the last newsletter, the floodlighting has been left on, and we remember:

November 19<sup>th</sup> Snowy Wyatt

December 16<sup>th</sup> Eve Trinder

December 23<sup>rd</sup> In memoriam Rodolph d'Erlanger

December 30<sup>th</sup> Geoff Smith

*If you would like to sponsor the floodlights of the church to remember an anniversary or other significant event in your family, please either contact Stephen Allday (811473) or take a form from the ledge just inside the church.*

## Advent Calendar

He will come like last leaf's fall.  
One night when the November wind  
has flayed the trees to the bone, and earth  
wakes choking on the mould,  
the soft shroud's folding.

He will come like frost.  
One morning when the shrinking earth  
opens on mist, to find itself  
arrested in the net  
of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.  
One evening when the bursting red  
December sun draws up the sheet  
and penny-masks its eye to yield  
the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,  
will come like crying in the night,  
like blood, like breaking,  
as the earth writhes to toss him free.  
He will come like child.

© *Rowan Williams*



## CONCERT



There will be another chance to hear the wonderful music of the **Adderbury Ensemble with Viv McLean (piano)**, who will be giving a concert on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the church.

- The programme will be:
- *Beethoven*: Piano Trio in G major, op 1 no 2
- *Mendelssohn*: Piano Trio no 1 in D minor, op 49

Tickets: £16.00 (£13.00 for mailing list subscribers and £5.00 for students).  
Available at the door or call 07711 606996 to reserve.

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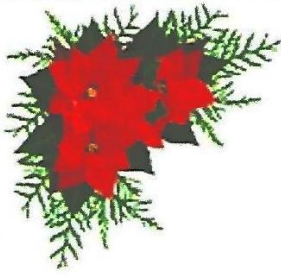
## CHURCH ROOF

You may have noticed that work has started to replace the lead which was stolen from the church roof in June. We expect this to take around five weeks, so the roof should be secure in time for the worst of the winter weather. We have now raised nearly £22,000 towards the cost of the work thanks to some very generous donations, along with £7,500 from our insurance. We would like to say thank you very much indeed to all the people who have contributed. We are still some £5,000 short of meeting the full cost of the repair, so we would be very grateful to receive any donations towards this, however small – if you feel you might be able to help, please contact me, Dee Thobourne or Fr Matthew.



*Douglas Hamilton*



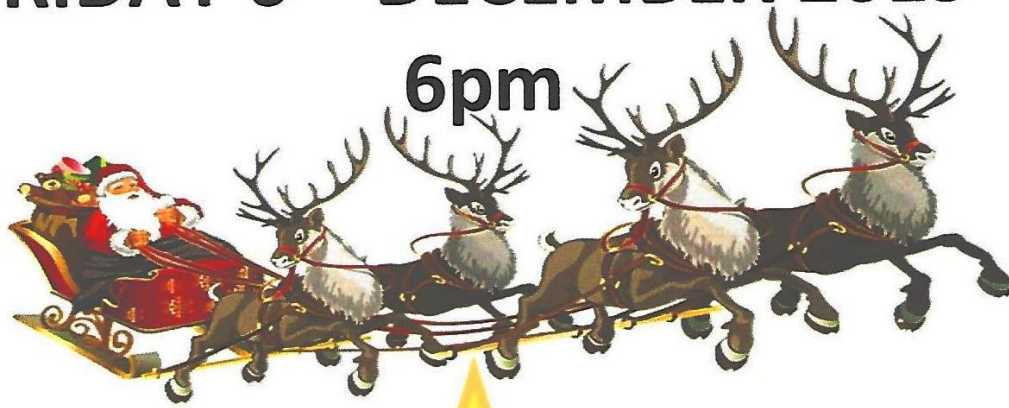


ST.PETER & ST. PAUL  
PARISH CHURCH  
KING'S SUTTON

**WELCOMES FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO OUR  
CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

**6pm**



**CAKES**

**RAFFLE**

**TOMBOLA**

**PLANT STALL**

**BRIC - A - BRAC**

**PRESERVES AND PICKLES**

**SEASONAL REFRESHMENTS**

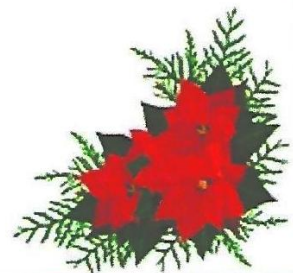
**CHRISTMAS WREATHS & DECORATIONS**

**and**

**MUCH**

**MUCH**

**MORE**



## Having the last word.....

Which carols or Christmas songs do the following last lines or words come from? (Warning – you may find yourself singing!). Answers will appear on the grey boards in church at the carol service.



1. To live with thee there.
2. Shall yourselves find blessing.
3. On Christmas Day in the morning.
4. And a happy New Year.
5. O that we were there!
6. And peace on earth to men!
7. All with her heavy load.
8. By by, lully lullay.
9. Christ the Lord.
10. Guide us to thy perfect light.
11. Sweet singing in the choir.
12. Zing!
13. Alleluyas to our King.
14. Darling, darling little man.
15. Which now the angels sing.
16. Hosanna in excelsis!
17. Glory to the new-born King.
18. All in white shall wait around.
19. Christ is born in Bethlehem.
20. Now and for evermore. Amen.
21. Ave Maria.
22. O tidings of comfort and joy!
23. Gloria!
24. Give my heart.
25. And the tender soothing flute.
26. Good morrow, masters all!
27. Begin and never cease.
28. Our Lord Emmanuel.
29. Christ the Babe was born for you.
30. Deo gracias!

*If you don't get all the answers, come to sing some of these at our Carol service on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7.00pm.*

## To think about.....

"This is about the birth of a child, not the astonishing work of a strong man, not of the bold discovery of a wise man, not of the pious work of a saint. It really is beyond our understanding: the birth of a child shall bring about the great change..."

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer.*

## Children and families

**FAMILY WORSHIP:** We hope you will be able to join us for the Nativity and crib service on Saturday 21st December at 3pm.



**Parent and Toddler Church Group Fridays at 9.30am during term time.** There is a short service in church, followed by coffee in the church room.

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### Services at Newbottle

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>: 9.30am: Holy Communion at 7 Cartwright Road, Charlton

December	1 <sup>st</sup>	Advent Sunday	Sung Eucharist	9.30 am
December	8 <sup>th</sup>	Advent 2	Matins & Communion	9.30 am
December	15 <sup>th</sup>	Advent 3	Sung Eucharist	9.30 am
December	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Advent 4	Lessons & Carols	6.00 pm
December	24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve	Sung Eucharist	10 pm
December	25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day	Sung Eucharist	9.30 am
December	29 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas 1	Matins & Communion	9.30 am

The Catholic Congregation meets for Mass at 9am each Sunday  
in the Parish Church.

Fr James Evans is the parish priest: 01295 660592

[www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk](http://www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk)

## Proposed Calendar of Services for December 2019

Sun	1	<b>Advent Sunday:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; W.I. Carol Service 2.30pm; Advent Carol Service 6pm
Mon	2	
Tues	3	Mass 9.30am
Weds	4	Mass 10am
Thurs	5	
Fri	6	<i>S Nicholas:</i> Parents and toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Midday prayer 12 noon
Sat	7	<i>S Ambrose:</i> Mass 10am
Sun	8	<b>Advent 2:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	9	
Tues	10	Mass 9.30am
Weds	11	Mass 10am
Thurs	12	Carrdus School Carol Service 2.30pm
Fri	13	<i>S Lucy:</i> Parents and toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Midday prayer 12 noon
Sat	14	<i>S John of the Cross:</i> Mass 10am
Sun	15	<b>Advent 3:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am; Evensong 6pm
Mon	16	<i>O Sapientia</i>
Tues	17	Mass 9.30am
Weds	18	Mass 10am
Thurs	19	
Fri	20	Parents and toddlers' Worship 9.30am; Midday prayer 12 noon
Sat	21	<i>S Thomas:</i> Mass 10am; Children's Nativity & Crib Service 3pm; Carol Service 7pm
Sun	22	<b>Advent 4:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am;
Mon	23	
Tues	24	<b>Christmas Eve:</b> First Mass of Christmas 11.30pm
Weds	25	<b>Christmas Day:</b> Sung Mass 11am
Thurs	26	<i>S Stephen</i>
Fri	27	<i>S John</i>
Sat	28	<i>The Holy Innocents:</i> Mass 10am
Sun	29	<b>Christmas 1:</b> Mass 8am; Sung Mass 11am;
Mon	30	
Tues	31	

<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Vicar: Fr. Matthew Robinson – 811364</b> fathermatthew.r@icloud.com
	<b>Wardens: Dee Thobourne – 811961; Douglas Hamilton – 812810</b>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://kingsuttonchurch.weebly.com">http://kingsuttonchurch.weebly.com</a>