



CROSSROADS

The magazine for
St George's Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering

Growing God's Kingdom



9th December 2023

12.00noon until 3.00pm

ST GEORGE'S

Sunday

Parish Communion at 10.30am

Monday

Evening Prayer on Zoom at 5.00pm

Tuesday

Parish Communion at 10.00am

Evening Prayer at 5.00pm

Wednesday

Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom

ST MARGARET'S

1st Sunday

Evensong at 5.00pm

2nd Sunday

Parish Communion at 9.00am and

Family Praise at 4.00pm

3rd Sunday

Evensong at 5.00pm

4th Sunday

Parish Communion at 9.00am

5th Sunday

Parish Communion at 9.00am

Thursday

Parish Communion at 10.30am

DECEMBER 2023/JANUARY 2024

60p



ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON

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FROM THE VICARAGE...

How much do you know about Father Christmas?

Here's a couple of things you may or may not know about Father Christmas... St Nicholas of Myra, as he is otherwise known, was born in 270AD in Asia Minor – now Turkey. As well as ending up as Father Christmas, he is also the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, children, brewers, pawnbrokers, and unmarried people.

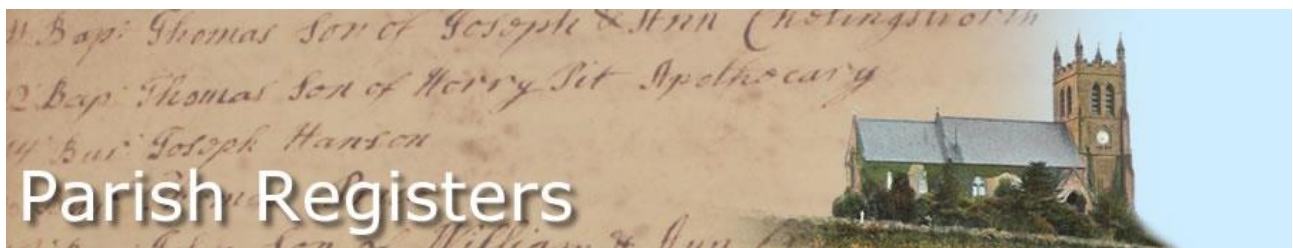
In his youth, he is said to have made a pilgrimage to Egypt and Palestine; shortly after his return, he became Bishop of Myra. If you have a look at photos of 'Sinterklaas' (Santa Claus), you will notice that he is wearing a mitre rather than a bobble hat. In one of the earliest attested incidents from his life, St Nicholas is said to have rescued three girls from being forced into prostitution by dropping a sack of gold coins through the window of their house each night for three nights so their father could pay their dowries. St Nicholas' reputation for secret gift-giving was what led to his eventual metamorphosis into Santa Claus. Other early stories tell of him calming a storm at sea, saving three innocent soldiers from wrongful execution, and chopping down a tree possessed by a demon.

St Nicholas was an attendee at the First Council of Nicaea in 325AD. The council met to discuss the doctrinal challenge posed by Arius of Alexandria, who taught that the Son (the second person of the Trinity) was a created rather than a divine being. According to later legend, St Nicholas was temporarily defrocked and thrown into prison for punching Arius in the face. If you Google-image 'St Nicholas and Arius,' you will get lots of interpretations of this legendary incident!

Little is actually known about the historical Saint Nicholas. The earliest accounts of his life were written centuries after his death and probably contain legendary elaborations. On 6th December, St Nicholas has a one-day reprieve from being Father Christmas and is depicted by the church (at least on social media) as a 3rd century bishop in green or red episcopal robes. He still has a white beard, but it is nowhere near as extravagant as Father Christmas'.

I wonder what Father Christmas will be wearing at the St George's Christmas Fair – do come along on Saturday 9th December to find out!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL,
WITH LOVE FROM RACHEL AND PAUL



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

CREMATORIUM FUNERALS

Joyce Eleanor Driver-Dickerson
Colin Alexander

*If tears could build a stairway
and memories were a lane
we would walk right up to Heaven
and bring you back again*

Not long to go now, to our Christmas Fair, have you offered...



...to help...

...on the Friday evening

...on the Saturday morning

...at the Fair itself

...to donate...

...something for the Grand Draw

...something for the Tombola

...a bottle for an Adult Bottle Stall

...something for a Childrens Tombola

...a cake or cakes for the Mothers' Union cake stall, which would be great, they are happy to receive shop bought ones too. See Sylvia Chamberlain if you can.

Sign up forms are at the back of church.

Can you help? If so see you on Friday evening, or Saturday morning, or at the Fair

CHRISTMAS FAIR 9th December from 12.00noon to 3.00pm:

Thank you

RACHEL, DAWN, DARRELL, SYLVIA E AND JONATHAN T



Our final draw of the year will take place on Sunday 10th December when we bring yet another 100 Club year to a close. Please make sure that you are fully paid up by the 10th, or your number(s) won't be in the draw. Congratulations to our winners over the year; for those of you who have not won there is still the final draw of the year to put that smile on your face. By my reckoning there are only a few members who have yet to pay their monies before the draw. If you are one of them, you can see me at any time to pay or of course you can pay your collector.

Many thanks, and good luck in the draw

DARRELL

LIGHT PARTY

Thank you so much to all those who helped in any way with the Light Party - we had 88 children signed in during the evening with their accompanying adults, and what a fantastic time it was! We bobbed for apples, decorated small jars for our candles, iced biscuits, made collage candles and we ate hot dogs and cake! We ate sweets and played music, danced, and played games and we talked about how Jesus is the light of the world. Using a pumpkin to illustrate what we meant we explained how he can clean out our yukky stuff (sin) and instead fill us with his light and love! Each child took home a candle in a decorated jar to share in God's light. We even had a massive path of light all the way down the walkway as a visual reminder of what we had learnt. (Thanks Jane and Linda!) Thanks very much for such generous donations of time, energy, food, glass jars, cash... everything makes a difference, and it was a wonderful team effort in reaching out in the love and light of God to our community.



RACHEL & LAINE



ST GEORGE'S AND ST MARGARET'S ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2023

ADVENT 2023

Not long now to our first Advent Group where we will "Unwrap Christmas" a series of three short films of about 30 minutes each which were filmed in the Holy Land.

Advent Groups meet in St George's Lady Chapel:

On Monday December 4th, 11th, and 18th from 7.30pm until 9.00pm and on Wednesday December 6th, 13th, and 20th from 2.00pm until 3.30pm.

If you don't normally come to these groups, please do consider coming along this year if you can – it will be so good to be together thinking about the Holy Land. Be assured that there will be no expectation on anyone to say or read aloud anything in front of others – everyone will be free to participate as much or as little as you feel comfortable doing so in the discussion after the video.

If you would like to know any more about this, please do speak to Rachel.

Let's see Christmas through fresh eyes and "Unwrap Christmas" together.



**"FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT"
A SPECIAL START TO ADVENT**

Advent is a lovely season. Let's cherish these days of preparation for Christmas, and let's avoid the worldly tendency to jump the gun. (I'm old fashioned enough to think that it's all wrong to sing "Away in a Manger" in the first week of December!)

At St Margaret's, we will once again start our Advent Sunday service in total darkness, lighting candles gradually until the church is ablaze (not literally, I hope!) from end to end. This will symbolise the coming of the Light with Jesus's incarnation at Christmas. Paul has chosen a sequence of readings, taking us from Isaiah to Joseph's dream, setting the scene for the Nativity which is to come. And we will sing some lovely advent hymns, of course.

"From Darkness to Light" is the title of our service. It will start at 5.00pm on Advent Sunday, 3rd December. A very special start to Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.

JONATHAN



WHAT'S HAPPENING CHRISTMAS 2023

December

Sunday 10 th	at 4.00pm	Family Praise Christingle at St Margaret's
Saturday 16 th	at 10.00am	Christmas Family Fun at St George's
Sunday 17 th	at 4.00pm	Carol Service at St George's
Monday 18 th	at 6.30pm	Carol singing around Yew Tree Gardens.
Tuesday 19 th	at 6.30pm	Carol singing in Podsmead
Wednesday 20 th	at 6.30pm	Carol singing at the Pike & Musket
Friday 22 nd	at 6.00pm	Candlelit Carols at St Margaret's
Sunday 24 th	at 9.00am	Holy Communion St Margaret's
	at 10.30am	Holy Communion St George's
	at 2.00pm	Chill out at Christmas at St George's
	at 11.30pm	Christmas Communion at St George's
Monday 25 th	at 10.00am	Christmas Communion at St Margaret's (Relaxed/informal/all age focussed)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

Our Christmas Candlelit Carol service will be on Friday 22nd December at 6.00pm. Parking at the School car park, as in previous years. The service lasts just under an hour. There's a special seating area in the chancel for families with younger children, who may enjoy having a different view of the action.

The readings and carols are very traditional, although, as always, you will notice a few changes from the previous years' service. Last year we introduced "See him lying on a bed of straw" which worked well, and we will certainly use that again.

On Christmas Eve we have our normal 9.00am service, then on Christmas Day a special service at 10.00am, with an all-age approach.

Our Thursday 10.30am communion service will happen as usual on 21st and 28th December.

JONATHAN

THE CHRISTMAS TREE by Tony J

It stands there in the corner, full of festive glory
A symbol to celebrate, a special birthday story
Adorned with lights, which shine so very bright
A star at the top; also, a guiding light
The tree may be real, or perhaps from a box
To hang coloured crackers, or even some socks
Presents placed gently, surrounding the base
Like the Wise men took to the birthplace
The Christmas tree, has a certain glow
Enhanced by an Angel, with a sprinkle of snow
Even the needles, as they fall to the floor
Remind us of a stable, the homeless and poor
So much better then, to give than receive
Never having any doubt, to always believe
As we therefore prepare, for yet another year
The Christmas message to humankind, is loud and very clear
All the love from above, is shown for a reason
Which is why we should take strength like the tree, in this celebrated season





Thank you so much to everyone who came to any of the services on Remembrance Sunday; Holy Communion and Family Praise at St Margaret's and Family Service with uniformed organisations Parade at St George's - it was so fantastic to see so many of you, and thanks very much for everyone who took any part. we learnt about an unusual symbol of peace - jelly babies, which were manufactured in 1918 as 'peace babies' to mark the end of WWI and since the 80s all 6 of the colours have had a unique shape, name, and features! A good reminder that God makes us all to be special and unique and that Jesus calls us to love one another - when we truly love one another, then there can be true and lasting peace.



LET US ENTERTAIN YOU AT CHRISTMAS

Have you got your ticket yet?

We have the show!

So, you need a ticket!

When is it? Saturday 2nd December at 7.30pm.

Where is it? In St George's Centre main hall as usual

Tickets: £5.00 each to include mince pies or an alternative for those who are not mincemeat eaters.

Drinks: Please bring your own drinks.

Ticket Sellers: Glenda and Darrell



As a Church in Tuffley community project, we would like to provide 40 Christmas hampers for local families. Our aim is to share some of what we have with other families in a time when there is a high pressure to provide something more than usual. The hampers will be full of all the treat items we often buy for Christmas such as Christmas puddings and mince pies, along with a few essentials like tea and coffee. The average cash value of the food for the Hampers is £40 each. We want this to be a real gift/treat and we hope that by delivering it as early as possible, we will be saving these families some cash.

Please help us put these hampers together.

You can choose any item from the lists available at the back of the church. It's helpful to have the items bought in groups of 5. Churches will be informed of

progress and any outstanding items towards the end of November. Please make sure you buy the items as specified and return to St George's collection point by Sunday 3rd December. If there are no lists at the back of church please see Rachel.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

ART GROUP

The First Impressions Art Group met until the end of November; now it has put it's brushes and paints away until February. So until Thursday 1st February at 2.00pm until 4.00pm, it's Au Revoir (or should that be Au Renoir) when we will meet up again.



We have gained much friendship and fun from coming together for art and crafts and we look forward to an exhibition of our work at the Christmas Fair. The exhibition will be inside the church and will include examples of our painting, pastelling, sketching, stencilling and craft work! If there is anyone else who would care to join us at 2.00pm on Thursdays in the Small Hall from 1st February, we would be delighted to see you.

If you would like to drop in, please do. No need to buy equipment as our sharing box has all you need to 'have a go!'

In the meantime, we wish you a happy Christmas and a blessed new year.

FROM THE 'FIRST IMPRESSIONS ART GROUP'



It was a privilege to host the Church in Tuffley 'a Time to Remember' service at St George's on Sunday 29th October. This is a time we give annually to remember our loved ones who have died. During the service leaders from the churches across Tuffley led us in moving readings, reflections, and prayers, showing our Christian hope of life after death. There was an opportunity to light candles in memory of our loved ones, as their names appeared on the screen. This event was well attended by people from across the churches and also relatives of those whose funerals we have been involved with in the last few years. Our thanks go to all those who were involved in making this service possible, and especially to Derek Kingscote for making such careful, faithful preparations for the service including the very important list of names. Thanks also to those who served refreshments after the service, to the large congregation – this was much appreciated.

PAUL

please
don't forget!

That to have your
FEBRUARY 2024 CROSSROADS

ready for publication by
SUNDAY 28th JANUARY 2024

...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL
BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN... **...SATURDAY 13th JANUARY**

Crossroads will be printed on Monday 22nd January

If you can get your articles to the Editors earlier than the above date, great!!

Thank you for your help in this matter



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING

Saturday 2nd December from 10.00am onwards

Please Note: There will not be a Church cleaning session on Saturday 6th January 2024 instead we're going to meet up at 1.00pm on that day to generate space in the storeroom off our main hall. Before that day, Centre users will be asked to clearly mark and tidy up their allocated spaces so we can assess how much useful space we can discover!!

So, unless you are joining us on the 2nd December or 6th January, I'll see you on Saturday 3rd February all of you duster flickers, Hoover moovers, cobweb shifters, and anyone new to our little band, especially if you made that New Year's resolution to help clean St George's. Please check your Signpost for any new church cleaning update.

Don't forget here's tea, coffee, and cake for all who join us!



GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ

Questions based on the Gospel readings for October

- 1 When challenged by the chief priests as to his authority to preach Jesus asked them a question. "Was the authority of ___ from heaven or human origin?" Of whom was Jesus speaking?
- 2 What 4-word answer did the chief priests give to Jesus' question?
- 3 A parable given by Jesus talked of a man planting a vineyard. He put a fence around it, dug a wine press and built a ____ _____. What was built?
- 4 Jesus said, "The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." What stone was Jesus talking about?

5 In another parable Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a _____ for his son" What was this celebration for the son?

6 Complete Jesus' words, "For many are called, but..."

7 Knowing Jesus was talking about them the Pharisees, along with another group of Jewish leaders to entrap him. Who was this other group of leaders?

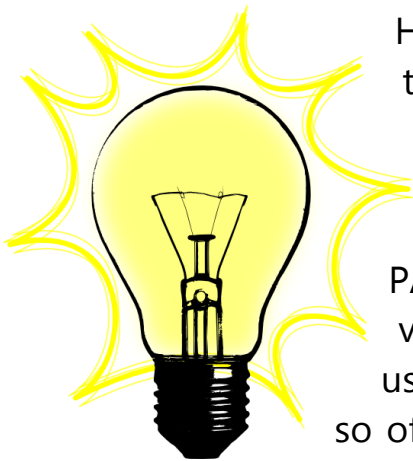
8 The two groups of Jewish leaders asked him about paying taxes. What coin did Jesus ask them to show him?

9 Jesus said, "The tribes will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with ____ and ____." What 3 words complete this statement?

10 Jesus said, "...you know summer is near." What fruit would have been apparent to indicate the approach of summer?

Answers to this month's Gospel Truth Bible Quiz are printed later in this issue

NEW LAMPS FOR OLD



Hurray for LED lighting! Here is an invention which has truly come of age, and we can all reap the benefits.

At St Margaret's, we have installed a trial group of four dimmable LED wide angle bulbs. They are of the PAR38 type, and replace the traditional tungsten version, which used 120 watts per bulb. We have been using those for about thirty years, and inevitably, every so often one fails, as they have a rated life of only 1000 hours. Replacement involves a long ladder, and it seems plenty high enough when you're up there, believe me!

These new LED version lamps will each last about 50,000 hours, and consume just 15.5 watts. So, fifty times the lamp life, and one-eighth of the power consumption. The colour is a very acceptable warm white, and the lamps are dimmable, so four key considerations are satisfied. Not just lamp-life and power consumption, but also colour and dimmability. And the cost is quite reasonable. Yes, they are about double that of the old tungsten version, but as they should last us over a hundred years, and use far less energy, I don't think we need quibble. Needless to say, the remaining lamps in church will be converted soon.



Twenty years ago, commercial LED lighting was still in its infancy, with many limitations and a high price tag. It's been a bit of a wait, but now we have a product that suits church lighting down to the ground.

A loud "Alleluia" if you please!

JONATHAN

[PS the remaining lights in the church will be converted soon.](#)

WHERE THE RAINBOW ENDS

I admit there's going to be a slight problem with this article. I want to share a photograph with you, but I realise most of you will only see it in black and white. That is a bit of a let-down, when it's a photo of a rainbow. But please look closely all the same because this photo gives us proof of where the rainbow ends.

Not only does it end in Tuffley (which we all knew already), but it actually goes down the chimney of our church treasurer. The camera cannot lie. Yes, this photograph actually shows, I think beyond any argument, that the rainbow was either going into, or coming out of, David and Kim's chimney.

What can this mean, I wonder?

You tell me: answers on a postcard, please. (Closing date 1st April 2024).

JONATHAN



*And when it rains on your parade,
look up rather than down.
Without the rain,
there would be no rainbow.*

Gilbert K. Chesterton



CHRISTMAS



Find the following words in the above puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

Advent, Angel, Bethlehem, Birth, Blessings, Camels, Frankincense, Infant, Jesus, Joseph, Magi, Manger, Mary, Miracle, Myrrh, Nativity, Rejoice, Stable, Star, Three Kings, Wise Men.

The answer is printed later in Crossroads



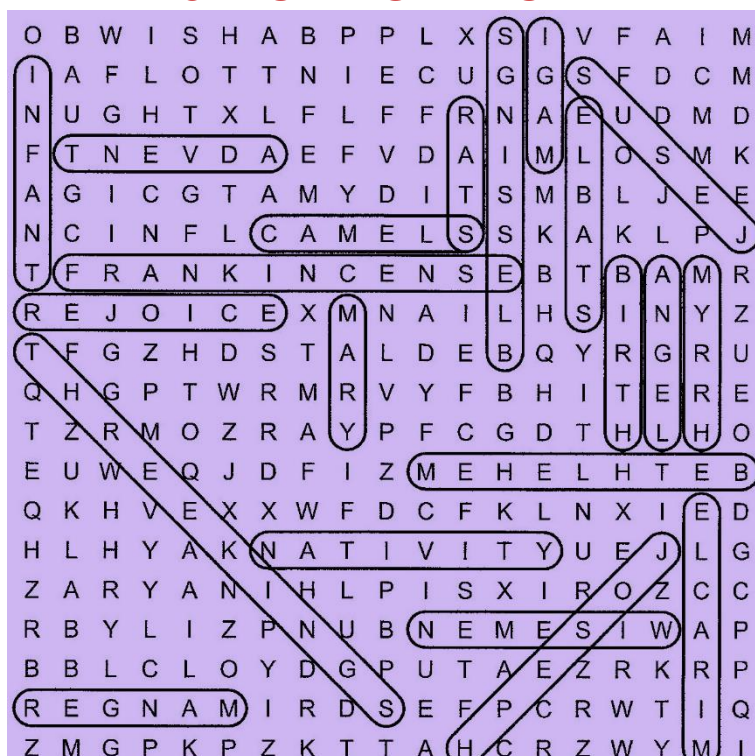
All the following questions relate to events that happened in the month of December

- 1 Which traditional German bread is associated with Christmas?
- 2 Kentucky Fried Chicken meals have become a nationwide tradition in which country: Japan, Mexico, or the United States?
- 3 What name is given to the festive tradition of small sausages wrapped in bacon?
- 4 The swede is a root vegetable that originated as a cross between which two other vegetables?
- 5 Which traditional Christmas breakfast cocktail is made of two parts champagne to one part orange juice?
- 6 What type of pastry is used for profiteroles?
- 7 Traditionally eaten at Christmas, name the Madeira cake topped with a thick layer of chocolate and decorated with marzipan fruits?
- 8 Historians generally believe that what steak dish is named after Arthur Wellesley?
- 9 Popular in German-speaking countries, what is Gluhwein?
- 10 Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management has a famous recipe for Christmas pudding. What is Mrs Beeton's first name?
- 11 Which type of Italian sweet bread is associated with Christmas?
- 12 By what name would English speakers know Buche de Noel?
- 13 Bernard Matthews Foods Ltd which specialises in turkey products have their headquarters in which English county?
- 14 Which English monarch was nicknamed "the pudding king" after it was rumoured, he had requested plum pudding at a Christmas banquet?
- 15 Served at Christmas in France a marron glace is a candied what?

GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1 John (the Baptist): 2 We do not know: 3 Watch tower: 4 Cornerstone:
5 wedding banquet: 6 few are chosen: 7 Herodians: 8 denarius: 9 power & great
glory: 10 Figs:

WORDSEARCH ANSWER



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH AND CENTRE

NOVEMBER

Sun 26	CHRIST THE KING / SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT December/January Crossroads available		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	2.00pm	Whaddon Garage Community meeting 1	St B's
	4.30pm	Charles Igbo group meet	SH
	6.30pm	Whaddon Garage Community meeting 2	St B's
Mon 27	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom

	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Mondays @ 6	St G's
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 28	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.00pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 29	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 30	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH
	2.00pm	First Impressions Art Group	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH

DECEMBER

Fri 1	7.30pm	Entertainers – tbc	SH
	7.30pm	Gardening Club	MH
Sat 2	10.00am	Karate	MH
	10.00am	Church cleaning	St G's
	10.00am	Litter Pick	HP
	7.30pm	Let Us Entertain You	St G's
Sun 3	ADVENT 1		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	12.30pm	Baptism of Cora Bella Smith	St M's
	5.00pm	From Darkness to Light Advent service	St M's
Mon 4	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Mondays @ 6	SL
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
	7.30pm	"Unwrap Christmas" Advent Group – 1	LC
Tue 5	9.30am	Coffee Pot	MH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's

	10.30am	GHCT Meeting	SH
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 6	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	2.00pm	"Unwrap Christmas" Advent Group – 1	LC
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 7	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 8	7.30pm	Entertainers – tbc	MH
Sat 9	10.00am	Karate at Grange Baptist	GB
	12.00 noon	Christmas Fayre with Santa!	St G's
Sun 10	ADVENT 2		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee & Christmas 100 Club Draw	St G's
	4.00pm	Family Praise with Christingle	St M's
Mon 11	Explore Christmas week in church		
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
	6.00pm	Mondays @ 6	SL
	7.30pm	"Unwrap Christmas" Advent Group – 2	LC
Tue 12	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Christmas Social	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 13	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	2.00pm	"Unwrap Christmas" Advent Group – 2	LC

	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 14	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 15	7.30pm	Entertainers – tbc	MH
Sat 16	9.30am	Family Fun with real owls!	St G's
	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 17	ADVENT 3		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	12.30pm	Baptism of Beth & Harrison Birch	St M's
	4.00pm	Family Carol Service	St G's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's
Mon 18	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Mondays @ 6	SL
	6.30pm	Carol Singing in Yew Tree Gardens	
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
	7.30pm	"Unwrap Christmas" Advent Group – 3	LC
Tue 19	9.30am	Coffee Pot	MH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	6.30pm	Carol Singing in Podsmead	
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 20	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	2.00pm	"Unwrap Christmas" Advent Group – 3	LC
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	6.30pm	Carol Singing at the Pike & Musket	
Thu 21	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Harewood Junior School	St G's
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 22	6.00pm	Candlelit Carol Service	St M's

Sat 23	10.00am	Karate	MH
	10.00am	Messy Christingle	St G's
Sun 24	ADVENT 4 / CHRISTMAS EVE		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	2.00pm	Chill Out with Christmas activities & hot chocolate	St G's
	1.30pm	Baptism of Seren & Noah	St G's
	11.30pm	Christmas Communion	St G's
Mon 25	CHRISTMAS DAY		
	10.00am	Christmas Communion at St Margaret's (Relaxed/informal/all age focussed)	St M's
Tue 26	BOXING DAY		
	10.00am	Parish Communion – tbc	St G's
Wed 27	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 28	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
Sat 30	10.00am	Karate – tbc	MH
Sun 31	CHRISTMAS 1 / NEW YEAR'S EVE		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's

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Tue 2	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 3	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 4	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
Sat 6	1.00pm	Store cupboard clear out	MH
Sun 7	EPIPHANY/BAPTISM OF CHRIST		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's
Mon 8	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Tue 9	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH

	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 10	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 11	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 12	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 13		February Crossroads deadline	
	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 14	EPIPHANY 2		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	4.00pm	Family Praise	St M's
Mon 15	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Monday's @ 6	SL
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 16	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 17	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.00pm	Gardening Club Committee	SL
	7.30pm	Refresh	St B
Thu 18	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH

Fri 19	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 20	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 21	EPIPHANY 3		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's
Mon 22	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Mondays @ 6	SL
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 23	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 24	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 25	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 26	7.30pm	Entertainers	SH
	7.30pm	Gardening Club	MH
Sat 27	10.00am	Karate	MH
	2.30pm	CiT Environmental Group Litter Pick	Tbc
Sun 28	3 before LENT February Crossroads available		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	4.30pm	Charles Igbo group meet	SH
Mon 29	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.00pm	Monday @ 6	SL
	7.15pm	Guides	MH

Tue 30	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 31	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	SH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH

FEBRUARY

Thu 1	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	First Impressions Art Group	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 2	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 3	10.00am	Church Cleaning	St G's
	10.00am	Karate	MH
	10.00am	Litter Pick	HP
Sun 4	2 before LENT		
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St G's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's

**St G's = St George's Church, St M's = St Margaret's Church, V = Vicarage,
 LC = Lady Chapel, MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge,
 EM = English Martyrs Catholic Church, St B's = St Barnabas' Church,
 GB = Grange Baptist, HP = Holmleigh Park**

Remember that dates can change, be cancelled, or added so keep an eye on our weekly Signpost Newsletter for the latest information

DECEMBER/JANUARY QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Stollen: 2 Japan: 3 Pigs in blankets: 4 Cabbage and turnip: 5 Bucks Fizz:
 6 Choux: 7 Tunis cake: 8 Beef Wellington (Arthur Wellesley is the Duke of Wellington): 9 Mulled wine: 10 Isabella: 11 Panettone: 12 Yule log: 13 Norfolk:
 14 George I: 15 Chestnut:

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...

Jack walks into a bar with a newt on his shoulder. The bartender looks at the creature and asks Jack what he calls it. 'Tiny', answers Jack. 'Why's that?' enquires the bartender. 'Because he's my newt' concludes Jack.

Jill was out with her mates when she said "You know if anyone tells you that men are the equal of women they've never seen Jack trying to wrap a Christmas present!"

Jack told Jill that Good King Wenceslas phoned Domino's for a pizza and the salesperson asked him, 'Do you want your usual? Yes, please he told her deep pan, crisp and even?'

Jack said, 'What a marvellous train set. I'll buy it.' The girl behind the counter looked pleased and murmured, 'Great, I'm sure your son will really love it.' Jack replied with a glint in his eye, 'Maybe you're right. In that case I'll take two.'

The Santa Claus in the shopping arcade was very surprised when Emily, Jack and Jill's daughter aged about 20 years old walked up and sat on his lap. Now, we all know that Santa doesn't usually take requests from adults, but she smiled very nicely at him, so he asked her, 'What do you want for Christmas?' 'Something for my mother, please,' replied Emily sweetly. 'Something for your mother? Well, that's very loving and thoughtful of you,' smiled Santa. 'What would you like me to bring her?' Without turning a hair Emily answered quickly, 'A son-in-law.'

Jack asked his friend, Tony, whether he had bought his wife anything for Christmas. 'Yes,' came the answer from Tony who was a bit of a chauvinist, 'I've bought her a belt and a bag.' 'That was very kind of you,' Jack added, 'I hope she appreciated the thought.' Tony smiled as he replied, 'So do I, and hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now.'

Jack asked Jill, "What would it take to make you give me a kiss under the Christmas mistletoe?" Jill replied, "An anaesthetic."