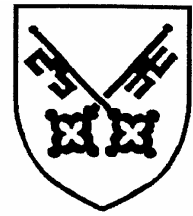


St Peter's Church Magazine



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Happy New Year!

Advent Sunday, which falls on the 29th November this year, is the start of the new church year. Advent is the Latin word for "come", so it is all about the coming of someone or something. The word "adventure" is an extension of the word and what we are expecting from Advent is a coming adventure and all the uncertainty and danger that entails.

Advent isn't wholly a 'churchy' word referring to the four Sundays of Advent or the four Advent Candles or the Season of Advent from the inside of the church and its services. Nor is Advent simply referring to the 24 days before Christmas, with Christmas coming closer and closer.

The word "coming" in the Bible, primarily refers to the coming of God into our lives, that God is forever coming down into the little worlds in which we live, God is forever coming to save us and help us. And as with so many things that we talk about in church, there are essentially three tenses to Advent. The past: the coming of God to earth in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. The present: God comes to us daily for people who have eyes of faith to see. The future: the coming of God at the end of history in the Second Coming.

In the first coming, Jesus was born, grew up to be a man and

taught something that people needed (and still need) reminding of. That we must love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, mind and soul AND your neighbour as yourself. And through his coming those two commandments, a summary of the whole of Jewish Law, was shared with everyone – Jew and Gentile alike.

In that first coming, God didn't remain in the infinite distance but came down here to earth, near to your life and mine. He came to share our experience, to know what it is to be human from an intensely personal perspective. And in the person of Jesus, God is as near as God gets. We can see clearly the Presence of God in Jesus and so we come to know God that bit better. So Advent is about the coming of God into flesh for all mankind.

Advent is also about the future. God will come to earth at the end of history, as the second coming of Jesus at the end of time as we know it. In this sense, we are thinking of God's coming to earth on the final day of human history, not quietly, but in full glory at his second coming. No one knows the precise hour of the second coming – the end of history; the end of time as we know it. No one knows the precise moment of this second coming. There have always been those

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this month

Using your Gifts
(page 2)

Litany for Peace
(page 3)

Community Cafe
(page 4)

Christingle (page 5)

Crib Service (page 6)

Prayer Diary December
(pages 7 & 8)

Prayer Diary January
(page 9 & 10)

... using your gifts
(cont'd) (page 11)

Bloxham Festival
(page 12)

Didcot Emergency
Food Bank (page 12)

U3A (page 13)

Years Mind December
& January
(page 14)

Full Calendar of
services and other
events for January
(page 15)

Full Calendar of
services and other
events for December
(page 16)

Happy New Year!

(Continued from page 1)

religious fanatics in all generations who have thought that they knew, but the disciples didn't know the time of the second coming, nor did the authors of the New Testament. Only God knows when that moment will be.

But there will be a time when there is no time and we will all meet Christ face to face when Christ will judge all human beings. And in between the coming of God as Jesus, and the coming of God in all his glory at the end of history, is God daily coming to us. God is forever coming closer and closer and clearer and clearer to us.

We are forever asking God to come into lives to bless and help us and save us. The whole of the Eucharist is about the coming of God here among us – we don't know how, we

Using your gifts at St Peter's

St Peter's is a very busy parish – the building is used every day of the week and has a number of community users. We are very lucky to have a number of people who are active in running and supporting the Church and its various groups. However, as some of you will have noticed, there have been a few people moving out of the area or having to retire from service and so we have a few vacancies that need filling.

The following are reports from a few of the people who co-ordinate rotas and who do some of the behind the scenes jobs that you may not realise take place. If there is anything that appeals, or you want to know more about, please speak to either the named individual or to Revd Hannah.

Sides-people

We probably all notice various people quietly carrying out tasks at St Peter's that enable services to run smoothly and various fund-raising events to take place. One of the first things I volunteered for at St Peter's was to act as a Sidesperson, this involves getting to church at about 09:30 on Sunday and setting out the hymn books and service sheets. The Sidespeople welcome people, hand out hymn books, take the collection and clear up after the

just know that he has promised that he does and we believe that promise. We end the Eucharist with a prayer asking God to send us out in the power of the Spirit – not just send us out to have a nice cup of tea, but fill us with the Holy Spirit so when we leave we can live and work to the praise and glory of God.

Do you know what the last prayer in the Bible is? It is the second to the last line of the book of Revelation and its one that gets used in liturgies at many different times. The last prayer of the Bible is "Amen. Come Lord Jesus". Amen: So be it. Amen. Come Lord Jesus. That is the prayer of the Church. Amen. Come Lord Jesus. Come and make all things new. Come and make an end to suffering. Come and give us peace.

service has finished ensuring that the hassocks (kneelers) are put back on the pews. It is an ideal opportunity to get to know people better as everybody likes to be welcomed with a warm smile and a kind word. If you would like to know more or are interested in joining this team please speak to one of the Sidespeople on duty.

Alan Wilson

Altar Servers

As Christians we all know that our duty is to serve God and I find serving during the various services a real honour and privilege. It is a task that needs to be carried out thoughtfully and prayerfully, but is not at all difficult. The server prepares the vessels for the Eucharist and washes the Priests hands at the Altar, sometimes acting as Acolyte (candle-bearer) also. It would be nice to see a few younger members of our church community getting involved and if you would like to know more please speak to me or Fran.

Alan Wilson

Quiz 'n' Chips

If you've been to one of our Quiz 'n' Chips evenings (*and if you haven't – why not?! – Rev Hannah*) you will know how popular this

(Continued on page 11)

Litany for Peace in the Holy Land

In Psalm 122, King David extols us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Now the Diocese of Jerusalem is inviting us to do just that. They have produced and shared a Litany for Peace in the Holy Land. They are asking churches and Christians around the world to use it in their prayers on the first Sunday in Advent – 29 November 2015.

The litany has evolved out of prayers said

daily in the Cathedral Church of St George-the-Martyr in Jerusalem, as a result of the tensions, violence, paranoia and fear that has swept through Jerusalem since October this year; and which is continuing to affect the entire region.

The Diocese of Jerusalem is actively engaged in reconciliation and peace-building efforts and is often seen as a bridge between Israelis and Palestinians.

Litany for Peace in the Holy Land

*O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Grant us your peace.*

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.*

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for the birth in
Bethlehem of the Word made flesh, your Son, Jesus
Christ; who dwelt among us full of grace and truth.
For your love and your goodness
We give you thanks, O God*

*We thank you for his life; his death here in Jerusalem
as he carried our sins and suffering, and for his
glorious Resurrection in which he gave us new life
with him.
For your love and your goodness
We give you thanks, O God*

*We thank you for entrusting to us the ministry of
forgiveness, reconciliation and peace-making for the
healing of your creation.
For your love and your goodness
We give you thanks, O God*

*We pray for all victims of bloodshed, violence, and
persecution. We especially pray for all in danger and
those fleeing persecution in the Holy Land, and
throughout the Middle East.
Lord, hear our prayer
And let our cry come unto you*

(Continued on page 4)

Litany for Peace in the Holy Land

(Continued from page 3)

We pray for all who grieve for those they have loved and lost as a result of violence, particularly those grieving in Palestine and Israel.

Lord, hear our prayer

And let our cry come unto you

We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide all leaders, especially on those who lead the peoples in the Land of the Holy One, the United Nations and upon all in authority, so Your people may seek ways of peace and justice.

Lord, hear our prayer

And let our cry come unto you

Heavenly Father, we praise and glorify you. You are our only refuge in a troubled world.

Lord, hear our prayer

And let our cry come unto you

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Lord God Almighty,
you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory,
to serve you in freedom and in peace:
Give to us and the people of all the nations a zeal for justice
and the strength of forbearance,
that all of your people may use their liberty
in accordance with your gracious will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

New Community Café in Great Western Park

This exciting venture is helping to strengthen the fledgling community in Great Western Park. The Community Café opened in September at the new community centre there, serving a range of hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes at very reasonable prices every Thursday morning. Staffed by volunteers drawn from churches across Didcot, the Café is a truly ecumenical venture and has made a very positive start, attracting 30-50 people each week, and offering a place to meet new neighbours and chat in a relaxed environment.

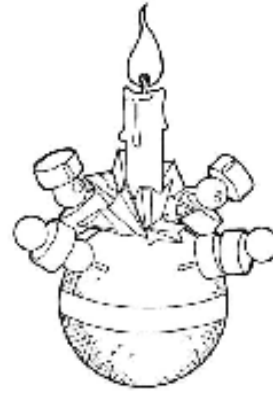
Running the Café has proved to be very enjoyable for the volunteers involved, but more

people are always welcome to join the team! There is a range of tasks where help would be appreciated: setting up the Café on a Wednesday evening or first thing on Thursday mornings; welcoming and serving customers; listening and chatting to visitors; baking cakes or biscuits. If you would be interested in helping, no matter how infrequently, please contact Claire Hann (Didcot Methodist Church) on 01235 811401 or claire_hann@hotmail.co.uk. Alternatively speak to Rev. Mark Bodeker on 07970 111 110 or markbodeker@gmail.com.

Christingle Service

in aid of The Children's Society

Come along to St Peter's with families and friends on December 23rd at 2.30 to have fun making a Christingle and then share in a short service. All are welcome!



Making the Christingle

You will be provided with;

- 1 orange
- 1 candle
- Sheet of foil
- Red tape
- 4 cocktail sticks
- Selection of dried fruit and sweets
- Pair of scissors

1. Make sure young children are supervised by an adult!
2. Encourage everyone to wash their hands before handling the sweets and fruit.
3. Take an orange and fasten a piece of red sticky tape around the middle.
4. Cut a small cross in the top of the orange and lay a square of silver foil (75mm or 3 inches square) over it.
5. Place a candle on top of the foil and wedge it firmly into the orange (the foil should catch the hot wax as it drips).
6. Load four cocktail sticks with a mixture of dried fruits or sweets so that the points are covered and insert around the base of the candle.

Store your Christingles upright in a cool place. Don't make them too far in advance—they don't keep for long!

What Does a Christingle Symbolise?

The real meaning of Christmas is to celebrate Jesus' birthday. To celebrate that Jesus, God's Son, was born in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago. God sent Jesus to us, to show us how much God loves each and every single one of us. No matter how we are feeling or the situation we are in.

- The orange represents the world
- The red tape/ribbon is wrapped around the whole world to show that God loves the whole world, nothing is missed out.
- The four sticks represent spring, summer, autumn and winter. With the sweets representing God's creation, that includes you and me!
- Finally the candle is to remind us of what Jesus said that he 'is the light of the world'. Even in the darkest places, when we are really upset about something. God still wants us to know that he loves us and is there for *all* of us.



Did you know that . . . this apparently simple Christmas song is one which was written to help people remember their Catholic faith – without the King’s agents and spies finding out – King Henry VIII that is!

- Twelve Lords a leaping are the twelve basic beliefs outlined in the Apostles Creed.
- Eleven Pipers piping are the eleven Apostles who remained after the treachery of Judas.
- Ten Ladies dancing are the ten commandments.
- Nine Drummers drumming are the nine choirs of angels.
- Eight Maids a milking are the eight beatitudes.
- Seven Swans a swimming are the seven sacraments.
- Six Geese a laying are the six days of creation
- Five Golden rings are the first five books of the Old Testament – the Torah.
- Four Calling birds are the four gospels.
- Three French hens are the Three persons of the Trinity.
- Two Turtle doves are the two natures of Jesus Christ – fully human and fully divine
- The Partridge is Jesus Himself in the pear tree signifying the cross itself.

Prayer Intentions: December 2015

<p>1st: Readings: Psalm 82; Isaiah 26:1-13; Revelation 20.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Loyd Road. Elder Close. Little Fishes, carers and toddlers groups and The Children's Centre.</p>	<p>2nd: Readings: Psalm 5; Isaiah 28:1-13; Revelation 20.21:1-8.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cockcroft Road, Mowbray Road Wednesday Church's Carol service and party</p>	<p>3rd: Readings: Psalm 43; Isaiah 28:14-end; Revelation 21:9-21.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barnes Road, Barnes Close. The work of the Mothers' Union.</p>	<p>4th: John of Damascus Readings: Psalm 26; Isaiah 29:1-14; Revelation 21:22 - 22:5.</p> <p>An 8th Century Syrian Monk. He wrote extensively and is known for the doctrine of the Assumption of Mary. Prayer intentions: Edwin Road. Christians in Syria and persecuted Christians throughout the world.</p>
<p>5th: Readings: Psalm 10; Isaiah 29:15-end; Revelation 22:6-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Green Road; Green Close. Those who keep the church and grounds clean and tidy.</p>	<p>6th: Advent II Readings: Psalm 80; Isaiah 64:1-7; Matthew 11:2-11.</p> <p>The focus on the Second Sunday of Advent is the prophets - all those who foretold the coming of the Messiah. Prayer intentions: Royal Berkshire Close Beech Lane Our Sunday School leaders</p>	<p>7th: Ambrose Readings: Psalm 27; Isaiah 30:1-18 1 Thessalonians 1.</p> <p>4th Century Governor of Milan made Bishop by popular acclaim of the citizens when the see fell vacant. Prayer intentions: Queensway, Hardings Strings Bishop Colin.</p>	<p>8th: Readings: Psalm 57; Isaiah 30:19-end; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Tavistock Avenue; Bowness Avenue. The Didcot Food Bank., Didcot Community Bank</p>
<p>9th: Readings: Psalm 63; Isaiah 31; 1 Thessns 2:13-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Warner Crescent; Morse Road. The Wednesday Fellowship, those who are housebound.</p>	<p>10th: Readings: Psalm 53; Isaiah 32; 1 Thessalonians 3.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: South Park Avenue; Downs Road. The Social Committee.</p>	<p>11th: Readings: Psalm 85; Isaiah 33:1-22; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Newlands Avenue. Larch Drive Our Director of Music and choir.</p>	<p>12th: Readings: Psalm 145; Isaiah 35; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Glebe Rd; Lynmouth Rd. Our Church Wardens.</p>
<p>13th: Advent III Readings: Psalm 12, 14; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5</p> <p>The focus for the Third Sunday of Advent is John the Baptist.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Craven Way; Hillary Dr; Lockinge Close. Those following the Religious life, particularly at Wantage and Alton.</p>	<p>14th: John of the Cross Readings: Psalm 40; Isaiah 38:1-8, 21-22; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11.</p> <p>A Spanish Carmelite, encouraged by Teresa of Avila to undertake the reform of the Order. Author of <i>The Dark Night of the Soul</i></p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cullen Place; Hanover Court. Those suffering from depression and mental illness</p>	<p>15th: Readings: Psalms 70; Isaiah 38:9-20; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Clarence Place; Frideswide's Court. Willowcroft School and Northbourne School, having their Christmas services this week.</p>	<p>16th: Readings: Psalm 75; Isaiah 39; 2 Thessalonians 1.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Wantage Road; Colbourne Road Those who put together the Church magazine and weekly news-sheets.</p>

Prayer Intentions: December

<p>17th: O Sapientia Readings: Psalm 76; Zephaniah 1:1-2:3; 2 Thessalonians 2.</p> <p>O Sapientia - O Wisdom - is the first of the seven antiphons for use with the Magnificat at Evening Prayer which use titles for the Messiah.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barleyfields; Elbourne. The Ministry Team.</p>	<p>18th: O Adonai Readings: Psalm 98; Zephaniah 3:1-13; 2 Thessalonians 3.</p> <p>O Adonai - O Lord The seven antiphon initials, taken backwards, spell the words Ero Cras.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Drake Avenue; Collingwood Avenue. St Peter's Outreach to the community.</p>	<p>19th: O Radix Jesse Readings: Psalm 146 Zephaniah 3:14-end; Jude.</p> <p>O Radix Jesse - O root of Jesse. Jesse is the father of King David.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Park Road; Park Close. The Quiz n Chips team, those who raise funds for the ministry of St Peter's.</p>	<p>20th: O Clavis David Readings: Psalm 144; Revelation 22:6-end.</p> <p>O Clavis David - O Key of David</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Garden Close; Rutherford Place. Those who prepare the intercessions for Sunday worship</p>
<p>21st: O Oriens Readings: Psalm 121; Malachi 1:1, 6-end; 2 Peter 1:1-15.</p> <p>O Oriens - O Dayspring (another title for the Morning Star).</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Norreys Road; Norreys Close. Those who read the Scriptures in Church.</p>	<p>22nd: O Rex Gentium Readings: Psalm 124; Malachi 2:1-16; 2 Peter 1:16 - 2:3.</p> <p>O Rex Gentium - O King of the nations.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Meadow Way; Brunel Road Those who provide refreshments for services and events at Church.</p>	<p>23rd: O Emmanuel Readings: Psalm 130; Malachi 2:17-3:12; 2 Peter 2:4-end.</p> <p>O Emmanuel - O God with us. Ero Cras means 'tomorrow I will come.'</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Portway; Wheatfields. Those who care for the Church linens and furnishings.</p>	<p>24th: Christmas Eve Readings: Psalm 45; Malachi 3:13-end of 4; Revelation 1:1-8.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cromwell Drive; St Ann's Court. Our families and our Church family. Those who are travelling to join family for Christmas.</p>
<p>25th: Christmas Day. Readings: Psalm 110; Isaiah 62:1-5; Matthew 1:18-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St Hilda's Close; St Hugh's Rise. All who work over Christmas, those who will be on their own over this time.</p>	<p>26th: Stephen Readings: Psalm 13; Jeremiah 26:12-15; Acts 6.</p> <p>The first Christian martyr, whose death by stoning was witnessed by St Paul</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Campion Hall Drive; Pebble Drive. Christians in the Middle East</p>	<p>27th: John the Apostle Readings: Psalm 21; Exodus 33:12-end; 1 John 2:1-11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Stonesfield; Mansfield Gardens. Our visiting and retired clergy.</p>	<p>28th: The Holy Innocents Readings: Psalm 36; Genesis 37:13-20; Matthew 18:1-10.</p> <p>The infant boys slaughtered by King Herod in his attempt to kill the Messiah, Jesus.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Linacre Close; Balliol Drive. All those who mourn for a child and those unable to have a family.</p>
<p>29th: Thomas Becket Readings: Psalm 19; Jonah 1; Colossians 1:1-14.</p> <p>Becket struggled with Henry II over secular and church powers, ending with his murder by Henry's followers in Canterbury Cathedral.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Sycamore Way, Willow End. Archbishops Justin and John.</p>	<p>30th: Readings: Ps 111, 112, 113; Jonah 2; Colossians 1:15-23.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Buckingham Close; Balmoral Road. Those struggling with their finances at this time of year.</p>	<p>31st: John Wyclif Readings: Psalm 102; Jonah 3-4 Colossians 1:24-2:7.</p> <p>Wyclif was a 14th Century Church reformer and translator of the Bible - his work forms the backbone of the King James' Version</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Revd Mark Bodeker and his work on the GWP.</p>	

Prayer Intentions: January 2016

<p>1st: Naming of Christ Readings: Psalm 103; Genesis 17:1-13; Romans 2:17-end.</p> <p>At 8 days old, Jesus was presented in the Temple for his dedication to God and naming.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Church Street, East Street. Those who are still waiting for the light of Christ to shine in their lives.</p>	<p>2nd: Ss Basil and Gregory Readings: Psalm 18; Ruth 1; Colossians 2:8-end.</p> <p>Two of the great Church Fathers, bishops and teachers of the faith who were partly responsible for the Nicene Creed.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: High Street, Bourne Street. Those in training for the priesthood.</p>	<p>3rd: Epiphany Readings: Psalm 132; Jeremiah 31:7-14; Matthew 2:1-12.</p> <p>The day we celebrate the revelation of the coming of Jesus Christ to the world.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Northbourne Court, Pease Place. Our Sunday School Leaders and Little Fishes.</p>	<p>4th: Readings: Psalm 71; Ruth 2; Colossians 3:1-11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Ridgeway Road Those returning to work this week.</p>
<p>5th: Readings: Psalm 48; Ruth 3; Colossians 3:12-4:1.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Sinodun Road, Bridge Close The Schools in our parish: St Birinus; Northbourne; Willowcroft and all who work and learn there.</p>	<p>6th: Readings: Psalm 89; Ruth 4:1-17; Colossians 4:2-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Kynaston Road Those who normally attend the Wednesday Fellowship, those who are housebound.</p>	<p>7th: Readings: Psalm 99; Jeremiah 23:1-8; 1 John 3.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Broadway, Vicarage Road Those who read in Church, the Ministry Team.</p>	<p>8th: Readings: Psalm 46; Jeremiah 30:1-17; 1 John 4:7-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St Andrew's Road, St Peter's Road. Our Director of Music and the choir.</p>
<p>9th: Readings: Psalm 148; Jeremiah 30:18-31:9; 1 John 5:1-12.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Wessex Road. Eucharistic Ministers and those receiving Home Communion.</p>	<p>10th: Baptism of Christ Readings: Psalm 89; 1 Samuel 16:1-3, 13; John 1:29-34</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Lower Broadway, Roebuck Court. Those preparing for Baptism and Confirmation at the end of the month.</p>	<p>11th: Readings: Psalm 2; Genesis 1:1-19; 1 Corinthians 1:1-17.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Hagbourne Road Didcot Police Station.</p>	<p>12th: Aelred Readings: Psalm 9; Genesis 1:20-2:3; 1 Corinthians 1:18-end.</p> <p>12th Century Scottish monk, writer and Abbot of Rievaulx in Yorkshire</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Ernest Road, Edmund's Court. An increase in vocations.</p>
<p>13th: Hilary of Poitiers Readings: Psalm 20; Genesis 2:4-end; 1 Corinthians 2.</p> <p>4th Century Bishop of Poitiers, Hilary defended the doctrine of the Holy Trinity</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Fairacres Road, Marlborough Court. Bishop Colin, Archdeacon Judy.</p>	<p>14th: Readings: Psalm 21; Genesis 3; 1 Corinthians 3.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Oatland Road, Samor Way Those who maintain the Church grounds and gardens</p>	<p>15th: Readings: Psalm 67; Genesis 4:1-26; 1 Corinthians 4.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Mereland Road, Laburnum Grove The social committee</p>	<p>16th: Readings: Psalm 33; Genesis 6:1-10; 1 Corinthians 5.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Abbott Road, Abbott Close Revd Mark Bodeker and his work on the GWP</p>

Prayer Intentions: January 2016

<p>17th: Epiphany II Readings: Ps 145; Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 16:11-15.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Richmere Road, The Croft; Alton Abbey, the Sisters at Wantage.</p>	<p>18th: Readings: Psalm 146; Genesis 6:11-7:10 1 Corinthians 6:1-11.</p> <p>18th-25th January is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Please keep Christians around the world in your prayers</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Marsh Cottages, Jubilee Way, Regent Gardens Churches Together in Didcot and District.</p>	<p>19th: Wulfstan Readings: Psalm 132; Genesis 7:11-end; 1 Cor 6:12-end.</p> <p>The only English-born Bishop (of Worcester) after 1066. Responsible for ending the slave from Bristol and died in 1095.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Saxon's Way, Viking Drive. Our PCC</p>	<p>20th: Readings: Psalm 81; Genesis 8:1-14; 1 Corinthians 7:1-24.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Oriell Court, Lincoln Gardens. Those who work with people suffering from dementia</p>
<p>21st: Agnes Readings: Psalm 76; Genesis 8:15-9:7; 1 Corinthians 7:25-end.</p> <p>A child Christian martyred by the Roman Emperor Diocletian in 304 AD</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Beaufort Close, Worcester Drive Our Treasurer and Finance team.</p>	<p>22nd: Vincent of Saragossa Readings: Psalm 27; Genesis 9:8-19; 1 Corinthians 8.</p> <p>Patron saint of Lisbon. Martyred under Diocletian in 304 AD.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Exeter Court, Magdalene Court Didcot Community Hospital</p>	<p>23rd: Readings: Psalm 122; Genesis 11:1-9 1 Corinthians 9:1-14.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Merton Close, Somerville. All those who provide refreshments after services and at events.</p>	<p>24th: Epiphany III Readings: Psalm 113; Deuteronomy 30:1-11; 3 John 1:5-8.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Nuffield Close, Dirac Place Those being Baptised and Confirmed tonight, Bishop Colin.</p>
<p>25th: Conversion of Paul Readings: Psalm 147; Ezekiel 3:22-end; Philippians 3:1-14.</p> <p>Paul experienced a conversion from persecutor of Christians to a follower of Jesus on the road to Damascus.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Fleet Way, Kibble Close; Our ministry team.</p>	<p>26th: Timothy and Titus Readings: Psalm 36; Genesis 13:2-end; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13.</p> <p>Companions of Paul, Timothy and Titus both receive pastoral letters from Paul, included in the Bible.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St John's Close, Ruskin Close The Sacristans and Servers</p>	<p>27th: Readings: Psalm 46; Genesis 14; 1 Cor 10:14– 11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Shannon Road, Severn Road St John's Guild.</p>	<p>28th: Thomas Aquinas Readings: Psalm 47; Genesis 15; 1 Corinthians 11:2-16.</p> <p>Born in 1225 in Italy, Thomas is probably the greatest Theologian of the Mediaeval period.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Kennet Place, Thames Court. Care and Nursing homes in our parish.</p>
<p>29th: Readings: Psalm 65; Genesis 16; 1 Corinthians 11:17-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Medway Grove, Tyne Square Our sides-people and Welcomers.</p>	<p>30th: Charles I Readings: Psalm 68; Genesis 17:1-22; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.</p> <p>As head of the Church, we remember Charles I's martyrdom.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Western Avenue Our Royal Family.</p>	<p>31st: Candlemas Readings: Psalm 48; Exodus 13:1-16; Romans 12:1-5.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Our families. St Peter's outreach to the community.</p>	

Using your gifts

(Continued from page 2)

fund-raiser is. But a lot of work goes into the preparation of the Quiz – from setting the questions, re-organising and putting back all the pews and tables and ordering the Fish and Chip supper. Jackie and Henry do a great job of organising this with the help and support of a regular crew – but it would be good if this was supported by more members of our Church family.

Tasks that need doing are the publicity, organising the prizes (including wooden spoons for the losing team), setting the quiz questions, scoring, compiling the tickets etc. Maurice Meardon runs the bar on the evening but needs help during the peak period when everyone arrives. An unobtrusive clearing up of empties takes place during the quiz itself, as well as at the end, to keep on top of the work.

There is also a charity raffle, organised by St Peter's for a local charity selected by the PCC. This is co-ordinated by Sheila Brown, but needs another person to help out on the evenings when Sheila is question-master.

If you think you can help with any of this, or would like to attend but don't yet belong to a team, please talk to Henry or Jackie Leighton.

Parish Breakfast

As you will have seen in the weekly news-sheet we have a fellowship breakfast on Sunday at around 8.45, which gives a chance for those who attend the 8am and 10 o'clock services to mix and get to know each other better. This is a good opportunity for a chat over a light breakfast of coffee and croissants. Volunteers take it in turns to buy and prepare the breakfast (not difficult as warming a few croissants and boiling a kettle is about the limit of my cooking prowess) and clearing up afterwards. If you are interested in joining us for breakfast, please come along. If you are willing to help out preparing the breakfast, please let one of us know.

Alan Wilson

Sunday post-service refreshments

If you are able to help with setting up, clearing up and serving the teas and coffees after the service on Sunday, please speak to Clare Megson or Revd Hannah.

The Summer Fete

This year I volunteered to help organise the Summer Fete which is one of our biggest fundraisers. I spent a good few years helping organise events for the PTA at our church school Northbourne and really enjoy phoning round, getting donations for the various stalls and working with other people to get things done. Obviously this is not a one person task and I was blessed with many people coming forward and helping as they always do. The Summer Fete is one of the big fund-raising events for the Church and we rely on volunteers to run stalls and welcome our visitors. If you think you might like to help with this or any other of the fundraising activities please speak to one of the social team.

Debbie Wilson

Wednesday Fellowship at St Peter's

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month, except for January and August. The morning starts with coffee and chat at 11am, followed by a Eucharist service at 11.45 to approximately 12.15. A two-course set lunch is served, finishing at about 1.30pm.

Free transport is available to any that need it. The meal and transport must be booked in advance by the Monday evening.

This special lunch would not be possible without our volunteers. We need a minimum of four helpers each time – two in the kitchen and two to serve. Tables need to be arranged and places set and everything cleared away afterwards.

As we prepare for Keith Mintern leaving the parish, we need a volunteer to take on the role of taking in bookings and confirming all arrangements with transport and meal choices. We would also use appreciate any offers of surplus fruit that could be frozen for later use.

Sheila Brown/Keith Mintern

Website

Our current web manager is Keith Mintern, who will be leaving us in June 2016. Anyone with the skill-set needed for a web-master is invited to have a chat with Keith to see what is involved and to talk to the Church Wardens and Revd Hannah if they are interested in taking this further.

As with all things – the more volunteers we have, the less work there is for everyone!

The
CHURCH TIMES

Bloxham Festival of Faith & Literature

A literary festival with a theological slant



'All the World's a Stage'

Friday 19 - Sunday 21 February 2016 | Bloxham School, Oxfordshire

The Bloxham Festival of Faith and Literature returns in February 2016.

Our theme for 2016 is 'All the World's a Stage' and many sessions will explore William Shakespeare's work, life and world-view.

Tickets now on sale

Confirmed speakers and performers





John Pritchard, former Bishop of Oxford | **Salley Vickers**, author of *The Cleaner of Chartres* and *Miss Garnet's Angel* | **Richard Coles**, parish priest and BBC Radio 4 presenter | **Stephen Cottrell**, Bishop of Chelmsford | **Martyn Percy**, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford | **Catherine Fox**, author of *Angels & Men* and *Acts & Omissions* | **Kate Charles**, author of the *Callie Anson* crime novels | **Mark Oakley**, Canon Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral and regular *Church Times* columnist | **Sam Wells**, vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London | **Paul Edmondson**, Head of Research and Knowledge for The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust | **Allan Chapman**, science historian and author of *Slaying the Dragons: Destroying Myths in the History of Science and Faith* | **Stanley Wells**, leading international Shakespeare scholar | **Angela Tilby**, Christ Church Oxford and *Church Times* columnist | **Elizabeth Butler-Sloss**, retired judge | **Ruth Scott**, priest and BBC Radio 2 *Pause for Thought* contributor | **Alison Shell**, Professor at University College London | **Malcolm Guite** the Chaplain of Girton College Cambridge and *The Reduced Shakespeare Company*

TO PURCHASE TICKETS
Visit: www.bloxhamfaithandliterature.co.uk
Call: 0845 017 6965 (lines open Monday-Friday, 9am - 5pm)

Key sponsor



Associate sponsors





Didcot Emergency Food Bank

On behalf of all the clients and volunteers at the DEF I would like to thank you for your harvest donations to be used for the work of the food bank. This year we have continued with the work here in Didcot with no sign of things easing for the vulnerable in our community. In fact, sadly over the last couple of months we have seen a steady increase in the number of individuals and families using our food bank and on average supply in excess of 100 people a month with a hamper of food and toiletries enabling them to survive in difficult circumstances.

One client who after 5 years of struggle and regular support from the food bank came in to say goodbye, she wanted everyone to know how grateful she was for years of support, she said....

"You have been my rock, when the rest of the local authorities have passed me round because no-one knows what to do with me. You have been there to pick me up, feed me and show me that there are kind, loving people who care, thank you."

We are doing Christmas Hampers again this year and will be sending 70 individual and family hampers out into the community, your donation will be a great help in making these possible.

We are the privileged people who can be there directly to help, but without your support and that of others in the community we couldn't do it.....so a huge thank you.

Miriam and the team at Didcot

Subscription and website information

St Peter's offers a few ways in which one can keep up-to-date with events and happenings at the church—the website, the monthly magazine, the weekly news-sheet.

The website—www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk is updated on a weekly basis.

If you would like to subscribe to the monthly magazine or electronically receive the weekly news-sheet, please contact the editor, Margaret Meardon, on 01235 210525 or email maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Didcot & District University of the Third Age

DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot Civil Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining.

Didcot and District U3A will be having a Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 15th December for members only.

On 19th January 2016 the talk is Spare Part Surgery, a humorous look at transplants & implants by Dr Tony Maisey.

It's never too late to expand your horizons.....

The University of the Third Age offers the opportunity to share your knowledge, experience and talents with others and learn from them in friendly surroundings. Why not come along to the next meeting of the Didcot & District U3A and find out what we are all about. A member of our committee will be on hand to make you welcome.

Tel: 07802 237963

Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

Didcot All Saints' & The Ladygrove Church Services

All Saints'

Sunday 8:00 AM	The Holy Eucharist (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language)
10:00 AM	The Parish Eucharist (Except first Sunday of Month)
10:00 AM	Family Service (First Sunday of Month)
6:30 PM	The Holy Eucharist with a hymn and Prayer for Healing (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language, First Sunday of Month)
Tuesday 9:30 AM	The Holy Eucharist (Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language)

The Ladygrove Church

Sunday 9.00 AM	Morning worship
Sunday 10:00 AM	Refreshments for those attending either service.
Sunday 10.30 AM	Morning worship with children's groups (changes each Sunday—see notice sheet)
Last Sunday of the month: 7.00 PM	Evening service

Didcot Emergency Food Bank

On behalf of all the clients and volunteers at the DEF I would like to thank you for your harvest donations to be used for the work of the food bank. This year we have continued with the work here in Didcot with no sign of things easing for the vulnerable in our community. In fact, sadly over the last couple of months we have seen a steady increase in the number of individuals and families using our food bank and on average supply in excess of 100 people a month with a hamper of food and toiletries enabling them to survive in difficult circumstances.

Next issue

Wednesday 27 January 2016 is the next magazine deadline. Please telephone or email the editor with any articles—210525 or maurice.meardon@ntlworld.com

Services

Sundays

8.00AM Book of
Common Prayer Holy
Communion.
10.00AM Parish Sung
Eucharist
6.00PM Evensong
(1st Sunday in month)

Weekday Offices

Morning Prayer:
usually said at 8.30AM
on weekdays (except
Fridays) & Saturday.

Weekday Services

Tuesday 12.00NOON
Little Fishes Eucharist

Thursday 9.30AM
Eucharist

**The Sacrament is
reserved at St Peter's
and is available to any
who wish to receive it
in their home or in the
hospital.**

Year's Mind for January

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Edith Faulkner | 15 Margaret Leach |
| Ethel Milne | Bertie Shelley |
| Henry Smith | Edward Burrows |
| George Page | Gertrude Fisher |
| Dawn Evans | 16 Judith Berry |
| Sheila Fisher | Reginald Burnage |
| 2 Christopher Scrivener | 17 William Johnson |
| George Fowler | Denise Howell |
| Alexander | 18 Rose Hewitt |
| McRae Barr | Albert Yates |
| Stanley Stockwell | Clara Cowling |
| 3 Charles Mitchell | 19 Cecil Wells |
| Thomas Studart | Agnes Bennett |
| Freda Rogerson | Richard Mathews |
| Buddy Ramsawak | Patrick Carey |
| Desmond Oswald | Cecil Collins |
| 4 Maud Fowler | George Roper |
| 5 Vivien Cagill | 20 Jan Palach |
| Clarice Naylon | Phyllis |
| 6 Frederick Archer | Hannaford-Hill |
| 7 Reginald Butler | 21 Allen Clare |
| David Yates | Violet Bennett |
| Ronald Day | Victor Reed |
| 8 Thomas Smith | Ida Youngs |
| Jack Goddard | 22 Vivien Yates |
| 9 Elsie Jeremenko | 23 Elizabeth Gasson |
| Alfred Brookes | 24 Albert Coles |
| William Cavell | 25 William Churchman |
| Eileen Bosley | 26 Lillian Potter |
| Louie Hitchcock | 27 Emily Hall |
| Barbara Mellor | Olive Kerry |
| 10 John McDonald | Barry Clancy |
| James Teague | 28 Johanna Beeman |
| Peter Tayler | Sidney Cox |
| 11 Albert James Taylor | Claud Gayfer |
| 12 Leonard Harris | 29 |
| Jean Tompkins | 30 Mabel Adams |
| Cameron Cheshire | Daisy Henbest |
| Ivy Reed | 31 Marion Matheson |
| 13 Doris Morgan | Marcus McConnell |
| James Turner | Kenneth Mole |
| 14 Albert Waller | Lorna Alner |

Registers

**Funerals 'may they rest in peace and rise in
glory'**

Doris Ray
Helen Reeves
Gladys Bailey

Year's Mind for December

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Beatrice Allen | 17 Charlotte Webb |
| Emmeline Bennett | Desmond James |
| Henry Smith | Mary Burton |
| 2 Eric Newman | Florence Clarke |
| Diana Rosser | 18 Beatrice Terry |
| 3 Walter Evans | Jack Knight |
| 4 Arthur Peall | Leonard Talbot |
| Margaret Blanche Gill | 19 Alfred McNeil |
| 5 Bessie Waterfield | Cecil Carter |
| Alice Thatcher | Ernest Good |
| Evelyn King | 20 Edgar Sills |
| William Langley | Phyllis Whittam |
| Bertha Lambert | 21 Phyllis Creed |
| Phoebe Macken | Edith Dance |
| Nellie Maggs | 22 Gordon Burridge |
| Douglas Hitchman | Lily Burton |
| Lawson Major | Richard Rees |
| Roland Blackford | 23 William Marchant |
| 6 | Doris McCormick |
| 7 Edith Mortlock | 24 Anita Robinson |
| Leonard Hutchings | Cecil Chandler |
| Joan Parrott | James Langley |
| 8 Errol Peterson | Harold Jones |
| 9 Lily Frazer | 25 Marjorie Webb |
| 10 Joyce Gandy | Leonard (Pop) |
| 11 Elsie Vines | Hitchcock |
| Karen Glenfield | 26 Edward Hewetson |
| 12 Violet Wren | Dennis Hillsdon |
| Harold (Jo) Woodley | 27 William Gill |
| Ethel Cook | Olga Joan Shugar |
| 13 Florence Acreman | 28 William Ireson |
| Josephine Tyler | Stephen Mummery |
| Elsie Howarth | Les Williams |
| Sidney Furnell | 29 Kate Skinner |
| 14 Mary Winkworth | Lillian Tappin |
| Percy Davies | Ivy Freeguard |
| Jean Harper | 30 Cyril McGibbon |
| Paddy Avann | 31 Mary Barnes |
| 15 William | Jean Thomas |
| Hannaford-Hill | Alice Freeman |
| Pauline Evans | Queenie Macken |
| Daphne Lashbrook | Dorothy Sharp |
| 16 Eric Henbest | Muriel Hall |
| Dorothy Knight | Mary Boyle |

Church Calendar for January 2016

Friday 1 *Naming and Circumcision*

Sunday 3 Epiphany

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

10.00AM Sunday school.

6.00PM Evensong.

Monday 4

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs

Tuesday 5

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 6

11.45AM Wednesday Church.

Thursday 7

9.30AM Said Mass (MU).

Friday 8

6.45PM Choir practice.

Sunday 10 Baptism of Christ

8.00AM BCP Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

Monday 11

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs

Tuesday 12 *Aelred*

12.00NOON Little Fishes.

2.30PM Prayer Group.

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Thursday 14

9.30AM Said Mass.

Friday 15

6.45PM Choir practice.

Saturday 16

7.30PM Quiz 'n' Chips

(Doors open 7.00PM)

Sunday 17 Second Sunday of Epiphany

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

Monday 18

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs

Tuesday 19 *Wulfstan*

12.00NOON Little Fishes.

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Thursday 21 *Agnes*

9.30AM Healing Mass.

Friday 22

6.45PM Choir practice.

Sunday 24 Third Sunday of Epiphany

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.

6.00PM Confirmation Service

Monday 25

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs

Tuesday 26

12.00NOON Little Fishes.

2.30PM St John's Guild.

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Thursday 28

9.30AM Said Mass.

Friday 29

6.45PM Choir practice.

Sunday 31 Candlemass

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.

8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.

10.00AM Sung Eucharist.



Priest-in-Charge

The Revd. Hannah Reynolds
The Vicarage,
47A Newlands Avenue, Didcot
01235 812114

Email:

priest-in-charge@stpeters-didcot.org.uk

Church Wardens



Hugh Collins-Rice
01235 811465



Derek Smith
01235 811862



Licensed Lay Minister

Mrs Fran Childs
01235 816166

Church Calendar for December 2015

Tuesday 1

12.00NOON Little Fishes
7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 2

10.00AM Wednesday Church.

Thursday 3

9.30AM Said Mass (MU).

Friday 4

6.45PM Choir Practice

Saturday 5

7.30PM Didcot Choral Society concert
(Rehearsal from 1.00PM)

Sunday 6 Second Sunday of Advent

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.
8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist.
10.00AM Sunday school.

Monday 7

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs.

Tuesday 8

12.00NOON Little Fishes.
2.30PM Prayer Group.
7.30PM Didcot Choral Society rehearsal.

Wednesday 9

11.45AM Wednesday Fellowship.

Thursday 10

9.30AM Said Mass.

Friday 11

6.45PM Choir practice.

Sunday 13 Third Sunday of Advent

8.00AM BCP Holy Communion.
8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist & Holy Baptism.

Monday 14

9.30-11.30AM Rhymes and Signs
2.00PM Willowcroft School Christmas Service.

Tuesday 15

12.00NOON Little Fishes.

Wednesday 16

10.00AM Northbourne School Christmas Service.

Thursday 17

9.30AM Healing Mass.

Friday 18

6.45PM Choir practice.

Sunday 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.
8.45AM Parish Breakfast in Church.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist.
10.00AM Sunday school.
5.00PM Nine Lessons and Carols.

Wednesday 23

2.30PM Christingle.

Thursday 24 Christmas Eve

4.00PM Crib Service.
11.30PM Midnight Mass.

Friday 25 Christmas Day

10.00AM Family Mass.

Sunday 27 First Sunday of Christmas

8.00AM Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion.
10.00AM Sung Eucharist.



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01235 812114

Email:

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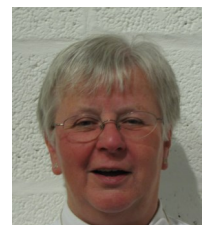
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