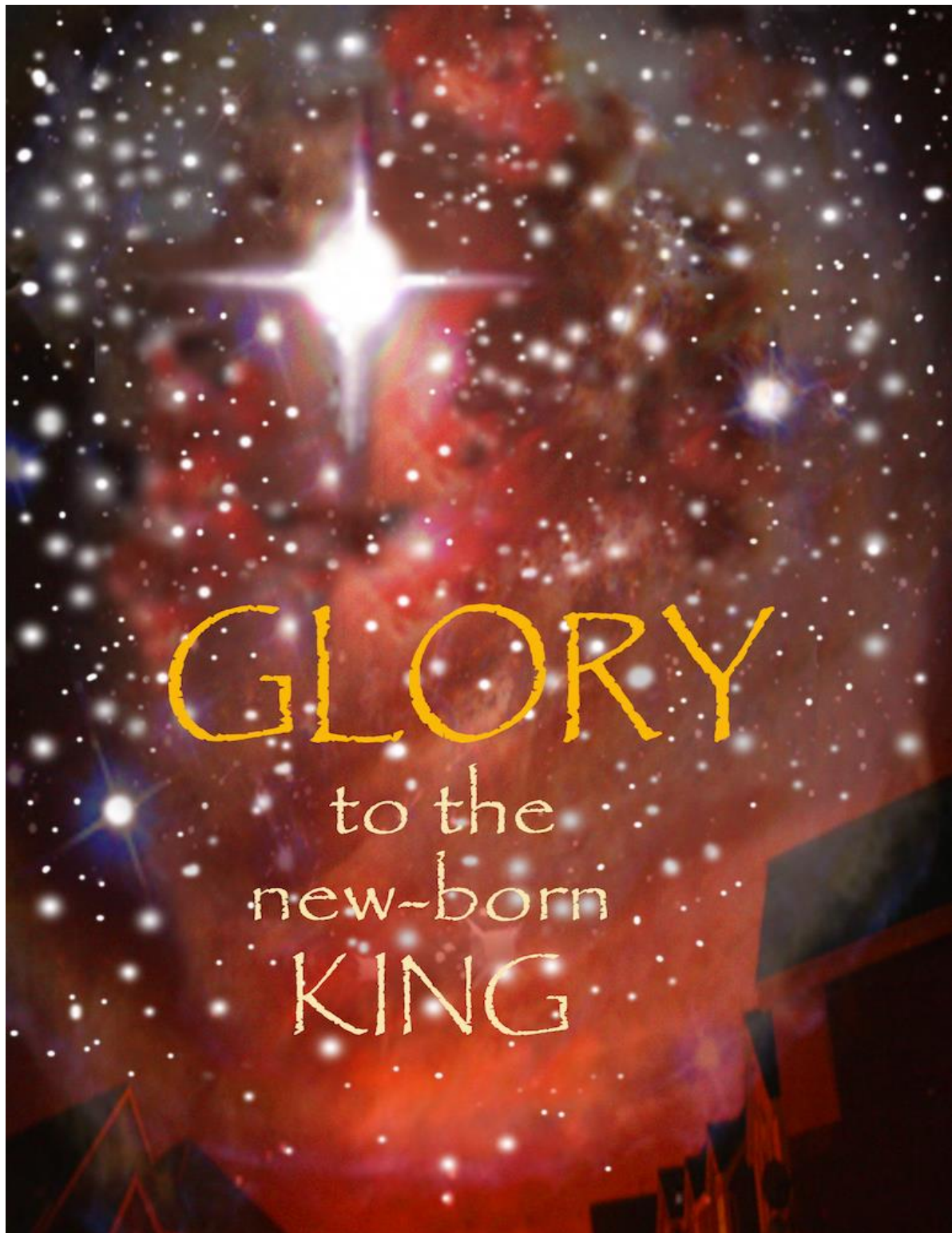


*St John-in-Bedwardine*  
*Parish Magazine*

DECEMBER 2012

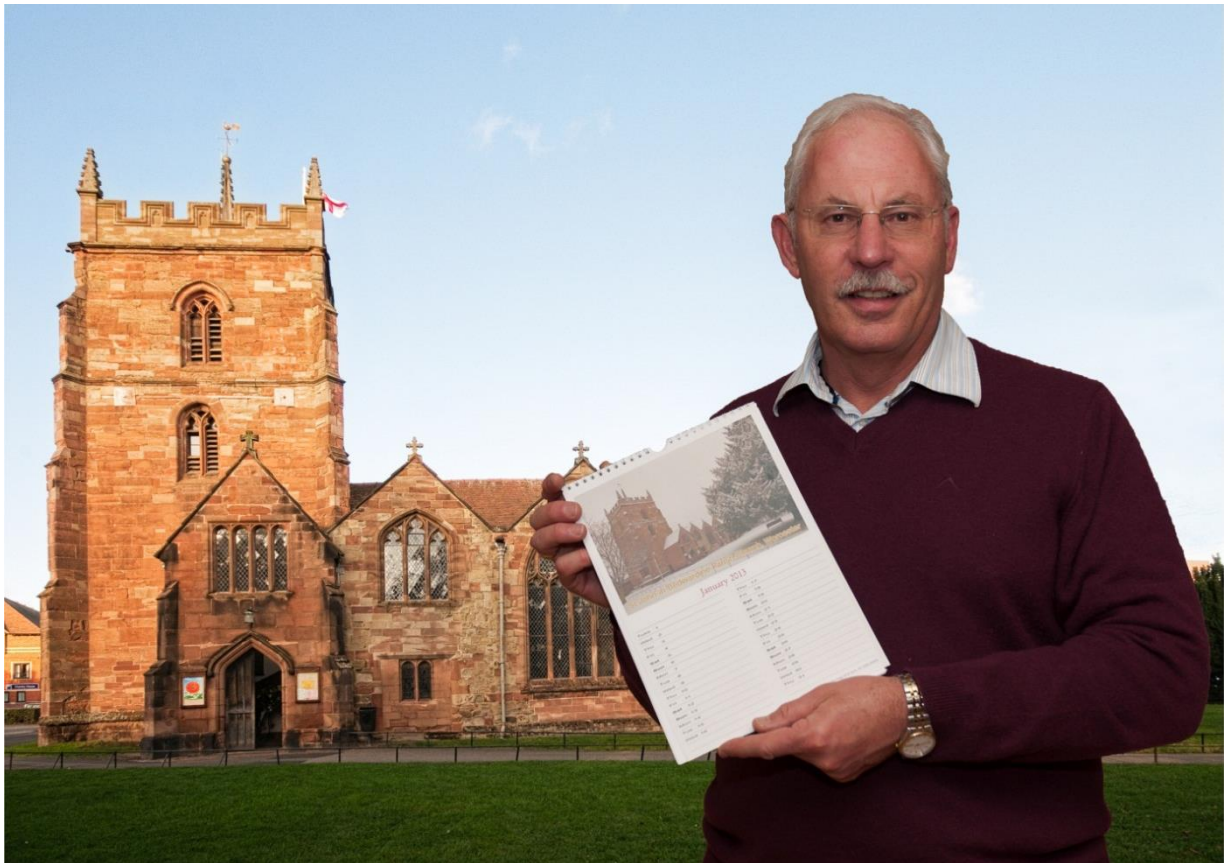


40p





# St John's Church Calendar for 2013



## Confirmation



# St John's Church Calendar for 2013

This year we have produced a beautiful calendar depicting views of St John-in-Bedwardine Parish Church. The excellent photographs were taken by one of our congregation, Colin Nash, and it has been printed locally. The calendars can be seen on the notice boards inside the church.

Copies are available at £6 from Colin Nash (01905 428962), the church office and from Narraway Butchers, 29 St John's.

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## St John's Parish Magazine

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August. The magazine contains items about Parish news, events and other articles.

The magazine costs 40p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £4 per year.

We also have an extensive archive of our historical Parish Magazines stretching back to the 1870s. If you'd like to obtain a particular copy or view a copy from the archive please email [edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)

---

## Confirmation

Opposite is a photo from this year's confirmation service on 13th October in the evening at Suckley. Thanks to Tony Hauxwell for the picture. The candidates pictured are all from St John's: from left to right, Tony Hauxwell, Joe Hayes and Jenny Hauxwell. The others are, of course, myself and Bishop Christopher – I think you can tell which is which!

Tony and Jenny were married here in August and it was through their initial wedding enquiry that, after chatting with them, they decided they'd like to go forward for Confirmation as well. A good example of how occasional offices can build relationships! Joe's family have been members of the congregation for a number of years. It was a really good group, and we had plenty of very thoughtful discussions over a few bottles of red!

Later on this year, Tony and Jenny will be moving to Cumbria, where Jenny will take up a new teaching post.

*Chris Stuart*

<p><i>Cover picture</i> Courtesy of Parish Pump</p>
---

# PASTORAL LETTER FOR DECEMBER

*from the Vicar*

Dear Friends

## **The times are changing!**

Many of you will know that I will shortly have an extra job: I've been appointed as minister at our neighbouring parish of St Clement's with St David's. I will be licensed at a service led by the Bishop of Dudley in January.

## **But what does that mean for us at St John's...?**

The simple answer is that from the end of January we will no longer have a priest to ourselves. I will still be your vicar! But I will be dividing my time equally between St John's, St Clement's and St David's.

As I've said in the past, we've already seen our clergy cover cut in the last few years: we no longer have a curate, a Reader, or any retired ministers particularly focussed on our parish. But we've not only weathered that change, we've actually grown as a church.

## **So be encouraged!**

Let's remember the changes that we've seen in the last three years - changes that have been designed to enable us to flourish under this reorganisation. A couple of examples: firstly, we have four Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) in training, mainly learning how to lead worship. This is in addition to the three ALMs who have already completed their training. Secondly, many of the responsibilities of the vicar with regard to pastoral care, finances and outreach have been shared with committees. These have grown in confidence, and are well-placed to ensure that a cut in clergy doesn't mean a cut in these vital elements of our work.

## **So what's actually going to change?**

We need to be realistic about our expectations of the clergy, so we'll need to accept some changes. Our main Sunday services will have to alter, to make it possible for me to cover St Clement's, St John's and St David's, even with help from our ALMs. We are reflecting on how best to do this, and if you'd like to chip in with ideas/suggestions, please do contact me. In reality, the chances are that we will have to change either the time or the form of our main Sunday 10am service (and, of course, the same is true for the 9.30am service at St Clement's). For example, we might have two 10am communion services per month at St John's, and have ALM-led family services on the other weeks. Or perhaps move to a later time at St John's to allow me to accommodate the earlier service at St Clement's? Again, we might change some 8am services to Mattins. And perhaps more joint services too?

There will need to be other changes too, not least behind the scenes. And in the early stages I'll have to give extra time to St Clement's, to help me to focus on getting to know them, and building the kind of relations that I already enjoy with the folks at St John's.

### **An opportunity to build**

We've seen our congregations grow in the last three years, and by a significant amount. We've got a real sense of momentum to carry us through this change. God is calling us to embrace this, and to see it as an opportunity. I'd value your thoughts on all aspects of the reorganisation, so do please get in touch.

This month we're remembering the birth of Christ. That birth marked a change in the way God dealt with the world, and it was a tremendous risk. But from that change and risk came new possibilities, new hope, a new way of being, and new life. God is leading us forward, and he has given us the resources not only to meet the future, but to embrace it and to flourish through it.

May you have a peaceful, hopeful, joyful Christmas!

With love  
Christopher

---

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AT ST JOHN'S**

We will prepare the Church for the Christmas Festival on Saturday Dec.22<sup>nd</sup> from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We welcome anyone who would like to come and help and enjoy this happy occasion.

We are most grateful for any donations of greenery, holly and variegated greenery for the decoration of the Church.

If you wish to give a donation to help with the cost of Church Flowers in Memory of a loved friend or family members we will add the name(s) to the Memorial List which we place on the table near the Church entrance. Please place the donation in an envelope with the name(s) clearly written of those you wish to be remembered and hand the envelope to the Vicar, the Church Wardens, or myself.

We would like to thank the Church members for their support and encouragement over the last year and wish you all a most blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

*Eileen Cantrill and the Flower Team*

---

I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play, and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

---

## **DATES FOR DECEMBER**

### **Sunday 2nd December: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion with Children's Church
- 5.00 p.m. Advent Carol Service

### **Monday 3rd December**

- 4.15 p.m. Prayer Meeting (Burroughs' Room)

### **Sunday 9th December: 2nd Sunday of Advent**

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion with Children's Church
- 5.00 p.m. Evening Prayer

### **Tuesday 11th December**

- 2 & 6.30 p.m. Pitmaston School Carol Services

### **Wednesday 12th December**

- 7.30 p.m. UCW Carol Service

### **Friday 14th December**

- 6 to 8 p.m. Candlelit Sing-along-a-Santa at St Johns (see page 10)

### **Sunday 16th December: 3rd Sunday of Advent**

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion with Children's Church
- 5.00 p.m. Evensong

### **Tuesday 18th December**

- 2.00 p.m. Live at Home Carol Service

### **Sunday 23rd December: 4th Sunday of Advent**

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion with Children's Church
- 5.00 p.m. Candlelit Christmas Carol Service

### **Monday 24th December: Christmas Eve**

- 5.00 p.m. Christingle and Crib Service
- 11.30 p.m. Midnight Service

### **Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Day**

- 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) (N.B. 8.30 a.m.)
- 10.00 a.m. Family Communion

### **Sunday 30th December: 1st Sunday of Christmas**

- 10.00 a.m. Joint Service at Christ Church, Lower Broadheath
- 8 & 10 a.m. ) **No services at St John's**
- 5.00 p.m. )

## IN MEMORIAM

Alice Moulder	1 December 2009
Bertie Harvey Bosworth	3 December 1970
Albert Harold Southall	3 December 1984
Amanda Louisa Warner	5 December 1969
Arthur Frederick Ching	6 December 1973
Sarah Rose	8 December 1985
Emily Potter	10 December 1984
Vera May Bullock	10 December 1991
William Bishop	10 December 1996
Hubert Mitford Harvey	12 December 1984
Charles Hubert John Lerigo	13 December 1983
William GS Oldershaw	14 December 1971
Thomas Barlow Langford	14 December 1976
Jack Taylor	16 December 1998
Ivy Muriel Rogers	17 December 2001
Fanny Elizabeth Holloway	19 December 1958
Harry Palmer	19 December 2001
John Goodsell	21 December 2004
George Frederick Harrison	23 December 1982
Ivy Hooper	25 December 1984
Derek A Bowen	28 December 2007
Ann Smith	28 December 2010
Gladys Mitchem	30 December 1995
Henry Nelson Russell	31 December 1972

## FROM THE REGISTERS

**BAPTISMS:** *We welcome you into the Lord's family*  
 18<sup>th</sup> November Joseph Edward Davies

**FUNERALS:** *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*  
 d. 4<sup>th</sup> October Vera Watkins  
 d. 8<sup>th</sup> October Leslie Goddard  
                                     Marjorie Share  
 d. 15<sup>th</sup> October Barbara Good  
 d. 28<sup>th</sup> October Noel Norton  
                                     Clare Long  
 d. 29<sup>th</sup> October Kathleen Payne

**COMMUNICANTS FOR OCTOBER (4 Sundays): 274**



## **A BIG THANK YOU**

Thank you very much to all those who provided squares for blankets as part of the Mitzvah Day appeal. I didn't count them, but I'm sure that St John's produced at least 50 or 60 squares. I have just begun the task of sewing the squares into blankets, ably assisted by my class 11 pupils. So far we have assembled one blanket and are well on the way to another. The appeal is an on-going one, so I am happy to keep taking contributions if you would like to keep on knitting. The blankets will be given to the needy, both in Eastern Europe and in Birmingham.

Thank You!

*Sarah Stuart*

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## **CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS**

As Christmas approaches our thoughts will turn to the Christmas Story.

John and I are blest with three grandsons whom we call our three kings. Their names are Jack ( 12 ) Sam ( 9 ) and Casper ( 5 ) .I asked them that if they were one of the three kings what gift would they give to the baby Jesus.

Jack said he would give him the gift of talent. Sam said his gift would be the gift of learning. Casper said that he would give baby Jesus his crib. These three gifts from these young people would give professors at university food for thought. I wonder what gifts we would give to Jesus at this Christmas time.

*Glenis Cole*

---

## **THE 'NOT THE HALLOWEEN PARTY'**

What a super time we had at our alternative Halloween party, the children dressed in bright happy clothes; pinks, reds and blues not the dreary black of witches and ghouls. Vicky and Kevin had decorated the north aisle with bright colourful party streamers all set for a happy time together.

We had apple bobbing at which Chris our vicar appeared to be an expert, small cakes baked by Gail all ready to be decorated with an array of fancy designs and lots of other activities to keep small hands (and larger ones) happy. We played musical chairs and statues at which the children were far better than the adults, there was pin the light on the candle instead of pin the tail on the donkey. No party is complete without food and oh what wonderful food with Vicky's selection of lovely healthy options, Kevin's hot dogs and Abi's chocolate cake all gooey and delicious, certainly enjoyed by all.

A big thank you to Kevin and Vicky's for all the hard work and thought that went into making Halloween a special time to remember.

*Sylvia Render*



## *Junior Church special - Explore the church*



*Some of our children from junior church recently enjoyed an extremely fun and unique opportunity to have a second explore in and around our church.*

*The first explore the church was held earlier this year in April when the children were delighted to climb the bell tower and have a go at bell ringing.*

*This recent tour was again carefully planned and picked by Philip, and what a good job he did - the children were entertained and intrigued getting the opportunity to dress up in the vicar's robes (...shhhh don't tell the vicar!) and getting to grips with some of the tongue twisting names for the different garments.*

*Young and old took the opportunity to ask all sorts of questions and develop a greater understanding about the different parts of the church and its function.*

*Interesting facts and fun acts were shared around the font, the altar, the pulpit and up in the gallery and the children were thrilled to learn all about the Organ (especially HOW LOUD IT IS!!!!!!).*

*The day did of course include a packed lunch pit stop; which gave the opportunity to plan for the next Junior Church special - Explore the church- this will have a special emphasis on 'the Choir' and is hoped will be during the Easter Holidays.*

*Thank you Philip for a great day - we can't wait for the next one!*

*Vicky Reynolds*

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### **FROM THE CAIN FAMILY**

16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2012

To all our dear friends at St Johns,

A very big and warm Thank You to you all for welcoming me back into the heart of the church (after a 9 year spell in New Zealand) and for you sharing with Frank and Wen.

We wish you all God's blessings for the years ahead.

With all our love,

Helen, Frank and Wennie x

*(The actual card received, with contact details, is displayed in church)*

## FUTURE EVENTS

### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December

**10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Gerard Hughes Quiet Day.** Churches Together in Worcester invite you to “Deepening our Spirituality: A Day for Listening, for Speaking, for Praying Silently”, led by Gerard W Hughes SJ, to be held at Droitwich Methodist Church, Worcester Road, WR9 8AN.

ALL WELCOME. This event is free, but donations of £5 invited to cover expenses. Please bring a packed lunch. To book your place, please contact Max Jourdier on [mandcjourdier@gmail.com](mailto:mandcjourdier@gmail.com) or 01886 812259.

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December

**10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Advent Quiet Day.** Holland House invites you to a Quiet Retreat led by The Reverend Ian Spencer, to be held at Holland House, Main Street, Cropthorne, Worcestershire, WR10 3NB.

£10 for the day including refreshments only or for an additional £10 why not pre book a 2 course lunch in our beautiful dining room. For further information, or to book, please contact Lucy Hardwick, Holland House Administration, 01386 860330 or see [www.hollandhouse.org](http://www.hollandhouse.org)

**7.30 p.m. Worcester Cathedral: Maggs Partnership presents TROPICAL ISLAND DISKS** at the Old Palace, Deansway, Worcester. The castaway is The Dean of Worcester, the Very Reverend Peter Atkinson. Tickets are £10 and include a buffet supper. Tickets must be booked by the Sunday before the event, and are available from the Cathedral Shop or David Kemp (01886 482157). These events are held on the second Thursday of each month; the list of castaways for the first part of 2013 will be announced shortly.

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December

**6-8 p.m. Candlelit Sing-along-a-Santa at St Johns.** This is an informal “drop-in drop-out” evening when we’ll be singing lots of Christmas carols. We’ll be serving traditional seasonal refreshments and Father Christmas will visit too to hear people’s wishes and hand-out free presents!

### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Christian Aid Worcester are arranging to do Carol Singing in Worcester City Centre. Details are available from Abigail Penfold, [a.penfold@virgin.net](mailto:a.penfold@virgin.net).

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

**6 p.m. Candlelit Carol Service at St Johns.** This is a very popular service followed by traditional seasonal refreshments.

### Christmas Eve 24th December

**5 p.m. Christingle and Crib Service.** A very popular service particularly for children, which lasts about an hour.

**11.30 p.m. Midnight Service.** Traditionally called the “Midnight Mass”, this service is a Eucharist service celebrating Holy Communion, where everyone is welcome to share bread & wine or receive a blessing. It will be a candlelit service and incense will be used at this service. It lasts about 1 hour.

### Christmas Day 25th December

**8.30 a.m. Holy Communion.** A short traditional service.

**10 a.m. All-Age Christmas Communion.** A celebration service for all the family, which lasts about an hour.

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## **NEWS FROM THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM**

St John's pastoral care team was formed on February 17th 2011. Sylvia Render and Catherine Templeton lead jointly with a caring group of people. There are also people who do not wish to be part of a group but nevertheless do pastoral care within the church. We are aware of these people and are in regular contact with them.

Our aim is to let you know that when you are absent someone has missed you and cares about you. We are all aware of the need to care for each other as a church family, and while we make every effort to keep in touch, we have to rely on you to let us know when the person who usually sits by you is missing. We have people who are willing to visit regularly if that is what is needed. So please just let us know if you are aware of anyone we should contact, or if you would like a visit yourself.

There is a prayer list on the notice board in church for people to add names of those they would like to be prayed for. This is changed each month with every name given a blessing before the list is destroyed.

We also have a team who give lifts to church services for people who would otherwise be unable to attend. If anyone feels they could join this team, or if you need a lift, please contact Sylvia or Catherine.

There is a pastoral care leaflet to remind people that we are there for them. These are available at the back of the church.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sylvia            01905 422654

Catherine       01905 749025

## REFLECTIONS ON THE HOLY LAND

Since his ordination, Chris has taken several groups on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. This autumn, he finally got the chance to take me on a holiday and introduce me to my first experience of Israel.

We based ourselves in Jerusalem for a week, but travelled around throughout Israel and the Occupied Territories, hoping to get off the beaten track. This made for a varied trip, with experiences ranging from visiting the Israel Museum to almost driving off a sheer precipice somewhere at the back end of Bethlehem!

My reaction to the key sites in Jerusalem was a mixed one. Clearly, the Western Wall was a must on our itinerary. The joyous atmosphere during the Bar Mitzvah ceremonies was without doubt infectious and it was wonderful simply to be surrounded by so many fellow Jews. However, I was reminded that we visited just one week after women had been arrested for reading from the scrolls and wearing prayer shawls at the wall. Women are not permitted to do either of these things at the wall, but one group, Women of the Wall, meets once a month in defiance of this, regularly risking arrest. Had we been there one week earlier, I would most certainly have joined them.

I found the experience of visiting the religious sites rather overwhelming and somewhat depressing. This came over particularly strongly in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where it was a struggle to move through the crowds of pilgrims, jostling to see the supposed spot where Jesus died. I found it difficult to understand why Churches had been built on almost every holy site, so that it was impossible to imagine what might have happened there.

We spent two days in the Occupied Territories, visiting both an elderly care home and an arts project for those with learning disabilities in Bethlehem, and meeting a range of locals in Hebron. For me, the trip to Hebron in particular was reminiscent of my childhood in Northern Ireland. The flags, soldiers and watchtowers all seemed pretty normal to me, but the segregation went far beyond anything I had experienced before. Palestinian shops stood permanently shuttered simply because Palestinians were barred from entering those particular streets. A barrier divided the street in two to ensure that access to the Tomb of the Patriarchs remained segregated for both Jews and Muslims. We visited a Women's Embroidery Co-operative and a family whose house had been demolished by the Israeli Army. Given that Chris' contacts in the Holy Land are mainly Palestinian Christians, our experience of Hebron and Bethlehem was understandably very one sided. There are many areas in Hebron which are closed off to Jews. However, the hardship and poverty we witnessed was very striking and in stark contrast to the Israeli settlement we passed through on our way.

What struck us most, in both Israel and the Occupied Territories, was the hospitality and friendliness of the people. In Bethlehem in particular, our map proved woefully inadequate, but everyone we met was more than willing to help us out, often going out of their way to do so. Again this was a parallel for me, having been brought up in a part of the world renowned simultaneously for its friendliness and its violence.

At the end of my first week in Israel, I felt that I would definitely love to go back again, perhaps avoiding the religious intensity of Jerusalem in favour of the more secular Israel of Tel Aviv. The relationship between people, place, religion and holiness is a complex one. What impressed me most were the people we met, from those celebrating at the wall to those struggling to make a living from their market stalls. The attraction and the tragedy of Israel is that the joys and sorrows of both these groups are inextricably linked to the concept of land and place. I could not experience the joy of the Western Wall if others did not prize it as a holy and precious site or if they were not prepared to fight for it. The same is true for almost all the key religious sites, and perhaps the most vital lesson for us as tourists is to recognise our complicity in that on- going struggle to capture holiness in one place.

*Sarah Stuart*

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## **ROOM HIRING AT THE CHURCH**

The church has two meeting rooms and a large space in the church available for hire. All rooms have access to the church car park.

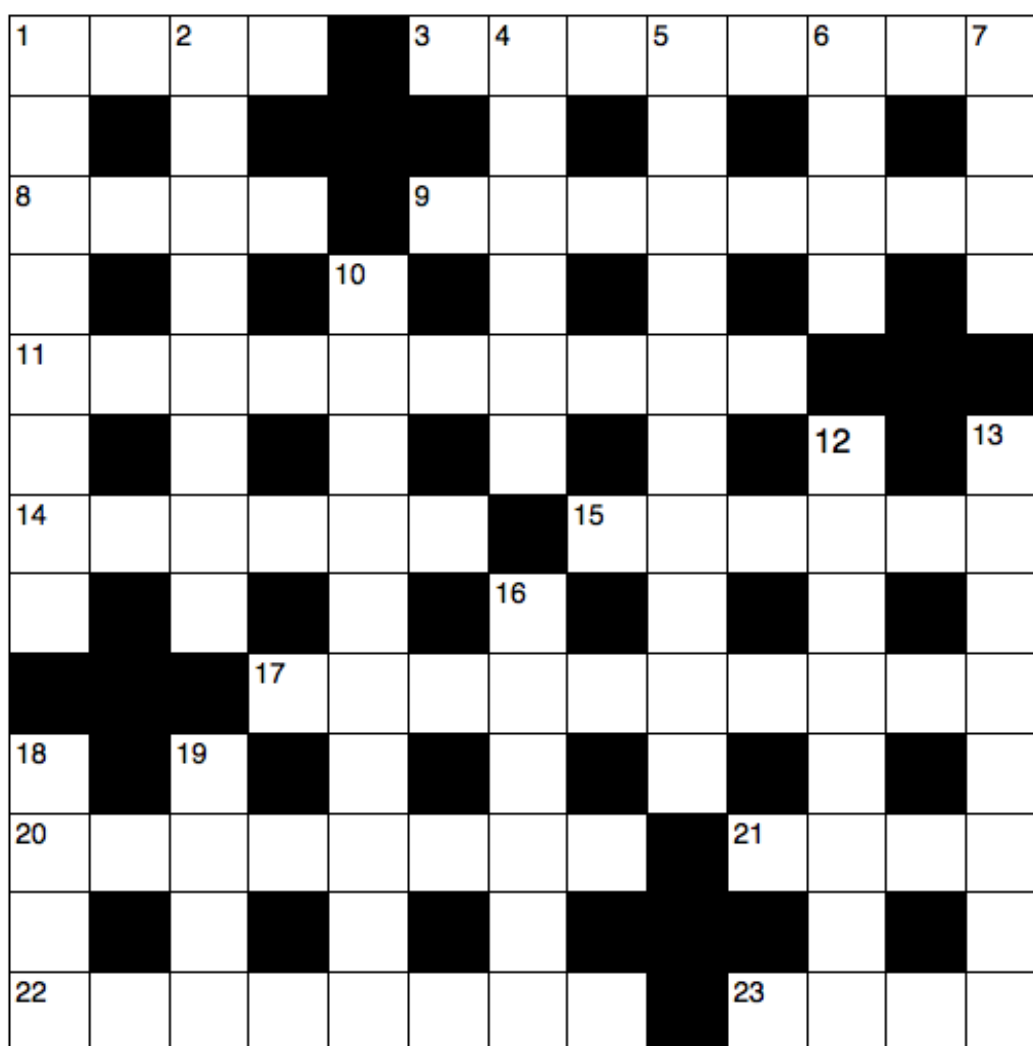
Blakefield Room	Suitable for up to 30 people. Fully fitted kitchen, including dishwasher. Toilets, including one disabled toilet and a baby-changing facility. Tables and/or chairs are provided.
Burroughs' Room	Suitable for up to 12 people. Drink making facilities and toilet. Television with VCR provided.
The North Aisle	Suitable for 120 people seated theatre style or up to 48-64 seated around tables. Tables and/or chairs are provided. It is a large open area with plenty of electric sockets. It has been used to host exhibitions, meals and conferences.

The Church is fully equipped with a 'loop' sound system to enable those with a hearing aid to hear everything picked up by the microphones. All access to the church is level and therefore suitable for wheelchairs. A toilet for the disabled is available.

For more information, please email [hire@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:hire@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)



## DECEMBER CROSSWORD



### Across

- 1 'The blind receive sight, the — walk' (Luke 7:22) (4)
- 3 Got (Philippians 3:12) (8)
- 8 Leave out (Jeremiah 26:2) (4)
- 9 Castigated for using dishonest scales (Hosea 12:7) (8)
- 11 Weighty (1 John 5:3) (10)
- 14 'Now the serpent was more — than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made' (Genesis 3:1) (6)
- 15 'Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot — God' (Romans 8:8) (6)
- 17 Because Israel lacked one of these, tools had to be sharpened by the Philistines (1 Samuel 13:19) (10)
- 20 In his vision of the two eagles and the vine, this is how Ezekiel described the latter (Ezekiel 17:8) (8)
- 21 Rite (anag.) (4)
- 22 Nine gigs (anag.) (8)
- 23 'The eye cannot say to the — , "I don't need you"' (1 Corinthians 12:21) (4)

## Down

- 1 'Flee for your lives! Don't — — , and don't stop anywhere in the plain!' (Genesis 19:17) (4,4)
- 2 Principal thoroughfare (Numbers 20:19) (4,4)
- 4 'The tax collector... beat his — and said, "God have mercy on me, a sinner"' (Luke 18:13) (6)
- 5 'The zeal of the Lord Almighty will — this' (2 Kings 19:31) (10)
- 6 'The day of the Lord is — for all nations' (Obadiah 15) (4)
- 7 Specified day (Acts 21:26) (4)
- 10 Deadly epidemic (Deuteronomy 32:24) (10)
- 12 Roman Catholic church which has special ceremonial rights (8)
- 13 Tied up (2 Kings 7:10) (8)
- 16 In his speech to the Sanhedrin, Stephen described Moses as 'powerful in speech and — ' (Acts 7:22) (6)
- 18 'Although he did not remove the high places, — heart was fully committed to the Lord all his life' (1 Kings 15:14) (4)
- 19 Tribe (Deuteronomy 29:18) (4)

**The solution to the December crossword is on page 32.**

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## FROM THE PARISH MAGAZINE ARCHIVES

An event from December 1949 reported in the January 1950 magazine:

### CAROL PARTY

AGAIN this year we formed a Carol Party who toured the Bransford, Bromyard and Malvern Road districts on the three evenings before Christmas Day. The Carol Party appeared to be enjoyed thoroughly by both the singers and the listeners! We took a small portable harmonium round the streets with us which helped us considerably as well as causing amusement to a number of people. In this connection we are very grateful to the Mecco for allowing us the use of one of their small trucks on which to haul our "accompaniment".

On behalf of everyone I would like to say thank you very much indeed to Mrs. Urry for her splendid hospitality—she invited us all in to coffee and hot mince pies which were most acceptable and thoroughly enjoyed. This is a kindness we shall long remember.

## CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

*Messiah*

*Broken*

*Heart*

*Freedom*

*Darkness*

*Favour*

*Prisoners*

*Comfort*

*Mourn*

*Bestow*

*Crown*

*Beauty*

*Ashes*

*Son*

*God*

*Jesus*

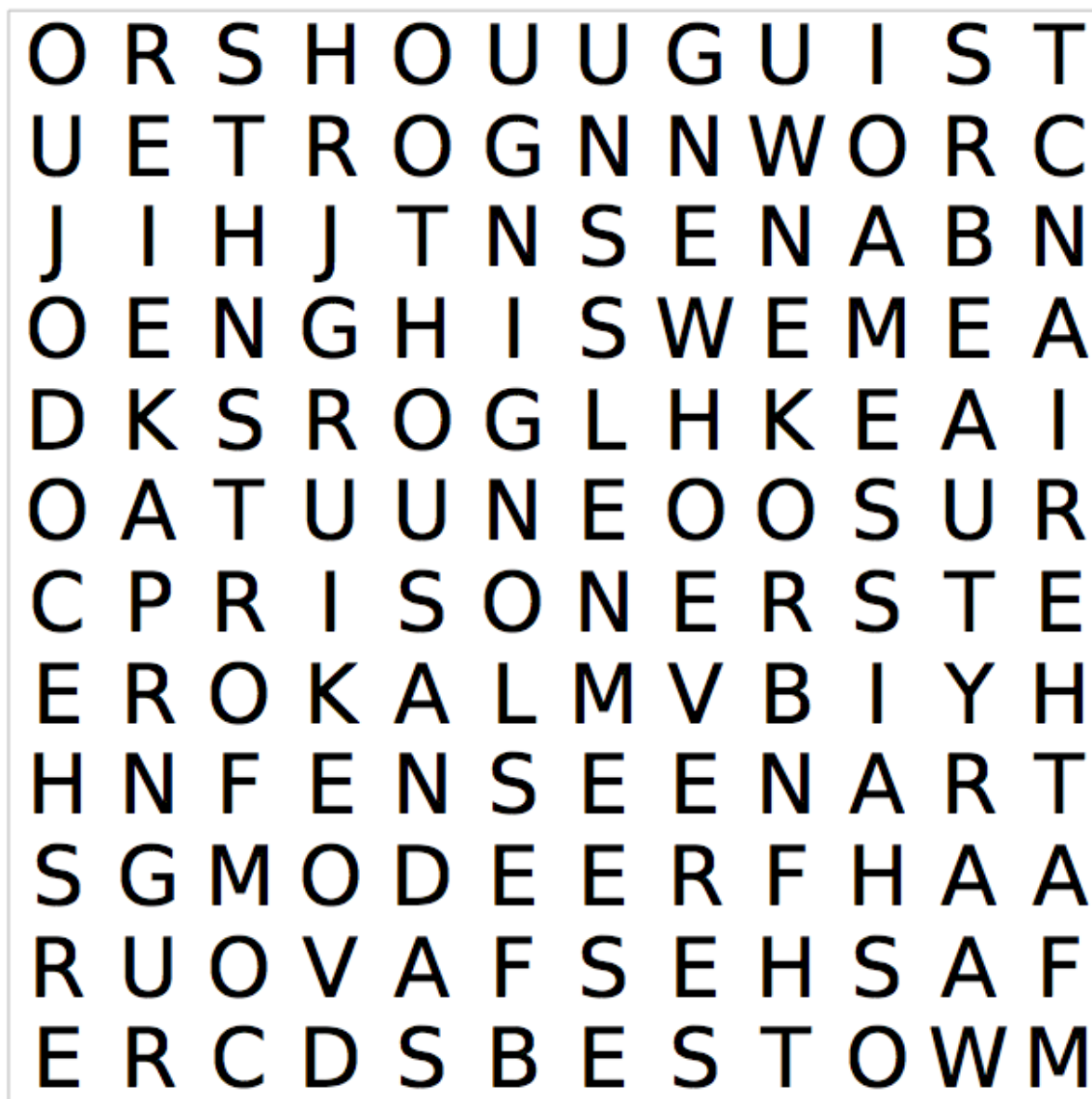
*Seen*

*Father*

*Whoever*

*longing*

*thousand*



### A QUESTION FROM THE EDITORS

What puzzles do you enjoy doing in the Parish Magazine? We have a ready source for the Crossword (as currently included every month) and some other puzzles (e.g. Sudoku and Wordsearch). What puzzles do you want to see? Will there be a riot if we don't include the crossword every month? Please tell us, in person when you see us at church, or by email to [magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk). We value your comments, but if we don't get any input we'll assume we can do what we like!

*Sue and Graham Evans*

## THE MAGAZINE

Articles on all aspects of Christian and parish life, letters, jokes, cartoons, puzzles and anecdotes from anyone are welcome for inclusion in the Magazine. Do contribute if you can. If you have a story to tell, please make contact; the more we learn about one another the better our understanding will be. What you think is important, but please add your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered.

Copy should reach us by Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012 for the January 2013 edition. If you can, please use e-mail: [magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)

Additions to In Memoriam are not automatic following a funeral but must be specifically requested via the clergy.

If you would wish to advertise in the Magazine please contact Sue Hussell on 01684 893397 in the first instance.

Sue & Graham Evans, Joint Editors



# R.A.Barley

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## **How can we help?**



### ❖ Handyperson Scheme

- Minor jobs: e.g. changing a light bulb, fitting shelves or minor plumbing.
- Labour: £5 per half-hour (*Free for those in receipt of Pension Credit*)



### ❖ Local Traders Directory

- A directory of local trades people recommended to us by older people for doing a good job at a fair price.



### ❖ Wellcheck

- A personal assessment & information signposting service for people over 50 who are starting to encounter difficulties.
- We help you remain independent for as long as possible.

### ❖ Social clubs & luncheon clubs

### ❖ Telephone Befriending



- A weekly telephone call to lonely and isolated older people.
- If you or someone you know would benefit from this, please let us know.

## **Want some information or advice?**

❖ Information & Advice Service

❖ Legal Advice Surgery

❖ Independent Financial Advice Surgery

If you are interested in any of our services, please give us a call and state the service you're enquiring about or pay us a visit:

**01905 724294 ❖ 9a/10 Mealcheapen Street**

*AgeUK is the new name for Age Concern and Help the Aged.*





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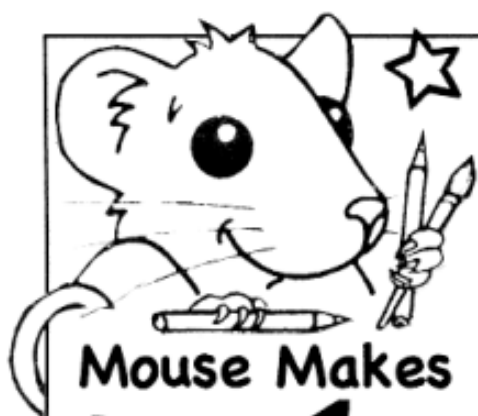
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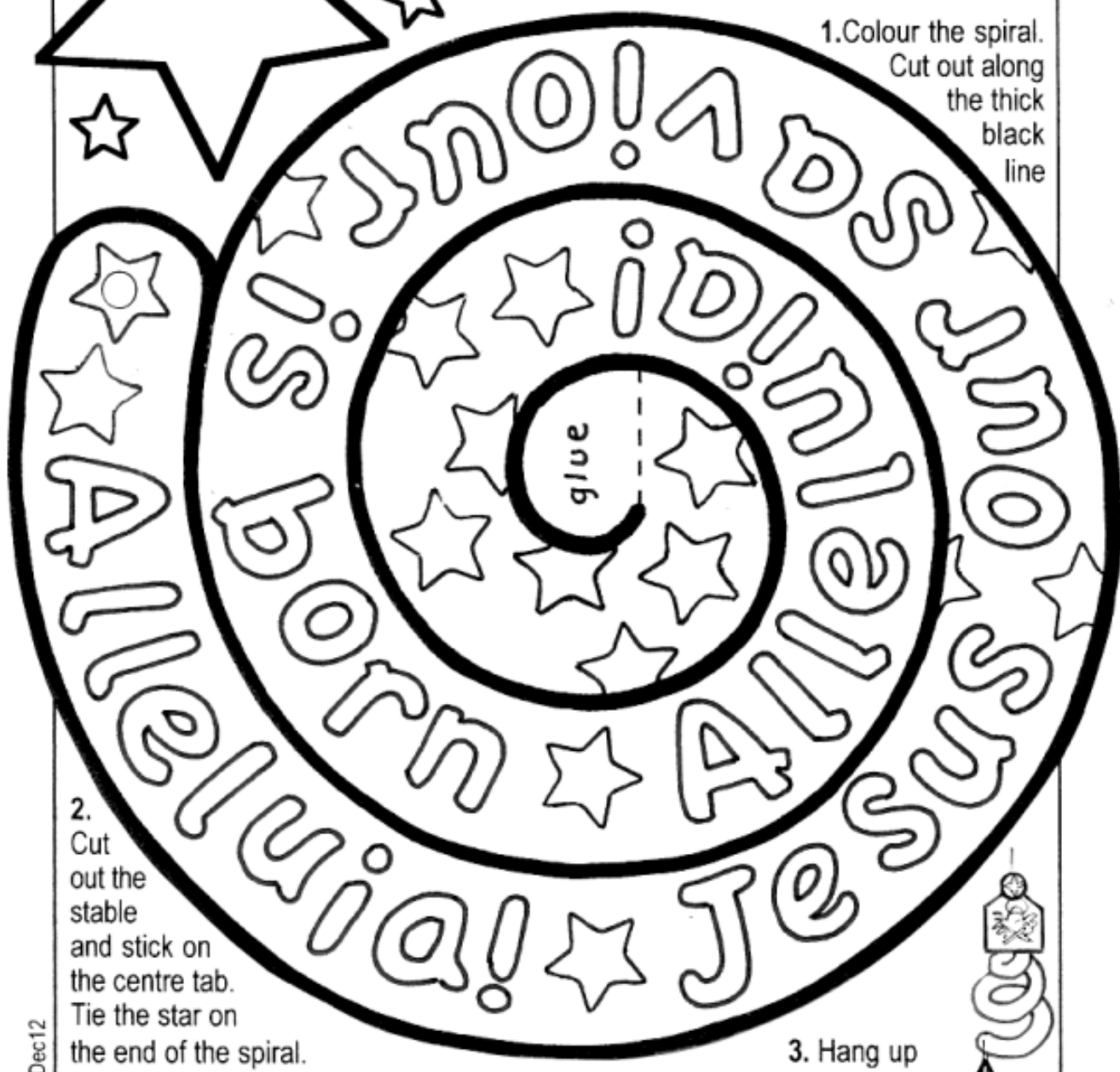


"I bring you **good news** that will cause **great joy** for *all* the people. Today in the town of David a **Saviour** has been born to you; he is the **Messiah**, the Lord"

**Read:**  
Luke 1-20



1. Colour the spiral.  
Cut out along the thick black line



2. Cut out the stable and stick on the centre tab. Tie the star on the end of the spiral.

3. Hang up

Dec12

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## CHRISTMAS LIVE

Sometimes when people tell you a story it doesn't really mean as much as it would if you could see it for yourself. St Francis of Assisi had often preached about that very first Christmas in Bethlehem with the animals round the manger and the baby lying on a bed of straw. But he wanted the story to come alive for his congregation. In the year 1223 he had a brilliant idea and planned a very special surprise for Christmas Eve.

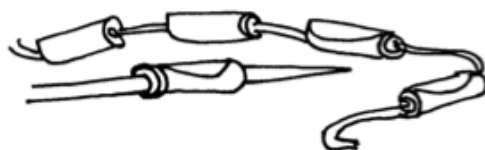
Instead of the sermon in church, Francis led the people to a cave. There, to their amazement, was a manger set out with a doll in it, and all around were real animals who watched while Francis told the old story with a new meaning because people could now see it for themselves. The idea grew each year, soon they used a real baby in the crib (an orphan with no home because someone would then willingly take in the 'Christ-baby'). And still today, churches and homes everywhere put up their cribs and wonder anew at the story of God come down to earth, a child like us.

## CHRISTMAS BEADS

A nice present to make for someone you love. Cut strips of paper out of Christmas wrapping paper. Each strip 6" (15 cm) long and 3/4" (2 cm) at the widest part. Cut these strips into long triangle shapes so that the tip of the paper is narrower than the base.

Put widest end of the paper strip onto a knitting needle or pencil and begin to wrap it round itself. When you get close to the end, add a very small dab of glue and press it down. Slide the bead off the knitting needle. Repeat. Let the beads dry. Thread the beads onto string or yarn and then tie to make a necklace. You can also make longer lengths into garlands to decorate the Christmas tree.

Use plain colours or the shiny pages of magazines to make beads for all year round.



**What did the snowman and his wife hang over their baby's crib?**  
A snow mobile.

**What is claustrophobia?**  
Fear of Santa.

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				B	L	A	C	K	S	M	I	T
A		C		E		T		H		L		E
S	P	L	E	N	D	I	D		T	I	E	R
A		A		C		O				C		E
S	I	N	G	E	I	N	G			H	A	N

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

## WHO'S WHO – CHURCH OFFICERS

*e-mail addresses will be given only if requested by the owner*

<b>Churchwardens</b>	Margaret Morris	426153
	Gordon Templeton	749025
	<a href="mailto:gordtemp@btinternet.com">gordtemp@btinternet.com</a>	
<b>Verger</b>	Catherine Templeton	749025
<b>PCC Chairman</b>	Sue Bale	423257
<b>Secretary</b>	Graham Evans	428667
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jane Askew	424811
<b>Stewardship envelopes</b>	Irene Allen	422684
<b>Estates Manager</b>	Brian Askew	424811
	<a href="mailto:brian.askew@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk">brian.askew@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk</a>	
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Judy Prangnell	424090
	<a href="mailto:judy.prangnell@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk">judy.prangnell@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk</a>	
<b>Education &amp; Heritage Officer</b>	Philip Evans	428667
	<a href="mailto:edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk">edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk</a>	
<b>Child Protection Officer</b>	Jane Askew	424811
<b>Pastoral Care Coordinator</b>	Sylvia Render	422654
	<a href="mailto:sylviarender@talktalk.net">sylviarender@talktalk.net</a>	
<b>Press Officer</b>	Philip Evans	
	<a href="mailto:pressofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk">pressofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk</a>	
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>	John Brierley	358474
<b>Music Group</b>	Peter Yates	422565
	<a href="mailto:pjyates194@btinternet.com">pjyates194@btinternet.com</a>	
<b>Ringling Master</b>	Nicki Sysum	
<b>Church Flowers</b>	Eileen Cantrill	422579
	Di White	
<b>Church Cleaner</b>	Guy Monk	
<b>Magazine Editors</b>	Sue & Graham Evans	428667
	<a href="mailto:magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk">magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk</a>	
<b>Magazine Distributor &amp; Treasurer</b>	Philip Evans	428667
	<a href="mailto:pjevans@physics.org">pjevas@physics.org</a>	

## **ST JOHN'S CLERGY**

Vicar                                      Rev'd Christopher Stuart                                      01905 429773  
143 Malvern Road, WR2 4LN  
e-mail: vicar@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk

## **OTHER WEST WORCESTER GROUP CLERGY**

Rural Dean                                      Rev'd David Sherwin                                      01886 888664  
e-mail: Davidwin56@aol.com

Rector of St Clement with Christ Church, Lower Broadheath                                      Vacant

Vicar of St Michael, Dines Green with Crown East & Rushwick                                      Rev'd Robin Charles                                      01905 749995  
e-mail: fr.robin@talktalk.net

## **SUNDAY SERVICES**

Every week	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.00 a.m.	Parish Communion (including Children's Church during the school term)
1st & 3rd Sundays in Month	5.00 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)
Last Sunday in Month	5.00 p.m.	Healing Service
Other Sundays	5.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer (said)

## **WEEKDAY SERVICES**

Usually each day except Monday	5.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
Thursday (at St Clement's)	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion

## **PARISH OFFICE**

Found where the Old Vicarage joins onto the church building.      1a Bromyard Road  
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# Caption Competition



Your challenge is to come up with an amusing, printable caption for this picture. Please submit your entry by email to [magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk) no later than 31st December 2012. The entry selected by the editors (whose decision is final!) will receive the kudos of being declared the winner.

# Church website updated



*St. John-in-Bedwardine Parish Church*



- ▶ Home
- ▶ About Us
- ▶ Groups
- ▶ Support us
- ▶ Worship
- ▶ Events



## Welcome to our new website

Welcome to our new website. We hope you like it.

### Forthcoming Event:



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Saturday 9th March 2013



St. John's received a grant of £50,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the Tower Appeal.

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