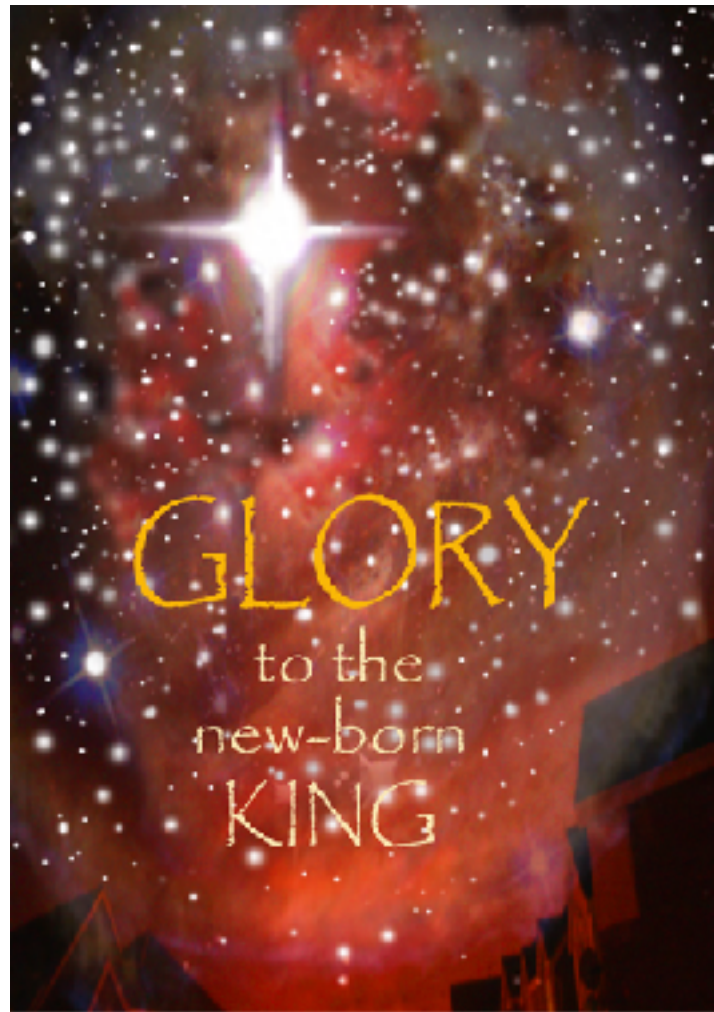


# KEYNOTES



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Tel : 01273 270427  
Email: rector.westblatchington@gmail.com

*Thursday is ordinarily the Rector's rest day; however please do not hesitate to contact him in the event of a pastoral emergency. Please refer all other urgent matters to the Churchwardens.*

**CURATE**             **Jan Butter**             **Tel: 07889 400889**  
Email: westblatchingtoncurate@outlook.com

**CHURCHWARDENS** **Jonathan Cooke**     **Tel: 563178**  
  **David Keeling**       **Tel: 501504**

**HON. TREASURER**   **Mandy Gander**             **Tel: 271982**

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**PASTORAL CARE**

**Sick Visiting**             **Carol Gander**             **Tel: 555414**

**KEYNOTES EDITORIAL TEAM**

**Jane Cummings**             **Tel: 880274**  
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**Fran Breeze**                **Tel: 421115**

*E-mail: [stpetersadmin@zoho.com](mailto:stpetersadmin@zoho.com)*  
*Church website : [www.stpeterswestblatchington.org.uk](http://www.stpeterswestblatchington.org.uk)*

## PARISH EVENTS DIARY

The following events taking place in December and January as notified are:

**Saturday 3rd December - Christmas Fair - 11.30am to 2.30pm**

**Friday 20th January - Free lunchtime concert - 1.10pm**  
**Margaret Watson - Harp**

**Saturday 28th January - 7.30pm - Online Quiz**

Please continue to keep me informed of events that you have planned or know about by sending a message to our email address which is [stpetersadmin@zoho.com](mailto:stpetersadmin@zoho.com)

The deadline for the February 2023 issue is  
12th January



Luke 2:14

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to our December and January Edition of Keynotes.

It has been a difficult year for many and we are looking forward to a time of celebration: our Christmas services and Christmas Fair which is always popular, we encourage you to come along and join us. On Christmas Eve we have the Christingle service at 4pm, a wonderful worship which often ends with children eating the sweets! Midnight Mass and the Christmas Day services will no doubt be well attended.

We would like to thank you for your support during the past year and we look forward to this continuing in the future. A big 'thank you' to all those who advertise in Keynotes which is important for our viability. We are looking to recruit new members to our Editorial Committee so please do let Michael Evans or Mandy Gander know if you think you may be interested in contributing in any way, perhaps writing or proof reading, researching.

Renewal time for Keynotes subscriptions is upon us and we thank you for your support. However, it is disappointing to see that ten years ago there were nearly 100 subscribers and in the current year we have under 70. Keynotes is the means of keeping you informed of what is going on in our parish and the church at large. It is a way in which we can build the church family. We need to have as many of you as possible subscribing and reading it. The cost is held at £1 per issue or £8 for the ten issues for the year. We are grateful for those of you who pay by standing order but those who do not wish to – we will be chasing you in the coming weeks!

A list of our planned events for next year appear at the back of Keynotes. Please put the dates in your diary now so you don't miss out!

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Editorial Committee

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## **The Chosen Rectors Ramblings**

The Chosen is an online historical drama series about the life and calling of Jesus' first disciples. It has been making quite an impact since its premiere in 2019. Now in its third season, it bases itself on the biblical narratives of the life of Christ, while adding some creative inspiration to imagine what life was like for his followers. The Chosen is similar in concept to Jewish Midrash, a type of storytelling, which has at its heart the idea of imagining stories which exist between actual biblical stories.

This use of poetic licence is not to replace or detract from what's in the Bible, but to better imagine what it was like to be there. The authors of the Chosen do not intend to replace the Bible, quite the opposite, it should spur on our own reading of the scriptures.

It is clear to see that a lot of the Chosen's success comes from a new generation that may be sceptical of what they read in books, but are deeply moved by a high-quality box-set series. For some people, this may be the first way of discovering what following Jesus is all about, for others it might rekindle something that has laid dormant for years and for others still we might want to use it to share our own faith in the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I echo the creators' hopes for this series that this might be used by God to help people to see how they too can be chosen to come and follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth and the life.

Blessings.  
Rev Tim (Rector)

To start watching the chosen visit: [www.angel.com/watch/the-chosen](http://www.angel.com/watch/the-chosen)

*Then why not let us know what you think of it.*

## WOMEN'S SOCIAL

On the 13<sup>th</sup> October 10 of us enjoyed a visit to Ditchling Butterfly Farm. It is situated on Folders Lane East, to the north of Ditchling. For an entrance fee of £6 we walked around a large greenhouse which was full of beautiful butterflies. We had to be careful where we walked as some of them were very close to the ground! Several of them landed and settled on us as we strolled around and we had to make sure that we didn't inadvertently take any outside with us. I thoroughly recommend it as a place to visit with children.

We then drove to Notcutts Garden Centre for lunch. We were delighted that Jean and Margaret joined us at this stage. It was especially poignant as Margaret sadly died just a few days later.

Although they were short staffed due to illness, we were very well looked after and had a lovely hour or so there.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> October we enjoyed coffee at Alexandra House where, Mary and Suzanne stepped in to host as Pam, having so recently lost David, was advised to take it easy. Thank you, Suzanne and Mary, for delicious refreshments.

Carol celebrates her birthday on the 18<sup>th</sup> December – congratulations!

We send our condolences to Jean, Pam and their families.



Maggie Keeling

## **ST PETER'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL – REPORT OF RECENT MEETING**

The PCC meets every two months and comprises representatives of the parish who are elected at the Annual Parish Church Meeting at Easter time.

The PCC last met on 20<sup>th</sup> September and the following matters of general interest were discussed:

- The newly-constituted St Peter's Men's Social Group was scheduled to meet on 29<sup>th</sup> September at the Nevill pub. That meeting indeed took place as planned, and was well-attended, by some 20 men of the parish. All men, whether active members of the congregation or not, are encouraged to join.
- An Alpha Course is likely to be run in the New Year. Basically this is an introduction to the Christian faith to which all are welcome and will include a meal and a social element.
- A prayer chain is being considered, whereby anyone who needs praying for can be included in a circular for all to see so that they can be prayed for on a regular basis.
- An application is being made to the Diocese for a faculty (official permission) to install a new audio-visual system in the church building. This will include screens fixed to the chancel walls, to take the place of the temporary screen that is currently being used, and an upgrade in the quality of the sound system. We have already received various quotes for this and have chosen the one we wish to accept, subject to receiving the faculty. Internet is also to be installed in the church, both to facilitate the live-streaming of services, thus removing the need to record separately the on-line weekly services, and to make it easier for people to make financial contributions to the church by credit or debit card.
- It was reported that Sunday School numbers are growing and that a point is coming when it will be divided into two groups, one for older and one for younger children.
- We are still trying to recruit people to take on paid roles as organist/director of music and as a children's and youth worker. We are also hoping to recruit someone soon as a vergier.



The next meeting of the PCC will have taken place on the 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Jonathan Cooke



"The vicar's still miffed that one of the parents got £250 from You've Been Framed for their video of last year's nativity play."

## Our charity for December is The Martlets



Martlets is a charity that cares for people living through a terminal illness in and around Brighton & Hove

The hospice plays a vital role in helping people to live life as fully as they can, right up until the end. Through expert clinical care provided by highly skilled and experienced doctors and nurses, they ensure that wherever possible peace, respect and dignity is retained – it is a very simple and very human ethos.

Martlets opened in 1997. The staff and services were formed from the merger of three separate charities: Coppercliff Hospice, Tarnar and MacMillan Day Hospice. Across the hospice services, more than 25,000 local people have been supported and cared for since 1997.

Most people receive care from us in their own homes. Outpatients also visit our hospice for pain relief, physiotherapy, counselling, welfare advice and social activities. Others choose to spend their final days here, or to join us as inpatients for respite care or symptom management. The Martlets Hospice cares for people affected by life limiting illness living in and around Brighton & Hove.

Please support them.

There is a donation pot at the back of Church or you can donate to our account online with charity as the reference.

## **Mission and Community Partners 2023**

Thank you to everyone who voted for which charities you would like our Church to support next year. We have gone for Charities that reflect the mission and /or concerns of the Parish and will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

Spiritual needs - Physical needs - Local needs - Worldwide needs

January and February - Hangleton and West Blatchington Foodbank

March and April - Cry in the Dark

May and June - Chestnut Tree House

July and August - Disaster Relief

September and October - The Martlets

November and December - Off the Fence

Information on the charities will appear at the back of Church and in Keynotes. Donations welcome and St Peter's agree to add an extra 50% to the total donation to forward on to the Charity up to a maximum of £150.

## **The Holy Family**

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?"

One child answered, "Mary."

The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?"

Another child ventured: "Verge?"

Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?"

He replied hesitantly: "Well, you know they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."

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## **Our Charity for January is Hangleton and West Blatchington Foodbank**



Their aim is to help individuals and families who are in urgent need and access short term support – in terms of food, but also money advice, energy advice and community support.

Clients must be referred to the Foodbank by a professional organisation, for example a Health Visitor, Social Worker, Housing Officer or Advice agency.

Clients are offered the opportunity to obtain money advice from Moneyadviceplus, and energy advice from BHESCo. The mental health charity MIND visit the Foodbank once a month to offer support and advice.

They rely on donations of food and monetary donations to help meet their costs.

Please support them.

There is a donation pot at the back of Church or you can donate to our account online with charity as the reference.

## **A quote about St Peter's from a recent newcomer:-**

### **Settling in to a new Church**

Childhood memories crept into my mind when I first entered St Peter's.

I grew up attending a small Parish Church that felt like 'home from home' and where each member, young, old, physically or mentally impaired, poor or rich, were cared for equally. Community care working at its best.

I came to know and love the Lord in this environment and felt the peace God grants when we live in harmony as a family.

The friendly, joyous welcome, coupled with impressive organisational preparation and the choir at St Peter's reminded me of past experience.

I felt the congregation and clergy alike were approachable and engaging and the teaching message always leaves me with a desire to do better. "Rome wasn't built in a day!"

We all know that on new ground trust has to be built before acceptance follows and this for many can feel like an awkward and lonely experience. However, due to foresight and kindness of so many, I have enjoyed the process and appreciate their dedicated service.

Thanks be to God

SB

If you too would like to share your experience of St Peter's, please email Mandy at [stpetersadmin@zoho.com](mailto:stpetersadmin@zoho.com)

## **Prayer List Requests**

Each Sunday we pray for people in any kind of need.

These may be the names of people on the prayer list which is printed in the Pew Sheet each week. The names are not read out individually during Sunday Intercessions, but are prayed for individually at the monthly Wednesday Prayer Service.

This is a lovely, peaceful, prayerful time in The Old Church. Please join us.

The date of the next Wednesday Prayer Together Service will be on the Pew Sheet.



### **St Peter's Pastoral Care Group**

**Our Pastoral Care Group exists to offer entirely confidential help and support on any pastoral matter.**

**Perhaps you would like a friendly visitor for a good chat now and then, help with transport, a name included in our prayer list at Church, some professional advice which we can help find, or an offer of Communion at home?**

**Please contact, in the first instance, Carol Gander on 01273 555414.**



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**He Comes in the Small Hours**  
**An Advent Poem (after Luke 3 1-9)**

Stay awake for he comes in the small hours  
While all the world sleeps.

The owl hunts and the curlew cries,  
But let him come as light from a star.  
Make his path straight without deviation

Make the boats ready for he comes from the sea  
Where ships go down.

The waves muffle and stifle his cries  
But the harbour lights on the shore are blind.  
He calls from the depths. Go out to meet him.

Don't be surprised if he comes all alone  
Without bell or candle.

For the axe is laid to the root of the tree  
And many a highway ends in sand.  
Even the stones are bearing fruit!

Make straight his path for he comes from a field  
Where no plough went.

Where the hidden treasure lies buried within,  
Where cattle shift in the draughty shed  
And field mice tunnel the virgin hay.

Tim Cullen

## **Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats**

**Fox** by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

Christmas is almost here folks and it'll soon be time for that fella in the red coat to come sneaking around. Yep, your neighbourhood Fox is on the prowl and shortly after Santa has finished pulling presents out of his sack, your local Fox will be busy trying to pull half a turkey out of your bin bag.

Foxes have lived among us for centuries and, just like Christmas, they're celebrated in folklore and myths all around the world. Whether the story belongs to the Greeks, Japanese, Celts, Native Americans, Disney or Roald Dahl it is always the same – the Fox is portrayed as cunning, slippery and devious. I prefer intelligent, adaptable and resourceful - and it's these traits that have helped the Fox to survive in the modern world. It was the modern world that transformed the Fox's wild woods into endless agricultural fields, towns, cities, tower blocks and cul-de-sacs. Traditionally, in the face of development Britain's wildlife has silently been displaced and died. But where others fled destruction the Fox, like any shrewd opportunist, saw a brave new world of golden opportunities where the dustbins overfloweth and where the streets are paved with cast away kebabs and finger-lickin' chicken.

And for me this is the chapter in the Fox's story that does indeed seem mythical: that in urban Britain there are wild dogs living among us. I can look out my bedroom window and see a relative of the Wolf, Dingo, Jackal and Coyote casually sauntering across my lawn. It's a touch of the Serengeti in suburban Sussex. Studies undertaken by the University of Brighton have estimated that there are 20 Foxes per square kilometre in the city. Of course, tradition dictates that some people do not like Foxes. As I child I always viewed the Boxing Day hunt as the antithesis to Christmas; a reminder that amidst this season of goodwill there are still people who are proud to dress up in costumes in a public celebration of their cruelty.

It's in the bleak midwinter that Foxes are at their most vocal. The blood-curdling, human-like scream of the vixen sounds like something from a Hammer Horror film. This foxy lady is only fertile for a few days and her scream advertises her availability and sparks bow-wows, barks and bickering from amorous dog Foxes. Her cubs will be born about fifty-two days after mating and emerge from their earths in April.

So this Christmas if you've had it with the plastic snowmen, the fake tree and the fake sentiments take a short walk away from it all and out into the darkness. Listen for the sound of wild dogs howling at the moon, the sound of survival. Let it stir something wild in your heart. Merry Christmas everybody and best wishes for 2023.



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## People and Places of the Bible

In line with our Bible Study, I am continuing with people and places in the Letter to the Hebrews.

### **Abraham.**

Much can be written about Abraham, but I will concentrate on aspects regarding him that are pertinent to his role in Hebrews.

First, it is important to put in perspective where Abraham fits in the timeline. Abraham was a semi-nomad who had moved into the land we know as Israel, initially from Ur, in what is now Iraq. He was the prosperous head of a clan, herding large flocks and employing many people. His wife Sarah was childless, but she offered her slave girl Hagar to her husband and a son, Ishmael was the result.

There are two aspects to consider: his relationship with God, and his encounter with the mysterious Melchizedek.

First, Abraham and his relationship with God. Twice, God gave his promise that Abraham would be the father of a great nation. First, at the age of seventy-five he was told to leave his homeland and then, later, in Canaan, the Promised Land, God spoke to him again. On the second time God promised Abraham descendants as numerable "as the dust on the earth". These promises were to a man who was far from perfect. God chooses people like us. Despite the almost impossible situations when God makes his promise, the promises are fulfilled.

Last month I had Melchizedek as the person, the mysterious figure who is both priest and king. The important thing to note that Melchizedek's priesthood predates the Levitical priesthood of Aaron and separate from it. Also, he, Melchizedek, is superior to Abraham as Abraham pays him tribute and receives a blessing. This reinforces the idea of the superiority of his priesthood over the Levitical priesthood of Aaron. The writer of Hebrews likens Jesus' priesthood to Melchizedek's, and therefore not contaminated by the human flaws of the Levitical priests.

### **Salem**

1. The place of which Melchizedek was king. (Genesis 14:18; Hebrews 7:1,2) No satisfactory identification of it is perhaps

possible. Two main opinions have been current from the earliest ages of interpretation: (1). That of the Jewish commentators, who affirm that Salem is Jerusalem, on the ground that Jerusalem is so called in (Psalms 76:2) Nearly all Jewish commentators hold this opinion. (2). Jerome, however, states that the Salem of Melchizedek was not Jerusalem, but a town eight Roman miles south of Scythopolis, and gives its then name as Salumias, and identifies it with Salem, where John baptized.

2. (Psalms 76:2) it is agreed generally that Salem is here employed for Jerusalem.

Compiled from The Universal Bible Dictionary published by Lutterworth Press and Who's Who in The Bible published by The Reader's Digest and other sources by William Holden


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## Small Donations Scheme

We have reintroduced the above scheme, or SDS, which ran very successfully up to several years ago. The idea is to give people the opportunity to make a donation towards the cost of items which are one-off purchases or materials which we use. These donations are not regular but are on an “as and when able” basis which may be something in which they are interested.

The next edition of Keynotes will then contain a “thank you” notice for the gift which can be anonymous or include the sponsor’s name.

Mandy has produced a list of items which may appeal to the congregation and any discussion can be held in confidence with her. This list includes the following;

Coffee	£ 5.50
Paper for pew sheets and Keynotes	£ 54.00
Candle Oil	£ 4.80
New rugs for Tea and Tots	£ 135.00
Community Centre window clean	£ 40.00
Monthly website fee	£ 16.13
Altar Breads for communion	£ 10.94

### Thank you for your sponsorship

Our grateful thanks go to the person, wishing to remain anonymous, who very kindly donated a jar of coffee for refreshments after Church. Also to the couple that paid for the bacon sandwiches provided at Blue Jeans Saturday and the person who bought the refreshments for the Film Night.

If you would like to make a donation to help with the funding of some of the items of expenditure in and around our Church then please contact Mandy Gander, our Treasurer.

## Confirmation

In the beginning, we had confirmation classes in the churches (St Peter's and St Andrew's), it was really nice to see some of my friends from school there that go to St Andrew's. The classes included things like looking at bible passages, understanding them and what they mean. We had three altogether, which helped us prepare for the actual confirmation.

On the day, we arrived at the church an hour before the service for a run through of the confirmation with the Bishop. This calmed my nerves and readied us for the service. The Bishop was very nice and made us feel comfortable.

The service opened with the uplifting hymn 'In Christ Alone' which sounded great with the amazing band and choir. Grace and I read the first reading between us (1 Peter 5:1-11), which was quite a nerve wracking experience, however, I'm really glad to have done it.

Soon after the sermon, it was time for us to get confirmed. We first had to answer questions with the other candidates and then made our way to the back and were splashed with water, reminding us of our baptism. After that, we made our way back to our seats and were called up one by one to finally be confirmed. We knelt before the Bishop and he used holy oil to sign a cross on our foreheads.





Following this, we took communion whilst the choir sung some beautiful songs, one of them was written by one of the candidates. We ended the service with the amazing hymn 'Bless the Lord O my soul' and the joyful service came to a close. Then was time the to take photos and my family were telling me how moved they were by the service.

It was an incredible experience and I'm really grateful to all those involved who made it happen.

By Edward Osborne



## **REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES**

### **SUNDAY**

10.00 am Parish Eucharist with Sunday School (except for the first Sunday of the month)

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 4.00 pm - St Peter's @ 4 family service

10.00 am Online service via Youtube  
or via your telephone by dialling 01273 071150



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**FRIDAYS AT ST PETER'S  
St Peter's 'Open Church' drop-in**

**The First Friday of each month  
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**For coffee, conversation and companionship.**

**We are open between 10.30am and 12 noon for you to 'drop-in' for a coffee, piece of cake and a chat. A very warm welcome awaits you, so please do 'drop-in' we'd love to see you.**



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR GARDEN?**

- 1) Dig over empty borders and prepare your soil for next year's planting.
- 2) Group potted plants together in a sheltered spot in the garden to protect them from the harshest winter weather.
- 3) Start to winter prune Wisteria, cutting back whippy summer side shoots to 2 or 3 buds.
- 4) Prune Climbing Roses now, removing diseased or damaged growth and tying in new shoots to their support.
- 5) Leave the faded flower heads on your Hydrangeas until spring as they provide frost protection to the swelling buds.
- 6) If any of your Rose bushes suffered from Blackspot or Rust during the summer, gather up and remove any fallen leaves still on the ground to reduce the chance of spreading the infection next year.
- 7) Check climbing Shrubs are securely attached to their supports with ties.
- 8) January is the month to start pruning Rhododendrons.
- 9) If your Honeysuckle is overgrown now is the best time to prune and cut back hard to encourage healthy new growth in the spring.
- 10) Cut back Ornamental Grasses and tidy up perennials.
- 11) Remove old Hellebore leaves to expose new blooms as they emerge.
- 12) Remove any faded flowers from your winter Pansies to stop them setting seed.

13) Avoid walking on your lawn when it is blanketed by heavy frost or snow as this damages the grass.

14) Spike lawns with a garden fork to improve drainage and aeration.

15) Keep clearing leaves off the lawn to let the light in and prevent dead patches appearing.

Greenfingers



*Rodney didn't know how she'd got in, but she seemed keen to audition for the nativity play...*



## **COME INTO MY KITCHEN.....**

This month I am giving you a few tips for Christmas ideas

Firstly, some new ideas for old favourites.

### **SKIN ON ROASTIES**

Maris Piper or other roasting potatoes - 2kg, scrubbed and halved or quartered

Sunflower oil - 200ml

Rosemary sprigs - 4

Garlic - 1 bulb, halved

Bay leaves – 4

Heat the oven to 200c/fan 180C/gas 6.

Toss all the ingredients into a large bowl and tumble everything together so the potatoes are evenly coated. Season generously with sea salt flakes and pepper.

Tip into two large shallow roasting trays and spread out evenly so they're not touching. Transfer to the oven and cook for 50 minutes – 1 hour, turning swapping trays halfway through, until golden and tender.

Smash a few potatoes here and there with a masher and turn up the heat to 220C/fan200C/gas7. Toss the potatoes again in the oil and put back in the oven for 10-15 minutes to get lovely crispy edges to the potatoes.

Serve with and extra sprinkling of sea salt flakes.

### **ROASTED SPROUTS WITH GARLIC AND LEMON**

Brussels sprouts – 1kg, cleaned

Olive oil – 50ml

Garlic – 1 bulb, cloves smashed with the side of a knife  
Garlic granules – 1tsp  
Lemon – 1, zested  
Mixed seeds – (such as sesame, linseed, or pumpkin) 25g (optional)

Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4.

Toss together the sprouts, olive oil, garlic, garlic granules and lemon zest on a baking tray. Squeeze over most of the juice from the lemon and mix in. Season well. Roast for 30-35 minutes or until golden, tender and lightly charred in places. Sprinkle over the seeds and roast for a further 5 minutes until toasted. Squeeze over the rest of the lemon juice and serve.

### **WHOLE ROASTED ROOTS WITH ROSEMARY CRUMBS**

Parsnips – 400g, unpeeled, left whole if small, trimmed and halved or quartered if large  
Carrots – 400g, unpeeled left whole or halved lengthways if large  
Round shallots or small onions, 8  
Olive oil – 3tbsp  
Runny honey, 1tbsp  
ROSEMARY CRUMBS  
Salted butter – 50g  
Stale bread – 100g, whizzed to fine crumbs  
Garlic – 2 cloves, crushed  
Rosemary – 3 sprigs, finely chopped (or thyme or sage – 2 sprigs finely chopped) plus a little extra.

Heat the oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6.

Spread the parsnips, carrots and shallots in a single layer in a large roasting tin. Drizzle over the oil, toss together, season well and roast for 50 minutes – 1 hour or until golden, tender and caramelised. The onions should be soft throughout – check with a knife inserted into the middles. Stir in the honey for the final 10 minutes of cooking. Heat the butter in a wide frying pan until melted and foaming. Fry the breadcrumbs, garlic and herbs for 6-8 minutes or until golden, fragrant and toasted. Season. Toss the crumbs into the roasting tray to coat the veg. Serve with extra herbs if you like.

And to finish ....

## **BASQUE CHEESECAKE**

Full-fat soft cheese - 650g, at room temperature  
caster sugar – 300g  
eggs – 5  
soured cream – 150g  
double cream – 230g  
cornflour – 35g  
sea salt flakes – 1/2 tsp

Heat the oven to 220C/fan 200C/gas 7 **without the fan running.**

Tip the soft cheese into the bowl of a stand mixer and beat until soft and pliable, or do this in a large bowl with a wooden spoon. Add the sugar and beat until fully mixed. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well between each addition.

In a separate bowl, stir together the soured cream and double cream. In another small bowl, mix together the cornflour and sea salt flakes, then stir this through the cream mixture. Tip this into the soft cheese mixture and beat well to combine.

Line a deep 20cm baking tin with a sheet of baking paper that's large enough to line the base and come right up over the edges. Lay another large sheet of baking paper across the first so it forms a cross and the tin is completely covered with the paper. You want the paper coming over the top of the tin, as this will help you lift out the baked cheesecake at the end. It's important that there are no holes in the paper lining as this would cause the mixture to leak and make a mess of the bottom of the oven.

Make sure the paper is securely in place, then pour the cheesecake mixture into the tin. Put the tin on a baking tray and put in the middle of the oven. Bake for 45-50 minutes or until the cheesecake is dark on the top and puffed up. It might crack around the edge but that's okay. It should be wobbly in the middle.

Remove from the oven and serve warm, or cool completely before chilling in the fridge overnight (this will lend a perfectly creamy texture). The next day, cut and serve.

Maggie





*The Parish Church of St. Peter  
West Blatchington*

## **FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES**

**Our afternoon concert series continues with**

**Margaret Watson - Harp**

**1.10 p.m. on Friday 20th January**

**The Recital is for approximately 40 minutes**

**Refreshments provided.**

**There is no admission charge, but donations to fund  
future concerts will be gratefully accepted.**

**All welcome!**

## ORDER OF ST RICHARD

I was thrilled to go to Choral Evensong with Investiture into the Order of St Richard at Chichester Cathedral on the 8<sup>th</sup> October. 26 people from the Diocese had been put forward by their church and our dear Gill Evans was one of 6 from Brighton & Lewes Archdeaconry to be nominated and accepted to receive this honour.

Gill's nomination was in recognition of the way she took up the role of organist and choir master in a voluntary capacity on the departure of Dénes, the organisation, with Michael, of the monthly lunchtime concerts and the Bible Study groups. Also recognised were her caring nature and quiet evangelism.

The service was attended by about 150 supporters of the nominees and was a beautiful, moving service with lovely hymns and readings. Each of the recipients was presented with a ribbon and a badge bearing the episcopal coat of arms of St Richard and a certificate signed by Bishop Martin.

At the conclusion of the service, the award recipients processed to the Shrine of St Richard and had photographs taken with the Bishop.

I have a copy of the Order of Service if you would like to see it.

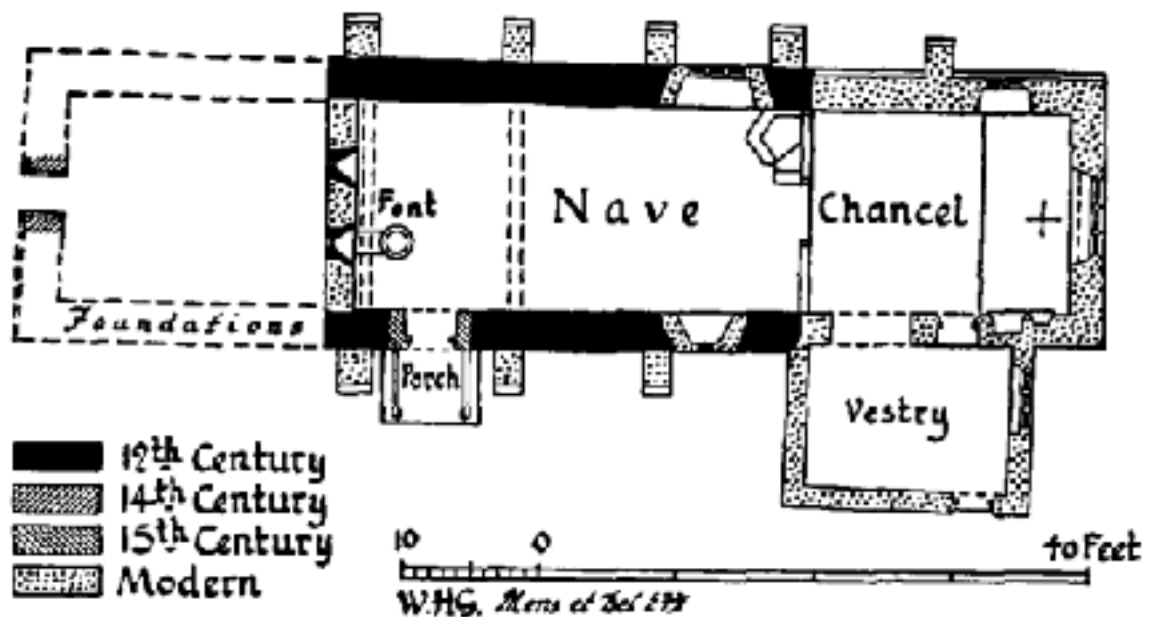
Maggie Keeling



## Memories of Times Past

Last month I told you that I joined the choir in the early 1940s. The boys' names that I recall from that time were those who grew up with me and became the men of the choir. The names I recall are, Graham Brown and Freddie Jones, both like myself, Brighton, Hove & Sussex Grammar School boys, John Casemore and Hugh Philips who attended Shoreham College and Colin Casemore the younger brother of John. Most of them had a two-year spell on National Service and then Graham, Freddie, Colin, and Hugh moved away. Some of you will remember John Casemore who was Organist and Choir Master for many decades.

The plan below was drawn soon after the old church was restored in 1888. The area marked chancel is where the choir stalls were with the entrance being the smaller gap. The area with the cross marked is the sanctuary with the line across the old altar rail. The larger gap was where the opening to the organ was situated with the organist sitting with their back to the opening and it was accessed from the vestry. This sets the scene.



As this issue of Keynotes will cover Christmas, I will take the opportunity to recall Christmas past in the 1950s before the Church was enlarged.

As the pews in the nave were filled, seats placed at the back to the north side were also filled and those people unseated were asked to wait outside.

The vestry was packed with robed servers, the choir and Rector. Then just before 11.30pm when the service would start, the choir came out of the vestry and formed up outside the south door behind the crucifer and two acolytes. The sides-people, and churchwardens then placed chairs in the vestry to seat the remainder of the congregation. This all made it into a joyous celebration. From memory, I cannot recall a wet Christmas Eve.

More memories in the next issue.

If you too have any memories that still come to mind do send them to Mandy Gander.

William Holden



### **Lord's Prayer, updated**

I had been teaching my three-year-old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime, she would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word right up to the end of the prayer. Then she implored: "and lead us not into temptation but deliver us some e-mail."

## **DECEMBER AND JANUARY SEASONS FESTIVALS AND SAINTS DAYS**

### **Advent**

Advent is the beginning of the Church's year, a time of preparation for Christmas. Advent Sunday falls on 27<sup>th</sup> November this year. Formerly it was a penitential season with fasting, like Lent, but this has faded away.

Unfortunately, with the commercial world starting to plug Christmas even before Advent has started and decorations are put up, the impact of Advent as a solemn time is overshadowed. The Gloria is omitted during Advent.

In the past Carol Services were held after Christmas but this is rare nowadays.

However, the liturgical colour of purple is retained except for the third Sunday, Gaudete, when rose coloured vestments are worn.

The season is observed as a time for preparation not only for Christmas but also for the Second Coming of Christ at the Last Day

### **Christmas**

For most of the Christian era Christmas as we know it has not been a prominent festival being overshadowed by the Cross and Resurrection.

The earliest reference to the 25<sup>th</sup> December being the celebration of Christ's birth is in 336 which was probably chosen to supplant the pagan festival of Winter Solstice.

It was only in the Victorian era that it gained prominence to become a festival not only celebrated by the Church but also by the public at large. Until well into the eighteenth century Christmas Day had not been a holiday. However, it is now recognised that God becoming man, the Word made Flesh, the incarnation, is important in understanding the full significance of the Cross and Resurrection.

### **The Days Following Christmas.**

With all the festivities of Christmas the days which follow Christmas Day are lost. These switch between death and celebration, bringing us back to the reality of the world where peace and violence alternate.

Immediately after Christmas Day on 26<sup>th</sup> is St Stephen's Day commemorating the death of the first martyr. Then, more serene, on 27<sup>th</sup> St John, Apostle and Evangelist, the only apostle who died a natural death at a great age. Next on 28<sup>th</sup> is the Holy Innocents, the horrific slaughter of the children under two years by King Herod and on the 29<sup>th</sup> we remember St Thomas Becket, martyred in Canterbury Cathedral.

All these events remind us of the corroding effects of hatred and mirrors much that we see in the world today.

### **Feast of the Epiphany – 6<sup>th</sup> January**

The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles is an alternative title and descriptive of the event. Nowadays the Church tends to transfer the feast to the nearest Sunday. As we have done this year moving it to the 8<sup>th</sup> January.

The feast originated in the Eastern Church where it also included the Baptism of Christ. It was introduced into the Western Church in the Fourth Century but lost the character of the Feast of the Baptism which is still retained in the East today. In the West it solely celebrates the coming of the Magi as related in Matthew Chapter 2.1-12. The Baptism of Christ is celebrated in the West on the following Sunday, this year, 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **John Wyclif - reformer – 31<sup>st</sup> December**

In 1428 the Bishop of Lincoln in England condemned a man who was already 44 years in the grave. The bishop ordered the remains exhumed and burned and the ashes thrown into the River Swift. Such was the fate of John Wycliffe, often called the "Morning Star of the Reformation." What had Wycliffe done that caused such hatred nearly five decades after his death? Wycliffe, a philosopher, preacher, and reformer in the Middle Ages, spent a lifetime promoting Scripture and opposing papal authority.

In 1330 John Wycliffe (also spelled Wyclif or Wicliff) was born about 200 miles from London, on a sheep farm. At the age of 16 he matriculated at Oxford, where he became master of Balliol College around 1360. After earning his M.A. in 1361, Wycliffe was ordained and became the absentee parson of a Lincolnshire church. Continuing his studies, Wycliffe became Oxford's leading philosopher and theologian. By 1374 Wycliffe was acting as the absentee rector at a church in Lutterworth. Around 1370 Wycliffe began writing some

controversial material about the roles of government and church authorities in 1370, arguing that the ungodly have no right to rule. This extended to unjust rulers, both secular and religious, pitting Wycliffe against the excesses of Roman Catholic leaders. Pope Gregory XI condemned 18 of Wycliffe's statements in 1377, calling Wycliffe "The Master of Errors," and in 1378 Wycliffe was forced to retire from public life. After the Peasants' Revolt in which Wycliffe's disciples were implicated, Wycliffe withdrew to Lutterworth and continued writing until his death in 1384.

The teachings of John Wycliffe were controversial because he attacked the authority and doctrines of the Catholic Church, the church in power in England then. Wycliffe rightly believed the Scriptures are the standard by which all traditions, Popes, and other sources must be measured. Scripture is sufficient, in and of itself, for salvation. This meant the authority of the Pope and the doctrines of the church were subject to the teaching of Scripture. When doctrines or Popes contradicted Scripture, they should be rejected. Finally, Wycliffe concluded that the papacy itself was a manmade institution and the Antichrist.

Wycliffe's view of Scripture led him to reject the doctrine of transubstantiation, which holds the substances of the Eucharist are transformed into the actual body and blood of Christ. Wycliffe found no biblical evidence for this view arguing it was an invention of the 13th century. Though he maintained that Christ's body and blood were somehow spiritually present in the Lord's Supper, Wycliffe flatly rejected transubstantiation.

His high view of Scripture also led Wycliffe to Bible translation; through his translation work and the itinerant preaching of his followers, Wycliffe had widespread and lasting influence. Wycliffe believed the Bible to be the final authority for doctrine and practice, and he believed the Bible should be read by everyone, including the common Englishman. In Wycliffe's day, the Latin Vulgate was the main Bible available, and the only copies were kept in churches. Even if he could gain access to a Bible, the common Englishman could not read Latin and was forced to rely on the local priest to tell him what the Bible said. Wycliffe saw the injustice of this: "Englishmen learn Christ's law best in English. Moses heard God's law in his own tongue; so did Christ's apostles."

Starting in 1380, Wycliffe supervised the work of translating the Scriptures from Latin into Middle English. All copies were handwritten, as the printing press had not yet been invented. Wycliffe's group made two translations, one more idiomatic than the other, to appeal to a broader range of reading levels. Though Wycliffe didn't live to see the final product, his passion for Scripture carried the project through to the end becoming the very first English translation in the Bible.

The loss of a monopoly on Scripture was of serious concern to Rome. The Catholic Church condemned the Wycliffe Bible. Anyone caught reading it was subject to heavy fines. As the persecution increased, some of Wycliffe's supporters were burned at the stake with the Wycliffe Bible hung around their necks. But the Word was out, and people could read for themselves what God had said. The people of the Middle Ages became more interested in the Bible, and literacy increased.

When Wycliffe died in 1384, his teachings did not die with him. Wycliffe's disciples, derisively called Lollards (meaning "mumblers") carried on. In fact, Wycliffe's ideas spread as far as Bohemia (in modern-day Czech Republic), where a priest named John Hus applied them. Hus continued to spread reform in Europe until he was martyred for his beliefs in 1415. The continued growth of Lollardism and a failed Lollard rebellion in 1414 resulted in Wycliffe's posthumous condemnation at the Council of Constance in 1415. The council, which also burned Hus, condemned Wycliffe on 260 different counts.

When, in 1428, Wycliffe's remains were exhumed, his bones were burned, and his ashes were scattered into a nearby river, one historian observed that, as Wycliffe's ashes were cast into the Swift and eventually spread to the ocean, so his teaching spread throughout the world. John Wycliffe, the Morning Star of the Reformation, lit the way for many other believers to follow. Wycliffe's impact could not be destroyed.

William Holden

Compiled from a variety of sources



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### **Which is correct, Xmas or Christmas?**

Well, the answer is both really. Surprisingly, the shortened version of 'Christmas', ie the word 'Xmas' began as an abbreviation for church records and charts. X is the Greek symbol 'chi', which is the first letter of the word 'Christ'. Therefore, X stands for Christ. For the early Christians, most of whom spoke and wrote Greek, the word 'Xmas' signified 'Christ's Mass'. The shortening of 'Christmas' to 'Xmas' has been a common practice since at least the 16th Century. The correct pronunciation for the word 'Xmas' is 'Christmas', the same as if the word was written out in full. Xmas is not ex-mas!

Some people are unhappy with the abbreviation, thinking that the letter X is a secular replacement and is crossing Christ out. However, this is not the case if it is used in the original context. Although there is increasing secularization of Christmas, knowing the above, the X in Xmas can still remind us of the real reason for celebrating Christmas.

## Jesus Is The Reason

In Bethlehem, God gave to us  
The source of Christmas joy;  
A star shown on a miracle:  
The virgin birth of a boy.

He was born both God and man,  
A Saviour for us all,  
The way to get to our heavenly home,  
If we just heed His call.

So as we shop and spend and wrap  
And enjoy the Christmas season,  
Let's keep in mind the sacred truth:  
Jesus is the reason.



## Church officials

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church."

"Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel demanded.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two big men standing by the door and glaring at you? They're hushers."

# JET THE

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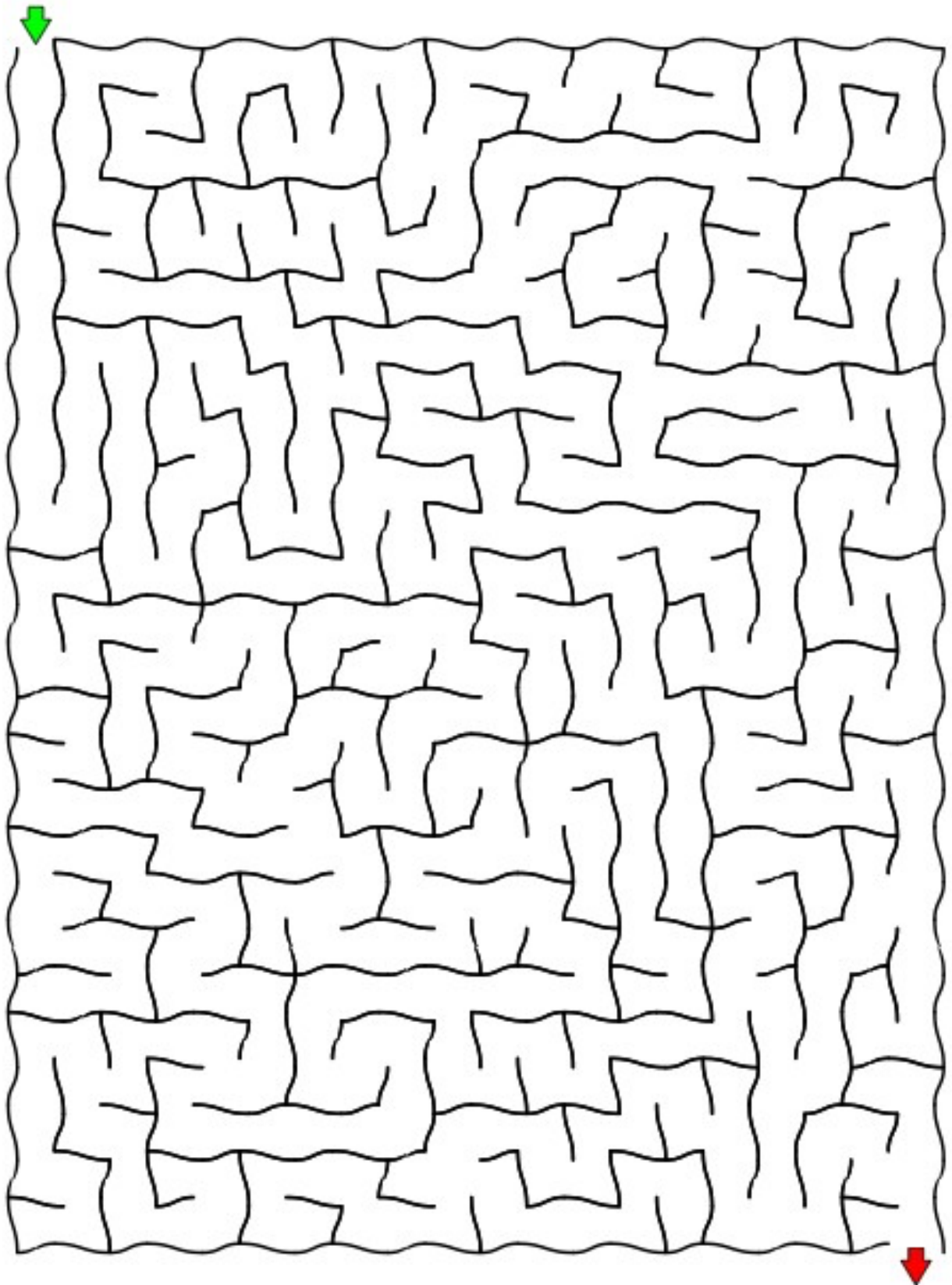
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## MONEY MATTERS - Figures for October 2022

### Receipts

Planned Giving	£	3456
Income tax recovered	£	1226
Community Centre Income	£	1182
Collections/other giving	£	211
PCC Fees	£	459
Fundraising	£	683
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>7217</b>

### Payments

Parish Contribution	£	6042
Salaries	£	717
Utilities and Insurance	£	326
Rectory	£	315
Community Centre running costs	£	117
Church running expenses	£	138
Upkeep of services	£	142
PCC reimbursement of expenses	£	298
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>8095</b>

**Year to date deficit £22,918**



<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading, Commemorations &amp; Intentions</b> Calendar for December (Year A)
<b>THURS</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<i>All school teachers</i>
<b>FRI</b> <b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<i>Aldrington School</i>
<b>SAT</b> <b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<i>Our vocation as Christians</i>
<b>SUN</b> <b>4<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Isaiah 11. 1-10, Romans 15. 4-13, Matthew 3. 1-12</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>5<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Rev Jan, Jenny, Adam and Hannah</i>
<b>TUES</b> <b>6<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our preparations for Christmas</i>
<b>WEDS</b> <b>7<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All clergy</i>
<b>THURS</b> <b>8<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All expectant mothers</i>
<b>FRI</b> <b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our understanding of our calling to follow Christ</i>
<b>SAT</b> <b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Bishop Martin</i>
<b>SUN</b> <b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Isaiah 35. 1-10, James 5. 7-10, Matthew 11. 2-11</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Rev Tim, Clare, Ben, Sammy and James</i>
<b>TUES</b> <b>13<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our faith in times of trial</i>
<b>WEDS</b> <b>14<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our vision of the wonder of the incarnation</i>
<b>THURS</b> <b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Our responsibility for the environment</i>

<b>FRI 16<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our Sunday School children and teachers</i>
<b>SAT 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>St Peter's Tea and Tots</i>
<b>SUN 18<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b><i>4th Sunday of Advent Isaiah 7. 10-16, Romans 1. 1-7, Matthew 1. 18-end</i></b>
<b>MON 19<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>School Governors</i>
<b>TUES 20<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Aldrington School and Kings School</i>
<b>WEDS 21<sup>ST</sup></b>	<i>Bishop Ruth</i>
<b>THURS 22<sup>ND</sup></b>	<i>Bishop Martin</i>
<b>FRI 23<sup>RD</sup></b>	<i>Bishop Will</i>
<b>SAT 24<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b><i>Christmas Eve (Midnight Mass) 2 Samuel 7. 1-5, 8-11, 16, Acts 13. 16-26, Luke 1. 67-69</i></b>
<b>SUN 25<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b><i>Christmas Day Isaiah 9. 2-7, Titus 2. 11-14, Luke 2. 1-14</i></b>
<b>MON 26<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Archdeacon Martin</i>
<b>TUES 27<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our understanding of the Gospel</i>
<b>WEDS 28<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All victims of violence</i>
<b>THURS 29<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our Government and all members of Parliament</i>
<b>FRI 30<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Archbishops Justin and John</i>
<b>SAT 31<sup>ST</sup></b>	<i>Our Christian witness in the New Year</i>

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading, Commemorations &amp; Intentions</b> Calendar for January (Year A)
<b>SUN</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b><i>Naming and Circumcision of Jesus</i></b> <b><i>Numbers 6. 22-end, Galatians 4. 4-7, Luke 2. 15-21</i></b>
<b>MON</b> <b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<i>Our Parochial Church Council</i>
<b>TUES</b> <b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<i>Our Churchwardens</i>
<b>WEDS</b> <b>4<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Ecumenical links with the Orthodox Churches</i>
<b>THURS</b> <b>5<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>For greater unity of Christians</i>
<b>FRI</b> <b>6<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Thanksgiving for the God coming to earth</i>
<b>SAT</b> <b>7<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>The spread of the Gospel</i>
<b>SUN</b> <b>8<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b><i>Epiphany</i></b> <b><i>Isaiah 60. 1-6, Ephesians 3. 1-12, Matthew 2. 1-12</i></b>
<b>MON</b> <b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our Standing Committee</i>
<b>TUES</b> <b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our Servers</i>
<b>WEDS</b> <b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All missionary societies</i>
<b>THURS</b> <b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All those who write about the Christian Faith</i>
<b>FRI</b> <b>13<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All hospital chaplains.</i>
<b>SAT</b> <b>14<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Our City Council</i>
<b>SUN</b> <b>15<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b><i>2nd Sunday of Epiphany</i></b> <b><i>Isaiah 49. 1-7, 1 Corinthians 1. 1-9, John 1. 29-42</i></b>

<b>MON 16<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All Chaplains to the Forces</i>
<b>TUES 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>The housebound in our parish</i>
<b>WEDS 18<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Unity - All Christian Churches that they may work towards unity</i>
<b>THURS 19<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Unity – The United Reform Church</i>
<b>FRI 20<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>The Church of England and the Anglican Communion</i>
<b>SAT 21<sup>ST</sup></b>	<i>Unity - The Roman Catholic Church</i>
<b>SUN 22<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b><i>3rd Sunday of Epiphany Isaiah 9. 1-4, 1 Corinthians 1. 10-18, Matthew 4. 12-23</i></b>
<b>MON 23<sup>RD</sup></b>	<i>Unity - The Orthodox Churches</i>
<b>TUES 24<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Unity – Methodist Church</i>
<b>WEDS 25<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Unity - The Baptist and Free Churches</i>
<b>THURS 26<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>For the Living Faith and Authorised Lay Ministry Courses</i>
<b>FRI 27<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>Residential, Nursing and Care Homes</i>
<b>SAT 28<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>All theologians</i>
<b>SUN 29<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b><i>4th Sunday of Epiphany 1 Kings 17. 8-16, 1 Corinthians 1. 18-end, John 2. 1-11</i></b>
<b>MON 30<sup>TH</sup></b>	<i>The homeless</i>
<b>TUES 31<sup>ST</sup></b>	<i>The disadvantaged and the poor</i>



## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**December - Wednesday 21st  
Service of Lessons and Carols 6.30pm**

**Saturday 24th  
'Christingle in the Crib' 4.00pm  
Midnight Mass 11.15pm**

**Sunday 25th  
Christmas Day all-age Eucharist 10am**

**Sunday 1st January 2023  
10am all-age Eucharist**

**Sunday 8th January 2023  
Epiphany - 10am Parish Eucharist**



And finally.....

### **Christmas Prayer**

Father,

Thank you for creating us and for loving us so much that you sent Jesus to become one of us and to be our way to you. This Christmas may we know the love, peace, comfort and joy that only You can give, no matter what our circumstances. And may we reflect Your light and love in this dark world to bring glory to You.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



**St Peter's, West Blatchington  
Social and Fundraising Timetable 2023**

**Sharing Jesus' love as we strengthen fellowship and  
serve our community**

<b>Saturday 28th January 7.30pm</b>	<b>Online quiz</b>	<b>New hosts required</b>
<b>Saturday 25th February 7.30pm</b>	<b>Karaoke evening</b>	<b>Erica/Zanita</b>
<b>Saturday 11th March 10am</b>	<b>Blue Jeans Saturday - Churchyard Tidy up &amp; Church spring clean</b>	<b>Team St Peters</b>
<b>Weekend of the 6th/ 7th May</b>	<b>King's Coronation Shown on the big screen  Afternoon tea and other events to be advised</b>	<b>Team St Peters</b>
<b>Sunday 14th May 2pm</b>	<b>Rogation Sunday- Parish Boundary walk followed by ice cream in Hove Park</b>	<b>Team St Peters</b>
<b>Saturday 17th June 11.30am</b>	<b>Summer Fair</b>	<b>Zanita</b>
<b>Saturday 8th July 6.30pm</b>	<b>Tim's hymns &amp; pimms evening</b>	<b>Charlie</b>

<b>Saturday 16th September 2pm</b>	<b>Cricket match and picnic at Hove Park</b>	<b>Jonathan</b>
<b>Sunday 24th September 2pm</b>	<b>Sponsored bike ride around Hove Park</b>	<b>Zanita</b>
<b>Sunday 1st October 11.30am</b>	<b>Harvest Festival Bring &amp; share lunch in the Com- munity Centre</b>	<b>Team St Peters</b>
<b>Saturday 14th October 7.30pm</b>	<b>Quiz Night</b>	<b>New hosts required</b>
<b>Saturday 11th November 10am</b>	<b>Blue Jeans Saturday- Church yard tidy up</b>	<b>Team St Peters</b>
<b>Saturday 18th November 7pm</b>	<b>Film Night</b>	<b>Mandy</b>
<b>Thursday 30th November to Saturday 2nd December</b>	<b>Christmas Tree Festival</b>	<b>Team St Peters</b>



Please pay St Peters Church West Blatchington the sum of £8.00 (eight pounds) per annum on the 10th January 2023 and continue until further notice. Reference your Surname/Keynotes.

CAF Bank  
405240  
00030486

Name  
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Address  
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Bank Sort code .....

Bank Account Number .....

Signature .....

**Please send directly to your Bank and let Michael Evans ([maevans42@gmail.com](mailto:maevans42@gmail.com)) know that you have completed a standing order mandate. Thank you.**