



All Saints Magazine



December 2017

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

As Christmas approaches we think of presents, and if you ask any child about Christmas, presents feature heavily on any list of what Christmas is about. And yet the best presents of all are those which don't cost. The greatest gifts we can receive are Love, Hope, Peace, Understanding, Kindness and Grace. We cannot wrap them, we cannot place them under the tree, we cannot play with them but we can give them and receive them and share them.

The Christmas story gives us all these gifts in the incarnation of God as Jesus Christ, a newborn baby who as the carol says will be 'king of all the world'.

What a difference we can make to the world around us if we share these gifts with all whom we meet in the next month and beyond.

We can bite our tongue when someone upsets us, or says something sharp; we cannot get cross with those who are jumping the queue, or push past us un-noticing; we can smile at people whom we meet; we can help carry things, or move things for those around us; we can ease the loneliness and pain by being there, listening, caring, being loving and kind. We can take time to do those chores which no one likes, taking the bins out, washing up, ironing, weeding, and cleaning the car. We can quietly help those around us in any way we can and do so joyfully and not in expectation of reward or praise.

So this Christmas as we do our shopping why not remember those who would benefit from something other than a physical present, why not give something to your favourite charity, or give a little extra to our church, or give some time to the foodbank, or the NSPCC.

Let's share Gods gifts where we can and in the best way we can.

Happy Christmas.

Annette

Gardener's Corner

Thank you to many of you who have appreciated the work that Dennis and I have done on the War Memorial. In truth, without the specialist equipment needed, the job is only half done. However, the War Memorial Trust does provide grants for work to be undertaken by approved specialist contractors so we will keep trying!

My thanks also to my "future" (trying not to jinx him) son-in-law, Alfie, whose company London & Kent immediately answered my S-O-S for mobile scaffolding so that I could reach the top of the crucifix and try to clean the sculpture of Jesus.

On a clear cold blue sky morning, I climbed on to the platform where I decided to stay for the day because unlike the Grand Old Duke of York I was not very good at getting up and down! At around 2.00pm I was so famished that I asked my fellow amateur stonemason, Dennis, (ground level only) to get me some food which he kindly did.

As I stood on the platform, surveying the rooftop world around me and eating my burger and chips, the postman entered Bishop's Close. He posted a few letters in the Vicarage, and then walked past the scaffolding, looked up at me and without breaking step, said "I hope you're giving Jesus a chip!"

Over the last two weeks since Remembrance Sunday I have gone back to my work in the border. My niece, Nicky, has given me 48 small paving slabs from her garden which I am going to use, interspersed with the stones that parishioners have contributed, to make the paths.

You may have noticed that some fairy lights have appeared in the garden. It has been rumoured that my boss, Evelyn, (Gardener No 1) installed them because she was concerned that the productivity of Gardener No 3 might drop during the shorter winter afternoons! There is absolutely no truth in such a scurrilous rumour! The lights were put there by me to map out the proposed route of the paths.

As I mentioned in my last Gardener's Corner, If you would like to help with any of the many gardening jobs, including the making of the paths, please do give me a ring on **07484218429** or talk to either Evelyn or myself in the Church Hall after a service.

Thank you.

Neal – Gardener No 3.

River Cruise on the Moselle-Saar

A delightful autumn week was spent on the Moselle-Saar river in Germany with Evelyn Green, Rita Mather and her husband Gerald and their friend William. He has preached at our church and is a hospital chaplain. We blended well over the laughter, good food and Prosecco!



The scenery along the riverside was continuous and steep golden vineyards, so segmented they looked like a patchwork quilt.



We hadn't gone too far when the first lock appeared and it was quite an experience to go through as we were heightened or lowered as the case may be with the concrete walls gradually obscuring the windows. Yet we could experience it, as the large TV in the dining-room showed the gates opening, or lowering. There must have been about twenty in all throughout the week.

The buildings are so picturesque and our first stop was the pretty town of Cochem, where we had a trip on the Vulcan Express - an old train in the mountains for a stop of coffee and apple cake -delicious.

The guard on the train was a caricature of a noisy German, charging back and forth with the drinks trolley, barking out instructions in an excitable, guttural manner.

Travelling back along the river, to the point where the captain executed a perfect 3 point turn, we were asked to vacate the top lounge of the boat, as the roof had to be condensed to accommodate a low bridge!

Saarbrücken was our next stop with baroque town houses and traces of the 10th century. Evelyn and I took a little walk along the riverbank and found an old bell foundry from 1770. More of that later.

Evelyn is a great photographer and captured beautiful landscapes, fresh buildings and swans. She was in her element.

The day Rita, Gerald, William and I went to the Moselle wine tasting was very interesting and tasty, but Evelyn had taken herself off on the little mini-train that runs around the town of Bernkastel, filming all the way.



Bernkastel-Market place

Trier is the oldest city from where the whole area was ruled by the Bishop of Trier, and the statues of him always show him with a model of the town in the cradle of his arm.

We had an excellent English speaking guide, and as it was Sunday, she did her best to speak against the continual ringing of church bells as we toured St. Peter's Cathedral. The Church of Our Lady and the medieval main square are dominated by the imposing tower of St. Gangolf's Church.

It was interesting to pass the Roman Imperial baths on our way to the amphitheatre and coliseum which we were to visit below to see where the lions and gladiators were kept. This was one trip on which Evelyn didn't join us because of all the walking. It was the only wet morning.



The rest was just a lovely memory of smooth water and golden vineyards, with good company.

Brenda Whyte

Diary Dates for November/December 2017

Wednesday 29th	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
	7.00 pm	Advent Course
Thursday 30th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 2nd December	10.00 -12.00	Parish Office
Sunday 3rd	ADVENT SUNDAY	
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	4.00 pm	Christingle
Wednesday 6th	2.00 pm	CTNE meeting at NEMC
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
	7.00 pm	Advent Course
Thursday 7th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 10th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	12.30 pm	Baptism of Harley Rose
Wednesday 13th	9.30 -12.00	St Olave's Rehearsal
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
	7.00 pm	Advent Course
Thursday 14th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	6.00 pm	St Olave's Service
Sunday 17th	10.00 am	Holy Communion with Nativity
	6.00 pm	CTNE Carol Service
Monday 18th	9.30 -11.30	Dulverton Carol Service
	12.30-4.00	Wyborne Rehearsal
Tuesday 19th	1.45 pm	Wyborne Service
Wednesday 20th	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
	7.00 pm	Advent Course
Thursday 21st	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th	LAST DAY OF ADVENT-CHRISTMAS EVE	
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	4.00 pm	Crib service
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass
Monday 25th	CHRISTMAS DAY	
	10.00 am	Family Communion
Thursday 28th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 31st	10.00 am	Holy Communion followed by mince pies & sherry at the vicarage

Please check the weekly news sheet for any change

Parish Pump

Funerals.

14th November, Coral Palin

100 Club

Thanks to all the supporters of the 100 Club for enabling this fund raiser to continue for another year. The winner of the October draw was Janet Johnson, and Chloe French won the November draw.

Quiz Results

The October Quiz prize of £19 was won by Betty Macdonald, whose entry was picked 'from the hat' from the correct entries received.

Yoga

Yoga for Beginners' classes are being run in the church hall by Diana Stewart BA PGCE BWY DIP, our qualified yoga instructor, on Thursday 14th December 6.30 to 8.00 pm. There are 'no fees' but donations to the 'church roof funds' would be appreciated.

Monthly Charity

This month we are raising money for The Children's Society, an Anglican charity that supports disadvantaged children. Please place your donations in the wall safe by the main entrance. Or support the Wednesday Fair Trade Cafés. Thank you.

Traidcraft Roadshow

The Traidcraft roadshows have usually taken place at various venues in London, but the recent one was held in the Baptist Church in Bromley.

Ruth and I always like to see the new goods and gifts on offer and to taste any new products—this time chocolate was on the menu. An interesting talk was given about the products and the many families who benefit from our purchases, including a 90 year old grandmother trying to support her three grandchildren. Please continue to support our Fair Trade Café and the monthly goods table in the hall. Your purchases DO make a difference.

Barbara.

Stewardship and Planned giving.

On Sunday 19th November everyone on the electoral roll and other regular attenders were invited to listen to a presentation by Gabby Parikh, (Diocesan Parish Giving Communications Officer) to explain that Stewardship and Planned giving are essential for the continued operation of the Church at local level.

In essence, it is estimated that for 2017, it costs £1,069 per week to run the church. However the predicted weekly income is only £1,025 leaving a shortfall of £44 per week. However these figures only include what we currently pay to the diocese to maintain our own vicar (£550 per week) instead of the average cost of supporting a vicar at £1,462 per week which means other churches in the diocese are subsidising us for the difference.

In order to move towards self sufficiency the diocese has asked that members of the congregation prayerfully review their giving and make regular payments so that we can plan for the future of the church with accurate budgeting.

Easy fundraising update

Thank you to our 19 supporters, who have now generated £416.61, for All Saints, **at no cost to themselves.**

Considering that our electoral roll has over 80 people on it, it is a bit disappointing that so few are supporting us in this way, especially as you generate a 50p donation just for signing up.

Although the magazine will be too late for 'black Friday', many of you will be doing your Christmas Shopping online so, please share our "cause page"

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allsaintsneweltham>

with family and friends and remember to shop via. Easyfundraising—you could be raising a FREE donation for All Saints, New Eltham.

Easyfundraising also alerts you to special offers and discount deals, so you could save money too. It's really simple, and there are no catches or hidden charges. See the weekly newsheet or previous magazines for signing up details. Thank you for your support, every penny counts.

Answers to the November Quiz sheet

The Four Letter Word Quiz

There are 26 clues, one for every letter of the alphabet. All the answers are only four letters long. Good Luck!

A: Having little or no rain.	ARID
B: A small horse from North Africa or a sharp projection at the end of an arrow.	BARB
C: Deep bodied freshwater fish or to complain.	CARP
D: A gentle rolling hill or soft fine feathers forming the covering of a young bird.	DOWN
E: A sound caused by the reflection of sound waves from the surface back to the listener.	ECHO
F: To move quickly or go without food.	FAST
G: Network of lines which cross each other to form a series of squares or rectangles.	GRID
H: A home of an otter.	HOLT
I: A devotional painting of Christ or another figure.	ICON
J: Quick sharp sudden movement or cure meat by cutting into strips and drying.	JERK
K: A lengthwise structure along the base of a ship.	KEEL
L: An amusing adventure or a songbird.	LARK
M: A place where money is coined or an aromatic plant.	MINT
N: A small cut or notch or a police station.	NICK
O: A man eating giant.	OGRE
P: A role played by an actor or to leave someone's company.	PART
Q: A witty remark.	QUIP
R: Trust fully, have faith in, be dependent on.	RELY
S: A small drink of spirit or a hit stroke or a kick of a ball in sport	SHOT
T: A small mountain lake.	TARN
U: Official language of Pakistan and widely used in India.	URDU
V: A metal tool with moveable jaws to hold an object firmly in place or immoral or wicked behaviour.	VICE
W: A high pitched cry of pain.	WAIL
X: Photograph or other image of the internal structure of an object.	XRAY
Y: A wooden crosspiece that is fastened over the necks of two animals and attached to a plough so that they can pull in unison.	YOKE
Z: Great enthusiasm or energy or the outer coloured part of the peel of a citrus fruit used as flavouring.	ZEST

From the Archives – snippets from the December magazine of 1937, price twopence.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

The Patronal Social was such great success that many have asked for another and it is hoped to arrange one for Thursday, December 30th at 7.45 p.m. Please book the date— Tickets: 6d. Each (Junior Guild members 3d.). Music, refreshments, dancing etc.

Prizes for Fancy Dress: We hope many will come in fancy dress and add to the disguise by coming “Dominoed.”

CHRISTMAS TREE

The Christmas Tree in aid of one of the Distressed Areas will again be one of the features of our Christmas decorations.

Old clothes, boots and shoes and any useful articles, books, toys, etc., will be welcome.

THE CHURCH GARDEN

Mr. Raybould has very kindly undertaken the tree lopping and work necessary in the church grounds. This is a great help and we are very grateful. He is also arranging for the planting of the “Coronation Trees.” Several of these have been promised by various organisations and individuals and the cost will probably be about 10s. Per tree, including planting, etc.

CHURCH CLEANING

After being in the hands of the builders since August and now that the work is finished, a general clean down is essential. The Church will, therefore, be closed for this purpose from Monday, December 6th to Saturday, 11th.

Note: “Dominoed” refers to a partial mask, covering only the eyes and the space between them.

There are no entries in the “Church Logbook” for December 1977.

We hope to provide “snippets” from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.