



The Parish Church of St Peter, Budleigh Salterton

St Peter's Mini-mag



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St Peter's Church, The Lawn, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6LT

December 2018

The Clergy December letter..... from The Reverend Karen Young

Dear Friends,

*A Happy Christmas
and a Wonderful New
Year to all our readers.*

Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat.....yes it is that time of the year when children become uncontrollably excited, adults despair at the cost and expectation and for some they can't wait for it all to be over!

This is the Christmas experience for many. A sense that Christmas has lost any meaning that it is just a commercial venture not even a holiday. Adverts on television tell us that to have the perfect Christmas means to have the perfect table, tree, presents, snow and a happy smiley family around the dinner table with as much food as is seemingly possible. What a lot of rot!!

As we enter the season of Advent Christians around the world are reminded of the joy which was coming to fill the world. The promises of God fulfilled in Jesus Christ. There were no great feasts, trees or snow; there was a poor family trying to find shelter. A pregnant woman looking to find somewhere safe to give birth to her son.....sound familiar?

The season of Advent is a time to reflect, a time of expectation, a time of wonder, a time of celebration and thankfulness. This season of Advent not only has us looking forward to the return of Christ, but we also look back in order to look forward. The birth of Jesus was itself looked forward to, and as we remind ourselves that he is due to return, we remember some of those prophecies from the Old Testament that were to predict his birth in Bethlehem.

Words from the Taizé community:

'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near,
Wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heart.'

As Advent begins, O Lord Christ, come again to reign over your people and enlighten all nations. Have mercy on all who look to you and hasten that day when your justice and love will be revealed for the good of all creation and the glory of God the Father, with whom and the Spirit you are sovereign in majesty and power. Amen.

I wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

THIS MONTH'S QUOTE

Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents for a minute and look around. Anon

We hear about David & Heather from time to time, and support them by prayer and an annual gift to CMS towards their maintenance, but what do we actually know about them?

Why do we support them? Who are they? What do they do and where? The first question is the most difficult to answer, as no one seems to know when their link with St Peter's started and why. Even the Sharlands themselves can't remember! But it must be more than 20 years ago. If anyone who reads this can provide an answer we would be grateful.

David and Heather have recently compiled a paper giving details of their work in Uganda in agriculture and health care, together with some biographical details regarding their respective upbringing, how they met and what motivated them to choose to work abroad as missionaries. This makes interesting reading, and the paper can be seen on the Missions notice board in church. Please take a few moments to read it and thus be better informed about this significant element of St Peter's involvement in the wider world.

MISSION SUNDAY - Sunday 9th December

Instead of a visiting speaker Revd Martin will be preaching at the 10.00 am on Sunday 9th December Parish Eucharist on the general subject of Mission. This is the Sunday when those with CMS collecting boxes are asked to bring them for offering and dedication prior to the contents being sent off to CMS.



St Nicholas - another look

One account of how Father Christmas began, tells of a man named Nicholas who was born in the third century in the Greek village of Patara, on what is today the southern coast of Turkey. His family were both devout and wealthy, and when his parents died in an epidemic, Nicholas decided to use his inheritance to help people. He gave to the needy, the sick, the suffering. He dedicated his whole life to God's service and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. As a bishop in later life, he joined other bishops and priests in prison under the emperor Diocletian's fierce persecution of Christians across the Roman Empire.

Finally released, Nicholas was all the more determined to spread abroad the news of God's love. He did so by giving. One story of his generosity explains why we hang Christmas stockings over our mantelpieces today. There was a poor family with three daughters who needed dowries if they were to marry and not be sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of their plight and tossed three bags of gold into their home through an open window, thus saving the girls from a life of misery.

The bags of gold landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. Hence the custom of children hanging out stockings, in the hope of attracting presents of their own from St Nicholas, on Christmas Eve. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols of St Nicholas.

The example of St Nicholas has never been forgotten. In bygone years boys in Germany and Poland would dress up as bishops on 6th December, and beg alms for the poor. In the Netherlands and Belgium 'St Nicholas' would arrive on a steamship from Spain to ride a white horse on his gift-giving rounds. To this day, 6th December is still the main day for gift-giving and merry-making in much of Europe. Many feel that simple gift-giving in early Advent helps preserve a Christmas Day focus on the Christ Child.

If you want to get anything into this Mini-mag, space permitting, just Email candjparrish@icloud.com or put it into the Mail Box in the church in the Magazine slot by, latest, **Sat 22nd December** for the January edition, please.

The Friends of St Peter's - the active fundraisers for our Church!

The next Friends event is to be held on Saturday 19th January at 7pm in The Peter Hall when we will be holding our regular New Year Party and Quiz. This is always great fun. Tickets are £10 from Committee Members and from the RMC Office in the Church. Also please note in your diaries the Friends AGM which this year is on 22nd January at 3pm, also in The Peter Hall. Sadly the attendance Poetry, Prose and Prosecco event in November was very small, although the people who came were most appreciative.

The Christ who came

by Sam Doubtfire

Christmas looms
 And cardboard boxes stored away
 With tinsel, tree and trinkets
 Are brought out –
 Fripperies spared the ever-growing landfill sites
 Because they have the power to bring our memories
 Of yester-year into the present day.

So too the Church in all its Advent preparations
 Paves the way to celebrate the past and present Incarnation
 In ancient tales told year by year
 To weave the fabric of eternal truth
 Into the garment of our loving
 In God's world to-day:

That truth of God's activity
 Through human kind
 In the Christ who came
 And still comes to His own
 To live
 And love
 And serve God's world

Through those who welcome Him
 In heart and home.

The total to date from the extra Big Poppy Display at the back of the Church towards the Remembrance Day from St Peter's Church is £574. Could be more in the end! Thank you to everyone who contributed.. That total is fantastic. It all goes to the Royal British Legion.

Poster found in a church in France

(translated)

As you visit this church this Christmas, it is possible that you may hear the call of God. However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile, so thank you for turning it off.

If you want to talk to God, please choose a quiet corner here and talk to Him. If you want to see Him later, send Him a text while driving.

The Leprosy Mission

Sadly leprosy is still rife in certain parts of the world. We can help by collecting up our used stamps as they can be sold for the benefit of those who suffer so horribly. There is a box for the stamps to the right of the main door of the church. Thank you. Pam Mayor

Some comments on her recent life by Beryl Dickinson,

who is on our sick list

Ever tried to dial 999? Quite a few of you, I expect! Beryl says she could write a book about what happened when the Fire Brigade came to her rescue and took a major role in getting her to the RDE Hospital recently. She had fallen and banged her head, but was most thankful not to have any broken bones!

On another occasion, an ambulance crew suspected she had a tummy bug so by-passed A&E and took her directly to the Isolation Hospital. After a few days in complete isolation in a private room (there are only 10 rooms in the unit), she enjoyed wonderful meals, service, hospital bed, etc. A charming Indian from Goa arrived, beaming, with every delicious meal, no different from the Nuffield Private Hospital. She has enjoyed much needed TLC and been investigated for almost everything under the sun, whilst they tried to find what type of bug had caused all the trouble and then how to treat it. She is now at home and making excellent progress and hopes to be back with the lovely 'family' at St Peter's on Advent Sunday.

SOME USEFUL LOCAL NUMBERS

 <p>PREMIER CAFÉ <i>Traditional Fish and Chips and more.....</i> 01395 442962</p>	<p>Roger Pollard Plumbing and Heating Engineer 01395 444049</p>	<p>Bright Garden Services Mowing & Edging, Hedges & Strimming, Decking, Gates & Fences, Garden Clearance David Bright 01395 225386, Mob 07790 022767</p>	<p>Sherwood's Tree Care Fully Insured Free Consultations Friendly & Efficient Tree Care Edward Clarke NCHArb 01395 444423 07961929 383</p>	<p>Palmers Funeralcare Here for you when you need us most Funeral Planning Pre-Paid Funeral Arrangements Memorial Masonry & Floral Tributes Available 24 hours Budleigh Salterton 45 High Street EX9 6LE Tel: 01395 442252 also at Exmouth Tel: 01395 222333</p>
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St PETER'S CALENDAR for December (including **East Budleigh** and **Otterton** Services)

Sun	2nd	Holy Communion BCP	8.00am	Wed	19th	Holy Communion BCP	9.30am
	Advent Sunday	Holy Communion	9.30am			Youth Group in The Peter Hall	3.30pm
		Parish Eucharist	10.00am	Thurs	20th	St Peter's School End of Term Service	10.00am
		Holy Communion	11.00am			Otterton School End of Term Service	2.00pm
Mon	3rd	PCC Meeting - The Peter Hall	7.00pm			Silent Meditation	6.15pm
Tues	4th	Prayer Group Meeting in the Lady Chaspel	9.30am	Fri	21st	Rendezvous Coffee Morning	10.00am
Wed	5th	Holy Communion BCP	9.30am			Millwater School End of Term Service	10.00am
		Youth Group in The Peter Hall	3.30pm			Drake's School End of Term Service	2.00pm
Thurs	6th	Silent Meditation	10.00am			Holy Communion	11.30am
Fri	7th	Rendezvous Coffee Morning	10.00am	Sun	23rd	Holy Communion BCP	8.00am
		Holy Communion	11.30am			Holy Communion	9.30am
		Late Night Shopping. Carols on Temple Methodist steps	6.00pm			Parish Eucharist	10.00am
						Holy Communion	11.00am
Sun	9th	Holy Communion BCP	8.00am	Mon	24th	CHRISTMAS EVE	
	Mission Sunday	Parish Eucharist	10.00am			Christingle	3.00pm
		Holy Communion	9.30am			Christingle	5.00pm
		Holy Communion	11.00am			Carol Service	6.00pm
		Advent Choral Evensong	6.00pm			Midnight Mass	11.00pm
Wed	12th	Holy Communion BCP	9.30am	Tue	25th	CHRISTMAS DAY	
		Loaves & Fishes Lunch	12.30pm			Holy Communion BCP	8.00am
		Bible Study in the Lady Chapel	2.30pm			Parish Eucharist for Christmas	10.00am
		Youth Group in The Peter Hall	3.30pm			Holy Communion	10.00am
Thurs	13th	Silent Meditation	6.15pm			Holy Communion	10.00am
Fri	14th	Rendezvous Coffee Morning	10.00am	Wed	26th	BOXING DAY No Service	
		Holy Communion for healing	11.30am	Thurs	27th	Silent Meditation	6.15pm
Sun	16th	Holy Communion BCP	8.00am	Fri	28th	Rendezvous Coffee Morning	10.00am
		Holy Communion	9.30am			Holy Communion	11.30am
		Parish Eucharist	10.00am	Sun	30th	Holy Communion BCP	8.00am
		Holy Communion	11.00am			Holy Communion	9.30am
		Carol Service	4.00pm			Parish Eucharist	10.00am
		Candlelit Service of Lessons and Carols	6.00pm			Holy Communion	11.00am

*Morning Prayer is said at **All Saints' East Budleigh** on **Tuesday mornings at 9.30am.**
Morning Prayer is said at **St Michael's Otterton** on **9.30 Thursdays.***

Those Useful Quick Contacts (all 01395 numbers unless shown otherwise)

Vicar: The Rev Martin Jacques, The New Vicarage, Vicarage Rd, East Budleigh EX9 6EF	revmartinjacques@gmail.com (not Fridays)	443473
Associate Priest: The Rev Karen Young, Maranatha, Boucher Way, B.S. EX9 6HQ	thereverendkarenyoung@gmail.com	488121
Youth Minister: James McAdam	youthminister@raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk	265836
RMC Administrator: Mrs Fran Mills	Email: raleighmc@gmail.com. or	443397
Office open Mon 1pm - 3pm, Tues, Wed and Thurs mornings 10am to noon and Fri 10 am - 2pm		
Churchwardens:	Iris Cooper 445273	Paul Maslen 488861
Deputy Wardens:	Judith Stewart-Young 442197	Chris Parrish 442275
	Pat Rogers 446304	Eileen Milne 446725
PCC Secretary:	Iris Cooper 445273	PCC Treasurer: Tony Gray 444006
Director of Music and Organist: The Rev Clifton Chilton-Graham		01884 32545
Peter Hall Manager: George Maddaford		446077
Friends of St Peter's Chairman: Christine Channon		442927
Burial Ground Manager: Brian Shackleton		443762
Safeguarding Representative: Rosemary Humphreys		488524