

St Margaret's Church

Holyrood: Prestwich



PARISH MAGAZINE

Magazine No. 717: January 2021

60p

THE PARISH OF ST MARGARET, HOLYROOD, PRESTWICH

CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICERS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Priest-in-Charge | Rev. Deborah Sandercock-Pickles | 773 2698 |
| Curate | Rev. Sue Walker | 07761565428 |
| Churchwardens | Mr. David McConville | (www.stmargaretsprestwich.com) |
| | Mrs. Laurel Avery | 773 4214 |
| Deputy Churchwarden | Vacant | |
| Reader | Mrs. Christine Hardy | 07557883501 |
| Authorised Lay Minister | Mrs. Carol Olive | 798 9635 |
| P.C.C. Secretary | Mrs. Joan Evans | 773 9683 |
| P.C.C. Treasurer | Mrs. Anne Orrell | 773 7536 |
| Electoral Roll Secretary | Mrs. Zandra Lewis | 773 7319 |
| Child Protection Officer | Mrs. J.P. Jackson | 773 1507 |

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

| | |
|------------------|---|
| SUNDAY | 8.00am Holy Communion |
| | 9.45am Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments |
| | Evening Service - As announced |
| WEDNESDAY | 10.00am Holy Communion followed by refreshments |
| HOLY DAYS | Holy Communion - As Announced |

See the magazine calendar for the full list of services for the month
(Home communions by arrangement with clergy)

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CRÈCHE

A Crèche for children under 3 is available in church during the Sung Eucharist.

The Sunday School meets in term-time in the church house from 9:45am to 11.00am
All children aged 3 and over are welcome. Co-ordinator Mrs. G.M. McConville
(stmargaretsprestwich.wordpress.com)

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

The Church Office is open for the arrangement of Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Marriages
and General Enquiries on **Thursday Evenings from 7.00pm to 8.00pm**

PARISH MAGAZINE

Advertisements

Mrs. V. Swallow

798 656

Dear friends,

New Year and Epiphany

So, it's January, and a new year, a time to reflect on the past year, and look forward to the next and what it may bring.

We're also in the season of Epiphany, and the Sunday readings for the Epiphany season can fit in with that new year feeling, as they give us a variety of 'new starts' to reflect on.

We begin with the Epiphany itself – the new-born king revealed to the Magi, God made man, Emmanuel, shown to the world. A new start of great hope and expectation – and yet with it comes the shadow of danger and uncertainty. The threat from Herod, flight into Egypt, slaughter of the innocents and even the wise men's gifts look forward to the cross.

The Baptism of Christ follows, when the adult Jesus appears on the scene, ready to take up his ministry. His calling is confirmed and supported, as after baptism Jesus sees the Holy Spirit descend on him and hears his Father's words 'This is my Son'. But he faces a challenge too, going out into the desert to work out what form that ministry should take. Then we'll hear about the beginning of Jesus's ministry, and his calling of the first disciples. They must have come with such excitement, forgetting their own plans – but not knowing, not understanding, what they were called to. Jesus proclaims that the kingdom of heaven has come near – but we know the way to new life and resurrection lies through the cross.

This month is a good time to think about new starts – not just the inevitable and hopeless new year resolutions! Maybe for some of us this year will bring a much-wanted new start, filled with hope. Others may be more aware of the difficulties and challenges that lie ahead. And some will be expecting little change, just more of the same – whether that fills them with comfort or despair. And some of us will find ourselves facing an unwanted and unexpected new start, which has been forced upon us, especially in the light of everything that has happened in the last year. There is so much uncertainty as we think about the future. However well we may think that we have mapped our lives out, none of us can be sure what the year will bring – good or bad.

Have you ever been walking in the hills with friends on a misty day? When you get above the mist and look in one direction you look onto a thick covering of almost solid mist. It could be a metaphor of how the future can look at its worse – with no view ahead, no clear path, all unknown and unwelcoming. However, in the other direction there is a contrast – still misty but with a line of thin blue sky and even a glimpse of sunshine lighting up the skies. Still a picture of uncertainty, but with a feeling of hope. As you come down from the hills into the ordinariness of life there is a feeling of hope as you follow the track and see gorse bushes with their bright yellow flowers defiantly blooming and leaf buds on trees

which cling to the slopes. Out of the adversity there is hope. Epiphany means revealed. Christ is revealed bringing hope and it is that hope that we can cling onto.

Whatever the new starts and challenges of the year ahead, we know that God is walking with us on the way, guiding and directing us, lighting our way and bringing hope.

With every blessing for the year ahead,

Deborah

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS

We commend into the loving hands of Almighty God:

LEAH REBECCA HYNES, whose funeral took place at St. Margaret's Church on 15th December 2020.

GORDON SIMPSON, whose funeral took place at St. Margaret's Church on 23rd December 2020.

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2021

Please bear in mind that these may change dependent of government changes and consequent restrictions.

Peregrini Morning Prayer will take place daily at 8.30am on-line. Compline will take place daily at 8.15pm on-line. Both can be found on www.facebook.com/Deborahsayshello or www.facebook.com/StmaggieP

Sunday 3rd January

9.45am

11.15am

From 9.45 am

Epiphany

Holy Communion at St. M's

Holy Communion at St. G's

Epiphany celebration on-line

Mon 4th Jan

7.00pm

Bible study (on Zoom)

Tues 5th Jan

2.30pm

Bible study (on Zoom)

Wed 6th Jan

10.00am

Holy Communion at St. M's

Sunday 10th Jan

9.45am

11.15am

The Baptism of Christ/1st Sunday of Epiphany

Holy Communion at St. M's

Holy Communion at St. G's

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Mon 11th Jan | 7.00pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Tues 12th Jan | 2.30pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Wed 13th Jan | 10.00am | Holy Communion at St. M's |
| <hr/> | | |
| Sunday 17th Jan | | The Second Sunday of Epiphany |
| | 9.45am | Holy Communion at St. M's |
| | 11.15am | Holy Communion at St. G's |
| Mon 18th Jan | 7.00pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Tues 19th Jan | 2.30pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Wed 20th Jan | 10.00am | Holy Communion at St. M's |
| <hr/> | | |
| Sunday 24th January | | The Third Sunday of Epiphany |
| | 9.45am | Holy Communion at St. M's |
| | 11.15am | Holy Communion at St. G's |
| | 4.00pm | Service of Wholeness and Wellbeing (online) |
| Mon 25th Jan | 7.00pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Tues 26th Jan | 2.30pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Wed 27th Jan | 10.00am | Holy Communion at St. M's |
| <hr/> | | |
| Sunday 31st January | | Candlemas |
| | 9.45am | Holy Communion at St. M's |
| | 9.45am | Holy Communion on-line with music |
| | 11.15am | Holy Communion at St. G's |
| Mon 1st Feb | 7.00pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Tues 2nd Feb | 2.30pm | Bible study (on Zoom) |
| Wed 3rd Feb | 10.00am | Holy Communion at St. Margaret's |
| Thurs 4th Feb | 2.00pm | World Cancer Day Service (on-line) |

Please do check our Facebook page and website for up-to-date information.

NB GOODS FOR PORCH BOXES CAN BE DROPPED OFF ON THURSDAY MORNINGS, 9.30-11.00AM

St GEORGE'S CHURCH, SIMISTER, January 2021

Hi Everybody

We would like to wish everyone a healthy and peaceful New Year for 2021

Carol Service

What strange circumstances! No singing in church at Christmas. It was still a lovely service, thank you to all involved in organising it.

Young at Heart Group

Unfortunately, we were not able to have our usual get together but thank you for the thoughtful gifts, we were able to have our own afternoon tea knowing that others were joining in, not in person but in spirit.

Toy service At St George's we normally ask for donations to give to a teenage group but because of the Covid restrictions we were not able to contact the young people. Collections were made and we decided to give £50 to 'Porch Boxes' and the remainder to the Children's Society. The money, along with the usual envelopes were passed to Peter North. Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

Flowers on Christmas Day

Thank you to Barbara Ashurst for arranging the beautiful flowers on Christmas Day.

The following Lists are now included on the weekly service sheet.

Will you please pray for those who are sick remembering especially:

Tom Porter, Joyce Roebuck, Barbara Peeling, Mary and Colin Hargreaves, Rita Evans, Barbara Cass, Bob Hardy and Revd. Deborah.

All our church families, own friends, relatives and mankind.

Anniversaries of death. There will be no flowers in church

In January we remember:

William Bradley, Annie Hardy, John Woodcock, Ronald Smith, Kenneth Partington, Nancy Hall, Sydney Rosenfield, Glyndwr John Lloyd, Jean Stansfield and William H. Gorman.

Thank you to Carol, Barbara and all the church family for all their support during the last year, it has been very difficult, but things will improve. Remember, through prayer nothing is impossible. Joan

CONGRATULATIONS to Maureen and Alan Wild on the celebration of their Golden Wedding in December

Please take care, keep safe and well, much love and God bless. Joan and Carol xx

St. Margaret's Church REREDOS FLOWERS

There are currently no flowers in church



MESSY CHURCH

There is no Messy Church at Home in January 2021.

Promises worth keeping

According to a YouGov survey this time last year people's all-time top 3 New Year's Resolutions are

1. More exercise
2. Lose weight
3. Improve my diet

So you would think the nation's health would steadily improve. No? Perhaps that's because good intentions don't always last. For example, although about one in four people in the UK are members of a gym, half of them rarely, if ever, go.

We've all been there; we know what we would like to change. We really, really will do it this time...

The Christian approach to making promises is rather different. On New Year's Eve there was an online service. It's still there on the blog. It was a bit different from the usual services, because it was based around the Methodist idea of covenant. The core idea is the promise God made in the Old Testament "I will be their God and they shall be my people". As members of the body of Christ God offers us a loving relationship with Him. He is totally committed to us. Are we prepared to accept that reality and commit ourselves to Him?

The Covenant Service goes right back to 1775 and was instituted by John Wesley. He realised the need people had to regularly open themselves up to God more fully, not just as individuals, but together, as a church. First, we confessed that we have not always lived as we should and then we prayed The Methodist Covenant prayer.

I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing, put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,
exalted for you, or brought low for you;
let me be full, let me be empty,
let me have all things, let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen

New Year's resolutions are about a determination to be in control, and most of us very soon realise the truth that we are not. We can't control circumstances, nor the behaviour of others, nor even ourselves. However much we need to change, it somehow doesn't happen. So perhaps the real benefit of New Year Resolutions is that they reveal our weakness and inadequacy, our inability to do the things we think we should.

The covenant prayer makes it very clear we are not in control. We offer to God our work (paid or unpaid) our status and our possessions and we accept that we will allow God to take those things, if that is what he chooses. Surrendering, of course, makes it neither more nor less likely for those losses to happen, but we are promising to face such deprivations without complaint or bitterness.

It's a tall order, and I have no doubt that in 2021, having prayed that prayer, I will still complain and worry about the things that happen to me. But perhaps I can make a little more progress this year, grumbling a little less and being thankful a little more.

Will you join me? Because the other issue with New Year Resolutions is that they are about what I shall do. But Wesley knew the strength that comes from making the promise in community and encouraging each other to stay on course. There are still tough times ahead, but if we face them together, 2021 can be, in spite of everything, a truly blessed year.

Rev Sue

Please remember: when wearing a face mask, it must cover your nose as well as your mouth!

Remember: from Saturday 8 August wearing Facemasks in all places of worship is compulsory by law

The Twelve Days of Christmas (Trad.)

How often have we heard grumbles that Christmas seems to start earlier and earlier every year – and usually around September! As a musician, planning music for concerts and services for the festive season starts during the summer break, and rehearsals usually in October. As a primary school teacher, rehearsals for the Christmas nativity plays started as soon as school returned from the autumn half term break. It takes time to get ready. As a BBC Radio 4 listener, in November 2020 I heard an interview with a supermarket manager who explained that Christmas goods are stocked from September not with the expectation of selling them, but to lodge the idea in the back of shoppers' minds, so that when the time came, they would know where to go to buy their supplies.

2020 was a tough year for all retail businesses – apart from the major supermarkets and Amazon! Many small independent traders had Advent sales, trying to drum up business before Christmas. Understandable, but not really in keeping with the spirit of Advent. One online company had – during Advent – a “12 Days of Christmas” daily sale of treats. I have even seen “Advent Calendars” with 31 days. Reader, that’s not an Advent calendar! It’s a regular calendar for any month with 31 days. The litany of commercial misunderstandings, deliberate or unintentional, of when the Christmas season actually starts goes on at length.

Christmas begins on Christmas Day. The four weeks prior are Advent. The first day of the Christmas season is Christmas Day, and it only lasts for twelve days. After that we’re in Epiphany.

Back to those precious 12 days. One of my annual Christmas highlights is singing with the Manchester Chorale in the Bridgewater Hall on Christmas Eve afternoon. It’s a “singalong” concert of Christmas songs and carols, and always includes the Twelve Days of Christmas. The audience is sectioned into 12 groups, and each given an action to do on “their” day in the song. We on stage have to do all of them. It’s riotously good fun.

But what's it all about? As a list of gifts to send to one's true love, it's all a bit random, and in many cases would be wholly unwelcome (I refer you to the [correspondence poem](#) by John Julius Norwich).

For our parish blog this year I did a little research into the theology and symbolism of the gifts, and offer here a summary of my findings:

Day 1 – a partridge in a pear tree: Jesus Christ, God's gift to us. Worth noting that the mother partridge is the only bird that will die for her young.

Day 2 – 2 turtle doves: the two Testaments of our Bible.

Day 3 – 3 French hens: these represent faith, hope and love, written about by St Paul in [1 Corinthians 13](#).

Day 4 – 4 calling birds: the four Gospel writers, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Day 5 – 5 gold rings: the first five books of the Old Testament, also known as the Torah.

Day 6 – 6 geese a-laying: the 6 eggs represent each of the 6 days of creation in the book of [Genesis](#).

Day 7 – 7 swans a-swimming: these are for the 7 [gifts of the Holy Spirit](#) – prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, leading, and compassion.

Day 8 – 8 maids a-milking: the maids represent the [Beatitudes](#). Milking cows by hand is tough work, done by the lowliest in society. No accident then that milk maids were chosen to represent those who receive Christ's blessings.

Day 9 – 9 ladies dancing: these are the [fruits of the Holy Spirit](#) – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Day 10 – 10 lords a-leaping: the ten commandments.

Day 11 – 11 pipers piping: the Eleven 'true' disciples of Jesus. Judas Iscariot is not included in this number.

Day 12 – 12 drummers drumming: these represent the 12 points of doctrine in the [Creed](#) that we say in church every Sunday.

Thus, Twelfth Night is January 5, the night before the Feast of Epiphany on January 6, when we remember the arrival of the Magi.

I leave you with this little Christmas treat: our own Maggie's Music Makers singing the Twelve Days of Christmas, accompanied as always by Tom: <https://youtu.be/pz0It-ZQEFs>

Carol P



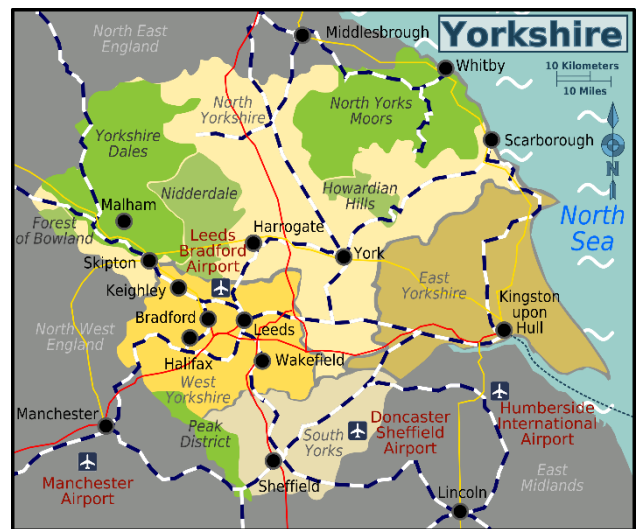
Maggie's Music Makers

Who knows whether we will be rehearsing in church or online in January?? Plans are in place for both. Please contact Carol P if you would like to join in.

LE to JOG: Leeds to Newcastle

Leeds

I have now made it to Leeds. Leeds was a small manorial borough in the 13th century, becoming a major centre for the production and trading of wool in the 17th and 18th centuries, then a major mill town during the Industrial Revolution; wool was still the dominant industry, but flax, engineering, iron foundries, printing, and other industries were also important. From being a market town in the valley of the River Aire in the 16th century, Leeds expanded and absorbed the surrounding villages to become an urban centre by the mid-20th century.



Leeds' most interesting museum is the Leeds Armouries. It was originally built to house the armour and weapons from the Tower of London but expanded to cover 3000 years of fighting and self-defence. There is so much to see and do including live action-packed jousting.

York

York is an absolutely amazing place to me, and it holds so many memories. It is where I went to University 'the College of Ripon and York St. John', which is just behind the minster. What an amazing place to study and sight to see every day. Nowhere in Northern England says 'medieval' quite like York. It is a city of extraordinary culture and historic wealth, and it has not lost any of its pre-industrial charm. It's medieval spider's web of narrow streets is enclosed by a magnificent circuit of 13th century walls. At the centre is the immense and awe-inspiring minster, one of the most beautiful Gothic cathedrals in the world. The city's long history and rich heritage is written into every brick.

So, a little bit of York's history. In AD 71, the Romans built a fort called Eboracum so their troops would have somewhere to sleep after a busy day fighting the local tribes. Over time, a largish civilian settlement grew up around the fort. By the time Constantine the Great was proclaimed emperor here in AD306 it was a fully-fledged town. After the collapse of the Roman empire, the town was taken by the Anglo-Saxons who re-named it Eoforwic and made it the capital city of the independent Kingdom of Northumbria.

In 625 a Roman priest called Paulinus came to town and converted the king and all his nobles. Two years later, he built the first wooden church and for most of the next century the city was a major centre of learning, attracting students from all over the world.

This lasted until 866, when the next wave of invaders arrived. This time it was the marauding Vikings who threw everyone out and gave the town the more user-friendly name of Yorvik. It was to be their capital for the next 100 years and during that time they put their pillaging ways away and turned the city into an important trading post.

Danish rule ended in 954 when King Eadred of Wessex drove out the last Viking king and reunited Danelaw with the South – but trouble brewed again in 1066, when King Harold got his come uppance at the hands of William the Conquer at Hastings.

William exerted his own brand of tough love in York. After his two wooden castles were captured by an Anglo-Scandinavian army, he torched the whole city (and Durham) and the surrounding countryside so that the rebels knew who was boss. The Normans then set about rebuilding the city, including a new minster. From that moment, everything in York was rosy (except for a blip in 1137 when the whole city caught fire) and over the next 300 years it prospered through royal patronage, textiles, trade and the church.

No sooner than the church finally get re-built than the city went into full recession. In the 15th century Hull took over as the region's main port and the textile industry moved elsewhere. Henry V's inability to keep a wife and the ensuing problems with the church that resulted in the reformation hit York pretty hard. However, Henry established a branch of the King's Council in York to help govern the North and this was to contribute to the city's recovering under Elizabeth 1 and James 1.

The council was abolished during Charles 1st reign, but the king established his court here during the Civil War. Which drew the attention of the Parliamentarians. They besieged the pro-monarchist York for three months in 1644, but by a fortunate accident of history, their leader was a local man called Sir Thomas Fairfax, who prevented his troops from setting York alight. Thereby preserving the city and the minster.

Not much happened after that. Throughout the 18th century the city was a fashionable social centre dominated by the aristocracy, who were drawn by its culture and new racecourse. When the railway was built in 1839, thousands of people were employed in the new industries that rose up around it, such as confectionary. These industries went into

decline in the latter half of the 20th century but by then a new invader was asking for directions at the city gates, armed only with a guidebook!

No, I didn't do history at Uni, it was the sciences!

So, what are the highlight of York? Obviously, the minister. Seat of the archbishop of York, it is second importance only to Canterbury. Around the Minister is St. William's College, the Treasurer's House and St. Michael-le-Belfry church, which I attended whilst in York (in the time of David Watson).

Going around the walls is a must and you can get to them via Monk Bar, Bootham Bar and Walmgate Bar (NB around York, bar means gate, and gate means street!)

Clifford's Tower is all that is left of the castle. It is a stone tower of an unusual figure of eight design built into the cattle's keep after the original one was destroyed in 1190 during anti-Jewish riots.

Easingwold

Tucked away at the foot of the Howardian Hills, is one of Yorkshire little gems Easingwold. This attractive Georgian market town is set in the ancient Forest of Galtres and regularly tops national charts in all manner of culinary fare. Clustered around the Market Square are independent bakeries and tearooms. Nearby are the stately homes and historic homes of Sutton Park and Beningbrough Hall

Thirsk

Thirsk is a traditional North Yorkshire Market town superbly positioned midway between the stunning North York Moors and the beautiful Yorkshire Dales.

Thirsk has a charm of its own, essentially unchanged and uninfluenced by the world. It centres around a bustling cobbled market square, dominated by the town clock, with its Monday and Saturday markets and independent shopping. Visitors from all over the world are impressed by the warm and friendly welcome of the residents of this town.

There are a number of flat, short walks through the town and along the river. There are more strenuous ones on the Hambleton Hills and the moorland tracks such as The Drove Road. The Swale Way long distance path passes through Thirsk connecting Boroughbridge and Kirby Stephen.

Northallerton

Nestled in the centre of the Vale of York, Northallerton is proud to call itself the heart of North Yorkshire. Originally the Vikings used it as an administrative centre and it has developed over the years as a coaching stop. One of the oldest inns in the town hosted Charles Dickens whilst he was writing Nicholas Nickleby. It is a thriving, bustling market

town full of life. It has a rich varied heritage with some beautiful buildings including Mount Grace Priory. It has a good mix of eateries, including Betty's (also in York). Northallerton is ideally placed for the Dales and the Moors. Mel, a friend from University times lives here. Hopefully, we will be able to meet up in reality in the future.



Darlington

Continuing North, the next stop is Darlington, a contemporary market town in County Durham in the North East of England. The town owes much of its development to the influence of local Quaker families in the Georgian and Victorian era and who provided much of the fiancé and vision in creating the Stockton and Darlington railway, the world's first steam locomotive powered permanent passenger railway.

Darlington has long been a centre for engineering, particularly bridge building. Bridges built in Darlington are found as far away as the River Nile and the River Amazon. The large engineering firm Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Company has its headquarters in the town and built Tyne Bridge, the Humber Bridge and the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

One of my friends from University lives in Darlington. She posted a picture of the four of us who shared a house together. 'I hope that all is well with you and your family Gill, and that we will meet up sometime soon' (post COVID-19).

Durham

County Durham consists of picturesque, peaceful villages and unspoilt markets of the North Pennines and the gentle ochre hills of Teesdale. At the heart of it all is county Durham's exquisite capital, Durham. For the last three centuries, the mining of coal has been the main industry and the countryside is scattered with relics of that all-important industry, now slowly being reclaimed from nature. Brutal and dangerous coal mining was the lifeblood of entire communities until its sudden end in 1984. Durham has a turbulent history. To keep the Scots and local tribes quiet, William the Conqueror created the title of Prince Bishop in 1081 and gave it vice-regal power over an area known as the Palatinate of Durham, which became almost like a separate country. It raised its own armies, collected taxes and administered a separate legal system that wasn't fully incorporated into the greater English structure until 1971.

Durham hosts England's most beautiful Romanesque cathedral, a huge castle, the university and a cobweb of cobbled make it a great place to visit.

The cathedral is stunning, described by 19th century novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne as ‘I never saw so lovely a magnificent scene, nor (being content with this) do I care to see better.’ The cathedral is enormous and has a pretty, fortified look. This is because although it may have been built to pay tribute to God and to house the holy bones of Cuthbert, it also needed to withstand any potential attack by the Scots and the Northumberland tribes who weren’t too thrilled by the Normans who arrived a few years before. The interior is spectacular, the nave is dominated by massive, powerful piers carved with geometric designs. Durham was the first European cathedral to be roofed with stone ribbed vaulting which held the heavy stone roof and made it possible to build pointed transverse arches – the first in England.

Angel of the North

This is one of my favourite pieces of artwork, a 200-tonne rust coloured human frame with wings (aka the Gateshead Flasher) towering over the A1 5 miles south of Newcastle. It is 20m high with the wingspan wider than a Boeing 767, is Antony Gormley’s most successful work and the country’s largest sculpture.

According to Gormley, the significance of an angel was three-fold: firstly, to signify that beneath the site of its construction, coal miners worked for two centuries; secondly, to grasp the transition from an industrial to an information age; and thirdly, to serve as a focus for our evolving hopes and fears.

Newcastle

Wey aye man! I am in Newcastle. A place orphaned by the demise of coal and coal related industry a couple of decades ago, but now in the arms of rejuvenation into a hip city in the North. Wild and crazy nightlife attract hen and stag weekenders. The River Tyne marks the boundary of Newcastle in the North and Gateshead in the South, and its bridges are a focal point for visitors. The Tyne Bridge (1925-28) was built at the same time as the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the quaint little Swing Bridge pivots in the middle to let ships through. Nearby the High Level Bridge, designed by Robert Loui Stephenson, was the world’s first road and railway bridge (1849). The most recent is the multiple award-winning Millennium Bridge (aka Blinking Bridge 2002) which opens like an eyelid to let ships pass.



THANK YOU: LAND'S END TO JOHN O'GROATS

I completed my Land's End to John O'Groats challenge on Friday 27th November (having started on 13th April). A big thank you for your encouragement, support and generosity. We raised £3860 for Cancer Research UK, which is amazing amount. Thank you so much.

OUR DAILY BREAD

JANUARY 2021



A Prayer for January



God of yesterday, today and forever, we thank you for your loving care, protection and strength. As Joseph, once abandoned into slavery, was able with confidence to state that every part of his life was lived according to your will, so we ask that the whole of our lives might be testament to your eternal love, mercy and grace.
Amen

1st: The Naming & Circumcision of Jesus

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was circumcised in obedience to the law for our sake and given the Name that is above every name: give us grace faithfully to bear his Name, to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit, and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

2nd:

Our prayer and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well; while one ascends the other descends. – Arthur Hopkins

Sunday 3rd: 2nd Sunday after Christmas

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:1-5

4th:

"There are two seasonal diversions that can ease the bite of any winter. One is the January thaw. The other is the seed catalogues."- **Hal Borland**

5th:

Dear Lord and Father of mankind forgive our foolish ways.

6th: The Epiphany



O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

7th:

"Wise men followed Jesus. People who are wise still do."

8th:

Inspire me to live in your presence every day so that I may share your outlook and do the ordinary things of life in an extraordinary way. May this, Lord, my prayer today, rise before you like the burning of incense. Amen.

9th:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart....in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. **Proverbs 3:5,6**

Sunday 10th: Baptism of Christ

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day **Genesis 1:1-5**

11th:

The Lord is good and his love.....continues through all generations – **Psalm 100: 5**

12th:

When God asks you to step out of your comfort zone – DO IT- and wear a glorious pair of shoes. "When I am afraid I will put my confidence in You -**Psalm 56:3**

13th:

Seek the Lord while you can find him. Call on Him now while He is near – **Isaiah 55: 6**

14th:

Jesus Christ carries on intercession for us in heaven; the Holy Ghost carries on intercession in us on earth; and we the saints have to carry on intercession for all men. **Oswald Chambers**

15th:

God of grace and glory give us the mind, the heart, and the strength to live for you. Walk with us and work through us that we may be faithful in prayer, grow in holiness and draw many to you. As we walk in the power of the Spirit transform us into the likeness of Christ, to the glory of your name. Amen – **Peregrini**

16th:

"January brings the snow,
Makes our feet and fingers glow." - **Sara Coleridge, Pretty Lessons in Verse**

Sunday 17th:

"Anyone who thinks gardening begins in the spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole year; for gardening begins in January with the dream." -**Josephine Nuese**

18th:

The theme for the 2018 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, "Your Right Hand, O Lord, Glorious in Power," is taken from the book of Exodus 15:6. The resources for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the churches of the Caribbean

19th:

Lord, help us not to seek the applause of our friends and colleagues, but rather to look to You for approval. Teach us to put into practice the principles of the Sermon on the Mount. Amen

20th:

Let us give thanks for all the gifts we have received from God, our Father; also for His continued love. We have many things to thank God for – family, friends and all our spiritual needs. We see that the goodness and love of God follows us all the days of our lives.

21st:

Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles – **Isaiah 40:31**

22nd:

What can I give him, poor as I am, if I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb, if I were a wise man I would play my part, what can I give Him give my heart.

23rd:

Satisfy us each morning with your unfailing love, so we may sing for joy to the end of our lives. **Psalm 90:14**

Sunday 24th:

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **1 John 4:11**

25th: The Conversion of Paul

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

26th: Timothy & Titus – Companions of Paul

Heavenly Father, who sent your apostle Paul to preach the gospel, and gave him Timothy and Titus to be his companions in faith: grant that our fellowship in the Holy Spirit may bear witness to the name of Jesus. Amen

27th:

“In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven hallowed be Your name.” **Matthew 6:9**

28th: Thomas Aquinas

God of truth, whose Wisdom set her table and invited us to eat the bread and drink the wine of the kingdom: help us to lay aside all foolishness and to live and walk in the way of insight, that we may come with your servant Thomas Aquinas to the eternal feast of heaven.

29th:

Because you are with me, Lord, I can wait in patience and in hope for the new life you bring. Amen

30th:

"Winter, a lingering season, is a time to gather golden moments, embark upon a sentimental journey, and enjoy every idle hour." - **John Boswell**

Sunday 31st:

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant." - **Anne Bradstreet**

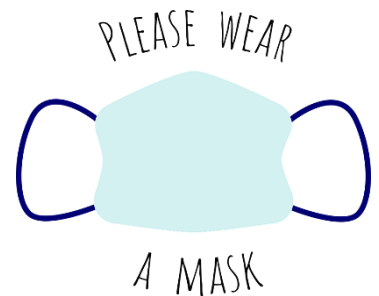


**Good morning little snowdrop, so full of hope and grace.
How wonderful to welcome your gentle smiling face.
Good afternoon young snowdrop, so full of peace and love
How wonderful to welcome you to the world above.
Good day my little snowdrop, so delicate and fine
How wonderful to welcome you into this heart of mine.
Good evening humble snowdrop; I'm so pleased that you're here.
You bring a breath of life to the beginning of the year.**

Face Coverings

As you will know, fabric face-coverings are now legally required in public spaces such as shops, when using public transport, **and in our churches.**

Under my trading name of JeaniusBags I have been making and selling these in all kinds of colours and prints. As I have no wish to profit in any way from the pandemic, every penny raised from the sales of these items continues to be donated to Porch Boxes (<https://porchboxes.wordpress.com/>).



Please take a look at my website (<https://jeaniusbags.com/ppe/>) or Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/pg/JeaniusBags/photos/?tab=album&album_id=690675425061916) and contact Carol P if interested.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all who have helped in any way during our Advent and Christmas services both on-line and in our church buildings. Thank you to those who have been involved in the service and those who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes. Thank you to those who have been involved in contributing to the packages that we have sent out throughout the year and those who have helped with their delivery and in the distribution and delivery of the magazines.

It has been a tough year and I would like to thank you all for the support that you have given to each other, to neighbours, friends, strangers and myself.

Every blessing,

Revd. Deborah

A recipe for a healthy January

January is a time when many of us do a bit of reassessment in terms of priorities. On the global, public scale, climate change is a major issue. Individually, being healthier may well be important to us. Eating less meat and dairy makes a significant contribution in both areas. So, what you really need is a vegan recipe that's delicious, cheap, quick and easy on the digestion after all those mince pies! Here's my favourite. It's not one you will easily get bored with as the ingredients can be endlessly adapted to the vegetables you have in the fridge, and what spices you feel like using. Experiment!

Khichdi

Ingredients

Dry ingredients:

- 3/4 cup (138.75 g) long grain white basmati rice
- 3/4 cup (144 g) quick cooking lentils such as red lentils, (or half moong dal and half red lentils)

Spices:

- 3/4 tsp cumin seeds
- 2 to 3 cloves
- 1 tsp coriander powder
- 1 tbsp onion flakes
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1/4 tsp ground ginger
- 1/2 tsp garam masala , more if you like it spicier
- 3/4 tsp) turmeric
- 1/4 tsp cayenne
- 1 or 2 Indian bay leaves

To Cook:

- 1 tomato chopped
- 1 to 2 cups chopped vegetables
- 5 cups water
- 3/4 tsp salt

Instructions

Heat 1 tsp oil in saucepan on medium. Add the cumin seeds and cloves and cook until fragrant. Add bay leaves, turmeric and garam masala and mix for a few seconds. Add the rest of the ingredients, water, salt. Cover partially and cook for 22 minutes, then check the consistency and doneness and continue to cook more until done.

Garnish with chopped coriander, lemon juice and pepper flakes and serve as is or with chutneys, or poppadums.

Notes

For flavour variation: add 2 green cardamom pods and a cinnamon stick to the spices.

Use other spice blends like berbere, curry powder, Jamaican curry blend, Baharat etc.

Other lentils/rice: If using brown basmati rice, use brown/green lentils, black eyed peas or green mung beans to match the longer cooking time of the rice.

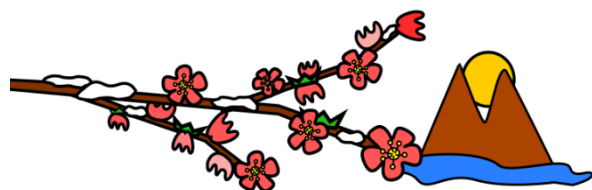
From <https://www.veganricha.com/khichdi-jar-mixed-vegetable-kitchari-mix-instant-pot/>

Articles for future editions of our parish magazine should be emailed as an attachment (Word doc, A4, portrait, no columns) to stmargaretsprestwich@gmail.com no later than:

February Magazine
March Magazine

24 January
21 February

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Directions: Complete the crossword puzzle using the word bank.

| | | | |
|-------|-------|-----------|-------|
| gold | magi | star | dream |
| white | feast | Christmas | gifts |

Down:

- The color of the season of Christmas is _____.
- The three Wise Men brought _____ to Jesus.
- The Wise Men were told in a _____ not to return to Herod.
- The church season we are now in is _____.

Across:

- The _____ of the Epiphany is on January 6th.
- The three Wise Men brought _____, frankincense and myrrh.
- Another name for the three Wise Men is _____.
- The three Wise Men followed a _____ to Jesus.

Name: _____

Epiphany Word Search



- | | | |
|---------------|------------|----------|
| FIRST MIRACLE | REVELATION | MELCHIOR |
| FRANKINCENSE | BALTHAZAR | BAPTISM |
| WISE MEN | BETHLEHEM | HOLIDAY |
| THREE KINGS | CHRISTIAN | JANUARY |
| TWELFTH DAY | EPIPHANY | CASPAR |



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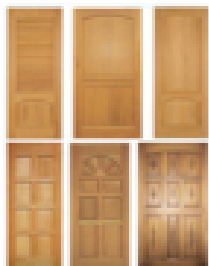
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Lady Wilton Hall, Simister

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<https://stmargaretsprestwich.wordpress.com/>

PAROCHIAL ORGANISATIONS

ST MARGARET'S PRE-SCHOOL Church House Mrs. G.M. McConville (773 9491)
Monday to Friday, 9.15am to 12.15pm, and Monday to Thursday, 1.00pm to 4.00pm

MOTHERS UNION Church House Mrs. J. Johnson (773 8795)
First Friday of the Month, 2.00pm to 4.00pm

SOCIAL CIRCLE Church House Mrs. J. Evans (773 9683)
Third Thursday of the Month, 7.30pm

MAGGIE'S MUSIC GROUP St. Margaret's Church Dr. Carol Porter (773 0836)
Rehearses regularly and welcomes new members

MESSY CHURCH Lady Wilton Hall, Simister
Third Wednesday of the Month, 4.00pm to 5:30pm

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS All in the Youth & Community Centre

Beavers Thursday, 5.30 to 6.30pm } Mrs. S. Lomas (773 0307)

Cubs Thursday 7.00 to 8.30pm }

Scouts } gs/8th@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk

Explorers }

Rainbows Tuesday 5.00 to 6.00pm Mrs. D. Todd (773 0018)

Brownies Tuesday, 6.00 to 7.30pm Mrs. G. Storm (07773 026 398)

Guides Tuesday 7.30 to 9.00pm Mrs. G. Storm (07773 026 398)

MISSION PARTNERSHIP YOUTH GROUP

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SERVICES AT ST GEORGE'S, SIMISTER

Sunday 11.15am Holy Communion

See the magazine calendar for the full list of services for the month

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Youth & Community Centre (St. Margaret's Road) Mrs Y. Storey - 773 8519
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