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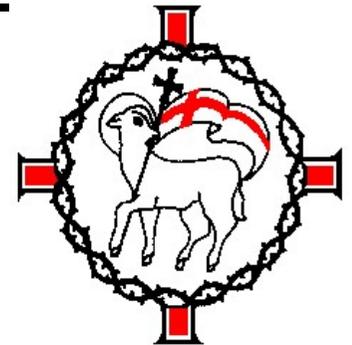
 fourseasons655866@yahoo.com

29 Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge SK15 2JN

St George's Parish Church Stalybridge

Diocese of Manchester

35p



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

*Of the
Father's
love
begotten
ere the
worlds
began to be
of the
things
that are and
have been
and that
future years
shall see
evermore*



December 2019

St George's Church Stalybridge



Clergy

Vicar

Wardens

Mr Derek Redeyoff 0161 338 4779

Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689

Deputy Wardens

Mrs Rose Hayward 0161 303 1731

Mrs Gillian Cotton 0161 303 2787

Mrs Valerie Fallows 0161 304 9522

P.C.C. Secretary

Mrs Lynn Moon 0161 338 5773

Treasurer

Mr Michael Davies 0161 338 5112

Magazine Editor

Mrs Linda Hurst 0161 330 0518

Room Hire

Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689

email: stgwarden@hotmail.co.uk

Worship

Sunday

10.30 a.m.

Sung Communion and Junior Church
(4th Sunday – Family Service)

18.00 p.m.

Occasional Special Services as
announced

Tuesday

10.30 a.m.

No service during interregnum

To receive Communion at home when you are sick or housebound, or to have the name of a departed friend or relation entered in the Book of Remembrance, please contact one of the Wardens.

For Baptisms, Marriages or Funerals please phone the Warden, Derek Redeyoff on 0161 338 4779. Baptisms are usually conducted at 12.30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

From Our Book of Remembrance

1 Dec	Dean Stanley	1976	18 Dec	Martha Ireson	1937
2 Dec	Harriet Shenton	1976		Mary Lloyd	1999
	Harold Harrison Rowbottom	1988		Thelma Adnett	2005
	Harry Brayshaw	2001		Edith Brayshaw	2010
4 Dec	Ellen Wooley Lomas	1970	19 Dec	Jonas Ward	2000
7 Dec	Edgar Jones	1990	22 Dec	Jessie Wyld	1991
7 Dec	Moreen Branwood	1943		Gladys Jakeman	1999
9 Dec	Jack Fitchett	1951		Winifred Barnshaw	2005
10 Dec	Jane Anne Greenhalgh	1978	23 Dec	Emma Gudger	1962
	Malcolm James Donald	2008		James Stott	1983
	Walter Charles Aves	2016		Sarah Hannah Hague	1981
11 Dec	Neil Kershaw	2013		Dorothy Stott	2012
12 Dec	George Woolley Buckley	1990	24 Dec	Mona Jefferson	1988
	Joseph Kinder	1929		Audrey Fallows	2012
13 Dec	Frank Turner	1976	25 Dec	Frank Buckley	1974
	Raymond Stewart	2018		James Reedy	1982
14 Dec	Gertrude Barbara Fitchett	1938		Derek Hibbert	1992
	Ernest Ives	1975		David William Heap	1979
	Nora Grace Council	2008		Ivy Holt	2009
	Philip Edward Davenport	2010		Marian Beatrice Ogden	2013
15 Dec	William Dyson Duckworth	2010	28 Dec	Emily Rosina Pendleton	1987
16 Dec	Eva Whittingham	1984		Alfred White	1988
	John Hague	1968		Thomas Holt	2009
	Minnie Press	1984		George Henry Burtoft	2010
	Edith Longden	2008		Alan Oldham Miller	2011
17 Dec	Anthony John David Gough	1993	29 Dec	Joan Pickles	2006
	Bertha Barnfield	1998	31 Dec	Alice Shenton	1989
	Norman Quest	2001		Joseph Lees	2000
	William Hadfield	2012		John White	2008



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

To have the name of a loved one entered into this special book, and remembered in our intercessions for their anniversary please have a word with one of the wardens.

The cost for the special inscription is £10 per entry



DEMENTIA CAFÉ

We are thrilled to announce the start of a new initiative here at St George's. Starting on Friday 3rd January, we will be hosting a Dementia Café. Many of us have been affected by the diagnosis of dementia to a friend or relative and know first hand how devastating this disease can be, indeed a relative of mine has just been diagnosed. We aim to give the sufferer and their carer a safe place to get together for a chat, to share experiences, access vital support, take part in quizzes, crafts and not least enjoy a cuppa and cake!

Willow Wood Hospice already hosts such an event twice a month and we are aiming to dovetail into their service in order that there will be a meeting almost every week. Rose and I have been to the meetings at Willow Wood and they have offered us lots of support and ideas.

We have already got a great band of volunteers for brewing duties and I am in the process of accessing funding and generally pulling it all together. What we do need are your prayers and support for this exciting new initiative.

The meetings will be held on the first and third Fridays of the month between 1pm – 3pm. The only stipulation is that the guest must be accompanied by a carer. There is no need to book – our doors will be open.

So come along and see what we have to offer, our first meetings in 2020 will be on 3rd and 17th January 1pm to 3pm.

Chris Crabtree

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If anyone would like to take up the bread and wine at the offertory—to celebrate a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or just to take part, please have a word with one of the wardens for any Sunday this year.

November Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Jehoiachin. 7, Endured. 8, Eased. 10, Rash. 11, Startled. 13, Easier. 15, Rubric. 17, Impurity. 18, Feet. 21, Eye at. 22, Ready to. 23, Holy Spirit.

DOWN: 1, Judas. 2, Harm. 3, Is duty. 4, Cheerful. 5, Insular. 6, Jezreelite. 9, Dedication. 12, Secretly. 14, Supremo. 16, Stir up. 19, Egypt. 20, Hair.

Friends

Trusting God in all things

On the BBC's 'Today' programme last Christmas a distinguished atheist revealed that his Christmas routine included attending Midnight Mass. Asked why, he replied that it was the most beautiful story ever told and he didn't want it to be forgotten.

Up and down the country this month, thousands and thousands of parents will be attending school and church nativity plays. They're good fun, the children like them, and they remind us of the most lovely and memorable story of all time.

For many, Christmas is a time of happiness and holiday. An opportunity for parties, concerts, pantomimes and watching children perform nativity plays. We exchange colourful cards, and presents, and prepare special meals for family and friends. We sing carols. We adorn our homes and churches with all kinds of decorations.

All our celebrations are a far cry from that first Christmas. In our festivities it is easy to forget that when Jesus came life was hard. The Romans were an occupying force in Israel. There was poverty. The Jews were a captive and oppressed people. They had numerous worries and fears and awaited their Messiah to give them freedom.

Mary was looking forward to marrying Joseph and living with him in Nazareth. Suddenly she meets an angel; told she will be pregnant with God's Son and then her fiancé wants to divorce her! Her world is changed. Joseph too is distressed. In the turmoil, God speaks to Joseph in a dream and while this explains the miraculous pregnancy, he can't stop the hurtful gossip or the doubters.

Even if he wanted to face his critics, Joseph can't stay in Nazareth. He is compelled to take Mary with him to Bethlehem to complete a census. The long journey, possibly all on foot, must have been horrendous. Then in Bethlehem there is unsuitable accommodation for a birth.

It was likely that when the shepherds came and shared their experience of an angel messenger and the singing heavenly host,

that their difficult circumstances began to make sense. Then, perhaps, sometime later when the so called 'Wise Men' came with gifts they were reassured and encouraged that God was with them in their difficulties. The gospel calls them 'Magi', and says they were from the East. The Magi could have been priests from an ancient Persian religion that watched the night sky. Today they would be called astrologers. Whoever they were, their influence at that point in history was immense. All over the ancient world their predictions were regarded with awe, but they knelt before Jesus and offered Him gifts. They were the first Gentiles to recognise a divine and kingly power and purpose in the baby in Bethlehem. Also, when God told Joseph in a dream to go with Mary and the infant to Egypt to escape Herod's cruelty, they knew that in a foreign land they could trust God with their lives.

Our Christmas comes amidst life's traumas and troubles. We may have on-going difficulties. In our struggles we need to know that God can be working out His purposes. Mary and Joseph came to know that in their hardships they were in God's will. Like them, we too must trust God in life-changing events.

"I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)

*Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas
and a very happy and healthy New Year.*

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A Christmas Prayer

Lord, as I enter into the fast-paced season ahead, help me walk slowly and quietly. Let me stop and listen to the angels sing of the greatest news ever told. Let my heart, mind and soul join the chorus. "Glory in the Highest!! The Messiah has been born!"

Among all the bright sparkling lights and cheery holiday tunes, let my spirit travel once again toward Bethlehem to honour and worship Jesus, my King, The Prince of Peace, the Lord of Hosts, Mighty Counsellor, Son of God, the Lamb. All Your love, mercy and power somehow made flesh in the tiny form of a humble baby born in a manger. Let me worship the only one who is worthy to take our sin away and open the gates of all eternity!

Amen

by Daphne Kitching

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Main room can be booked free of charge for various functions, subject to availability

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Stalybridge CoderDojo

We held our 2nd taster session of CoderDojo on 2nd November 2019 and there were 3 new Ninjas signed up, our 1st session were 2 Ninjas and their parents attended.

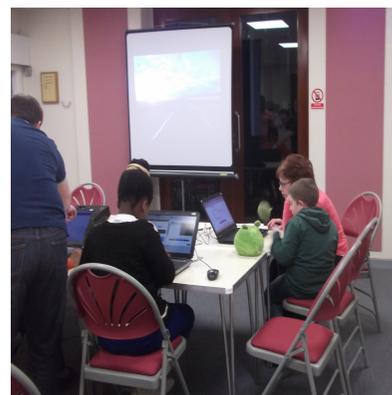
This month we worked on a project to begin creating a website page, with each Ninja choosing their own topic. These included Basketball, Halloween and a story about pigs on a farm.

Everyone enjoyed themselves and showcased their project at the end of the session, feedback has been really positive and all said they would definitely like to come again in the New Year.

Mentors enjoy themselves as well because the Ninjas are keen to work on their projects and also share their skills together and help one another.

Tickets for the next session in January 2020 can be booked online only at:

<https://zen.coderdojo.com/dojos/gb/stalybridge-st-georges>



Ninjas, parents and mentors
working on their projects

CHURCH FINANCES

November 2019 Weekly Giving

Date	Sunday	Open Plate	Envelopes	Total	Monthly Shortfall
27 Oct 2019	Last Sunday after Trinity	£58.55	£240.00	£298.55	
06 Oct 2019	16th Sunday after Trinity	£52.59	£313.00	£365.59	
13 Oct 2019	17th Sunday after Trinity	£68.60	£171.50	£240.10	
20 Oct 2019	18th Sunday after Trinity	£33.50	£435.17	£468.67	
27 Oct 2019	Last Sunday after Trinity	£61.62	£313.82	£375.44	
	Standing Orders etc		£940.00	£940.00	
	Monthly Total	£274.86	£2,413.49	£2,688.35	-£777.65

* Assuming £10 per adult per week needed for running the church this means we need £3,466 per month

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200 CLUB

The 200 Club winners for November 2019 are:

1st Prize	£25	12	David McManus
2nd Prize	£15	84	Joan Catlow
3rd Prize	£10	6	Rose Hayward

The cost of the 200 Club is £12 per year per number and there are still some spare numbers available and new members are always welcome.

If you would like to join please see Rose Hayward or ring 303 1731.

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Need some odd jobs doing?
Can't get round to finishing the decorating?



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on
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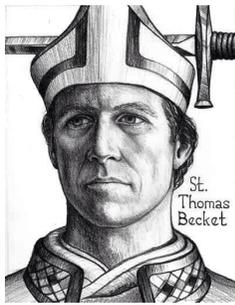
Carr's

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Saint of the Month
29 December
Thomas Becket,
Archbishop of Canterbury,
Martyr, 1170



Born in London around 1118, the son of a wealthy Norman merchant, Becket was educated at Merton Priory in Surrey and later in Paris. About 1141 he entered the household of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Theobald of Bec, who sent him to Bologna to study law and on his return in 1154 ordained him and appointed him Archdeacon of Canterbury.

In the Middle Ages it was the Church, with a virtual monopoly on the supply of educated men, who provided the officials to administer the king's government. The new King Henry II needed a Chancellor (in effect his principal minister) and on the recommendation of Theobald, who hoped that he would look after the Church's interests, Becket was appointed Chancellor in 1155. The next eight years he spent in unstinting service to the king and the two apparently became close personal friends. Thus in 1161 when Archbishop Theobald died, Henry, no doubt hoping to bring the Church more firmly under his control, appointed Becket as archbishop in his place. But Henry had miscalculated. Immediately after his consecration in 1162 Becket resigned the Chancellorship, turned away from the luxuries of court to an austere lifestyle and 'from being the king's dutiful minister he became the uncompromising champion of the church'.

Good working relations between Henry and Becket soon evaporated as misunderstandings developed and conflict came to a head over the 1164 Constitutions of Clarendon, the king's attempt to extend the legal jurisdiction of his courts over clergy as well as lay people and to forbid their right of appeal to Rome. Becket saw this as a crude attack on the Church's ancient privileges and his relationship with the king deteriorated into outright hostility, as a result of which he fled to France.

Eventually, under threat of papal sanctions, a reconciliation was patched up and Becket returned to England in November 1170. But when he excommunicated some of the bishops and barons who had supported the king, Henry flew into a rage and called for the removal of 'this turbulent priest'. Four knights, who interpreted this as a coded instruction to action, made their way to Canterbury and murdered Becket before the high altar of the cathedral on 29 December 1170. Becket was canonized less than three years after his murder and Henry was obliged to do public penance at his tomb, which became a place of popular pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages.

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Readings and Psalms for December 2019

Sun 1st	1st Sunday of Advent 10.30 Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13.11-end; Matthew 24.36-44 18.00 Advent Carol Service
Tues 3 rd	10.30 No Service
Sun 8th	2nd Sunday of Advent 10.30 Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7,18-19; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12
Tues 10 th	10.30 No Service
Sun 15th	3rd Sunday of Advent 10.30 Luke 2.1-16 Christingle, Toy and Nativity Play Service <i>Worship For All</i>
Tues 17 th	10.30 No Service
Sun 22th	4th Sunday of Advent 10.30 Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 1-8,18-20; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-end 18.00 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Tues 24th	Christmas Eve 16.00 A Service of the Blessing of the Crib 23.30 Isaiah 9.2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-20
Wed 25th	Christmas Day 10.30 Isaiah 52.7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 2.10-end; Matthew 2.13-end
Sun 29th	1st Sunday of Christmas 10.30 Isaiah 63.7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2.10-end; Matthew 2.13-end
Tues 31st	10.30 No Service

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Monday 5 & 7pm
St George's Church
With Terri

Tuesday 5 & 7pm

Wednesday 9.30am & 12 noon
ST Paul's Church
With Cassandra

Wednesday
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30
Revive Church
With Marie

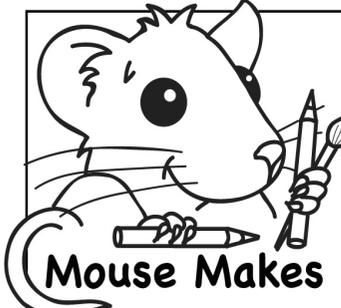
Thursdays 7pm
West Hill School
With Marie

Saturday
7.30 9.30 & 11.30am
The Bridge Inn
With MARIA

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Children's Page



Mouse Makes

Where was Mary's baby born?
Why were Joseph and Mary there?
Read Luke 2:1-6

Where did Mary lay her baby and why?
Read Luke 2:7

What did Mary dress her baby in?
Read Luke 2:6

Why were the shepherds afraid?
Read Luke 2:8

What did the angel tell Joseph to name Mary's baby and why?
Read Matthew 1:21

What good news did the angel tell?
Read Luke 2:10-11

Who appeared praising God and what did they say?
Read Luke 2:13-14

What did the shepherds do after they had seen the baby?
Read Luke 2:16

Colour a star each day until Christmas

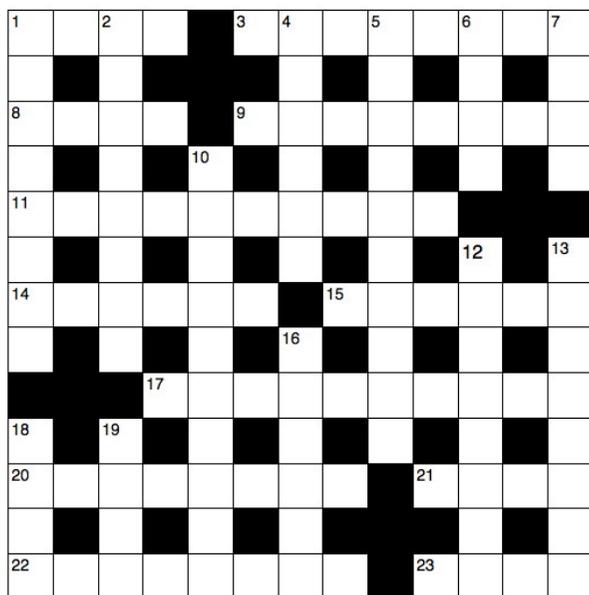
Good news!

Glory to God

A Saviour is born



December Crossword



Across

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

Down

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

Some dates for your diary - December 2019

Sun	1st	First Sunday of Advent 10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist and Junior Church with Guest Rev Ian Brocklehurst 6.00p.m. Advent Carol Service with Guest Ven. Cherry Vann
Tues	3rd	9.00a.m. Maintenance Team Meet (volunteers Welcome) 1.00p.m.- 3.00p.m. Come Together Café
Thurs	5th	9.00a.m. Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs) 7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice
Fri	6th	2.00p.m. Cleaning Crew Meet (Volunteers Welcome)
Sun	8th	Second Sunday of Advent 10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist and Junior Church with Guest Revd. Adrian Rhodes
Mon	9th	6.30p.m. Elizabeth Way Funeral Directors' Memorial Service
Tues	10th	9.00a.m. Maintenance Team Meet (volunteers Welcome) 1.00p.m.- 3.00p.m. Come Together Café
Thurs	12th	VOTING - Church being used as Polling station
Fri	13th	2.00p.m. Cleaning Crew Meet (Volunteers Welcome)
Sat	14th	10.00a.m. Christingle preparation
Sun	15th	Third Sunday of Advent 10.30a.m. Christingle & Toy Service with Nativity Play Guest Derek Redeyoff -Bring a toy to put under the tree
Tues	17th	9.00a.m. Maintenance Team Meet (volunteers Welcome) 1.00p.m.- 3.00p.m. Come Together Café
Thurs	19th	9.00a.m. Time 4 Fun (0 to 5yrs) 7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice
Fri	20th	2.00p.m. Cleaning Crew Meet (Volunteers Welcome)
Sun	22nd	Fourth Sunday of Advent 10.30a.m. Parish Eucharist and Junior Church with Guest Revd. Adrian Rhodes 6.00p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols with Guest Bishop Mark Davies
TUES	24th	CHRISTMAS EVE 4.00p.m. A Service of the Blessing of the Crib with Carols 11.30p.m. First Holy Communion of Christmas- Guest Revd. Adrian Rhodes
WED	25th	CHRISTMAS DAY 10.30a.m. Christmas Day Eucharist for all the Family Guest Revd. Ian Brocklehurst
Sun	29th	FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 10.30a.m. Morning Prayer - No Communion

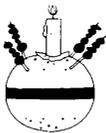
Christmas Services and Carol Singing

Services



**Sunday 1st December at 6 p.m.
Advent Carol Service by candlelight**

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**Sunday 15th December at 10.30 a.m.
Christingle & Toy Service with Nativity Play
Bring a toy to put under the tree
for the Children's Society**

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**Sunday 22nd December at 6.00 p.m.
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
by Candlelight**

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**CHRISTMAS EVE
Tuesday 24th December at 4.00 p.m.
Service of The Blessing of the Crib with Carols
Tuesday 24th December at 11.30 p.m.
Christmas Midnight Eucharist**

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**CHRISTMAS DAY
Wednesday 25th December at 10.30 a.m.
Christmas Day Eucharist**

Come and worship Christ the New-born King

Carol Singing



**Wednesday 11th December 8.30 p.m.
Heyrod Village Hall**

Smile Lines for December

Shopping

The manager of a department store put this notice in the window: 'If you need it this Christmas, we have it.' But in the window of a rival, a sign appeared, stating: 'If we don't have it, you don't need it.'

Wise?

When I told my children the story of how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for the infant Jesus, my six-year-old daughter was not impressed. "Mum, a Wise Woman would have brought nappies."

Bakery

Did you hear about the bakery that was burgled at Christmas? Everything was stolen!

Biscuit

As we were putting out biscuits for Father Christmas on Christmas Eve, one fell on the floor. When I picked it up and placed it back on the plate, my four-year-old was horrified. "You can't do that!"

"Don't worry," I assured him. "Father Christmas will never know."

He shot me a suspicious look. "So, he knows if I've been bad or good, but he doesn't know the biscuit fell on the floor?"

Lost

Just as the vicar began the Christmas Eve service, the electricity in the church failed. The wardens and vicar found some candles and placed them around the sanctuary. Then the vicar re-entered the pulpit, shuffled his notes, and muttered, "Now, where was I?"

A hopeful voice called out, "Right near the end!"

Chimney

Why doesn't Father Christmas suffer from claustrophobia when he climbs down the chimney? Because he has had his flue jab.

Reindeer

What did the reindeer say before launching into his comedy routine? 'This will sleigh you.'

With New Year's Eve in mind...

Bagpipes - the best way to terrorise your neighbours without getting an ASBO.

If a piper was playing alone in a forest 100 miles from anywhere – would everyone still hate him?

Good advice

If you have a lot of tension this Christmas and you get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: 'Take two aspirin' and 'Keep away from children.'

And finally

Bethlehemian Rhapsody

if you enjoyed the song Bohemian Rhapsody, and would like the 'Christmas version', complete with singing puppets, do visit this on You Tube. It is from last year, but still well worth the visit! <https://youtu.be/lxvMkSKRWOA>