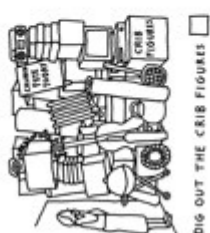
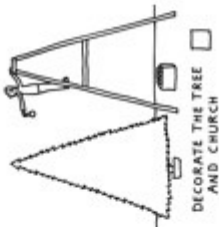


# THE CHRISTMAS CHECKLIST

FOR CHURCHES



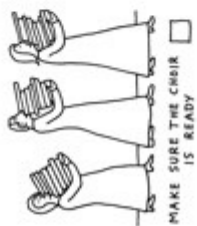
DIG OUT THE CRIB FIGURES



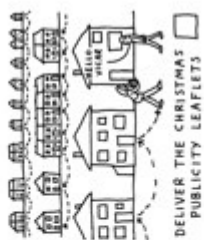
DECORATE THE TREE AND CHURCH



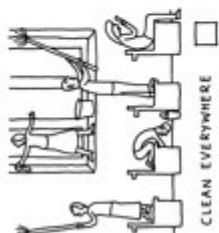
CHOOSE PEOPLE TO READ THE LESSONS



MAKE SURE THE CHOIR IS READY



DELIVER THE CHRISTMAS PUBLICITY LEAFLETS



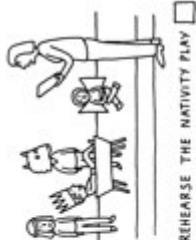
CLEAN EVERYWHERE



DECIDE WHICH CLERGY DO WHICH SERVICES



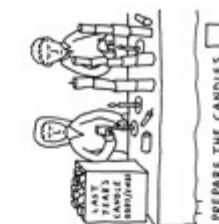
CARRY IN EXTRA CHAIRS



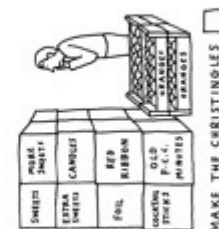
REHEARSE THE NATIVITY PLAY



WRITE ALL OF THE SERMONS



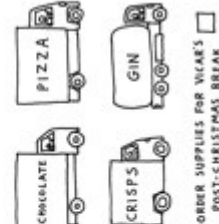
PREPARE THE CANDLES



MAKE THE CHRISTTANGLES



COPY THE ORDERS OF SERVICE



ORDER SUPPLIES FOR VICAR'S POST-CHRISTMAS BREAK

CartoonChurch.com



## St Cross Newsletter December 2020



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*The Vicar writes.....*

It was on a current affairs programme recently that I heard the Bishop of Dover, The Right Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, say that we just need to accept that Christmas this year will be different, as indeed 2020 will be remembered as different. This was in the context of a discussion about what we may or may not be allowed to do this Christmas.

I do believe that we can look forward to 2021 with a degree of optimism as the hope of vaccines for protection from coronavirus are a realistic possibility. What we have also been reminded of once again by the virus is our common humanity, and so many people have been brought together at an individual and government level to address a common cause. If the implementation of the vaccines is successful then we can see a new dawn emerging for next year, and whilst life will never be the same again, we can at least hope for a brighter future next year.

As I have started to plan a filmed pre-recorded service for Christmas Night, and also taken a new interest in preparing videos to music, I have been reminded how much as Christians we have missed the joy of singing. In the Church we have such a remarkable range of music and it is seasons like Advent and Christmas that are particularly special for many people in this regard.

The beauty of music alongside the words of many hymns can assist us to pray in these times of spiritual isolation from fellow human beings, but we are not isolated from God who promises to be always with us through Christ and the

Holy Spirit. If we draw near to God, God will draw near to us (James 4.8).

The words of the Advent hymn, O Come, O come, Emmanuel, are so applicable to our current situation as we wait patiently, not just for our lives to return to normality but for the coming of Christ in glory. The almost melancholy tone of the verses like “may the dayspring come and cheer our spirits by his advent here, disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows are put to flight” give way to the joyous “Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.”

Rejoice always, Saint Paul wrote (1 Thess. 5.16). May we through Advent and Christmas 2020 rejoice in whatever way we can to know the love of Christ and to have complete confidence in him for the future.

Yours, in Christ

*Paul*



*And finally, please can you let me know if you cannot access services online and would like a CD of the Audio Services over Christmas and / or a DVD of the Christmas Night Service, which will be released on YouTube. Paul.*

**Occasional Offices**

**Funeral**

**10th November:** David Moores



**Readings for Services - Sundays and Wednesdays**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>MP</b> = Morning Prayer <b>SE</b> = Said Eucharist <i>(in church 10am)</i> <b>CE</b> = Celtic Evening Prayer <i>(in church 6.30pm)</i>		
<b>Wednesday 2 December</b>	<b>MP</b> Isaiah 25.6-10a or Ps 23 or Matthew 15.29-37	
<b>Sunday 6 December Advent 2</b>	<b>MP/SE</b> Mark 1.1-8 <b>SE plus</b> Isaiah 40.1-11 or 2 Peter 3.8-15a	Psalm 40 Matthew 11.2-11
<b>Wednesday 9 December</b>	<b>MP</b> Isaiah 40.25-end or Ps 103.8-13 or Matthew 11.28-end	
<b>Sunday 13 December Advent 3</b>	<b>MP/SE</b> John 1.6-8,19-28 <b>SE plus</b> Isaiah 61.1-4,8-end or 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24	
<b>Wednesday 16 December</b>	<b>MP</b> Isaiah 45.6b-8,18,21b-end or Ps 85.7-end; Luke 7.18b-23	
<b>Sunday 20 December Advent 4</b>	<b>MP/SE</b> Luke 1.26-38 <b>SE plus</b> 2 Samuel 7.1-11,16 or Romans 16.25-end	
<b>Wednesday 23 December</b>	<b>MP</b> Malachi 3.1-4,4.5-end or Ps 25.3-9; Luke 1.57-66	
<b>Thursday 24 December CHRISTMAS NIGHT</b>	Isaiah 9.2-7; or Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14	
<b>25 December CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	Isaiah 62.6-end or Titus 3.4-7 Luke 2.8-20	
<b>Sunday 27 December John the Apostle</b>	<b>MP</b> John 21.19b-end or Exodus 33.7-11a or 1 John 1	
<b>Wednesday 30 December</b>	<b>MP</b> Psalm 96.7-10 or 1 John 2.12-17 or Luke 2.36-40	

To access the Online Services from St Cross

<http://www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk/media/>

<http://www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk/video/>