

Diary of Church Events

December

- Tuesday 3rd **Ashcott:** Belfry Coffee House 10-12 noon.
Tuesday 3rd **Burtle:** Bible study home group on Acts 1pm at Pennywise, Burtle
Friday 6th **Ashcott:** A Polden Winter's Evening at Ring 'O' Bells. 7.30pm. To book a table for supper call the Ring 'O' Bells 01458 210232.
- Saturday 7th **Edington:** Coffee,tea/cake at Gwilliams Christmas Market 10-4
Saturday 7th **Shapwick:** Messy Church 4-6pm.
Tuesday 10th **Ashcott:** Belfry Coffee House 10-12 noon.
Friday 13th **Chilton Polden:** Christmas Family Bingo in the Church Hall. 7.30pm. £1 per book. Raffle and refreshments. Children can play.
Saturday 14th **Ashcott:** Coffee Morning 10 – 1 in the church. Coffee and cakes. Gifts and raffle.
Sunday 15th **Ashcott:** Live Concert. 3pm. Songs from the shows. Tickets £8 on the door. Mince pies and mulled wine in the interval.
Monday 16th **Shapwick:** Christmassy Lite Bite 12:30-2pm In St Mary's Church. £5.00. All welcome.
Monday 16th **Burtle:** Carol Singing around the village. Meet at church at 7pm.
Tuesday 17th **Ashcott:** Belfry Coffee House 10-12 noon.
Tuesday 17th **Catcott:** St. Peter's Coffee Morning at Court Farm, Steel Lane TA7 9HW (next to Standards). 10.30-12. £1 for tea/coffee/cake. Raffle
Tuesday 17th **Burtle:** Bible study home group - Acts 1pm at Shapwick Vicarage.
Thursday 19th **Burtle:** Carol Singing around the village. Meet at church at 7pm.
Saturday 21st **Ashcott:** Men's Breakfast at the Piper's Inn. £8. 8.45am. Talk by Edward Armitstead
Tuesday 24th **Ashcott:** Belfry Coffee House 10-12 noon.
Tuesday 31st **Ashcott:** Belfry Coffee House 10-12 noon.

Church Contacts

- Vicar: Rev Rich Tweedy 01458 210260
vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk: Day off Friday
Parish Administrator: Sue Ball 01458 210260
admin@poldenwheel.co.uk: Office hours: Tues – Thurs 10am – 2pm
PCC Treasurer: Brian Tilbury 01278 722208
All Saints, Ashcott: Margaret Trimm 01458 210448
St. Philip & St James, Burtle: Alison Everett 01278 723736
St Peter's, Catcott: Martin Melia 01278 722808
St Edward's, Chilton Polden: Anne Lush 01278 722408
St George's, Edington: Rosie Tilbury 01278 722208
St Mary's, Shapwick: Rosemary Hargreaves 01458 210533

DECEMBER 2019



Hi folks,

I recently met up with an old friend from when we were both teens in Cheltenham. It was great fun to be able to link up again, to introduce our wives, and to catch up on the intervening years.

Since then, Richard Nye has become a published composer. His most popular work was inspired by a painting of the annunciation by the American artist John Collier. I looked up the painting and soon found myself drawn in as well, and decided to listen to the artist's own thoughts as to why he painted it the way he did.

He painted Mary as a 21st century 14-year old schoolgirl, because he wanted to emphasise just how young Mary actually was – 1st century clothing manages to disguise that. Although there are many traditional elements of iconography in the painting (eg the lilies representing her purity), Mary's look of shock and surprise isn't one of them – but it's probably that look that really captures the moment as it must have been for Mary in the first century.



When we come to Christmas, we can easily become embroiled in the regular seasonal trappings; we can also be lulled by traditional images that keep us from engaging with the shock of what actually happened two thousand years ago. At the heart of the Christmas story is a girl (probably a young teen) who encountered an angel, delivering the extraordinary message that she would bear God's own son.

Every blessing,

Rich Tweedy

vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk

Church Services in December 2019

Sunday 1 December – Advent 1 (Purple)

- 9.00 Catcott Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.30 Edington Informal Worship
- 4.00 Ashcott Christingle

Saturday 7 December

- 4.00 Shapwick Messy Church

Sunday 8 December – Advent 2 (Purple)

- 10.00 Shapwick Café Church at the Pavilion
- 10.30 Chilton Polden Holy Communion (BCP)
- 4.30 Burtle Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 15 December – Advent 3 (Purple)

- 10.30 Catcott Family Carol Service
- 4.00 Chilton Polden Carol Service
- 6.30 Ashcott Holy Communion
- 6.30 Burtle Carol Service

Tuesday 17 December

- 7.00 Catcott A Time to Breathe – a Service of Quiet

Wednesday 18 December

- 7.30 Shapwick Carols by Candlelight

Friday 20th December

- 6.30 Ashcott Carol Service

Sunday 22nd December – Advent 4 (Purple)

- 10.30 Ashcott Benefice Holy Communion
- 6.30 Edington Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 24 December – Christmas Eve (Purple)

- 5.30 Edington Nativity Play with Carols
- 11.30 Chilton Polden Holy Communion (CW)
- 11.30 Ashcott Holy Communion (CW)

Wednesday 25 December – Christmas Day (White)

- 9.00 Catcott Christmas Communion
- 10.30 Shapwick Have a Cracker of a Christmas
- Sunday 29 December – Christmas 1 (White)**
- 10.30 Chilton Polden Communion with Carols

Sunday Readings for December

- 1 Dec: Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13.11-14; Matthew 24.36-44
- 8 Dec: Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7,18,19*; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12
- 15 Dec: Isaiah 35.1-10; Psalm 146.4-10; James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11
- 22 Dec: Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 80.1-8,18-20*; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-25
- 29 Dec: Isaiah 63.7-9; Psalm 148*; Hebrews 2.10-18; Matthew 2.13-23



Midweek Holy Communions

Wednesday 18 December in Edington School Room at 10.30am preceded by coffee at 10am.

Thursdays 5 and 19 December and 2 January at All Saints Church, Ashcott at 10am. All are welcome.

Church Services in January 2020

Sunday 5 January – Epiphany 1 (White)

- 9.00 Catcott Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.30 Ashcott Informal Worship
- 10.30 Edington Family Communion
- 6.00 for 6.30 Burtle Praise 'n' Prayer

Sunday 12 January – Epiphany 2 (White)

- 10.00 Shapwick Café Church at the Pavilion
- 10.30 Chilton Polden Family Communion
- 4.30 Burtle Holy Communion (CW)



Carol Services in the Polden Wheel

- Ashcott:** Friday 20th 18.30
- Burtle:** Sunday 15th 18.30
- Catcott:** Sunday 15th 10.30
- Chilton Polden:** Sunday 15th 16.00
- Edington:** Sunday 22nd 18.30
- Shapwick:** Wednesday 18th 19.30

Refreshments will be served.



Christmassy Lite Bite

St. Mary's Church, Shapwick
Monday 16th December
12.30–2pm. £5.
ALL WELCOME

All Saints Church Ashcott

Sunday 15th December

Live Music Concert presenting

Gregory Steward – Tenor
Ellen Steward – Soprano
Mrs Katy Davis – Accompanist
Mulled Wine and Mince Pies during the interval
Admission £8 on the door.

A Polden Winter's Evening

Friday 6th December, 7.30pm at the Ring O'Bells, Ashcott

An evening of seasonal music and stories!

Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

Polden Praise
The Back Street Stompers
Avalon Recorder Group
John Foreman
Plus members of the Polden Wheel
Rough Round the Edges
Rowena & Nigel
Sian Everson
To book a table for supper
Call the Ring O'Bells on
01458 210232
Collection for Compassion UK