

Benefice Directory

Churchwardens	Uppingham	Jeff Whelband	07753 422816
	Belton	Bob Atkinson	717464
Treasurers	Uppingham	Russ Garley	
	Belton	John Hill	822271
PCC Secretaries	Uppingham	Jenny Harris	07864 065198
	Belton	Marietta King	821488
Parish administrator	Uppingham	Jenny Harris	07864 065198
Mothers' Union	Uppingham	Janet Wardle	829923
Director of Music	Uppingham	John Wardle	829923
Organist	Belton	John Hill	822271
Flowers	Uppingham	Nicky Jervis	07703 984032
Bible Study		Anna Wilkinson	345004
Youth Emmaus		Ian Watts	829956
Safeguarding		Sue Saunders	829934
Bible Reading Fellowship		Anna Wilkinson	345004
Bell Ringers		Sue Webster	821922
Church Hall Bookings		Hilary Dawe	823629
Social and Fundraising		Jenny Harris	07864 065198
Gift Aid Secretary	Uppingham	Geoff Thompson	821560
Quartet Editors		John & Janet Wardle	829923
Readers Rota	Uppingham	Richard Cole	821190
Uppingham C of E Primary School			823245

Parish Giving Scheme

0333 002 1260

parishgiving.org.uk

Set up or review your donations, by phone or on the website,
quoting our Parish code 280628378

The views expressed or implied in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Rector, Ministry Team, Churchwardens or Editors.
CCL1200555

The Parishes of
Uppingham-with-Ayston
Belton-with-Wardley

December 2021

QUARTET



 The Diocese of
Peterborough

£1

Benefice Ministry Team

Rector

Revd Canon Rachel Watts The Rectory, 45 Lime Tree Avenue
Uppingham LE15 9SS 829956

Curate

Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds 18 Siskin Road LE15 9UL 822906

Honorary Assistant Priests

Revd Dr Peter Holmes 14 Bayley Close 821834
Revd Canon John Rankin 822180

Uppingham School Chaplain

Revd Dr James Saunders Pentire House, High Street West
829934

Readers

Mrs Jill Cannings Crossways, Ayston Road 821870
Mr Anthony Morse 8a Station Road 821508
Mrs Christobel Price Church Lane, Bisbrooke 823201

Lay Pastoral Ministers

Mrs Shirley Harris 49 Stockerston Crescent 822428
Mrs Eileen Hill 25 North Street West 822271

Mothers' Union

Mrs Janet Wardle 5 Elizabeth Way LE15 9PQ 829923

All telephone dialing codes are 01572 unless shown otherwise.

For Churchwardens and other contacts, please see the list on the back cover.

Please contact the Rector to arrange baptisms, weddings or funerals.

To receive Communion at home please contact a member of the ministry team.
Confession, spiritual direction and the ministry of healing are offered by the clergy
by appointment.

The forty days of Christmas

Whenever I write a December letter, several people tell me off because I don't major on the theme of Christmas. I have my reasons, not least that I think Advent is important, neglected, and comes first. This year, though, I'll give in (partly) to the clamour.

I'm not against Christmas: I believe in and celebrate the virgin birth and incarnation of the fully human, fully divine, Jesus Christ. I understand that for all sorts of practical reasons we have to do some of the teaching and rejoicing before the day itself: for example, we celebrate with schools before they break up for their holidays, and we try to reach Christmas shoppers through carols and in other ways to help them see a bit more of the meaning of it all. I understand that we live in and reach out to the world as it is, full of commercialisation and shopping for things we don't remotely need which seems to begin earlier each year.

I do wish, though, that within our church communities we could experience the excitement and power, the peace and joy, of Christmas at the right time: from the evening of Christmas Eve, either to twelfth night and the Epiphany on 6 January; or, if we are bold enough, right through to the Presentation of Christ (Candlemas) on 2 February, forty days after we remember the birth. That would have the huge advantage of changing our perception of January to being a month of Christmas light and joy, rather than the dark and miserable time that it is for many now. And wouldn't it be good if we could help the world see the



joy and celebration of Christmas flowing into and through the first month of the year?

On another note: Canon Tim Alban Jones steps down as my chaplain at the end of this month. His role has always been part Chaplain and part Cathedral Canon, but the Cathedral part has been expanding, and after six years this seems the right time for him to become full time Vice Dean. Tim has been a brilliant support to me and my office, and we will miss him very much from that role.

+ Donald

With best wishes
+Donald

Diocese of Peterborough – Magazine Resource – December 2021

Produced by the Diocesan Office, The Palace, Peterborough, PE1 1YB
Tel: 01733 887000 Email: communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk
www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk

The Rector's letter

29 November 2021

The Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue

Increase the Parish Church's income by £10,000 for the price of a cup of coffee

- **Give up one cup of coffee per week & donate the money to the church**
- **100 people x 1 coffee per week (£2.50) > £10,000**
- **With Gift Aid = £12,500**
- **Save it up and donate on a significant date to you (birthday, anniversary, etc)**
- **Maintain your normal giving**
- **Start now !**



Dear friends,

We enter this season of Advent with a little uncertainty about changes in rules as we prepare for the festive season, although we move forward and prepare in hope and expectation. This is a really good metaphor for this time in the Church's year. Advent is a season of both certainty and uncertainty, at the same time. We are certain of Christ's birth in Bethlehem, and we are certain that as promised he will come again in glory, but we live in constant uncertainty as to when that might happen. We move into this season, then, with both expectation but also uncertainty, we prepare for a time that we don't know while also working towards a date that we do know – and we must do it at the same time.

I am sure that there are so many different that you are doing to prepare at this time. Much of this will be focused on Christmas Day and our celebrations of God's love poured out on us by the nativity of Jesus his Son. There may be presents to buy and wrap, decorations to put up and food to prepare; but within all this we must not forget the other part, which is to prepare ourselves spiritually. Uncertainty can often make things feel unreal or very distant, and that is why so much of Advent is in preparing for the known date of Christmas rather than the uncertain Second Coming. Advent, however, gives us the perfect opportunity to take stock of where we are spiritually and whether we are ready to stand before him as Judge and Saviour.

On the 9th December we will be holding 3 sessions of reflection for Advent, as we did 2 years ago. There will be a session from 10 –12, one from 2-4 and one from 7-9. Please consider whether you could give up just two hours during Advent to really focus on the promise of this season. During December our Posada will journey around town again, and as you see them please use this time to simply reflect on the meaning of the season as you go about your daily life.

Have a great Advent! Remember that God is good, and that you are loved more than you can ever know.

Every blessing

Rachel



SS Peter & Paul UPPINGHAM

Services in Uppingham Parish Church December 2021

	<i>Mondays</i>	9am	Morning Prayer
	<i>Tuesdays</i>	9am	Morning Prayer
		7pm	Choir practice
	<i>Wednesdays</i>	10.30am	Prayer group
		6.30pm	At Your Pace Space
	<i>Saturdays</i>	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
5 th	Advent 2	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.45am	Sung Eucharist (CW)
12 th	Advent 3	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.45am	Sung Eucharist (CW)
14 th	(Tuesday)	10am	MU Communion & Christmas Party
18 th	(Saturday)	4pm	<i>COME, REJOICE!</i>
19 th	Advent 4	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.45am	<i>COME, REJOICE!</i> (Christingle)
		6pm	Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
24 th	Christmas Eve	4pm	Nativity Service
		11.30pm	Midnight Mass
25 th	Christmas Day	10am	Sung Eucharist (CW)
26 th	Christmas 1	10.45am	Eucharist (CW) – said

You are welcome to join us online for our monthly Service of the Word
(check the website for details)
or listen to the service by phoning 01572 497004

Housegroups

New Housegroups are getting underway and meeting at different times during the week. An opportunity to meet with others and to share together in faith and fellowship, questions and learning. All groups are beginning by looking together at Mark's Gospel. If you are interested in joining a group, don't hesitate to contact a member of our ministry team, or fill in the paper at the back of church.

Tuesday mornings
Wednesday evenings
Thursday afternoons
Online – Thursday evenings

AT YOUR PACE SPACE

Uppingham Parish Church
Every Wednesday 6.30pm

Our church is open every day for people to find a space to pray and reflect. However, sometimes it is good to know there is a time in the week that we can come together and meet with others to share together in our thoughts and queries. Our curate, Debbie, will be present each week to share with you – wherever you are on the journey.

Quartet in 2022

From January 2022, *Quartet* will just be available online, but copies may still be printed off at home. We are actively considering different ways to keep in touch with people who have no internet connection.

Heartfelt thanks are due to the many past and present distributors of *Quartet* – unsung heroes whose help over the years we here acknowledge.



This is the church website, where you'll find future issues
CUT THIS SLIP OUT AND PUT IT SOMEWHERE FOR REFERENCE

www.uppinghamchurch.co.uk

Choral music events this month...



and...

Uppingham Parish Church Choir

*will sing the traditional
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
by candle light*



Sunday 19 December : 6pm

Looking for a venue?

Why not try Uppingham Church Hall?

Fully equipped kitchen
Capacity for up to 50 people
Audio visual presentation facilities
Centrally located

Ideal for:

Parties
Lunches
Meetings
Talks
Receptions
Fund raising events
Coffee mornings
Keep fit
... and much more



To find out more or to book please phone 01572 823629

Advent adventure

...contributed by Debbie

Are you ready for the adventure of Advent? Rather than let ourselves only get caught up in the busyness of the preparations, in the frantic hurry to reach Christmas Day itself, might we spend this time in a little contemplation and thought; building on our experience through art, music, poetry? Our Advent Sunday evening service was a beautiful opportunity to experience some of the great music and hymns of Advent – and we thank our talented choir and musicians for offering this to us.

This poem, Advent Sunday, invites us to consider our readiness to greet the Lord. It comes from the Advent book *In the Bleak Midwinter* by Rachel Mann, offering a poem, each day from Advent to Candlemas, for reading and reflection.

Advent Sunday

C Rossetti

**BEHOLD, the Bridegroom cometh: go ye out
with lighted lamps and garlands round about
to meet Him in a rapture with a shout.**

**It may be at the midnight, black as pitch,
earth shall cast up her poor, cast up her rich.**

**It may be at the crowing of the cock
earth shall upheave her depth, uproot her rock.**

**For lo, the Bridegroom fetcheth home the Bride:
His Hands are Hands she knows, she knows His Side.**

**Like pure Rebekah at the appointed place,
veiled, she unveils her face to meet His Face.**

**Like great Queen Esther in her triumphing,
she triumphs in the Presence of her King.**

**His Eyes are as a Dove's, and she's Dove-eyed;
He knows His lovely mirror, sister, Bride.**

**He speaks with Dove-voice of exceeding love,
and she with love-voice of an answering Dove.**

**Behold, the Bridegroom cometh: go we out
with lamps ablaze and garlands round about
to meet Him in a rapture with a shout.**

If you are more of a visual person you may enjoy following through Advent with art as can be found in the popular Art in Advent book by Jane Williams to discover the timeless wisdom to be found in some of the world's greatest paintings. Illustrated in full colour with nearly forty famous and lesser-known masterpieces of Western art, this beautiful book will lead you into a deeply prayerful response to all that these paintings convey to the discerning eye.

If you prefer a daily link sent to your inbox, then check out The Visual Commentary in Scripture website: www.thevcs.org and find their Advent Calendar 2021. Designed to take you on a journey from the creation through to the Incarnation, encountering theophany and hope in the midst of uncertainty, this Advent Calendar offers a unique way to experience the Bible in dialogue with works of art. You can sign up to receive a daily link from December 1st with a link to the day's artwork and its associated commentary.

A final suggestion for you comes from The Archbishop of York whose Advent Book 2021 is entitled 'Music for Eternity : Meditations for Advent with Evelyn Underhill' It weaves together Evelyn Underhill's writings with psalms and prayers to show how we can recognise and be transformed by God's coming.

If you wish to come and share your Advent discoveries with me in church on a Wednesday evening, I am always there at 6.30pm for At Your Pace Space, and we finish with saying Compline at 7.15pm

Debbie

curateofuppingham@gmail.com

RUTLAND HIGH SHERIFF NOMINATIONS...

news from Geoff Thompson

Recently, as Rutland High Sheriff in Nomination for 2022-23, I was delighted to attend the Royal Courts of Justice in London to hear the announcement of the nominations for Rutland's High Sheriffs. This ceremonial meeting of the Privy Council takes place every November and leads up to the Privy Council meeting in March where Her Majesty the Queen selects (pricks) her High Sheriffs. Each year the existing list is refreshed and a new name added: and we discover who is nominated as High Sheriff three years ahead.

We're delighted that Richard Cole has been nominated as High Sheriff for 2024-25. Please join me in congratulating Richard – and Pat, who will again be Consort to the High Sheriff. They both filled these roles in 2020-21, and did a tremendous job for the county under very difficult circumstances.

Rachel has accepted the office of Chaplain to the High Sheriff for Richard's year.

The Crystal Ball

Music for December 2021

After the rather restricted diet of last year's Advent and Christmas fare, we hope to bring you something more satisfying this year. There will be our usual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 6 pm on the Fourth Sunday in Advent (19 December), but for details of that you will have to (metaphorically, of course) 'watch this space', as my scrying device goes blank when I search under that heading. Expect the usual mix of familiar and unfamiliar and you probably won't go far wrong.

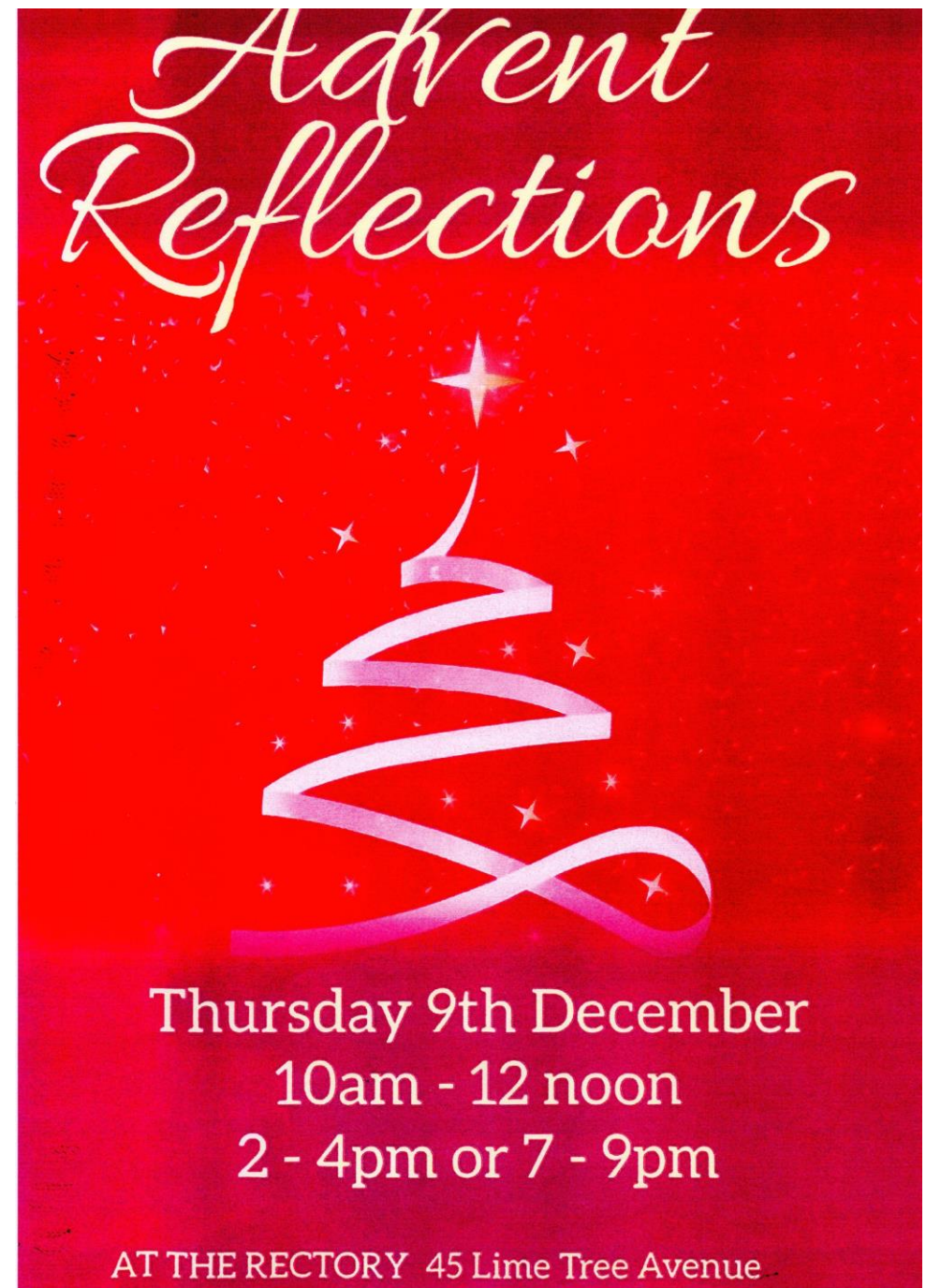
However, there are two Advent Sundays before that, and on both we have music by giants in the field of church music. Handel's *Messiah* is of course inescapably associated with this season, and on 5 December we shall sing its first chorus, 'And the glory of the Lord', with characteristic dancing rhythms contrasted with solemn declamations from 'the mouth of the Lord' reminding us of the dual nature of Advent as both a promise of joy and a time of judgement. On the following Sunday (12 December) it's the turn of Felix Mendelssohn, who inspired a whole generation of composers in this country to try (not always successfully) to imitate his smooth melodic lines and mellifluous harmonies; 'How lovely are the messengers' is a chorus from his oratorio *St Paul*, probably the only well-known number from that work.

At that point, as I indicated above, my information runs out. This year there will be Midnight Mass at 11.30 on Christmas Eve, and a Sung Eucharist on Christmas morning at 10.45, both suitably punctuated with carols; on Sunday 26 December there will be no choir at the Parish Eucharist, but there will be two carols from our recorded repertoire to help our devotions.

Our settings of the Eucharist for this month reflect the seasons: during Advent, we shall use the austere but satisfying *Missa Brevis II* by the French-Canadian composer Denis Bédard (plus a setting of the Sanctus to an American traditional melody), and in the Christmas season Schubert, Geoff Weaver and Palestrina (along with the substitution of a well-known Christmas hymn for the Gloria in excelsis).

It only remains for me to point you towards Uppingham School's Advent carol service at 7 pm on 5 December, always a high point of the season; and to wish you (when it comes) a happy and holy Christmas.

Succentor

A poster for 'Advent Reflections' with a red background and white stars. The title 'Advent Reflections' is written in a large, white, cursive font at the top. Below it is a stylized white Christmas tree made of a spiral ribbon, topped with a star. At the bottom, the text 'Thursday 9th December' is followed by '10am - 12 noon' and '2 - 4pm or 7 - 9pm' in a white serif font. At the very bottom, 'AT THE RECTORY 45 Lime Tree Avenue' is written in a smaller white serif font.

Advent
Reflections

Thursday 9th December
10am - 12 noon
2 - 4pm or 7 - 9pm

AT THE RECTORY 45 Lime Tree Avenue

St. Peter's Church Belton w Wardley



Market Stall - Saturday 27th November,

The day dawned with an amber warning for storms across most of the country, and temperatures close to freezing, but feeling much lower. The rector invited us to move to the church, which we gratefully accepted. Despite footfall being lower than originally expected, we raised £285 for the St. Peter's Church Fabric Fund. Thank you to everyone who supported our cause in any way.

Christmas Services and Events

Subject to Covid-19 regulations we hope to have the following:-

Christingle - Sunday 12th Dec. @ 2:30 pm

Belton Pre-School will be joining us for our first service with a Christmas flavour. Everyone welcome.

'Live Nativity' - Saturday 18th Dec. @ 5:30 pm

For one short evening only, our nativity scene in the lychgate, will be populated by live characters and animals. Please dress as your favorite character, or consult the Revd. Debbie (Tel: 822906). It will be followed by 'Tractor Carols' around the village.

'Carols by Candlelight' - Wednesday 22nd Dec. @ 7:00 pm

Our usual service of carols and readings will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine. Everyone is welcome

Christmas Communion

These will be held at 11:30 pm on Christmas Eve, and at 9:00am on Christmas morning.

We look forward to you joining us for these services.
Happy Christmas!

Services and Events in December

Note: **All services are subject to current Covid-19 restrictions**

Date	Location	Time	Details
5 th December Second Sunday of Advent	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
12 th December Third Sunday of Advent	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (cw)
		2:30 pm	Christingle , with Belton Pre-school
Saturday 18 th December	St. Peter's Church	5:30 pm	Live Nativity
19 th December Fourth Sunday of Advent	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
Wednesday 22 nd December	St. Peter's Church	7:00 pm	Carols by Candlelight
24 th December Christmas Eve	St. Peter's Church	11:30 pm	Midnight Communion
25 th December Christmas Day	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Christmas Communion
26 th December First Sunday of Christmas	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	A simple said Christmas service
Please check with "Parish Notes" for any late changes			

St. Peter's website: www.belton-wardley.org.uk

St. Peter's church, Belton with Wardley website, may be accessed via the above URL or by scanning this QR code using your mobile phone. The calendar lists all services and related events and meetings, and is updated regularly..



On the farm...

After three weeks of mild weather, with the animals quite happy outside, we now have the coldest spell so far this autumn! So all have been brought in.

Winter woollies to the fore... fortunately the new stables have been finished (*see the promised photo*), two for Jack and Teddy, another, as we thought, has been taken over by the Goats; and the 4th is awaiting India's friend's horse.

Our piglets have now been weaned, and are occupying the two old stables. But before this, they were quite happy to escape from their pen and walk, single file, past our dining room window (*difficult not to think of one on the table*).



There is a new addition to the farm family – an 8-week old collie puppy, who is to be trained to round up the sheep! Details to follow next month on Toffee.

And as Quartet goes online we'll continue to post regular pictures.

Jeff Whelband

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A PERFECT PARENT, SO JUST BE A REAL ONE.



TOGETHER

Mondays 1.30-3pm
Uppingham Church Hall
from November 8th 2021

For parents and carers looking to find support, friendship and advice.
Informal gathering each week with space for little ones to play.
Refreshments for all.
Healthcare talks
£1 donation

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Well, here we are in Advent! The weeks leading up to Christmas, with Advent services, carol singing, shopping, etc., are a very special time of preparation, and this journey can be more meaningful and precious than the Christmas season, where all is ready (?) and we are free to celebrate with family and friends.

Sadly, I have to report that Pat Taylor has passed away, after a long battle with cancer. As a member of the Methodist church, she may not have been known to our newer members, since ill-health has prevented her from coming to meetings for a long time. Her Memorial service will take place in Uppingham Parish Church on Monday December 6th at 12.30pm, led by Rev Bekkie Wright.

December 14th is the date of our Christmas party; do sign up if you haven't already done so as we need numbers for catering purposes. Dorine and Margaret are the keepers of the list. Then our next meeting will be on January 11th, which will be our (short!) AGM. We hope to have a review of 2021 with pictures, and also some archive material to dip into, which may interest our longer serving members.

From January there will no longer be printed copies of *Quartet* available, but you can find it online. I hope there will be a monthly news sheet to reach those not online; this is 'work in progress'!

Diocesan News. Jill is now almost at the end of her time as Diocesan President; she chaired her final Forum meeting in November and was thanked by everyone for her unfailing enthusiasm and efforts for the MU. From January she will become our Deanery Leader. The Deanery has been somewhat in abeyance over the last two years and is in need of some TLC to get it moving again. One date has already been booked – Mary Sumner Day, August 9th 2022, is a Tuesday: and Uppingham Branch has offered to hold a Deanery celebration.

On November 27th the Diocese held a walk and short service in support of the Global Day against gender violence. The weather was against us, though it was dry as we walked through Peterborough; the service was moving and thought-provoking.



May I wish you all a joyous and peaceful Christmastide.

Janet Wardle

Across

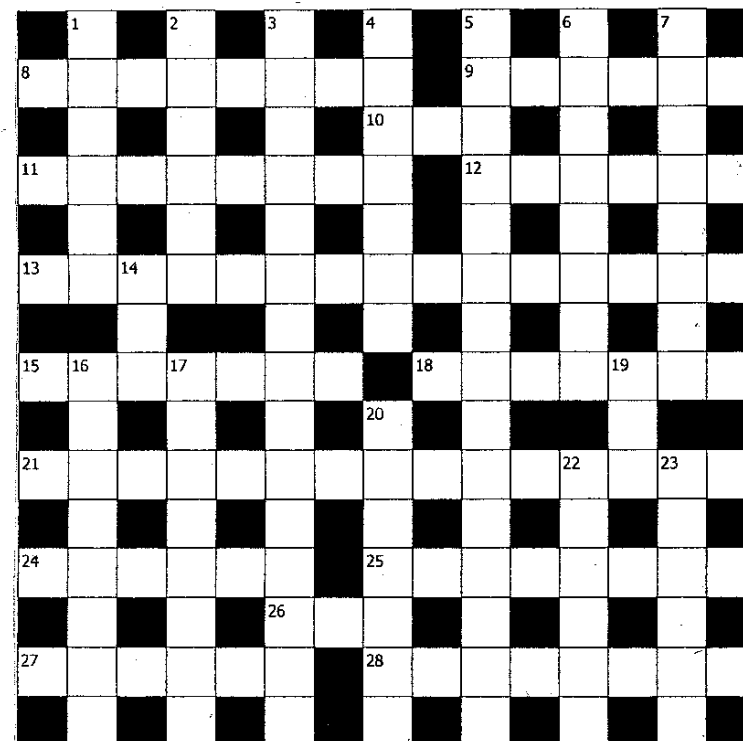
- 8 My virtue! (8)
 9 'And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be ____' (Matthew 23) (6)
 10 United all right, at first: Egypt and Syria, then just Egypt (1,1,1)
 11 I boss Ann around, coming up with eastern European people (8)
 12 Singer allowed in pub? Quite the reverse (6)
 13 Multiple copies of Dickens work for seasonal entertainments? (9,6)
 15 Festive item is first-rate specimen (7)
 18 Reserve workers (bibliophiles) (7)
 21 Seasonal chants haven't points and must be revised (6,9)
 24 Religious believer I toast freely (6)
 25 One who takes early retirement? Not at all (5-3)
 26 Sash worn by *Star Wars* character (3)
 27 Confectionery for a comedian (6)
 28 Girl; Semitic girl, to be precise (8)

Down

- 1 God described by doctor near body of water in Scotland (6)
 2 O Lord! It appears in one of 21 (6)
 3 Dream tot present might be found in this establishment? (10,5)
 4 No change? Just what we expected (2,5)
 5 Ancient college forfeiting twenty-four-hour period to old commercial practice (5,7,3)
 6 It's the end of the world for Norsemen (8)
 7 A wake-up call for the Forces (8)
 14 'The Drowned Valley' tune returns (3)
 16 'Fill me, ____ divine' (Wesley) (8)
 17 Type of error characteristic of the clergy (8)
 19 Unfinished satellite is low (3)
 20 One economical with the truth in Acts 5 (7)
 22 Derby manufacturer? (6)
 23 'The first' found among 13 (6)

CROSSWORD NUMBER 353

by Succentor



SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE

