

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

December 2020



Happy Christmas!

QUARTET



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
Mrs Sonja Lennon 5 Stockerston Crescent 822452
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, wedding, 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 Rector's letter

26 November 2020

The Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue

Dear friends,

As we say goodbye to one church year and hello to a new one, we give thanks that we should be able to join together in worship once again and that we can celebrate Christmas in fellowship. It was hard to not be able to celebrate Holy Week and Easter in our usual way, but we have hopes for this coming Easter. As to this Advent and Christmas, we will be changing some of our usual traditions to new ones that fit with current restrictions. We are going online for our Carol Service and Christingle; we may not be able to sing together in Church, but we can do so in our own homes! Carols will also be available on a phonline throughout the Christmas Season. Mary and Joseph will travel around Uppingham in our outdoor Posada so please look out for them during the days of Advent, and they will arrive at our outdoor crib in the churchyard on Christmas Eve. In Belton, our nativity will be in the Lych gate and we hope you will come down and see them. The service times are published in the Quartet and online, (they may be subject to change if circumstances dictate, but we hope not).

Advent is a good time for us to reflect on the year past as we prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ at Christmas but also at the end of time when he will come as our judge. We have time to reflect how closely our lives have been to his purposes for us. Have we reached out in love to those around us, have we loved him and spent time with him, are we ready to stand before him? This year has been a strange one, and we reflect on so many things we have not been able to do, the relationships we have not been able to invest in, the services we could not attend, the love and compassion that we could not readily show. Our priorities have changed, as we begin to realise what are the things we most value in our lives, what are the things we have missed most. In some ways this has held up a mirror to our true selves, our true values and being. It is good to reflect on what lockdown may have shown us about ourselves, both the good and the bad. Is there anything that we would wish to change about ourselves and our relationships as we begin a new year?

Has lockdown and restrictions strengthened you in your faith or do you feel slightly at sea with your relationship with God? Does God feel near to you, or

does he seem distant, uncaring, or even irrelevant? Being honest in this helps us to move forward in our faith with each other. If you would like a conversation on where your faith is going (or where it might be stuck) please do contact me on 829956 or Debbie on 822906, we are always happy to speak to you. Let us make the New Year one when we really make room for God in the centre of our lives.

Every Blessing for a reflective Advent and a joyful Christmas

Rachel

Christmas Eve services

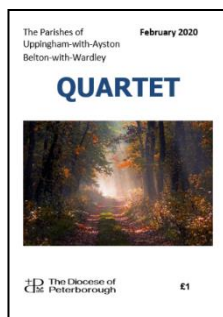
8pm Early Midnight Mass - Uppingham
11.30pm Midnight Mass - Belton
11.30pm Midnight Mass - Uppingham

Christmas Day services

9am Christmas Communion - Belton
10am Christmas Communion - Uppingham
11am Christmas Communion - Uppingham

The **Carol Service** (from 20th December) and our **Christingle Service** will be **online** – go to the parish website and follow the links there!
Christmas online service will be on the usual phone line: 01572 497004
Christmas Carols will be on a designated phone line: 01572 492208

Quartet in 2021



Quartet costs £1.00 per month – but take an annual subscription and all 12 copies will cost you just £10.00.

Publishing dates: **Next edition (January)**

Copy to editors by Thursday 31st December
email to john.wardle@btinternet.com

Available by Saturday 2nd January



December 2020

Advent

Sunday Services resume in Uppingham PC on 6th Decemberr

10am.	Eucharist (said, or short Choral))
11am	Service of the Word

Eucharist will be celebrated in the pews. The service will be about 40 minutes.
The Service of the Word will be shorter, round about 30 minutes.

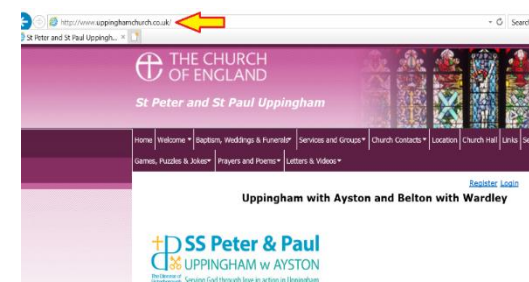
Christmas services (in church and online)... are listed on the facing page.
Remember to book on the Eventbrite website (see details, inside back page) to attend Christmas services in Uppingham PC in person.

The church will also be open for private prayer, **each Wednesday, 2-4pm.**

As new information becomes available we will publish it on the website, through our mailing and on Nextdoor at Uppingham.

You are welcome to join us on Sundays for parish worship online
(check the website for details)

Check the Parish Church website now! www.uppinghamchurch.co.uk



Latest news from the farm

Notes from Jeff Whelband...

A neighbouring farmer has a heifer unable to produce any milk. So we've been asked if we could help out; therefore we are now back on the Morning and Night milk feed!

As the calves are only 5 weeks old, they have their own pen, or they would be bullied by Blossom and her gang, who when they see milk being prepared create a lot of noise, thinking it's for them...

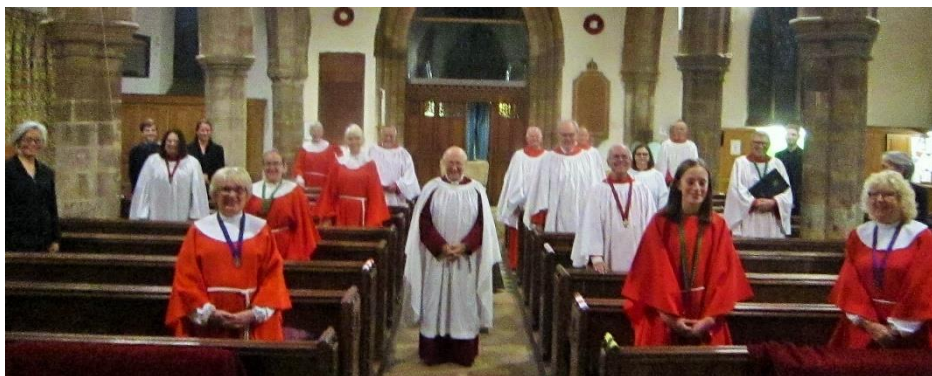
Boris and his gang will be in before the end of the month in the newly built barn extension.

Peggy's piglets are now nearly 6 months old and are looking like full grown pigs (but please don't mention sausages).

The piglets have now left Mother Peggy, and are still roaming free, but they now have their own comfortable bedroom (as shown in this photo).



The Parish Choir



***Our recording of last month's Evensong
on the Feast of S. Cecilia (and the birthdate of Benjamin Britten in 1913)
is still available on the parish church website. Enjoy!***

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MESSAGE FOR PARISH DONORS

*Every month, a snippet or two of information
about one or more of the ways we donate money to support our church.*

This month, I remembered that it is important to keep our wills up to date and to make a provision for the church at the same time.

LEAVING A LEGACY

Leaving money in our will is one way of ensuring we can continue to have a positive impact on the work of the church. Janet and I made sure that our wills were drawn up with specific provision for a gift to the church. If you have already made a will, and would like to join us in leaving Uppingham Parish Church a gift in your will, you can contact your solicitor or you can complete a codicil which adds the gift to your existing will. I can supply you with the form and the instructions on how to complete it.

I hope all readers of Quartet have a wonderful Christmas, and look forward to the end of lockdown when we can all see each other again.

01572-821560 geoff.thompson169@gmail.com

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The Crystal Ball

Music for December 2020

Prophecy is always a risky business; but my scrying device let me down well and truly last month. My apologies; I have had it thoroughly overhauled and put in a new battery, so perhaps it may function better this time. All the same, it might be wise not to put too much faith in the following: God and Her Majesty's Government may have different ideas!

First out of the starting-blocks, then, God willing, will be Charles Wood's classic *O thou the central orb*, which we hope to sing on our first Sunday back, 6 December; a big, tuneful piece which Dr Erik Routley considered to be the archetypal English cathedral anthem. The following Sunday, 13 December, we have our traditional Advent introit, *O sing joyfully* by Adrian Batten; better late than never for this vigorous setting of verses from Psalm 81. The anthem will be *This is the record of John* by Orlando Gibbons, an early example of the 'verse' anthem, in which solo sections alternate with the full choir in five parts; the writing for voices is wonderfully satisfying.

On 20 December, with Christmas Day just over the horizon, we begin with the lovely dance of the Basque carol *The angel Gabriel*, and follow that up with Arcadelt's carol-like *Ave Maria* and Andrew Carter's lively *A maiden most gentle*, all in honour of Our Lady, who is the theme of that Sunday's worship. In the evening, there will be a recording available of an abbreviated form of our usual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols; sadly, of course, we cannot gather in church for this popular service, but we hope this will help to fill the gap.

And then we come to 'Christmas with a difference'. On Christmas Eve there will be a choir at a Sung Eucharist at **8 pm**; and we shall sing William Ballet's *Lute-Book Lullaby* ('Sweet was the song') and David Willcocks's familiar arrangement of the *Sussex Carol* ('On Christmas night'). Later that evening there will be Midnight Mass at the usual time of 11.30 pm, at which the music (*All my heart this night rejoices* and *I saw a maiden*) will be recorded. On Christmas morning a live choir will sing *O come, all ye faithful* (well, part of it anyway), *Ding, dong, merrily on high* and Philip Ledger's arrangement of *Away in a manger*.

December's music will end with another contribution from the recorded 'virtual choir' on the 27th, at which you will be treated to *A great and mighty wonder* and Harold Darke's much-loved setting of *In the bleak mid-winter*. After that, we shall put our hand into the hand of God and venture out into the unknown territory of the new year. 'God bless us every one!'

Succentor



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As I write, we are about to move into Tier 2, and we have a new set of rules to get used to! For me, the main blessing is that our church can re-open, and therefore we will be able to hold a service on **December 8th**, as originally scheduled in the programme (do you remember that there was one?). Please keep the date free if you can, it would be wonderful if we could see lots of members, even if we can't repair to our usual watering-hole afterwards!

The important thing to remember is that we shall start at **9.30am**. This is to enable Rachel to lead our service, as she has an appointment later in the morning. If required, we will do our best to provide transport, especially if you are concerned about the earlier start.

We have been busy collecting the subs, which we usually do at our November meeting. Thank you to all who have paid already, just the last few to go!

Another admin task for you – we have all been asked to complete the new registration form, (which is apparently more GDPR friendly!); you will find it inside your latest copy of Communicate, recently delivered to your door (and thank you to all those who did the deliveries). There is no rush for this form, but please complete it before you forget – and bring it with you on 8th.

Although we often 'think local', the MU is both busy and influential on a national and international level. The website holds a great deal of information and ways to get involved. Try looking at

- The Big Give: a week of fundraising for women's education in the DRC
- 16 Days of activism
- December 5th Global Day 'No more one in three'

Anyone not online please ask for information from someone who is – like me!

Thinking about 2021, I am unwilling to plan in advance; we must go from month to month, doing the best we can. We cannot hold a full meeting until social distancing is relaxed and the Church Hall becomes available. Our next potential meeting date is Tuesday January 12th. Meanwhile, let us enjoy Advent and the approach of the Christmas season – we do have much to be thankful for.

God bless
Janet Wardle

Do you know your Church and Town?

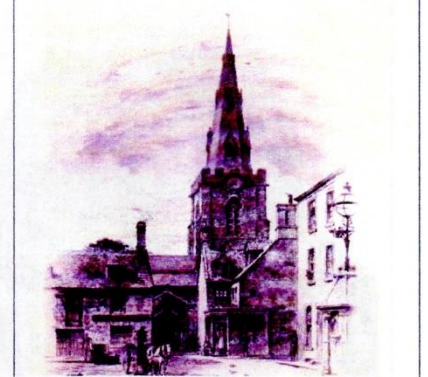
Golden Ages – A History of Music & Musicians in Uppingham Town - £9

This volume – **Golden Ages** - is on the history of music in **Uppingham Town**. The book, written by Vivian Anthony, is published by the Uppingham Local History Study Group and edited by John Wardle. It describes how the cooperation between the School and Town enabled Uppingham to enjoy the finest range of music of any small town in the country. Golden Ages were enjoyed by the principal performers in the Uppingham Choral Society, the Rutland Music Festivals and the Uppingham Amateur Operatic Society, which performed Gilbert & Sullivan for many years. The Goldmark Gallery and some of the pubs provided ideal environments for folk and jazz. The churches and schools of the town, along with other groups, played important roles in creating this musical Mecca; all are honoured. Church choristers – Philip Riley, John Woodhead, Jenny Harris and Emma Saunders – have made valuable contributions to the history and the bell captain, Sue Webster, has added information on the Church Bells and Clock.

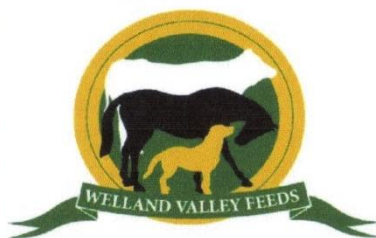


Closer to Heaven - A History of Music and Musicians at Uppingham Parish Church – £7.50

Most of you will have bought your copy but a few copies remain. It tells how UPC has been at the centre of life in Uppingham for centuries and some of the stories associated with its musical life are fascinating. Workers running off with pipes from the organ, organists paid to keep the dogs and children quiet in church and to wind the clock on the spire are but two. The changes in the music sung by choir and congregation. What was the 'gallery choir' and what did they sing? Was the music accompanied by bassoons? When did the choir start wearing their robes? How many organs have there been in UPC history and where were they located? How have the choristers and organists been rewarded over the years? Has there been any secular in the music in the church?



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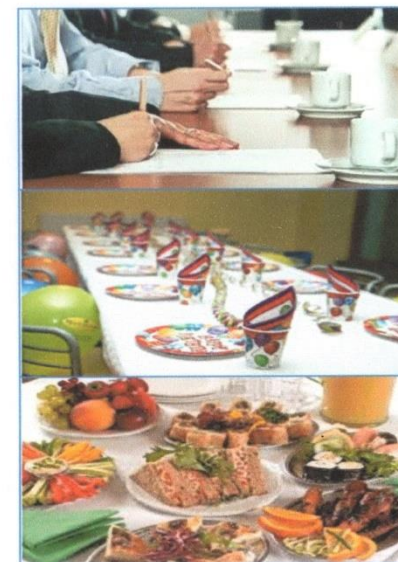
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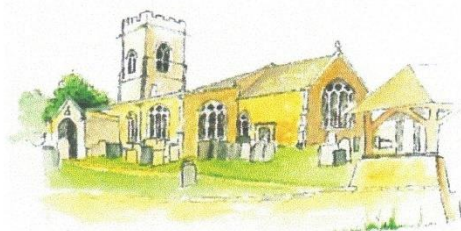
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St. Peter's Church Belton w Wardley



Remembrance Sunday

Due to the Covid-19 Lockdown regulations, we were unable to hold our usual Remembrance Sunday service in the church. The Act of Worship at the war memorial was much reduced, with about three dozen parishioners in attendance, all abiding by the social distancing recommendations.

The service was conducted by the curate, the Revd. Debbie Smith-Wilds, assisted by our churchwarden Bob Atkinson. With no singing allowed, and no representatives of our armed forces present, we listened to recordings:

Hymn "O God our help in ages past"

Last Post, and Reveille

National Anthem

Debbie read aloud the names on the parish Roll of Honour, and wreaths were laid on the War Memorial, on behalf of the Church, the Parish Council, and the Armed Forces.

Christmas Celebrations

We plan to hold our usual Christmas Eve midnight and Christmas Day services, but with social distancing. However our Christmas carol service is likely to fall victim to the virus.

As an alternative, for a few days only, we are hoping to build a nativity scene in the lychgate, complete with Mary & Joseph, a shepherd and some sheep; and from Christmas Day, baby Jesus. *(We are seeking character and scene painters, please contact a PCC member if you are able to help)*

Services and Events in December

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

Date	Location	Time	Details
6th December Second Sunday of Advent	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
13th December Third Sunday of Advent	St. Peter's Church	10:00 am	Holy Communion (cw)
20th December Fourth Sunday of Advent	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
Thu 24 th December Christmas Eve	St. Peter's Church	11:30 pm	Midnight Communion (cw)
Fri 25 th December Christmas Day	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Christmas Communion (bcp)
27th December First Sunday of Christmas	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (cw)
3rd January Epiphany	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
<i>Wednesday Morning Prayers are suspended until further notice</i>			
<i>All Care Home services are suspended until further notice</i>			
<i>Please check with "Parish Notes" for any late changes</i>			

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.



Two seasonal injunctions are unclued: an appeal to all Christians at 30,16 (1,4,3,2,8) and an exhortation to cheerfulness without its usual addressees at 1ac,10 (3,4,3,5). Other appropriate answers are clued without definitions.

Across

- 1 See preamble
- 6 Midnight? (4)
- 10 See preamble
- 11 Turn into a play, or make a song and dance of it (9)
- 12 Chap in California split up, as in Switzerland (8)
- 13 On the cake? (5)
- 15 Deciding votes where the rain enters the river (3-4)
- 17 Poet of *Penseroso*, losing rings and going mad (7)
- 19 Fortright article on a girl (7)
- 21 Made a cheerful noise during 8? (7)
- 22 Order keys before start of holiday in Ireland (5)
- 24 Bananas? (8)
- 27 Squash cat transformed into hairy monster (9)
- 28 Piping like an oboe? (5)
- 29 'The ____ is going, let him go' (Tennyson) (4)
- 30 See preamble

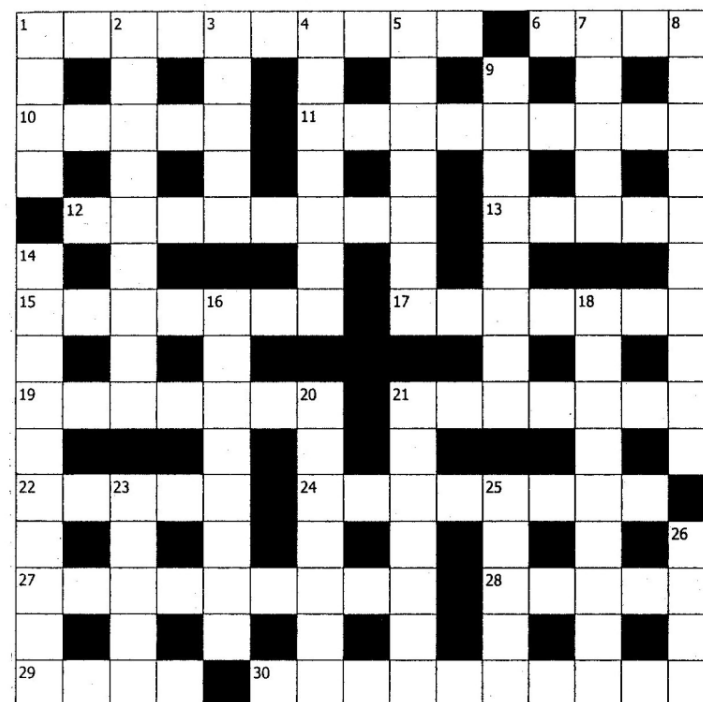
Down

- 1 Cricket or pheasant, perhaps (4)
- 2 Heroic figure in rush to meet senior lawyer and grandmother (9)
- 3 'Out of ____ have I called my son' (Matthew 2) (5)
- 4 Of comfort and joy? (7)
- 5 'The ____ are dumb' (Milton, *Ode on the Morning of Christ's Nativity*) (7)
- 7 My excuse is I wasn't there! (5)
- 8 Journey with reindeer? (6,4)
- 9 Disciple in first or sixteenth century? (8)
- 14 Out of kindness, empty gallery houses motoring body with unpaid debts left (10)
- 16 See preamble
- 18 Store of heavenly power? (5,4)
- 20 *Cats* on ice, balletic, disciplined (7)
- 21 German musician, possibly father of Mary (7)
- 23 Ship's location? That's easily discovered here (2,3)
- 25 King and US lawyer keep gold for film-maker (5)
- 26 Near and concerning cattle-shed (4)

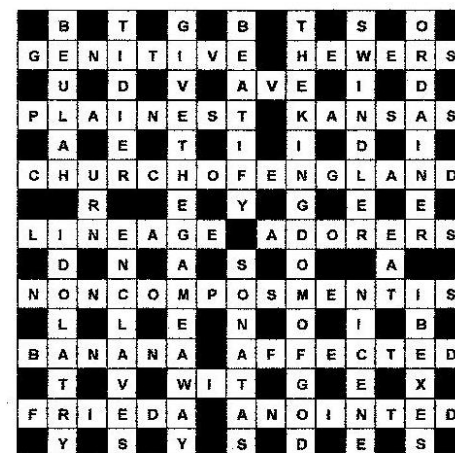
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'Complements of the Season!'

by Succentor



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QUICK QUIZ

...courtesy of Succentor. Thanks for all these recent quiz rounds, which come to an end this month.

Philip writes:

If you need extra stimulation for your brain right now, have a go at the CPRE Christmas Quiz ('Five a Day: Fruit and Vegetables'). Search for CPRE Christmas Quiz, or ring me (821216) for a printed copy.

Final Round

Anagrams (TV and radio programmes)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 SEED ASTERN (10) | 11 SENT TO TRACE ORION (10,6) |
| 2 OUR MAN SHOW (6,4) | 12 CRINGE, DIM SCANTY COLT (8,4,7) |
| 3 THRESH ACRE (3,7) | 13 TWO WOKE UP A NAG (4,2,2,5) |
| 4 QUOTE ANY SINS (3,9) | 14 TO DEATH FOR THY HUG (7,3,3,3) |
| 5 LORD GREENSWARD (9,5) | 15 CALL EVERYTHING IN USE (10,9) |
| 6 SET YOUR LIVE CHAIRMAN (2,5,1,6,1,4) | 16 FAINT BAR IN BIRO (5,2,7) |
| 7 NOVEL RAG CHOSEN (6,8) | 17 SID SENDS CRATE'S LID (6,6,5) |
| 8 SAD ROSE? HOW QUAIN! (8,8) | 18 MIGHTY FAST CUR IS IN HIDING (6,5,2,5,5) |
| 9 OH WOE TO NAVY FIGURES (4,1,3,4,3,3) | 19 BID ME TAKE BOOT (4,2,7) |
| 10 CAN'T JOIN LUTE (4,8) | 20 ROB THE BRIG (3,7) |

...and try these bonus questions:

- 21 How many (old) pennies in five guineas?
- 22 "Gianduja" and "praline" are terms used in the manufacture of what?
- 23 What does PVC stand for?
- 24 What dish derives its name from a Tamil expression meaning "pepper-water"?

Round 8 answers: 1 Lincolnshire 2 A type of goldfish 3 2240 4 8 5 Lawn tennis 6 Derek Nimmo 7 Bath 8 Oysters wrapped in bacon 9 Cary Grant 10 The Rosetta Stone

Parish Posada figures, on the move, this Advent...

Look out for our Posada figures as we welcome them into people's houses over the Advent season. Maybe they will be spending the night in a home near you?



Mary and Joseph, and their unborn baby, have had a tiring journey to Uppingham...

Surely they will find a room somewhere?

On Christmas Eve, the Posada figures will be welcomed at our outdoor Nativity service.

Peterborough Cathedral Choir

...have made recordings of Christmas carols for parishes to enjoy during their online Advent and Christmas services.

Email music@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk for further information and a link to the OneDrive folder from which the recordings may be downloaded.




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Not just waiting

I love the 'not-yet' seasons of the year, Advent and Lent, when we look forward (sometimes patiently) to the celebrations of Christmas and Easter. Many of us can sympathise with the child who prayed "Lord, please give me patience and give it to me right now!"

Waiting is unpopular. We desperately try to guess which checkout queue is moving fastest. We begrudge the extra time spent waiting for late buses, trains or people. We loathe being told to "just hold" on the telephone.

Yet God's people are frequently encouraged to wait upon God, to look for the signs of his work in the world, to hope and pray and strive for this world to be more like his Kingdom. Indeed, Jesus himself was acclaimed as the Christ, "the one we've been waiting for", the fulfilment of centuries of longing.

In Lent and Advent, I always try to read at least one more reflective book, sometimes as part of a group. This year, please let me commend two in particular – *The Glorious Journey* by Liam Kelly, based upon the film *The Two Popes*, and *Frequencies of God*, written by one of our own clergy, Carys Walsh, based on the poems of R S Thomas.

Carys is Assistant Priest at Saints Peter and Paul, St Michael's and All

Saints' Churches in Kettering, and our Curate Training Officer. The *Church Times* has said her book "should become a classic" while Mark Oakley (Dean of St John's College, Cambridge) has commended it for being "infectious, poignant and inspiring". I agree with them both – it's a mind-enlarging and soul-refreshing read.

The book offers five weeks of daily poem-based reflections focused on waiting, accepting, journeying, birthing and seeing, which lead us through the anticipation of Advent to the celebration of Christmas.

In one helpful passage, Carys reflects that in waiting upon God "we may find ourselves discovering that there is a tightrope of desire and longing to be walked, which calls out from us a depth of yearning for God, and demands focus and surrender as we teeter between longing for God to speak and knowing that as we wait, we know God more".

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus first coming into our world, and meet him in our daily lives, may we all come to know God more this Advent.

With my prayers and best wishes for a holy and inspiring Advent.

+John
Bishop of Brixworth



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Thank you for this month's lively articles: please continue to send us in your news and views for the next issue, the earlier this month the better! – Eds

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

Diocese of Peterborough – Magazine Resource – December 2020

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Tel: 01733 887000 Email: communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk
www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Christmas services in Uppingham PC

Please book a seat!

We must ensure we maintain social distancing at our services in church, so we are asking all those who wish to attend our Christmas services in Uppingham PC to book their places via the Eventbrite website.

Use the links, as listed opposite, for the service you wish to attend. If the service you want is fully booked, please choose another service time. We are willing to add an additional service if we find it is needed to accommodate everyone at Christmas.

All services are Eucharists, lasting approximately 40 minutes. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in doing it this way.

Find the links to click on our website (www.uppinghamchurch.co.uk) and on our Facebook page (FB: Uppingham Parish Church). Tickets may be booked from 1st December onwards. First come, first served!

Any query? Do please contact our curate, Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds, 01572 822906 or curateofuppingham@gmail.com

Christmas Eucharists Uppingham Parish Church of SS Peter & Paul

Christmas Eve, 8pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-service-at-8pm-tickets-127693004213>

Christmas Eve, 11.30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-service-1130pm-tickets-130781347531>

Christmas Day, 10am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-day-10am-service-tickets-130781710617>

Christmas Day, 11am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-day-11am-service-tickets-130782715623>



Happy Christmas!