



Weekly News

22nd December 2019

www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk

St Peter's Church, Cambridge Road, Harrogate, HG1 1PB

Taking care of tomorrow's Christmas memories

What will you remember about Christmas 2019? I expect most of us will remember it as the one that followed the only December General Election in our lifetime. We might also remember it for far more personal reasons. And, as we think back across the years, it is probably personal reasons that cause a particular year to stick in the memory. Sometimes with memories full of joy, and perhaps sometimes also with the opposite emotion. One of my clearest childhood Christmas memories is that of excitedly playing with a present before even getting it unwrapped. It was a big inflatable ball – so the wrapping paper proved little hindrance!



But what will stick in the memory of parents who, this year, have nothing to give their children? And what will stick in the memory of children who, because of their families' circumstances, won't be able to celebrate in ways that the rest of us take for granted? It doesn't take much imagination to recognise how bad that would feel. Which is why it has been a privilege to join with the Harrogate Convention Centre and more than a dozen local businesses (such as Electric Radiators Direct, pictured here) to create fifty fantastic

Christmas hampers for local families and individuals in need. For the recipients this Christmas will be a tough one for all sorts of reasons – but perhaps these physical gifts will make it memorable for a positive reason too. The physical gift reminds us that we are not alone. Which is the point about God's gift to everyone: Jesus, born like the rest of us, the gift in a manger.

Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's Church

Come and help to make Christingles

This year we have two Christingle Services both on Christmas Eve, one at 3:00 pm and one at 4:30 pm, in aid of the **Children's Society**. We will be making 400 Christingles on the morning of Tuesday 24th December from 10:00 am onwards in Church. If you would like to help please let one of the Clergy know or contact Kate Blake (kateblakefamily@gmail.com).



Thank you for thinking of others

If you and your family have made a Reverse Advent Calendar this year, please bring it to Church where the contents will help vulnerable people and families who attend our Breakfast Club or come to collect food parcels. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

A record amount raised by the Lunchtime RefleXions team

As the year draws to a close, the Lunchtime RefleXions team wish to thank our very loyal friends for supporting us each week. We have welcomed many visitors, but the St Peter's family have sustained it. With your help, we have raised an amazing £6699 this year. This money is given to St Peter's to help with the running of the Church. A big thank you to our lovely team of volunteers who cook and serve delicious food, ensure the café runs smoothly, and entertain us with delightful music! We look forward to serving you in 2020.

Barbara Agar and the Lunchtime RefleXions team
Lunchtime RefleXions is on Thursdays (during term-time) after the Holy Communion service from about 11:30 am onwards. They will return on 9th January 2020.

Home alone on Christmas Day?

Come along to Wesley Chapel, Oxford Street, for some company and a free 3-course turkey lunch, served at 12:30 pm. Please phone Philip on Harrogate 563990 to book your place. Transport can be arranged if needed. You're also most welcome to come to our Family Christmas Service first at 11:00 am on Christmas morning.



Sanctuary's Silent Night!

Many thanks to our curate, Chris Clayton, for this collage of our youth group, **Sanctuary**, enjoying themselves at the *Contemporary Carol Service and Silent Disco* at St Mark's Church last Sunday. They are taking a Christmas break now but will be back on Sunday 6th January 2020 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Brostoff Hall.



St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival 2019 Winners...



Congratulations to all our winners! *Clockwise from top left:* Most Creative Tree – The Knitted Nativity; Best Children's Tree – Western Primary School; Best Individual Tree – Dolly Connors; and Best Adult's Tree – St Peter's Music Group.



Today's Services: 22nd December 2019

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 Holy Communion

9:30 Family Communion

*There is **no** Sunday Club today, but all children and their parents are welcome to gather in the café area, where there are toys and activities to share during our Communion Service.*

Hymns 314, 243, 176, 491

Reading Matthew 1 v 18 to the end

Preacher: Hannah Beck

11:00 Choral Matins

Setting Dyson in F (Benedicite)

Hymns 29, 35, 601

Psalm 144

Readings Micah 5 v 2 – 5a

Luke 1 v 26 - 38

Anthem The Angel Gabriel (*arr. Jack Longstaff*)

Preacher: Alan Garrow

4:15 Afternoon Church

Preacher: Chris Clayton

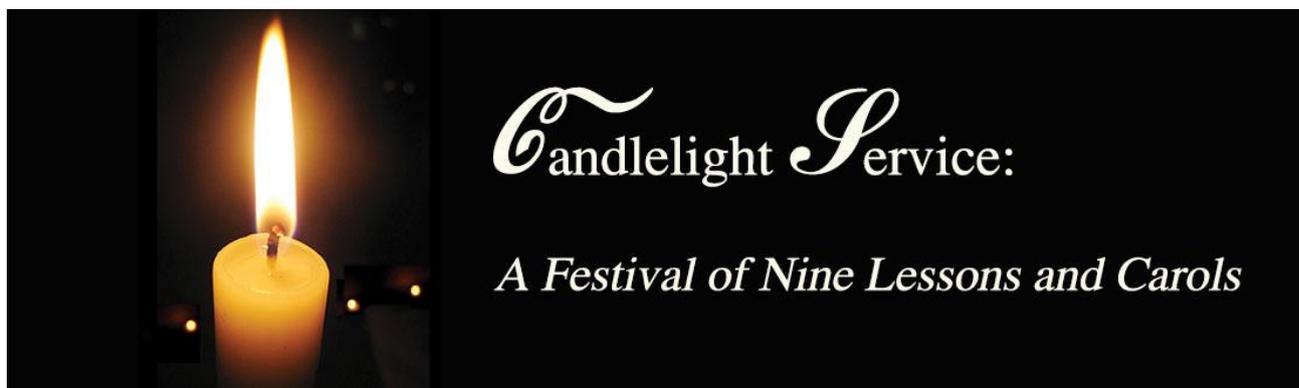
6:30 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols – *please see the order of service*



Our Duty Wardens today are:

Sian Lockwood and

Oliver Longstaff



Please join us to bring in the New Year!



On Tuesday 31st December, New Year's Eve, we are holding two special services. **Pray for 2020** - come and light a candle and pray for our nation and for the world, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Then later our atmospheric, candlelit **Watchnight Service** starts at 11:30 pm.

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:

Nicky Aitken, Tim Akers, Pat Anderson, Peggy-Anne Binder, Ruth Bowes, Mary Burcher, Louise Emrullahu, Pam Gardiner, Vicky Harrison, Edna Hodgkiss, Sian Lockwood, Charlie Martineau, Peggy Palmer, Alan Richardson, Frances Roxby-Proud, Oli Saul, Colin Sinclair and Keith Ward.

RIP Gill Gibson

Also in our prayers this week:

- Mon** Carole Raw, Parish Administrator
The Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell, who is to become the next Archbishop of York
- Tues** All those working away from home this Christmas
Patients and staff at Harrogate Hospital
- Wed** All our Deputy and Duty Wardens
St Peter's Sides persons
- Thurs** Those who have lost hope
The Samaritans
- Fri** The Fairtrade Shop at St Peter's
Neema Crafts, transforming the lives of people with disabilities
- Sat** Dennis Richards, Lay Reader
Our homes, families, friends and all who we love

Daily Readings

Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer at 5:00 pm daily. These are the Bible readings we will be using in Church each morning this week. Why not read them at home if you are unable to come to the service?

- Mon** Psalm 130
Malachi 1 v 1, v 6 to end
Matthew 19 v 1 - 12
- Tues** ***Christmas Eve***
Psalm 45
Malachi 2 v 1 - 16
Matthew 19 v 13 - 15
- Wed** ***Christmas Day***
Psalm 110
Isaiah 62 v 1 - 5
Matthew 1 v 18 to end
- Thurs** ***Stephen, Deacon, Martyr***
Psalm 13
Jeremiah 26 v 12 - 15
Acts 6
- Fri** ***John the Apostle***
Psalm 21
Exodus 33 v 12 to end
1 John 2 v 1 - 11
- Sat** ***The Holy Innocents***
Psalm 36
Genesis 37 v 13 - 20
Matthew 18 v 1 - 10

The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

or

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord.

What's on This Week

Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer at 5:00 pm daily

Mon 23rd

Tues 24th

Christmas Eve

10:00 am – 12:00 pm Shoppers' Coffee and Carols

10:00 am – 12:00 pm **Christingle Making**

3:00 pm **Christingle Service**

4:30 pm **Christingle Service**

6:30 pm **Carols for Christmas Eve**

11:30 pm Midnight Mass

Setting: Howells Collegium Regale (Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei)

Readings: Isaiah 10 v 33 – 11 v 10

John 1 v 1 - 14

Anthems: Rocking Carol (arr. *Willcocks*)

Christmas Processional (*Mack Wilberg*)

Preacher: Stewart Davies

Wed 25th

Christmas Day



8:30 am Holy Communion

9:30 am Family Communion

Hymns: 438, 36, 155, 408

Reading: Luke 2 v 1 - 14

Preacher: Chris Clayton

11:00 am Christmas Morning Service

Anthems: A virgin most pure (arr. *Charles Wood*)

Shepherds Pipe Carol (*John Rutter*)

Readings: Isaiah 9 v 2 - 7

Luke 2 v 1 - 14

Preacher: Hannah Beck

St Peter's Players present a short Christmas drama at the 9:30 am service

Thurs 26th

11:00 am Holy Communion

Fri 27th

9:30 am AA Meeting

11:00 am Funeral of Gill Gibson

7:00 pm NA Meeting

Sat 28th

No Refreshment Day today



The **Breakfast Club** provides a free, hot breakfast from Monday to Saturday (8:15 – 8:45 am) for all those who are hungry or in need. A hot **Sunday lunch** is also served at the Wesley Centre each week at 1:00 pm, except for the third Sunday of the month when it is here at St Peter's.

Food parcels are available from 4:45 pm every day, except for Sundays, when it's 5:30 pm.



Wednesday is the new Friday

St Peter's Church
Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Starting 29th January 2020

#TryAlpha



Refreshments are served after each of our Sunday morning services from the kitchen area at the front of Church. Please come and join us



Next Week's Deadline

The deadline for the next full edition of the Weekly News (5th January 2020) will be noon on Wednesday 3rd January 2020. Please send any items (including photos) to Alan Garrow **or** to Marian Chambers (addresses below)



The flowers in Church today are in memory of

Tony Sweeney QPM

who died seven years ago on
27th December 2012

Key Contacts

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Next Sunday 29th December The First Sunday of Christmas

8:30	Holy Communion
9:30	Family Communion
11:00	Choral Matins
4:30	Afternoon Church – <i>Service of the Word</i>
6:30	Evening Prayers (said)



New to St Peter's? Please fill in one of the welcome cards in the pews and hand it to one of the clergy.