

# *St. Peter's Ardingly*

## Parish Magazine

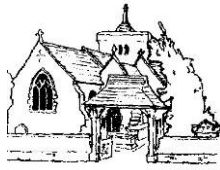
December 2019/January 2020



*We would like to send our very best wishes to everyone  
in the village and to all of those who read this magazine  
for a very happy and holy Christmas  
and for a peaceful New Year*



*From John and Sally Crutchley*



## **St Peter's Church, Ardingly**

### **Who's Who at St Peter's**

Rector	Revd John Crutchley	892332
Associate Priest	Revd Chris Sutton	07903 068366
Readers	John Witherington	892277
	Philip Kelly	892540
Wardens	Nigel Cheater	892769
	John Witherington	892277
Secretary to the PCC	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Treasurer	Jean Jeffery	440979
Music Coordinator	Sue Laker	892117
Organist	Jill Veasey	892442
Safeguarding Coordinator	Caroline Steer	892108
Church Centre Manager	Jill Veasey	892442
Church Centre Bookings	Carol Grossman	416707
Magazine Editors	Sue Laker	892117
	Michael Denman	892344
Website	<a href="http://www.ardinglychurch.org.uk">www.ardinglychurch.org.uk</a>	

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

**8.00 am A traditional form of Holy Communion**

**10.15 am Morning Worship – Our main service – see diary page**

**6.30 pm Occasional special evening services will be shown on the diary page and announced in advance**

**See inside for full details of all this month's services**

## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

I think that this poem by Eugene W. Miller says everything that I would want to say as we anticipate and look forward with excitement to another Christmas.



*Once again, it's Christmas Time,  
time for us to be,  
Busy wrapping presents  
and setting up the tree.  
It seems we have so many things,  
to think of and to do,  
We may forget that Christmas,  
has a deeper meaning too.*

*A meaning that goes far beyond,  
the things the eye can see,  
Such as Holly wreaths, Mistletoe,  
and Gifts beneath the tree.  
For these are only Symbols,  
of what happened Christmas morn,  
When in a little manger,  
GOD's only Son was born.  
GOD put HIM here upon this Earth,  
with one idea in mind.  
To put New Hope around the World,  
and LOVE in all Mankind.*

*So even though we're busy,  
and have many things to do,  
Let's not forget that Christmas,  
has a deeper Meaning too.*

With my very best wishes to everyone for a peaceful, happy and Holy Christmas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "J" and a cursive "h".

## Services in DECEMBER 2019

*Advent is about waiting like Mary, in hope, trusting that God is at work in the silence and the dark places. Advent is wanting to know that He who has promised is faithful, and He will do it.*

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

### **ADVENT SUNDAY** - *The Seedling of Hope*

8.00am

Jeremiah 33: 10 – 16; Luke 21: 25 - 26

### **Holy Communion [BCP]**

*With refreshments served  
from **10.00am** and  
throughout the service  
our worship begins at **10.15am***

### ***sunday@thecentre***

*a café style service in the Church Centre for everyone*

5.00pm

**Advent Compline:** *Yearning*

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

### **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT –** *The Pathway of Peace*

8.00am

Malachi 3: 1 – 4; Luke 1: 68 – 79

### **Holy Communion [BCP]**

10.15am

Malachi 3: 1 – 4; Luke 1: 68 – 79

### **Holy Communion [CW]**

5.00pm

**Advent Compline:** *Change*

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

### **THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT –** *The Song of Joy*

8.00am

Isaiah 12: 2 – 6; Philippians 4: 4 – 7

### **Holy Communion [BCP]**

10.15am

Isaiah 12: 2 – 6; Philippians 4: 4 – 7

### **Morning Praise**

5.00pm

**Advent Compline:** *God with us*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT –**  
*The Face of Love*

8.00am HC

Micah 5: 2 – 5; Luke 1: 46 – 55

**Holy Communion [BCP]**

10.15am

Micah 5: 2 – 5; Luke 1: 46 – 55

**Holy Communion [CW]**

**With prayer for healing and wholeness**

**6.30pm**

**Carols by Candlelight**

*A traditional service of readings, words, music and carols for Christmas presented in a beautiful candle-lit church and followed by mince pies and mulled wine*

***"Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us....Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives." [Benedict XVI]***

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

5.00pm

**A Crib and Christingle service for all the family**

*The message of Christmas and the meaning of the Christingle*

11.00pm

**A Christmas Celebration of Holy Communion**

*A traditional service at the beginning of Christmas*

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

8.00am

Hebrews 1: 1 – 14; John 1: 1 – 14

**Holy Communion [BCP]**

*A traditional service of Holy Communion for Christmas Morning*

10.15am

**Morning Praise**

**Christmas Morning Carols Praise**

*A service of Christmas Carols and Christmas Praise to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Saviour and Lord*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December**

**The First Sunday of Christmas**

9.30am

Colossians 3: 12 – 17; Luke 2: 41: – end

**Holy Communion [CW]**

## Services in JANUARY 2020

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January**

### **The Epiphany**

8.00am

**Holy Communion [BCP]**

Ephesians 3: 1 – 12; Matthew 2: 1 – 12

10.15am

**Morning Praise**

Ephesians 3: 1 – 12; Matthew 2: 1 – 12

5.00pm

“Open to God” – A quiet and reflective service  
for the end of the day

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

### **The First Sunday of Epiphany – The Baptism of Christ**

8.00am

**Holy Communion [BCP]**

Acts 10: 34 – 43; Matthew 3: 13-17

10.15am

**Holy Communion [CW]**

Acts 10: 34 – 43; Matthew 3: 13-17

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

### **The Second Sunday of Epiphany**

8.00am

**Holy Communion [BCP]**

1 Corinthians 1: 1 – 9; John 1: 29-42

10.15am

**Morning Praise**

1 Corinthians 1: 1 – 9; John 1: 29-42

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

### **The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

8.00am

**Holy Communion [BCP]**

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18; Matthew 4: 12-23

10.15am

**Holy Communion [CW]**

**With prayer for healing and wholeness**

1 Corinthians 1: 10 -18; Matthew 4: 12-23

## ***NOTICEBOARD for December***

### **Meeting Point Coffee Mornings**

The Meeting Point Christmas Party will take place in Hapstead Small Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> December from 10.15 to 11.30. All are welcome. If anyone needs a lift please contact Jeannie Leadsom on 892571 before the day. Help is appreciated in setting up tables etc.



**VILLAGE LUNCH:** In Hapstead Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> December

### **FSW – TOYS FOR CHILDREN**

Once again we will be collecting presents/toys/vouchers for the children of families being supported by the Cuckfield Deanery support worker. Wrapping paper and sellotape are also very welcome.

Please bring items to the services on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December.**

Many thanks, Deb Ruse - FSW Cuckfield Deanery Rep.

### **MUSIC AND MINCE PIES:**

For Senior Citizens on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at Ardingly College. The Prep School Chamber Choir will perform. Transport 10.15 a.m. from the Village Hall and Priceholme. RSVP for attendance and transport: [office@ardingly.com](mailto:office@ardingly.com) or 893000. Admission is free.



### **HAPSTEAD HALL CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

This year's Fayre will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019 from 2pm to 4.30pm.

Stalls of all types will be selling cards, gifts and other produce for Christmas and also fundraising for local organisations. Father Christmas will be making a visit! After the Fayre, at about 5.30pm, there will be Christmas Carols under the tree, with mince pies and mulled wine. **DO PLAN TO COME!**

St Peter's Church will be having our usual Handmade & Homemade stall at the Fayre, so offers of goods to sell will be very welcome, as will offers to help set up and/or man the stall for an hour or so.



If you can help please contact Jill Veasey (892442) or Sue Laker (892117)  
Thank you!



## **POSTBOX in Church**



As in previous years, we will have our Christmas Postbox in church on 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December. You are welcome to post in it your Ardingly village cards but please no cards for outside the village! There will be a small box for donations towards the service and the total raised will be given to a local charity.

Deliveries will be made on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, and help with this will be much appreciated! Sorting will begin at 10.00am in the Church Centre that day.

## **ARDINGLY CHORAL SOCIETY**

Advent Carol Concert by Candlelight  
at 8pm in the College Chapel

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019

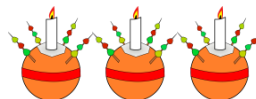
Haydn-Nelson Mass & carols

In aid of St Peter & St James Hospice

## **ANGELS & URCHINS**

Our last morning before the Christmas holidays will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. We'll meet again on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

## **CHRISTINGLES**



We will be having our traditional Christingle Service on Christmas Eve and would very much appreciate help in preparing Christingles on 23<sup>rd</sup> December please, from 5pm in the Church Centre.

***(More about Christingles on page 22)***



## NEW YEAR WALK AND LUNCH

To mark the start of 2020 we are planning to have a meal at the Church Centre on Wednesday 1st January, as we have done for the past few years. George Ruse will lead a walk (weather permitting) for those who would like to work up an appetite, and this will depart from the Centre at 10.00 a.m.. The walkers will join the rest of us for a meal at about 1pm. Coffee will be available from 11.45 and again after lunch and we will pack up at about 3.30. The meal is free but donations are welcomed and the proceeds will be shared between Old Jeshwang and Imara.



If you would like to come to the meal please contact Deb Ruse (892717) - preferably *before* Christmas! Offers of help with transport would be very welcome. Please speak to George for details of the walk.

We look forward to seeing you there.  
Deb & George Ruse ([Deb\\_ruse@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Deb_ruse@hotmail.co.uk))

## Great South Run

It was Phil Payne's goal to complete the 10-mile course in under one hour and he did it with 2 seconds to spare! What an achievement! Thank you to all those who sponsored Phil to raise money for Braille machines for a school in northern Uganda. The total raised exceeds £610, which has enabled us to buy a Braille machine and some Braille paper too.



Belinda - Imara-Uganda Education Fund

## SHOEBOXES

Many thanks for the support for the Link to Hope appeal. In total St Peter's collected 37 Shoeboxes (including some from a church in Crawley). These are now on their way to families living in very difficult circumstances in Ukraine, Bulgaria, Moldova and Romania.

Caroline Steer

## Sunday@thecentre

All are welcome at  
Café Church  
**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December**  
at St Peter's Church Centre



Coffee (and tea) are served from  
10.00am and throughout the  
service. Our worship begins at 10.15 a.m.

Seated around tables instead of sitting in rows, we drink coffee, eat  
croissants, discuss faith and relax.

Grab a seat, fill up your cup and **Welcome to Café Church!**

(There are activities for children)

## **PRISON FELLOWSHIP**

### **New Nativity Set needed for Lewes Prison**



The Nativity Set that has been used at Lewes Prison has sadly had its day - in fact it has fallen apart! Therefore a new one needs to be purchased by Prison Fellowship. It will be set up in the chapel ready for the Carol service at the beginning of December

and will stay in place until after Christmas. The Carol service and Sunday services over the Christmas period are important to the men as they naturally feel more isolated when the rest of the world is celebrating with friends and family. We hope that the presence of the nativity will enhance the services and help the men to focus on the real meaning of Christmas. If anyone feels they would like to contribute towards the cost of replacing the set we would be delighted to hear from them!

**Adele**

## A note from the Editors

For those who have not yet heard, Michael is back home again after 6 months in hospital and 2 operations! He is managing well, with support, but I (Sue) will continue to produce the magazine from now on, with Michael's advice and help!



We are very grateful to the many people who contribute to the magazine, to Ardingly College who print it for us, to Glynis for bundling and distributing the 240 magazines and to all the deliverers who put them through your doors! A big THANK YOU to everyone!

It's also the time of year when we need to remind you that annual subscriptions will be due at the beginning of 2020. If you would like to have the magazine delivered to your door (in Ardingly) or left in church for collection, the minimum subscription is still £3 - although we really appreciate all those of you who round it up to £5! If your magazine is posted to you the cost will be £12.50.



Michael is happy to receive subscriptions at Rye Cottage, 35 High Street, Ardingly. If you would like to pay by cheque, this should be made payable to *St Peter's Church Ardingly*.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and God's blessing in the New Year!

Sue and Michael

### Need a helping hand?

Serving the community in simple ways  
If you have a problem there are people willing to help



**AT YOUR SERVICE**

Call 892442 or 892307

## MISSION FOCUS on CPAS: Imogen's Journey

*(Church Pastoral Aid Society is an Anglican evangelical mission agency that we support. They work with churches mainly in the UK and Republic of Ireland.)*

Imogen came on a CPAS *You and Ministry* weekend at the age of 21. Today, she is training for ordination at Trinity College, Bristol. Here is her story about her journey so far.



**When did you first sense that God might be calling you to church leadership?**

When I was eight, so quite young! I wanted to be a vicar, though in the same way that other children wanted to be an astronaut or a vet - I don't think I really knew what being a vicar would be like at that age. As a teenager I had various

different ideas about what I wanted to do with my life, then at Uni I thought I was probably called to some kind of leadership, which eventually led me back to considering ordination more seriously.

**What was it about your university experience that led you towards ordination?**

While I was studying abroad, I was listening to a sermon from back home about raising up the next generation to ordained ministry and I thought 'that could be me'. I prayed through this a lot and when I found myself with six months free unexpectedly, I decided to use this time to do a youth work internship back at my home church, St Paul's and St George's in Edinburgh. During this internship, the vicar at my church recommended going on a CPAS *You and Ministry* weekend to explore my call further and find out more about the ordination process.

**How did you find the *You and Ministry* weekend?**

So helpful! It was a really good insight for me, great to connect with others and I came away with a much better understanding of how the ordination process works. There was a curate called Rachel helping at the weekend. It was so good to see a young woman in a leadership role and spend some one-on-one time talking through what I might be called to, and to learn from someone a few steps ahead in the journey.

### What happened next?

I knew after *You and Ministry* that it was the right time to start the formal process. I still had two years of university left in Bath, so I began the formal discernment process with Bath and Wells diocese. I met with a vocations adviser and did a lot of reading and reflecting and went to a Bishops' Advisory Panel where I was recommended for ordination training. I also married my husband around this time, so it was a big year! I decided to defer training for a year, so worked for the local council and Theos (a Christian think tank), before beginning my training in September.

### How is it going so far?

Great! I am now at Trinity College in Bristol. I've come across CPAS again as Ian Parkinson [CPAS Leadership Specialist] is leading a 'School of Leadership' module which is part of my training. This is really helpful as I haven't had dedicated, structured teaching on Christian leadership before. What's great about Ian's style of teaching is that there is also space to explore our own experiences. It's very much a collaborative learning experience, helping us engage with the leadership element of ordained ministry.

### What sort of ministry do you feel called to pursue once you're ordained?

I think the nature of vocation is often that God calls us to a place we don't expect. That said, one thing that I feel led to is ministering in more deprived areas, and encouraging young people with passion, energy and time to go and serve in areas with limited resources. Since beginning ordination training, I've also discovered a real love of the Old Testament and Hebrew. Specifically, I'd like to do some research into some of the female characters in the Old Testament. I am passionate about women in theological education and would love to see more young women learning, teaching, studying and researching so we can have a wide variety of voices represented.

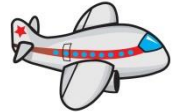
### What insights would you offer to young people who are thinking about ordination?

It's great to hear that CPAS is launching a vocations weekend specifically for 18-30 year olds. *You and Ministry* was amazing for me, but I would have loved to go on a weekend with people of a similar age and life situation, sharing the same challenges. My advice to anyone considering a CPAS weekend is to go for it, it's a fantastic way to explore vocation in detail with wise and skilled people in a faith-filled environment.

## News from our Missionary Friends in South East Asia

*(Because this page will go on the internet we are not able to print their names but if you'd like to know who they are please let me know – Sue)*

The past months have been busy with travelling, meeting new people and the Lord showing us different possibilities in many ways. It has all been very encouraging. On one occasion we travelled into the heartland of our focus people group and met a national co-worker who has been based there for 17 years. We also visited a small Islamic university and it was good to talk to some of the lecturers and an enthusiastic coordinator for student affairs. One of us has been invited to teach at a technological institute in the heartland and we are praying to see if this is what God wants us to do. Work permits would be needed.



We praise God for answering our prayers for co-workers. Next year we hope to receive 4 people from 3 different countries.

Our daughter seems to be adjusting quite well to boarding school and has made new friends. She enjoys being in a community where she can participate and she now plays football with some of the girls at school. Our son is in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year of boarding school and has been busy with school work - he needs to study a lot. He doesn't have much time to relax but does enjoy playing football once a week. We very much enjoyed having them with us for a week during their Autumn holiday. It was also great to have them lead our small group's worship time, with one of them playing the piano and the other the guitar.



Elderly parents are causing both of us some concern and we would appreciate your prayers for them – especially that they may surrender their lives to Jesus.

We think of you and pray for you regularly and thank you so much for your support.

Every blessing.



The Friends of St Peter's School present

# NORTH POLE FAIR

DECEMBER 13TH 3.30 - 5.30 PM

at St Peter's School, Ardingly

Raffle, Silent Auction, Lucky Bags, Coconut Shy, Christmas Shop, Crafts, Santa's Grotto, Hot Dogs and much more!



Made with PosterMyWall.com



## Update from Samara's Aid



On 28<sup>th</sup> September we welcomed Samara Levy at St Peter's Centre to give a talk about how Samara's Aid began, and the many challenges and answers to prayer that have been experienced as the work has grown. It was a very inspirational evening and

many people bought copies of her book "Rebuilding the Ruins". [A second print run has now been ordered, as 2000 copies have sold out in the first 3 months"]. All proceeds from the sale of the book will go towards the costs of building a brand new not-for-profit Christian hospital in Syria.

The aid programme is still currently on hold, mainly due to the changed post-war situation in Syria. Co-operation on the ground is challenging and customs regulations mean that only new items can be sent. The hope is that aid can resume at some point, but there are no plans for an appeal in the immediate future.

Financial support for the Orphans & Widows project is ongoing, but the projects that Samara is focusing heavily on at the moment are fundraising for the new **Grace Hospital** (an architect has been appointed and plans for the first stages of the hospital approved) plus the creating of **a new Medical Centre** (see next para) to work alongside Grace Hospital and also a new **Outreach Centre** which will serve as a permanent humanitarian headquarters and foodbank for the charity's work in Syria. Funds have been donated and pledged to buy a building very close to the new Medical Centre. If the purchase goes through, funding will only be needed then for furnishing and equipping the building. The Outreach Centre will include a safe space for many vulnerable and traumatised children, a quiet room/counselling room for them, an indoor play area with table tennis and educational games, a place where children can sit and eat together, especially those in need of food aid, and the storage space and rooms necessary for the humanitarian outreach.



After a lot of prayer and discussion the difficult decision was taken to close the Al-Rahmie hospital in Deir Ez-zor. The building was no longer fit for purpose, and difficulties were arising through not owning the building. A new, larger building has been found in another stable but busy area where there are also great needs, but the charity will have full control over this building and the purchase was completed in October. This will house the new Medical Centre, to replace the Al-Rahmie hospital, and will provide a range of day care, outpatient and diagnostic services, plus an emergency room and treatment room. This is phase 1. Phase 2 of the medical projects will be the building of the first 2,500m of Grace Hospital, which will function as a complete small hospital.

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## **FSW November update**

Dear Friends,



We had a very busy time during the October half-term holiday. With many services closing for the week, the families we support needed extra help from us to manage their days and keep their children occupied. We held extra half-term activities in Haywards Heath and Crawley that were very well attended and very much valued. Our foodbank was overflowing this Autumn as a result of extremely generous Harvest donations and we give thanks for this.

With the clocks changing and the temperatures dropping we know that the next few weeks can be very tough for families trying to cope with their children's excitement in the lead-up to Christmas, particularly when finances are difficult and more money is needed for heating homes. We have launched our Winter Fuel campaign this week, asking those who receive a Winter Fuel payment from the Government but may not need it, to consider donating it to us so that we can help families with their fuel bills over the winter months. We would be so grateful for donations of any size that we could pass on to families who aren't eligible for this support.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support of FSW.

Nikki Kerr

## **It's Somebody's Birthday**

This is the tale of a housewife who, in the usual way,  
Found herself up to her elbows preparing for Christmas Day.

The kitchen was hot as a furnace; the children kept milling around.  
"I'll never be finished by midnight – there is still so much to get round!"

I had made the mince pies and pudding when suddenly my patience gave way.

"Now then, while I'm icing the cake I'm sending you all out to play".

"Oh, do let us stay and watch you – we'll all be as quiet as mice.  
It's going to be such a lovely cake – ooh! Doesn't it smell really nice!"

As I began to spread the icing, they crowded around to see ...

"And will you put candles on the cake?" asked little Rosalie.

"Of course not, silly", said Andrew, my seven year old, fair and tall.  
"It's nobody's birthday tomorrow ... nobody's birthday at all."

Something inside me turned over; had this world's ways overthrown  
The most important Birthday this planet has ever known?

Did Christmas mean nothing to them, my own, my dearly loved  
three –

But presents, a family party, a cake and a Christmas tree?

The rush of life in these frantic days (!) .... But I knew I had no  
excuse.

In the battle with Christmas cooking, I called an immediate truce.

Just as I was, in the kitchen .... I sat in the grandfather chair,  
And gathering my children around me, I told them, then and there

About the most wonderful Baby, whose parents had come by night  
To a little town called Bethlehem, and there by lantern light

In a stable dim, a Child was born ... and sleeping sound He lay  
Just where his mother laid Him down – in a manger lined with hay.

Shepherds came to look at Him as He slept in the cattle stall,  
For He was the Lord of earth and heaven who came to save us all.

But when the story had ended, the children kept asking for more ...  
So all of us went together down to the village store.

Of course it was terribly crowded, but the children all pushed in ...  
I'm rather afraid that the noise they made increased the general  
din!

"We've come to buy Christmas candles" – other customers smiled at  
their glee;  
"Because it's Somebody's Birthday", added young Rosalie.

Later that day when Daddy came home they all began to tell  
The tale of the Christmas candles. He listened..... and smiled as  
well.

He smiled, but I knew he was thinking .... Thinking far more than  
he'd say –  
We were going to have such a really glad and special Christmas  
Day.

And when we lit up our candles – scarlet and gold and blue,  
We bowed our heads round the table and said "Happy Birthday, Lord  
Jesus, to You".

*(source unknown – sent in by a friend in Yorkshire)*



**ST. PETER'S CHURCH FESTIVAL OF  
NATIVITIES:** Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December  
and daily until the end of December.



Come along to view the Nativity scenes designed and made by  
village organisations. If your group would like to take part please  
contact Jane Taylor Cheater on 892769 for more details.

## St Peter's Primary School news ...

When I look down at my feet and discover I am wearing odd socks it doesn't necessarily fill me with a sense of well-being! However, this was not the case for pupils of St. Peter's C.E. School this month. On Tuesday 12th November pupils and staff supported Odd Socks Day, wearing odd socks in exchange for a small donation to support the Anti-bullying Alliance. The Anti-Bullying Alliance and the recent collection of shoeboxes for the Link to Hope Christian charity are just a few of the charities supported by the school community, demonstrating kindness and thoughtfulness. These support the strong ethos and values of the school which underpin everything that we do at St.Peter's.

During the first half of the Autumn term children enjoyed trips to support their curriculum topics. Cuckoo class visited Michelham Priory, Robin Class spent a day at Lewes Castle and Swallow class enjoyed a train journey to London to learn more about evolution at The Natural History Museum. We mustn't forget our youngest children in Greenfinch class whose visitor helped them to make chocolate houses as part of their 'Building the Future' topic. See one of our lovely examples in the photograph!



The second half of the autumn term is always busy with preparations for Christmas taking place alongside all the learning. Glitter is in abundance for decorations day, singing practice in preparation for the KS2 carol concert and of course rehearsals for the eagerly awaited KS1 nativity! Alongside these, anyone for football, fencing, a film night or a Christmas fair at the North Pole?!

## NEWS FROM PRE-SCHOOL

We're back after the half term break, and the children of Pre-School have been enjoying lots of activities relating to Bonfire Night and fireworks, playing with fire engine toys, and creating their own firework collages. The staff have been busy planning for the half term ahead, and we will be learning about Christmas,



practising singing and dancing for a Christmas play for our friends and families, producing lots of Christmas related crafts and the children will be having their own Christmas party.

Our fundraisers have had a fantastic term with some great events. The children loved our end of half term disco – brilliant fun was had by all. We also announced the winners of our silent auction with prizes including a Boden voucher, family entrance to Borde Hill and Drusillas tickets all enjoyed – thank you to all who bid. Together these two events really helped to end the half term on a high. Also, the most heartfelt thank you to Jimmy Gunnell who ran a half marathon and raised a fantastic amount of much needed funds for our lovely Pre-School. Massive congratulations on such a fantastic achievement! We are excitedly planning for our stall at the Ardingly Christmas Fayre and can't wait to see lots of you there.



We still have a few spaces available at Pre-School so if you'd like to meet the staff and see what we offer then please call to arrange a visit.

St Peter's Pre-School and Toddler Group  
St Peter's Church Centre, Street Lane, Ardingly RH17 6UN  
Charity Number 1022794 registered in England & Wales

Tel: 07969 890907

**<http://www.st-peters-preschool-ardingly.org/>**



## **AROUND THE VILLAGE**

*Compiled by Sue*

### **NEW PAVEMENTS**

How much more pleasant it is now to walk from the village to St Peter's Centre! Large sections of the pavement have been replaced and the kerbs renewed in some places and it's a very welcome improvement!

### **WITHDRAWING CASH FROM THE POST OFFICE**

Many Ardingly customers of Barclays Bank received letters in October informing us that from January 2020 we would no longer be able to withdraw cash at the post office as the service was being terminated. Barclays must have received quite a lot of complaints (I certainly wrote to them!) because we have just received another letter informing us that Barclays have reconsidered and have decided not to withdraw the service from Ardingly! Good news indeed!



### **ARDINGLY COLLEGE - BRIDGESTONE SOLAR CHALLENGE**



Ardingly College's solar car has successfully completed the 2019 Bridgestone World Solar Challenge in Australia. Teams had to contend with all the adverse conditions of the outback: high cross winds; small tornadoes; sandstorms and the fearsome road trains. The car was driven by 11 students from

both Ardingly College and Ifield Community College and was supported by 11 volunteers. Out of 52 entrants, 49 started and only 31 finished. Ardingly Solar not only completed over half the race using solar power alone but finished second in its category. WELL DONE!

## LAUGHTER IS GOOD FOR YOU ....



A woman walks into the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards. "What denomination?" asks the clerk.

"Oh, my word - have we come to this?" said the woman. "Well, give me 50 Baptist, 50 Catholic and one Methodist."

~~~~~

Noah opens up the ark and let all the animals out, telling them to "Go forth and multiply!"

He's closing the great doors of the ark when he notices that there are two snakes sitting in a dark corner. So he says to them, "Didn't you hear me? You can go now. Go forth and multiply."



"We can't," said the snakes. "We're adders."

## Christmas and New Year Rubbish and Recycling 2019-2020

Waste and recycling collection days will change for 2 weeks over the Christmas and New Year period. Collections will be as follows:

### Normal collection date

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

### Festive collection date

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> December  
No change  
No change  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Collections will return to normal from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**CHRISTMAS TREES:** Real trees can be composted in your garden waste bin. Alternatively, you can leave your tree for recycling in the Recreation Ground car park RH17 6TB from 28<sup>th</sup> December to 10<sup>th</sup> January.



## The history of Christingle

The first Christingle service for The Children's Society was held in this country, at Lincoln Cathedral, on 7 December 1968. But Christingles themselves actually go back much further, and began in the Moravian Church in Germany. At a children's service in

Marienborn in 1747, Bishop Johannes de Watteville looked for a simple way to explain the happiness that had come to people through Jesus.

He decided to give the children a symbol to do this. In 1968, John Pensom of The Children's Society adapted Christingle and introduced it to the Church of England. This involved children decorating an orange with a red ribbon, dried fruits, sweets and a candle to create a new visual representation of Christ, the light of the world, celebrated by the lighting of the Christingle candles.

Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story →

**Our Christingle Service will take place at St Peter's at 5pm on Christmas Eve.**



**The orange** represents the world.



**The red ribbon** indicates God's love wrapped around the world and the blood Christ shed on the cross.



**The dried fruits and sweets** are symbols of God's creations. For many people, they also represent the four seasons.



**The lit candle** symbolises Jesus, the light of the world, who brings hope to people living in darkness.



# Parish Register

## Baptism

Gwilym Arthur Birmingham Bournon of Hapstead Farmhouse, Ardingly was baptized on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019.

## Funerals

The funeral of Diana Dorothy Leggatt of Kents Road, Haywards Heath, who died on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 aged 79 years, was held at The Surrey and Sussex Crematorium on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**Holy Jesus,  
by being born one of us,  
and lying humbly in a manger,  
you show how much God loves the  
world.**



**Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,  
until we reach our home in heaven,  
and see you on your throne of glory.  
Amen.**

## Flower Rota

20<sup>th</sup> December: All flower arrangers and as many helpers as possible please for candle decorations. Holly and foliage is needed.

3<sup>rd</sup> January: All flower arrangers

17<sup>th</sup> January: Belinda

31<sup>st</sup> January: Ann



## Meeting Point Rota

9<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas party

13<sup>th</sup> January: Margaret, Lyn, Belinda

27<sup>th</sup> January: Adele, Diana, Sandy

## Brass Cleaning Rota

21<sup>st</sup> December Rosemary Hodgson & Rowena Chalk



## **General Information**

**BELL RINGING:** Practices on Thursdays at 8.00pm. New recruits please contact Lynn Wilson (892113).

**BIBLE READING NOTES:** Regular reading helps us to grow as Christians. Bible Reading Fellowship notes are available from Margaret Dale (892252).

**BOOKS:** On loan and for sale at back of church or can be ordered specially. Contact Anne Kelly (892540).

**BRASS CLEANING:** If you wish to join the team, contact Pam Dennis (892692)

**BRASS RUBBING:** Appointments may be made via Churchwardens. Fee £10.00.

**CHOIR:** The choir, who practise on Wednesdays from 7.15pm to 8.00pm, always welcome new members. Please contact Jill Veasey 892442

**CHURCH CENTRE:** Hire of Centre, crockery, cutlery and chairs: contact Carol Grossman 416707

**FLOWERS:** Belinda Maclean (892368) is always glad to hear from anyone who would like to arrange / give flowers for the decoration of the church.

**GIVING:** Special weekly or monthly envelopes or bankers' order forms are available from Jean Jeffery (440979). Anyone paying income tax or capital gains tax is encouraged to sign a Gift Aid declaration which would enable the church to claim tax (currently 25 %) on all their giving.

**HOME GROUPS** meet for bible study, prayer and fellowship on various nights of the week in homes.

**MAGAZINE:** Annual Subscription £3.00. Can be delivered or posted (Post extra). **MAGAZINE EDITORS:** Sue Laker, 19 Ardings Close, Ardingly RH17 6AN (892117) and Michael Denman, Rye Cottage, 35 High Street, Ardingly, RH17 6TB Tel. (892344). Items for inclusion must be submitted by noon on the Saturday before the penultimate Sunday in the month. Email to: [emails4sue@gmail.com](mailto:emails4sue@gmail.com)

**TRANSPORT:** If you require transport to church or to Meeting Point, or if you could provide it for others, please contact Jeannie Leadsom (892571).

**YOUTH:** Crèche and Children's activities - Contact Anne Kelly 892540

**ANGELS & URCHINS:** Thursdays 9-11.00 Contact Jill Veasey 892442

## PRAYER DIARY JANUARY 2020



*"Give thanks to the Lord because he is good,  
and his love is eternal" (Psalm 118 v 1)*

- 1 Commit the New Year to God. Parish walk and lunch today
- 2 John & Sally Crutchley & their family. Sally's mother.
- 3 Chris Sutton: his family, work and ministry in the year ahead
- 4 Our Lay Readers, Church Wardens & Home Group leaders
- 5 Pray that our faith and love will grow in the coming year
- 6 All world leaders: may they work for peace
- 7 Pray God's blessing on the At Your Service team and the service provided
- 8 Our local schools and staff as the new term gets underway
- 9 Journalists and all who work in the media
- 10 Tearfund, working to alleviate poverty and suffering
- 11 All who clean the church, arrange flowers and help in other ways
- 12 All clergy and bishops, especially Justin, Martin, Richard & Mark
- 13 Pray for opportunities to share Jesus this year
- 14 Belinda MacLean and IMARA; the children & future plans
- 15 MSDC & Cuckfield Rural Council – their staff and work
- 16 Give thanks for St Peter's Centre and pray God's blessing on it
- 17 Bambi & Andreas and the children: their work in S.E. Asia
- 18 Give thanks for good health and pray for those who are suffering
- 19 Heather Johnston (CMS) visiting St Peter's today.
- 20 Our Post Office, Bakery and other village businesses
- 21 Those who have no clean running water or electricity supply
- 22 Children with special needs or illnesses: those who care for them
- 23 Our Queen and the Royal Family
- 24 Give thanks and pray for Old Jeshwang in the Gambia
- 25 Pray for hospital, military, university, prison & police chaplains
- 26 Praise God for the gift of new life; pray for friends and family
- 27 Pray for an end to trafficking and slave labour
- 28 Samara's Aid: the medical projects & support for orphans and widows
- 29 Our local hospices and staff; Macmillan and Marie Curie nurses
- 30 All who suffer from mental health problems, addiction or abuse
- 31 Praise God for prayers answered during the past month

## PRAYER DIARY December 2019

*"Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,  
whose confidence is in Him" (Jer. 17 v 7)*



- 1 Advent Sunday!** May Christ's light shine in all dark places
- 2 John & Sally Crutchley and their family
- 3 Chris Sutton: his interim ministry in Nuthurst & Mannings Heath
- 4 Our village community: the team who organise the Village Lunches
- 5 Pray about the migrants crossing the channel to reach the UK
- 6 Ardingly College – staff and pupils. 'Mince Pies & Music' today
- 7 The Christmas Fayre today and carols under the tree
- 8** Our worship today – pray for those who do not know Jesus
- 9 Belinda MacLean and her helpers – the Meeting Point party today
- 10 The NHS and all health workers
- 11 Communities recovering from floods and other natural disasters
- 12 Election Day. Pray for a good outcome
- 13 Single parents as they approach Christmas and the winter holidays
- 14 Foodbanks and other support services for people in financial difficulty
- 15** Our services today. All clergy as they prepare for the Christmas period
- 16 Caroline Steer & FSW: Christmas parties, and the Winter Fuel appeal
- 17 Pray for all new MPs and the future of our country
- 18 Jill, Lynn and the choir. All who lead the music ministry at St Peter's
- 19 The Salvation Army and Samaritans, very busy at this time of year
- 20 Rest and relaxation for all teachers and pupils finishing term this week
- 21 The homeless & the work of Off the Fence, Open House, Crisis & Shelter
- 22** Church services today. Our 9 lessons & carols this evening
- 23 Pray for all who find Christmas difficult
- 24 Prisoners, the Military and others spending Christmas away from their families and home
- 25 The Saviour is born!** Give thanks and praise God for His great love
- 26 All the emergency services at this busy time of year
- 27 Refugees around the world, and the communities they live in
- 28 Pray for all who are housebound or lonely
- 29** Praise God for the Christmas message of hope and all it means
- 30 All who are grieving or who have lost loved ones this year
- 31 Give thanks for all the blessings of the past year

**The deadline for the February magazine is  
noon on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020**