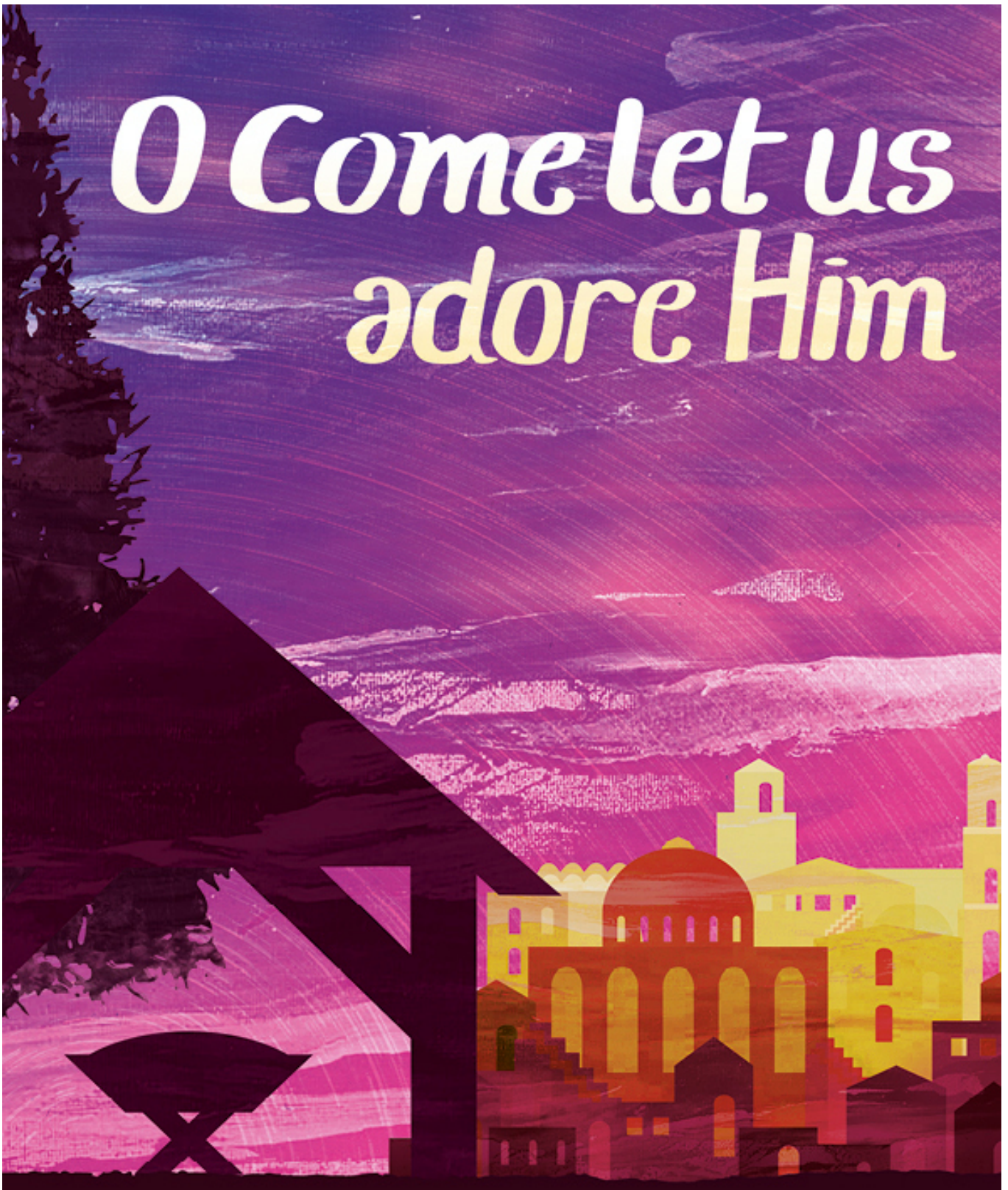


PARISH MAGAZINE

December 2020

United Benefice of St Helen, Burghwallis and
St Mary Magdalene, Campsall

*O Come let us
adore Him*



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Letter from Fr Richard December 2020



A Happy Christmas to You All!

It is difficult - whilst writing this in the middle of the second national lockdown - to know what we will be able to do over Christmas. I am sure that we would all like to be able to return to doing the traditional things: seeing our families and friends, singing carols, going to church and just sharing in the good spirits and bonhomie that comes with the season.

Even when the lockdown is lifted, I am sure that there will continue to be restrictions and this Christmas will not quite be like any other. But there is hope on the horizon; it looks like a series of vaccines are on their way in the new year and some of the clouds will have been lifted.

This month begins with Advent and finishes with Christmas. It is one of my favourite times of year. The darkness of the days during Advent call to mind the sense of preparation that surrounds this penitential season as we get our selves ready for the coming of Jesus on Christmas Day – that sense of the Light of Christ entering a darkened world.

Last year I resolved to be a bit less grumpy and go with the flow and just enjoy the season even if it was celebrated a bit early. And to be honest I did enjoy it in all its tinselly silliness. But I also enjoyed the thoughtful and reflective moments brought through Advent as I revisited all the prophecies in the scriptures that point toward the coming of Christ our redeemer.

On Friday, which is our day off, we usually go and spend time at our flat in Sheffield - which is where we shall live when we retire. It is in the centre of the city overlooking the Peace Gardens. We usually arrive late on a Thursday night. Just below our window is where the Jewish Community erect a giant candelabrum and a rabbi will climb a ladder to light



a lamp each evening during Hannukah. They gather around and sing hymns and share out doughnuts. From time to time I have seen friends and former colleagues among the crowd and so I have joined them to share their joy. (*If you want to know more about Hannukah then read the Books 1 and 2 Maccabees in the Apocrypha.*) I don't know if this will be possible for them this year with the present restrictions.

As Christians we want to celebrate the Christmas Festival with all the joy we can this year - as we have done in former years - but this may not be possible. But what is important is to keep Christmas in your heart; perhaps there will be less tinsel this year but we can still be transported to that stable-cave in Bethlehem where the infant Jesus was born; announced by angels and worshipped by shepherds and wise-men.

May the Blessing of Christmas be with you and all whom you love this year.

Fr Richard



BURGHWALLIS

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2020

The Parish Council have decided to hold our Christmas lunch in a unique way this year. You are invited to have Christmas lunch at home this year. We will personally deliver your lunch to your house socially distancing of course.

The date is Monday 14th December 2020 from 12.30pm

If you would like to have a complimentary lunch please contact :- **Jill Laming on 01302 701395** . I will let you know menus later.

This will go ahead providing the Government don't shut us all down, I will let you know if that happens. I do hope you will take part during these difficult times.

Stay safe!

Jill Laming

Burghwallis Parish Council

In line with the latest government covid-19 guidelines and restrictions, Parish Council meetings are suspended for the time being.

We will be erecting and decorating a Christmas tree at the War Memorial in the second week of December, but we will not be able to hold our usual tree lighting and carol singing event.

Please keep an eye on the PC website (burghwallis.org.uk) for any further developments and information.

Any urgent matters, please contact:
Dave Maxwell, Chairman (01302 709993 or 07766 055012)



Martin received the latest Christmas coronavirus regulations from the diocesan office.

STOP PRESS

As we go to print it has been announced that South Yorkshire will be in **TIER 3** of the Coronavirus regulations. We await further guidance from the Diocese with regard to how this will affect church services. We will try to keep you informed as this guidance is updated.

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Events at Campsall Wellingtonia Centre

**3rd Tuesday of each month –
Beetle Drive at 1.00pm**

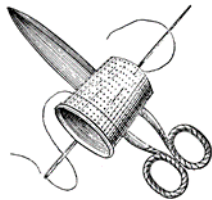
Or

**Every Wednesday
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**Every Thursday
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Bingo Sessions**

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Three Cheers for Feet! ... some musings from Jill Shaw

I put my foot in it the other day when investigating a patch of mould that had appeared on the inside of an outside wall. No words were involved; no insults hurled. I literally put my foot through the floor... or would have done if the vinyl floor covering hadn't impeded the foot's descent. Yesterday, the right foot of the young man despatched to take a look at the problem went right through. No injuries incurred to date, but I'm now obsessing about feet and their place in our vocabulary.

My mother used to put her foot down with a firm hand, yet I tend to pussyfoot around. I like to think I keep my feet on solid ground...or do I delude myself whilst, in reality, skating on thin ice? Normally, I try to stand on my own two feet and not tread on other peoples' toes, but I have run into trouble occasionally.

And what about you? Have you ever found yourself on a 'slippery' slope, and if so, did you manage to get back on a firm footing? Was it hard to stamp your authority on the situation and stand up for your cause? It must be painful to give someone the boot, or worse, to be on the receiving end. Are you able to walk tall in spite of everything? Is your life a gentle stroll, or do you sometimes find yourself running scared? In a crisis, are you able to step up and help, do you step aside in avoidance or step down out of fear?

Have you tiptoed through the tulips and led someone up the garden path in order to get your feet under their table and warm your toes? Have you ever walked a mile in someone else's shoes, danced on air or taken a leap of faith?

It seems the pipe coming from underground had corroded so water was pumped underground each time I used the washing machine, hence soaking into the wall and the joists, leading to my current situation. This is one time when I can't stand on my own two feet. No matter how firmly I fasten my boots that 'are made for walking', I must check my soles, stand by for more upheaval and Stand up, Stand up for Jesus whilst marching to the refrain of 'Onward Christian Soldiers'.

Feet are great!

Christmas Services

As you will realise, it is difficult to plan our Christmas services since we do not know what shape the system following lockdown will take. I think we can assume that there will be little scope for our usual celebration of Christmas as we all try to keep each other safe.

We will try to keep you updated by publishing any service times on our web page at A Church Near You:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Simply enter *Campsall*.

Burghwallis Church is remaining closed until repairs have taken place.

We are continuing with our Sunday Morning on-line Zoom Services – please email Shirley Troop on

attandst31@talktalk.net

to be added to the email contact list.

Father Chris has been thinking hard about Christingle. Please see his plan below.

St Helen, Burghwallis

As you can see from the picture, St Helen's roof now has a temporary covering to keep the building watertight. We imagine that the re-roofing will take place in the New Year and will give us the opportunity to make a number of other repairs which should ensure that the building is in good condition hopefully for another 1500 years! Although small, St Helen's is an important testimony to the Christian presence in our land. We look forward to a time when we can welcome everyone back to worship in their parish church.



Fr Richard

CHRISTINGLE at HOME



Hi everyone, we now know we will not be able to bring over 500 of you to St Mary Magdalene Church this year for our Christingle event on Christmas eve 24/12/20 @ 4pm, so I am going digital!! I have no idea how it will go, but we cannot not go without Christingle.

Especially at this time, where fun for children and fundraising for the Children's Society is so important this year more than ever. I will be going live from home using Facebook on Christmas Eve at 4pm (usual time), I will also record the event.

We are putting together 200 Christingle bags, which will have all the bits to put a Christingle together and we have set up pick-up points, thanks to some volunteers.

Kits will be able to be picked up from the following pick up points from Monday 21st December through to lunchtime 24th December. If they run out don't worry, we will be doing a live scavenger hunt as well.

Pick up points

Burghwallis: Alistair, *Home Farm, Old Village Street, Burghwallis,*

Campsall: Shirley and Alan, *1 Woodgarth Court, Campsall.*
Sue, *6 Campsall Park Road, Campsall*

Norton: Revd Chris, *4 Highfield Villas, High Street, Norton.*
MJ Archer *85 Station Road Norton*
Sarah *12 Trafford Road Norton*

Sutton: Verity, *4 Burghwallis Lane, Sutton DN6 9JU*

You will be able to download a service sheet, which gives some clue to the service and see the **live** event on Christmas Eve 4pm by going to the 'St Mary Magdalene Campsall' Facebook page

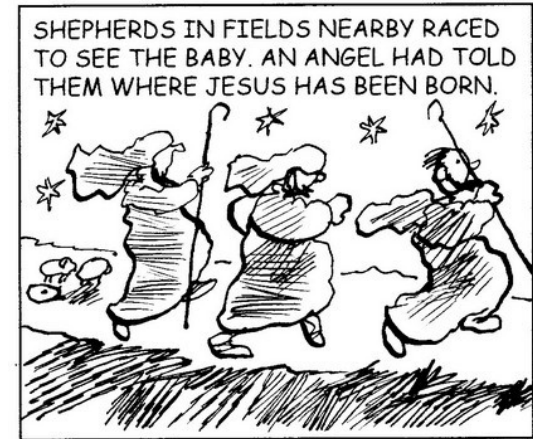
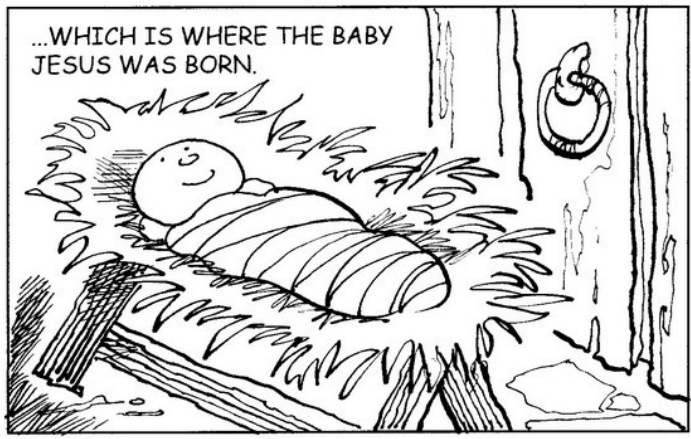
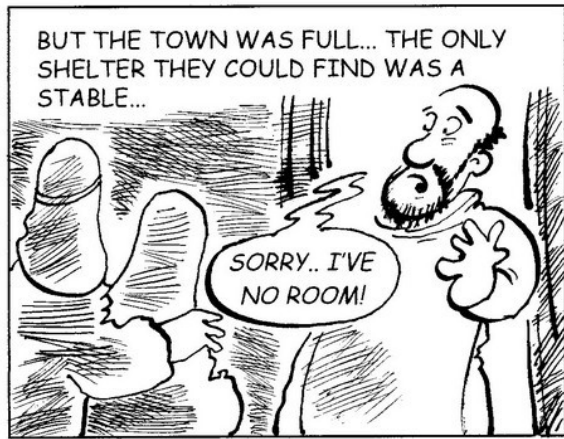
<https://www.facebook.com/St-Mary-Magdalene-Campsall-497894913953164/> I will also put a link in Norton Voice.

You will be able to talk through the comments box and those children who dress up for the nativity, please do so, I will be dressing up!

God Bless

Revd Chris

The First Christmas



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 2 verses 22-38

God promised the Jews that when times were bad, He would send a Leader to save them. He told Simeon it would happen in his lifetime.

God told Simeon to go to the Temple.



He saw a couple with a baby.

Mary and Joseph had come to give their offerings for their first-born, Jesus, and for childbirth.



Simeon held Jesus and praised God.



I can now die in peace because You have kept Your promise.



I have seen the one You have sent to save Your people and all the world!



Mary and Joseph were amazed! Simeon blessed them, but said..



This child will show what people are really like inside and this will mean pain for you as well.



Anna the prophet was also in the Temple.



Her family was from the north of Israel and she was very old.



She spent every day praying in the Temple.

When she saw Jesus she praised God.

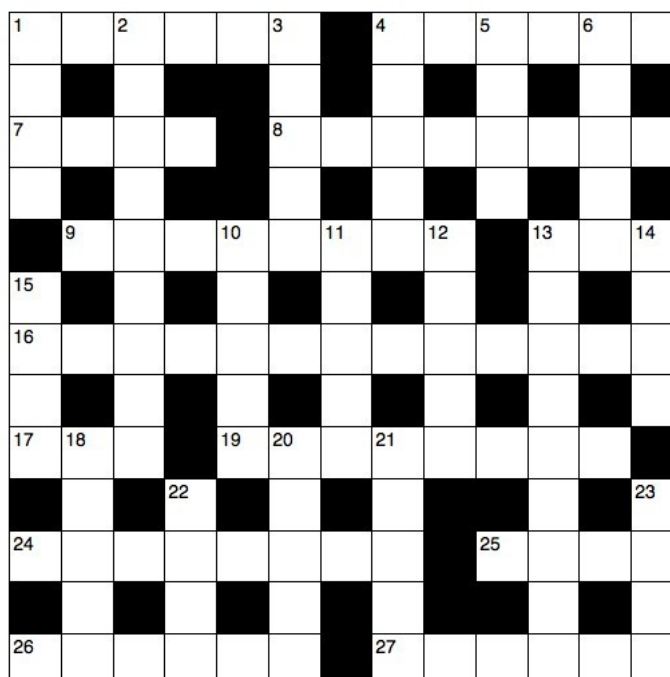


Anna spoke about Jesus to everyone who was waiting for God's Saviour.

Crosswords Clues and Answers

Across

- 1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)
 4 'He stretches out the heavens like a — , and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)
 7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)
 8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)
 9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)
 13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)
 16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)
 17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)
 19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)
 24 Able dock (anag.) (8)
 25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)
 26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)
 27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)



Down

- 1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)
 2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)
 3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)
 4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)
 5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)
 6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)
 10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)
 11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)
 12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)
 13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)
 14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)
 15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)
 18 Narnia's Lion (5)
 20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)
 21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)
 22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)
 23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)

ACROSS: 1, Depend. 4, Canopy. 7, Beak. 8, Irritate. 9, Zedekiah. 13, Ate. 16, Job's comforter. 17, NAE. 19, Lang Syne. 24, Blockade. 25, Five. 26, Enigma. 27, Drench.

DOWN: 1, Debt. 2, Peaceable. 3, Drink. 4, Curia. 5, Nuts. 6, Put it. 10, Excel. 11, Is man. 12, Hoofs. 13, Attention. 14, Ezra. 15, Ijon. 18, Aslan. 20, Abana. 21, Greed. 22, GCMG. 23, Leah.

Parish Register

Funerals

30th November Maurice Weston

Parish Office

We have not been holding our usual parish office in church on Thursday evenings during lockdown. To book baptisms and weddings or for other pastoral enquiries please contact the clergy directly.

Charity instead of Christmas Cards

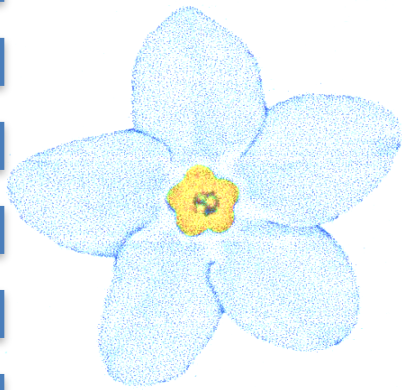
A note from the Churchwardens...

Instead of exchanging Christmas Cards with friends at St Helen's, will those who prefer to make a donation to charity please give their donations to Shirly Gill or Colin Bowes.

For those at Campsall, please give your donations to Christine Tickle or Jenny Lister

Last year the churches raised over £100 which was shared between Bluebell Wood and St John's Hospice.





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