News and Views from St Peter's Church and

The Parish of Redcar



December 2020

PARISH CONTACTS

THE VICAR In Vacancy (For all parish enquiries please

contact the Churchwardens)

ASSISTANT CURATE Reverend Tina Burgess 07909107404

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VERGER Mrs Sue Steele 01642473706

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CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS stpeterschurchredcar@gmail.com

To discuss baptisms or weddings, please call 01642471825 between 6.00pm and 7.00pm on a Thursday evening.

Keep up to date with our activities by visiting our Facebook page -

https://www.facebook.com/ stpeterschurchredcar

or our Website

www.stpeterschurchredcar.co.uk





Services and Events at St Peter's Church this Christmas



20th December 4.00pm
Twilight Carols in the Church Garden

24th December Christmas Eve 4.00pm Family Nativity (Booking needed)

25th December Christmas Day 10.00am Holy Communion

27th December 10.00am Holy Communion

For news of other events look on our Facebook page –

St Peter's Church Redcar

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS



Hi everyone!

Do you remember that old joke of the chap released from prison after a long spell at HMP?

Out of the prison gate he comes, "I'm free, I'm free!" he shouts to the world"
A little boy walking by with his mum says to her "So what I'm FOUR!!
Last month we faced four weeks of lockdown only to end it with more restrictions on our lifestyles as we entered Tier Three.

But as Christians, December, we know, brings with it so much promise of the Hope and Joy to come, as the weeks of Advent draw us closer to the day when we celebrate and remember the birth of the baby Jesus.

Of course, all around us are many who will always say "so what!"

But here at church the Good News of December has started: the boiler is back working, the tree bearing lights representing Jesus the Light of the World and our Advent wreath were lit on Advent Sunday, and since then we have returned back into church to worship again together with live music and a joyous rendition of O Come, O Come Emmanuel sung for us by Sue Steele.

And of course, the same week we gave thanks to God for the wonderful news of the imminent arrival of the new vaccination. Praise Be!

And there's MORE good news, we hope you'll agree, as you read through the magazine.

It has been an unprecedented year for us all but our one constant presence has been the love of our heavenly Father. With much love and best wishes to you all for a blessed, peaceful and HAPPY CHRISTMAS

from Michael and Anne



More WONDERFUL NEWS, this time for Revd Tina

The Churchwardens recently received the following message from the Rt. Revd Paul Ferguson, Bishop of Whitby. It said:

"This announcement can be made on Sunday, 6th December 2020.

The Bishop of Whitby wishes to inform you of the Appointment of the Revd
Tina Burgess as Vicar of the Benefice of St Martin of Tours with St Cuthbert,
Middlesbrough."

CONGRATULATIONS Tina. Such wonderful news!

How exciting for Tina (and Neill) and well done to St. Martin's!

It is a lot to take in and we will learn more in due course. But just for now let's say well done. Your first Incumbency Tina will always be very special and you know, I'm sure, that you move on with our best wishes, prayers and love.

It is always sad to see a curate go but that is why you came to us; to continue on your faith journey and ministry on to a new place and your own parish.

A date early in 2021 for moving, and the service to mark the beginning of Tina's new ministry in Middlesbrough, will be announced at a later date.

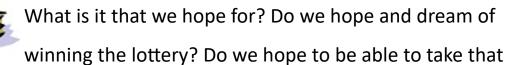
This does mean that most likely, Tina's last service with us will be around the



middle of January 2021.



Curate's Corner



holiday abroad next year or change the car or do that DIY project on the house? Do we hope our children and our grandchildren will grow up happy, safe and well? At the end of this very difficult year, the most we may have been hoping for is to avoid catching the coronavirus; or to avoid losing our job or our livelihood. Or to hope that loved ones or people we knew would have survived Covid-19...hoping that everything would just return to normal. I would guess that our hopes have changed quite significantly over this past year. I know mine have.

We Christians often talk about our faith in Christ as the hope that we hold on to....the hope which brings us through the challenges of life; the only hope worth building one's life upon. But what exactly is the Christian hope? Who or what is it, exactly, that Christians hope in?

I was listening to a group discussion on zoom recently and one person shared how they felt that through this second lockdown, God had been speaking to them about the account in the book of Exodus when Moses encounters God in the burning bush.

Exodus 3:2 says, "The Angel of the Lord appeared to him [Moses] in a blazing flame of fire from the midst of the bush..." Moses saw the bush on fire but, as he looked closer, he could see that it was not burned up. When the Lord saw that Moses turned away from the flock to look, God called to him from the fire and revealed His plan and purpose to Moses which was to rescue the Israelites from their slavery in Egypt, using Moses to do just that.

When Moses asks God who he should say had sent him, God replied, "I AM WHO I AM...you shall say this to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you'". Moses was asking who God is. God replied, "I AM".

There is so much stored up in that name...'I AM'. There is a fullness and a completeness in that name which cannot be put into words. When we ask ourselves the question, 'Who is God? his name 'I AM' tells us that he is the all-sufficient one. Whatever our circumstances and whatever our needs, God is more than sufficient in the face of our lack. He is more than all our needs... and the God who was present to Moses then, is the same God who is present with us now. And how do we know him? How do get to know him? Through his only Son, Jesus Christ, come to be born on earth, to live and to die for the sins of the world so that the whole world can be reconciled to God through believing in his Son. As we begin to think about celebrating Christmas, let us also ponder how the Great I AM is present with us. When we think about who God is, we do not need to fear. For God has shown himself to us not in the midst of a bush but in the birth of his Son. And so, even in these very difficult times, this is the Christian hope — Emmanuel, God with us.

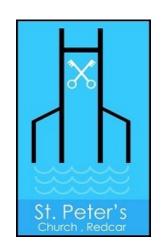
Merry Christmas and every blessing,

Tina



WORSHIP AT ST. PETER'S

We still have restrictions and guidelines to adhere to because of COVID-19 but please be assured of a warm welcome and assistance if needed. Please sanitise your hands, wear a face covering, and observe social distancing.



EVERY SUNDAY at 10.00am SAID EUCHARIST (Holy Communion) in church

EVERY SUNDAY at 8.00pm NIGHT PRAYER (Compline) via Zoom

Zoom meeting ID: 884 7969 6809

Password: 185195



EVERY WEDNESDAY at 9.30am SAID EUCHARIST (Holy Communion) in church

Prayers and links to online services are posted on St Peter's Facebook page





LECTIONARY FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

29th November

Old Testament

New Testament

Gospel

6th December

Old Testament

New Testament

Gospel

13th December

Old Testament

New Testament

Gospel

20th December

Old Testament

New Testament

Gospel

25th December

Old Testament

Psalm

New Testament

Gospel

Advent 1

Isaiah 64. 1-9

1 Corinthians 1. 3-9

Mark 13. 24-37

Advent 2

Isaiah 40. 1-11

2 Peter 3, 8-15a

Mark 1. 1-8

Advent 3

Isaiah 61. 1-4 and 8-11

1 Thessalonians 5. 16-24

John 1. 6-8 and 19-28

Advent 4

2 Samuel 7. 11, 16

Romans 16. 25-27

Luke 1. 26-38

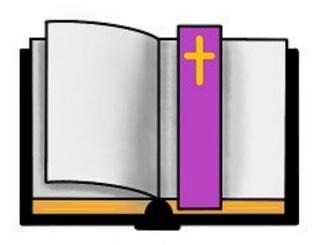
Christmas Day

Isaiah 52. 7-10

98

Hebrews 1. 1-12

John 1. 1-14



From the Parish Registers

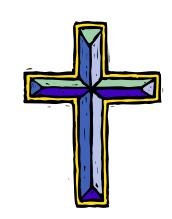
Funerals We pray for the family and friends of

3rd November Julie Bentley aged 71 years

12th November Marcus Tate aged 22 years

17th November Edith Plater aged 99 years

19th November Gladys Dorothy Bennett aged 94 years



Lines from Invocation of Peace

Deep peace, pure white of the moon to you;
Deep peace, pure green of the grass to you;
Deep peace, pure brown of the earth to you;
Deep peace, pure grey of the dew to you,
Deep peace, pure blue of the sky to you!
Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

By Fiona Macleod (19th century Celtic visionary and romantic)

Taken from The Parish Pump



Isaiah 40:31 "but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles; they will walk and not faint."

The Mothers' Union theme for 2021 is **Rebuilding hope and confidence.**

Hurray, not that we ever doubted it, but there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Together we can reconstruct the tunnel to reach the light – together with hope and confidence and with the knowledge God is by our sides – always.

A bit to go yet! Enjoy your Christmas wherever you are; if you are face-timing or Zooming with the family be nosey and ask how it works, if you haven't already tried it! We will not be able to have a party in January, as we have done now for so many years; celebrating not only the New Year but about half a dozen of our members birthdays. BUT put the date in your new MU diary or on your phone (there are a few who are more 'techi' than me and you!)

TUESDAY, 5th JANUARY 2021 at 2.00pm— BRANCH MEETING

I WILL SEND YOU ALL THE ZOOM DETAILS—let's give it a try, get your daughters (or sons) by your side to help you and let's enjoy a cup or a glass of whatever cheers! As mentioned last month, finally the news has come through: although MU have had to up the national part of the subs by £5, York Diocese MU are hoping to absorb that cost; so our Subs are to be £27 plus £2 towards AFIA. If you feel you can manage an extra £1 and pay £30, that would make our Treasurer very happy (much easier to count!) My details are at the front of the magazine if you need to get in touch. Perhaps some of us might manage to join the CAROLS at TWILIGHT on 20th December in the church gardens but do come warmly wrapped up, with boots, a light, a picnic chair if needed. SO looking forward to Christmas...

TAKE CARE, STAY SAFE but have yourself A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Anne x



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National Christingle Service



The Children's Society would love to welcome you to their first ever National Christingle Service in partnership with the Church of England on **Sunday, 13th December at 9.00am.**

This will be streamed on the Church of England's website, Facebook and YouTube channels and they'd love it if you tuned in to share the light with the whole country. The service will include a few words from HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, the Archbishop of Canterbury who will be lighting the Advent Candle, as well as the Vice-Chair of Trustees, the Bishop of Derby Libby Lane. You'll also see a special performance from award winning number one soprano Joanna Forest, and join young people lighting the Christingles. It is set to be a magical event.

Register your interest to receive information on how to watch online, join in with Christingle making and download the Order of Service at

https://register.childrenssociety.org.uk/

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES—If you have one please, please would you return it to be emptied as soon as you are able or let the Churchwardens know if need it to be collected. Thank You

The POSADA is on its Way!

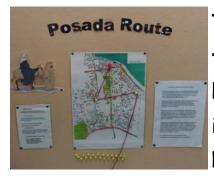


Our knitted version of the Holy family is once more on their journey through Advent; they are travelling to homes of those around the parish and beyond who have invited them to spend a night in their home!

As you can see they are in their own 'bubble' and this year they are

travelling with a can of disinfectant and a set of COVID instructions to keep them and their hosts safe! It will be a socially distanced hand-over on the doorstep this year - no parties, coffee & cake or glasses of wine this year to share only the Greeting and the Prayer of Welcome (and perhaps some pictures to see in next month's edition)





The Route is depicted on the board in the church foyer so those joining us for morning service can keep an eye on how it is doing. On Christmas Eve it will arrive back at church for the Family Nativity service and find their rest in a stable.

'And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.'

ST PETER'S FACEBOOK ADVENT CALENDAR

Have you been enjoying 'opening the doors' on our virtual Advent Calendar on our Church Facebook page? I know I have! Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to take part—it's been delightful. Here are members of the Bell family getting ready to record their bit. And to think this King played baby Jesus in our Nativity just a couple of years ago...how time flies!











EMUs and FRIENDS have been BUSY.....

Some of our church families have been busy making Christmas cards to send out and let people know we're thinking of them and praying for them this Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

'For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.'

Thank you to Anne and the Mums and children who've been involved in this little project which was sparked at a Zoom meeting of the Evening Mother's Union (EMUs). We know we won't have reached everyone but hopefully the photos will

help you catch a glimpse of what we were trying

to do.

Thanks,

Claire

















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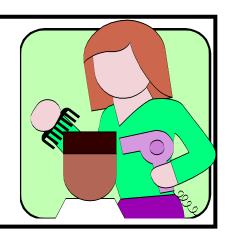
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Welcome to Daphne's Virtual Christmas Fair Stall!
I have the following items for sale to raise funds
for the church—and I can deliver locally

Children's Aprons—for under 5s—£2.50 each Children's Aprons—for over 5s—£3.00 each Small adult/teenage Apron—£4.00 (1 only) Medium Adult Apron—£5.00 (1 only) All hand made in attractive washable cotton and designed so children can put on and take off themselves







Also Chutneys, jams and marmalades—medium jars £2.00 each, small jars £1.00

Contact Daphne on 07715324098 Email daphne_wood@hotmail.com

A Quiz on 2020



- 1. Job applications from weirdos and misfits were invited from people to work at which place in London?
- 2. Which famous actor who died this year is associated with the phrase "I am Spartacus?"
- 3. In February the Church of England advised against the practice of 'intinction' what is it?
- 4. In a world "where you can be anything, be _____" what, wrote actress Caroline Flack on Instagram in December 2019?
- 5. What were we supposed to do in March while singing the National Anthem or Happy Birthday twice?
- 6. This year was a leap year. What do we call other years?
- 7. Which village in the Peak District is associated with self-isolation during a previous plague?
- 8. How long, literally, is quarantine?
- 9. Why did President Macron visit Britain on 18th July? What other Anglo-French anniversary could he have remembered but for some reason it was not mentioned?
- 10. How many countries launched space rockets to Mars this year?
- 11. Who, in their resignation letter in August, on Twitter posted, "I have championed our work, built our relationships and celebrated the diversity of our staff... and will always be an ambassador for the UK and the new Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office" after a four year career in Downing Street which had included scraps with a neighbour? He was going to spend more time with a family in the country.
- 12. Which day is the furthest away from Christmas Day?
- 13. What was the Battle of the Tennis Court and why was it remembered in August?
- 14. The BBC banned singing the lyrics from which song from the Last night of the Proms, because it had a link in their mind with slavery and colonialism?
- 15. This year marked the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower. What event did they start which led to a public holiday?

Answers on page 25
Taken from the Parish Pump

Christmas to Me



Christmas to me is nativity
And the sound of carol-singing;
But to others it is revelry
And the sound of shop tills ringing.

Christmas to me is shepherds
On a hillside attending their sheep;
And the sound of angelic voices
Over a town bathed in sleep.

Christmas to me is the Magi
Who put all of their faith in a star,
And in search of the little Christ child
They willingly travelled so far.

Christmas to me is worship Giving thanks for the Saviour's birth; But to many of the folk I know Christmas has no real worth.

So what will YOU see this Christmas?
Will you think of that baby so small?
And recognise that the love of God
Came to earth that first Christmas of all?

By Colin Hammacott

Taken from The Parish Pump



ST PETER'S 100 CLUB DRAW FOR NOVEMBER 2020

No. 5 Colin Sproat £40

No. 23 Evelyn Hayes £10

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF REDCAR CEMETERY

Before the Friends of Redcar Cemetery was set up in 2004 the circles in the cemetery were all planted with roses but then these were taken out and every circle was grassed over for ease of maintenance. We decided to dig over one of the circles in the new section and plant bulbs but leave the outer section grassed over. We enlisted the help of the schoolchildren from John E Batty Primary School. Unfortunately it had been raining the night before and it was very muddy but the children seemed to enjoy it. We had to apologize to the parents for the mud. Nevertheless the result was spectacular and remained like that for a good few years. We were offered an anchor that was sited on an ornamental feature just off Majuba Road. This was taken to the cemetery and erected in the circle. We later planted shrubs and fixed a chain around the anchor. To bring it up to date Bren, one of our most experienced gardeners (who also volunteers for Ormesby Hall Gardens), decided to establish a fishing theme around the anchor, so we sourced

large pebbles and lobster pots and it now has a feel of being near the sea with plants of blue and white. She has just planted 100 mini daffs to replicate the colour of sand. It's just a little distraction for people to enjoy when they come to

While we were researching a history piece for the Friends of Redcar Cemetery face book page this snippet popped up about St Peters Church. The face book page updates readers on the work being carried out by the friends in the cemetery as well as history pieces about residents buried here.



The Revd. J. Groves 1887-1912

'The vicar of Redcar, the Rev Groves in 1899 had just cause of complaint at the interruptions of Redcar Parish Church services. The rising of the sun is the signal for the many sand donkeys in fields in the neighbourhood of the church to commence to converse with their fellows in voices loud and long peculiar to themselves. The conversation, however, is continued like the game of 'follow your leader' and when one animal has concluded its discordant bray another takes it up. Naturally this is very distracting to the assembled congregation. This is not all, however, for when troubles come, as the old adage says, they never come singly. A piece of waste ground at the rear of the sacred edifice has been chosen as the 'happy camping ground of a number of holiday makers. During Sunday they spend their time in playing quoits and otherwise amusing themselves in a manner which causes great annoyance to both the vicar and his congregation. Probably as the season for Redcar is now drawing to a close all will depart and quietness will prevail.' The Groves have a burial plot in the old section of the cemetery, just over the wall from the present-day vicarage. We hope all is quiet now.

Dot Ahmed



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Could You be a School Governor?

The four primary schools in our parish—John E Batty, Ings Farm, Wheatlands and Zetland—have always had close links with our church, and in recent years have had representation from St Peter's on their governing bodies. With recent retirements this connection has been lost and the PCC are keen to re-establish this. Could you take up the challenge? A New Years Resolution perhaps? Maybe you attended one of the schools—or your children and grandchildren are still there. If so, the head teachers of the schools would love to hear from you!



Sharon Davis-Lewis

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Answers for Quiz on 2020

- 1. Job applications from weirdos and misfits were invited from people to work at 10 Downing Street.
- 2. Kirk Douglas was the famous actor who died this year and is associated with the phrase "I am Spartacus".
- 3. In February the Church of England advised against the practice of 'intinction' which is dipping the communion wafer in wine.
- 4. In a world "where you can be anything, be kind" wrote actress Caroline Flack on Instagram in December 2019.
- 5. We were supposed to wash our hands in March while singing the National Anthem or Happy Birthday twice.
- 6. This year was a leap year. We call other years common years.
- 7. Eyam is the village in the peak district is associated with self-isolation during a previous plague.
- 8. Quarantine is forty days long, literally, the word derives from the Italian expression quaranta giorni.
- 9. President Macron visited Britain on 18th July to commemorate De Gaulle's broadcast to France in 1940. It was also the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo.
- 10. The United States, Europe, Russia and China have all launched space rockets to Mars this year.
- 11. The Foreign Office cat, Palmerston, in his resignation letter in August on Twitter posted, "I have championed our work, built our relationships and celebrated the diversity of our staff... and will always be an ambassador for the UK and the new Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office". After a four year career in Downing Street, which had included scraps with a neighbour, he was going to spend more time with a family in the country.
- 12. Boxing Day is the day furthest away from Christmas Day (because you cannot travel backwards in time think about it)
- 13. The Battle of the Tennis Court was part of the Burma Campaign during the Second World War. It was remembered in August as part of VJ commemorations.
- 14. The BBC banned singing the lyrics from which Rule Britannia from the Last night of the Proms because it had a link in their mind with slavery and colonialism. The decision was since reviewed.
- 15. This year marked the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower. Their celebration of harvest gave rise to Thanksgiving.

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Children's mis-heard Christmas Songs and Carols

Deck the Halls with Buddy Holly...

We three kings of porridge and tar...

On the first day of Christmas my tulip gave to me...

Later on we'll perspire, as we dream by the fire...

He's makin a list, chicken and rice...

Noel, Noel, Barney's the king of Israel...

Frosty the Snowman is a ferret elf, I say...

Sleep in heavenly peas...

In the meadow we can build a snowman, then pretend that he is sparse and brown...

O come, froggy faithful...

Picture

The teacher asked her Sunday School class to draw a picture of a Bible story with a Christmas theme. She was puzzled by Kate's picture, which showed four people on an airplane. She asked her which story it was meant to represent.

'The Flight to Egypt,' was the reply.

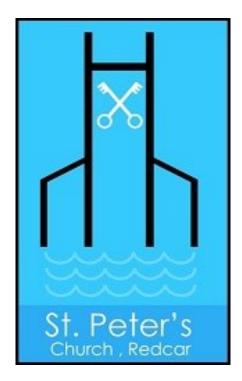
Pointing at each figure, the teacher ventured: 'That must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. But who's the fourth person?"'

'Oh,' explained Kate happily, 'that's Pontius - the pilot!'

Taken from The Parish Pump







With a donation of £25 you can remember a special occasion as well as contribute to the upkeep of St Peter's Church.

You can remember a loved one, celebrate a baptism, a wedding or perhaps an anniversary.

A certificate will be issued to commemorate the occasion and the name will be recorded.

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