



Weekly News

20th December 2020

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk

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

These things do not change



Even though everything around us changes. Even though we have no control over what the future holds. Something happened in the past - at the first Christmas - that cannot be undone: LOVE CAME DOWN.

When we face the fiercest storm; when the distance between us threatens to break our heart. We are not alone. The story of Christmas, in the present, is the story of GOD WITH US.

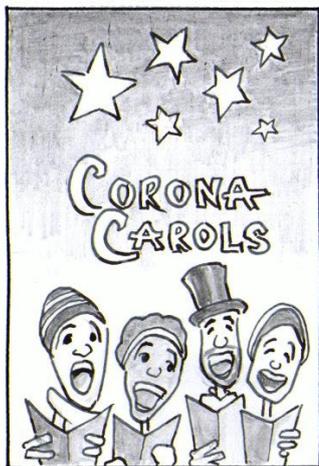
As we face the year that comes what direction should we take? Jesus says, 'I am the light of the world. If you follow me you won't have to walk in darkness because you will have the light of life'. John, one of Jesus' first friends and followers, wrote: 'THE LIGHT SHINES in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.'

Visit theharrogatehub.org/thelightshines to download and follow #thelightshines trail from 18th - 31st December.

Want to explore further? Try Alpha Online www.alphaharrogate.org

Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's Church

TRYING TIMES WK 38



JIM



WINNER

Hannah Beck



Well done, Hannah!

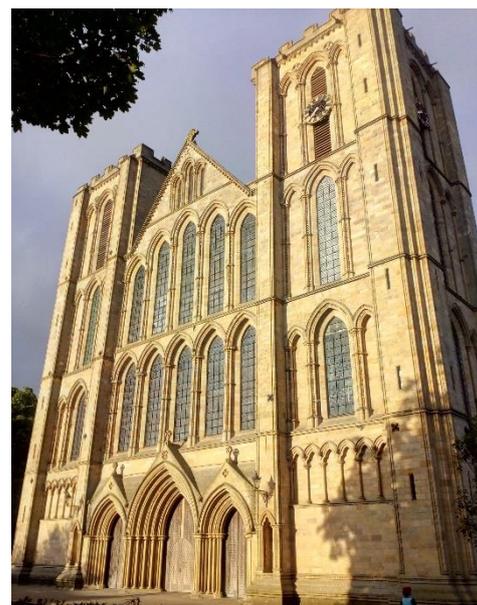
Hannah Beck, one of our Lay Readers, has won a BIG Thank You Award 2020 for her work with the food ministry at St Peter's Church, providing hot meals and food parcels throughout the pandemic. Visit www.bigthankyouawards.co.uk to watch the awards ceremony.

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2021 – Photography Competition

To mark HMD 2021 the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust are calling on young people to submit a photo related to the theme for 2021: **Be the light in the darkness**. They are looking for original images taken by 14 - 25 year olds, focussing on the people, groups, images and objects which 'light up the darkness'. Find out more about the competition and how you can enter at: <https://www.hmd.org.uk/.../young-people/light-up-the-darkness/>. The competition closes on 10th January 2021.

Services this Christmas at Ripon Cathedral

Christmas is different at Ripon Cathedral this year, because of social distancing fewer people can attend so bookings for the major services must be made in advance – please check their website at www.riponcathedral.org.uk/Christmas. Because of COVID-19 restrictions the Cathedral and its partners, the National Trust and Ripon City Council, have decided not to hold the traditional Boxing Day pilgrimage to Fountains Abbey or the New Year's Eve Watchnight Service and candlelit procession this year.



This week's worship online



As not everyone can come to Church and take part in the services every week, we are continuing to live-stream services. To join in follow these links: [9:30 am Holy Communion](#) and [11:00 am Matins or Holy Communion \(BCP\)](#). [Morning and Evening Prayer](#) are at 8:00 am and 5:00 pm from Monday to Saturday and will be live-streamed on Facebook and Zoom. Some of our Christmas Services are online only - tonight's [Service of Nine Lessons and Carols](#); the [Christingle Service](#) and [Carols for Christmas Eve](#) – full details on our website.

We're going online

As we can no longer gather in person, we are taking our Alpha course online! Join us as we continue to explore the big questions of life together. The course is on Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 8:30 pm starting 20th January 2021 for eleven weeks. Visit alphaharrogate.org to find out more or call Sarah Martin (07913 259490) to book your place.



Comfort and Joy

#ComfortAndJoy is the Church of England's 2020 Christmas campaign
Join Archbishops **Justin Welby** and **Stephen Cottrell** and guests for 'Nine Lessons and Carols' daily between Christmas Day and 2nd January at churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy

Christmas Stamp appeal

RNIB

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Today's Services: 20th December 2020

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today's theme: *God's ridiculous plan*

Please arrive no later than 5 minutes before the start of the service, so everyone can be safely seated at a distance

9:30 Family Communion

Hymns 314 *Joy to the world*, 243 *In the bleak midwinter*, 891 *Like a candle flame*, 420 *O little town of Bethlehem*

Readings 2 Samuel 7 v 1 – 11 and 16
Luke 1 v 26 - 28

Preacher: Catharine Davies

Our Duty Warden today is:
Paul Medforth

11:00 Choral Matins

Setting Jackson in G (Benedicite)

Hymns 29, 35, 601

Psalm 144

Readings 2 Samuel 7 v 1 – 11 and 16
Luke 1 v 26 - 28

Anthem The Lord hath been mindful of us (*SS Wesley*)

Preacher: Catharine Davies

6:30 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols (*online only*)

To keep everyone safe, please:



- **wear a face covering** and **use the hand sanitiser**;
- **follow the one way system** – down the side aisles and up the centre aisle;
- **keep your distance** at all times, even when you share the peace;
- **form a single, distanced queue** in front of the dais to receive Communion – a wafer, but not wine, will be distributed (please indicate in advance if you need a gluten-free wafer);
- **remember no refreshments** will be served after the service, but bottled water is available if you need it;
- **leave via the West Door** after the 9:30 am service, if you are able. **Thank you!**

Services to celebrate the New Year at St Peter's Church

Thursday 31st December 11:00 am Holy Communion (*no booking required*)
4:00 – 6:00 pm Light a candle and pray for 2021
11:30 pm Watchnight Service (*no booking required*)

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:

Pat Anderson, Ruth Bowes, Diana Braithwaite, Louise Emrullahu, Pam Gardiner, Vicky Harrison, Keith Helsby, Caroline Kelly, Charlie Martineau, Sheila Pantin, Michele Roszak, Frances Roxby-Proud and Colin Sinclair.

Also in our prayers this week:

Mon	All the staff at Harrogate Hospital working over Christmas Patients in hospital at Christmas
Tues	Those spending Christmas alone Those suffering from 'long COVID'
Wed	All who work in foodbanks The team preparing hot meals during the week
Thurs	All our emergency services Our armed forces deployed at home or abroad
Fri	Carole Raw, Parish Administrator The Fairtrade Shop at St Peter's
Sat	Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's Our retired Clergy: Graham Cornish, Michael Hunter and Sue Pearce

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 121 Isaiah 52 v 13 – 53 to end 2 Peter 1 v 1 - 15
Tues	Psalm 124 Isaiah 54 2 Peter 1 v 16 – 2 v 3
Wed	Psalm 130 Isaiah 55 2 Peter 2 v 4 to end
Thurs	<i>Christmas Eve</i> Psalm 45 Isaiah 56 v 1 - 8 2 Peter 3
Fri	<i>Christmas Day</i> Psalm 110 Isaiah 62 v 1 - 5 Matthew 1 v 18 to end
Sat	<i>Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr</i> Psalm 13 Jeremiah 26 v 12 - 15 Acts 6

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

St Peter's Church is open for private prayer from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm every day except 25th, 26th and 27th December.

Mon 21st

4:30 - 4:50 pm hot food to eat in or take-away

Tues 22nd

4:30 - 4:50 pm food parcels available

Wed 23rd

4:30 - 4:50 pm hot food to eat in or take-away

Thurs 24th

Christmas Eve

11:00 am Holy Communion (*no booking required*)

4:00pm Christingle Service (*online only*)

4:30 - 4:50 pm food parcels available

6:30 pm Carols for Christmas Eve (*online only*)

11:30 pm Midnight Mass

Setting: Darke in E

Readings: Isaiah 9 v 2 – 7
John 1 v 1 - 14

Anthems: Infant Holy (arr *Willcocks*)

Preacher: Alan Garrow

**Our Duty Warden on
Christmas Eve is:
Paul Medforth**



Fri 25th

Christmas Day

9:30 am Family Communion

Hymns: 438 *Once in royal David's city*, 36 *Away in a manger*, 155 *Hark! the herald angels sing*, 408 *O come all ye faithful*

Readings: Isaiah 9 v 2 – 7
John 1 v 1 - 14

Preacher: Chris Clayton

11:00 am Choral Communion

Setting: **Leighton in D** (Sanctus, Agnus Dei, Gloria)

Anthems: Rejoice and be merry (arr *Reginald Jacques*)
Sans Day Carol (John Rutter)

Readings: Isaiah 9 v 2 – 7
John 1 v 1 - 4

Preacher: Alan Garrow

1:00 pm Christmas Day Lunch

**Our Duty Wardens on
Christmas Day are:
Sian Lockwood
and Ian Birt**



Sat 26th

Boxing Day

4:30 - 4:50 pm food parcels available

Sun 27th

The First Sunday of Christmas

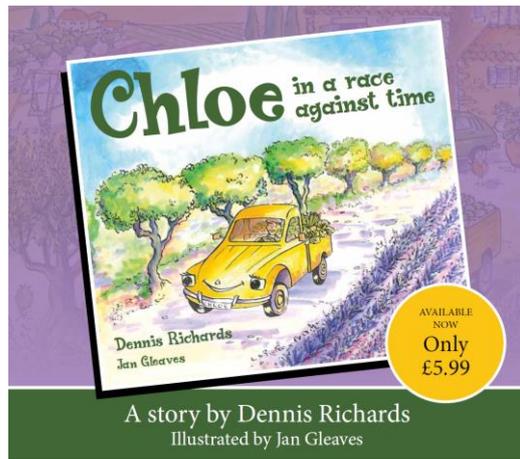
9:30 am Family Communion

11:00 am Choral Matins

1:00 pm Sunday Lunch



A new children's book from Dennis Richards



Dennis Richards was Head Teacher of St Aidan's CE High School for 23 years. He writes a monthly education column in the Harrogate Advertiser and is also a Lay Reader here at St Peter's. His new book, *Chloe in a race against time*, is the follow-up to *Benji goes to the seaside* and is again illustrated by Jan Gleaves. It is a bedtime story for early years children, written in rhyming couplets, this time set in France. If you would like to buy a copy email your name and

delivery address to greystreetpublishing@gmail.com, and if you mention St Peter's Church we will receive a £2 donation. Then pay by BACs to Account 37740160, sort code 30-93-91 (Janet Gleaves), using your name and postcode as a reference.

Advent Wreath Prayers

Here is a prayer to say as the fourth candle on your Advent wreath is lit:

We lit the first candle to pray for hope. We lit the second candle to pray for peace. We lit the third candle to pray for joy.



We light the fourth candle to pray for **love**. We pray for the love which is patient and kind, and the love which goes on caring and believing. May we show this love to one another and be open to welcome the love of God into our hearts. We pray for everyone who feels unloved, and for every time it is difficult to love others. May we see some sign of love that shines like this candle flame.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, you showed us that God is love. Help us to live in love, so that we live in God. Come close to us this Advent. Amen

And if your Advent wreath has a Christ Candle say this prayer on Christmas morning:

We lit the first candle to pray for hope. We lit the second candle to pray for peace. We lit the third candle to pray for joy. We lit the fourth candle to pray for love.

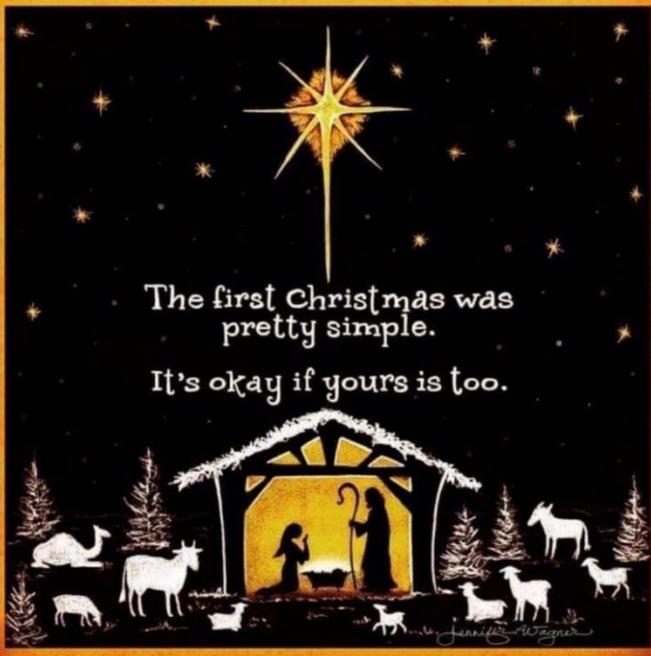
Now we light the Christmas candle, and we rejoice that Jesus is born. He is the hope, peace, joy and love for all the world.

All: A Saviour is born to us today. Alleluia!

Lord Jesus Christ, you bring the life of God into the world. Fill us with your light, now and always. Amen



The flowers in Church today are in memory of **Gill Gibson**



Thank You!

St Peter's gives out food every day to those in need. Thank you so much if you remembered to bring some groceries, toiletries or Christmas treats to put in the hamper this week. God bless you!

Welcome to St Peter's Church

You can join us online or in person



New to St Peter's? Please give your contact details to one of the Clergy after the service.

Next Week's Deadline

The deadline for the next full edition of the Weekly News (3rd January 2021) will be noon on Wednesday 30th December. Please send any items (including photos) to Alan Garrow or to Marian Chambers (addresses below).

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