



# Weekly News

## 28<sup>th</sup> December 2025

*The First Sunday of Christmas*  
[www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk](http://www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk)

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

### **The Coventry Carol: *Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child***

This is one of my favourite carols, which I first heard in Coventry Cathedral when I was a student in that city. It is called The Coventry Carol, because it comes from one of the two surviving scripts from the medieval Coventry Mystery Plays. These cycles of plays were held annually in June around the feast of Corpus Christi. Stories from the Bible would be performed by the craft guilds of the city outside in the streets and marketplaces on pageant carts. With most people unable to read the Latin Bible, these plays dramatized Creation, the Fall, Christ's life, and Judgement Day through vivid, accessible drama in their everyday language. The anthem our choir will sing today is from *The Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors*, which tells the story of the Nativity from the Annunciation to the Massacre of the Holy Innocents.

The Feast of The Holy Innocents is observed by Western Churches on 28<sup>th</sup> December and refers to the Nativity narrative in the second chapter of the Gospel of Matthew. It tells how the wise men visit Jerusalem to seek guidance as to where the new king of the Jews has been born, King Herod directs them to Bethlehem and asks them to return and report to him, but they are warned in a dream that Herod wishes to find the child and kill him, and do not do so. Matthew continues in verse 16:

*When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.*



Marian Chambers, *The Weekly News* Editor

# Today's Services: 28<sup>th</sup> December 2025

*The First Sunday of Christmas (The Holy Innocents)*

*The Sunday after Christmas Day (BCP)*

**8:30**      **Holy Communion**

**9:30**      **Family Communion**

*There is **no** Sunday Club for school age children today.*

*Please come to St Mary's Chapel after you have received Communion if you would like to pray with our Prayer Ministry Team.*

**Hymns**              We three kings; Ding dong merrily on high; **489** See amid the winter's snow; **491** See Him lying on a bed of straw

**Readings**              1 Corinthians 1 v 26 - 29  
Matthew 2 v 13 - 18

**Preacher:**              Ruth Harris

**11:00**      **Choral Matins**

**Setting**              Stanford in B flat (Jubilate)

**Hymns**              67, 75, 444

**Psalm**              36

**Readings**              Jeremiah 31 v 15 – 17  
Matthew 2 v 13 - 18

**Anthem**              Lully, lulla (Leighton)

**Preacher:**              Ruth Harris

**Our Duty Wardens today are:**

Siân Lockwood  
and Richard Bion

## **St Peter's Ladies who Lunch**

The *Ladies who Lunch* are meeting at 12:45 pm on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January at the Nomad Café on Beulah Street, which caters for various dietary requirements. If you would like to join them for food and fellowship, then please contact Sue Heapy (07540 355 305 or [brynsusie@hotmail.com](mailto:brynsusie@hotmail.com)), so she can book you a place at their table.



Entries for St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival must be collected this week by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Unfortunately, trees not taken away by this time will be disposed of.

## **Next Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

***The Second Sunday of Christmas***

**8:30**      Holy Communion

**9:30**      Family Communion

**11:00**      Choral Communion

**4:15**      Stepping Stones Service  
– *CelticWorship*

**6:30**      Choral Evensong

## **St Peter's Food Ministry:**

**The Breakfast Club** provides a free, hot breakfast every morning from Monday to Saturday (8:15 – 8:45 am) this week, except for New Year's Day, as the church is closed.

**Our mini-supermarket** is on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December this week from 4:20 – 4:40 pm – an opportunity to stock up on tinned, preserved and dried food and toiletries.

**Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:**

Pat Anderson, Ian Birt, Ann Campbell, Graham Cornish, Jane Crabtree, Tony Edwards, Margaret Farrar, Jenny Gardiner, Nigel Gardiner, Tim Harrison, June Hemmings, Jean Hopper, Trevor Hughes, Joan Kelly, Kim Okell, Sheila Pantin, Celia Preston, Richard Sadler, Michelle Simon and Sally Sneddon.

**Also in our prayers this week:**

<b>Mon</b>	St Aidan's CE High School The 10 <sup>th</sup> Harrogate St Peter's Guides
<b>Tues</b>	All those providing care or help to a vulnerable person St Peter's Pastoral Support Team
<b>Wed</b>	St Peter's Sacristans The Weekly News Editorial Team
<b>Thurs</b>	Ambulance drivers and paramedics Physiotherapists
<b>Fri</b>	Mike Davies, Churchwarden St Peter's Players
<b>Sat</b>	Patients and staff in intensive care units Our homes, families, friends and all whom we love

**Daily Readings**

*Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer is at 5:00 pm daily and both are live streamed on Facebook – join in by following the links on our website. These are the Bible readings we will be using each morning this week:*

<b>Mon</b>	Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170 Psalm 19 Jonah 1 Colossians 1 v 1 - 14
<b>Tues</b>	Psalm 113 Jonah 2 Colossians 1 v 15 - 23
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 102 Jonah chapters 3 & 4 Colossians 1 v 24 – 2 v 7
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>THE NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS</b> Psalm 103 Genesis 17 v 1 - 13 Romans 2 v 17 to end
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 18 Ruth 1 Colossians 2 v 8 to end
<b>Sat</b>	<i>Basil the Great, Bishop, 379</i> Psalm 127 Ruth 2 Colossians 3 v 1 - 11

**The Collect for The First Sunday of Christmas** (Common Worship)

God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love:  
gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ.

**The Collect for The Sunday after Christmas Day** (Book of Common Prayer)

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## Key Contacts

### Vicar:

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## Next Week's Deadline

The deadline for the next edition of the Weekly News (4<sup>th</sup> January) will be noon on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December. Please send any items to Marian Chambers, or to Alan Garrow.

## What's on This Week

Mon 29<sup>th</sup>

Tues 30<sup>th</sup> 4:20 – 4:40 pm Mini-supermarket

Wed 31<sup>st</sup> **New Year's Eve**  
10:30 – 11:00 am Café  
RefleXions

4:00 – 6:00pm Prayers for 2026

Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> **New Year's Day**  
Church closed

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 am AA meeting in the Music Room  
12:30 pm *Ladies who Lunch* at Nomad Café

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup>

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> **The Second Sunday of Christmas**  
7:30pm AA meeting in the Brostoff Hall

The edition of *Celebrity Escape to the Country* with Neil Jones, that features St Peter's Breakfast Club, is on BBC One on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 7:00pm.



### Leading a Lenten Journey

Explore one chapter of the book **Meeting God in John** by David F Ford, then try out a variety of study approaches in preparation for guiding your own small group on a meaningful Lent journey.

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> January, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
St Andrew's Church, Starbeck  
To book please contact Gayle Bryon, Encouraging Lay Ministries Coordinator, ([gaylebryonelm@gmail.com](mailto:gaylebryonelm@gmail.com)).