



# Weekly News

15<sup>th</sup> December 2024

*The Third Sunday of Advent*

[www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk](http://www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk)

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

## **Handel's Messiah at St. Peter's: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7:15 pm**

**Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Emmanuel, GOD WITH US. (Isaiah 7 v 14; Matthew 1 v 23)**

The words in upper case are not printed thus in the King James Bible, used by Charles Jennens, the compiler of the libretto of *Messiah*. But they are so printed in the published book of words to the oratorio, made available to the paying audiences in Handel's time. These three words encapsulate what this magnificent work is about: it is a meditation on 'the mystery of Godliness', obliquely telling the story of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection, but mentioning him by name only once (in a chorus which is often omitted, though we are including it). Handel himself never performed *Messiah* at Christmas, but as we celebrate the birth of Jesus we can use this wonderful selection of scripture to reflect once again on this unique manifestation of God here on earth among us.

St Peter's choir is joined for the first time by the choir of St. Wilfrid's church along with their Director of Music, Anthony Gray, who will be playing the organ. A number of friends constitute the Harrogate Voices; the soloists are Jenny Stafford, Elisabeth Paul, Toby Ward and Andrew Greenan. The Harrogate Handel players will as usual be led by Fiona Love. Tickets cost £18 from Eventbrite (no booking fee), or from St. Peter's Parish Office 07425 161 425 (cash or cheques only), or on the door (credit cards accepted). John Longstaff, *Director of Music at St Peter's Church*

ST PETER'S CHURCH HARROGATE  
G F Handel  
**Messiah**

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Jenny Stafford | soprano       |
| Elisabeth Paul | mezzo-soprano |
| Toby Ward      | tenor         |
| Andrew Greenan | bass          |
| Anthony Gray   | organ         |
| John Longstaff | director      |

Choirs of St Peter's and St Wilfrid's Churches  
Harrogate Voices  
Harrogate Handel Players (leader Fiona Love)

**Friday 20th December 2024 7:15pm**

Tickets £18 from Eventbrite (no booking fee) or  
from St. Peter's Parish Office 07425 161425 (cash or cheques only),  
or on the door (credit card payments accepted).



## The Sunday Lunch Club meets today!

It is open to everyone and there's no need to book or bring anything – although donations towards the cost will, of course, be very welcome! Lunch today will be served at 1:00 pm. Please speak to Hannah Beck (07503 186 455) or Yvonne Dawes (07960 779 381) if you need to know more.



## Men's Breakfast at St Peter's: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2024

### MEN'S BREAKFAST



every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month

Beginning with Morning Prayers at 8:00 am for those who wish to take part, and breakfast from 8:30 to 9:00 am, followed by an informal discussion session in The Gallery for perhaps 30 minutes or so. Please text Bryn Heapy on 07561 889 076 if you are planning to come or email him at [brynsusie@hotmail.com](mailto:brynsusie@hotmail.com).

## Join us to bring in the New Year!

On New Year's Eve there are two special services at St Peter's: come and light a candle and **Pray for 2025** from 4:00 – 6:00 pm and then later our atmospheric, candlelit **Watchnight Service** starts at 11:30 pm.



## Join us this CHRISTMAS

**St Peter's Christmas Fair**  
10:30 am – 3:30 pm 30<sup>th</sup> November

**Advent Candle Service**  
6:30 pm 1<sup>st</sup> December

**Saturday Shoppers' Carols**  
3:00 pm and 4:00 pm 7<sup>th</sup> December  
3:00 pm and 4:00 pm 14<sup>th</sup> December

**St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival**  
7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> December

**Performance of Handel's Messiah**  
7:15 pm 20<sup>th</sup> December

**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**  
6:30 pm 22<sup>nd</sup> December

**Christmas Eve**  
3:00 and 4:30 pm Christingle Services  
6:30 pm Carols for Christmas Eve  
11:30 pm Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day**  
8:30 am Holy Communion  
9:30 am Family Communion  
11:00 am Christmas Day Worship

**New Year's Eve**  
4:00 – 6:00 pm Pray for 2025  
11:30 pm Watchnight Service

Find all our services and events at [www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk](http://www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk)

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



## Ethics Matters



Weekly lectures with discussions  
at St Peter's Church, Harrogate  
with Dr Peter Vardy

### Starting in January 2025

|               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 9th January   | Ethics Matters          |
| 16th January  | A good death?           |
| 23rd January  | Sex/Life                |
| 30th January  | A just war?             |
| 6th February  | Money, money, money...  |
| 13th February | Artificial Intelligence |

All lectures begin at 7pm. Light refreshments will be served.  
Book your free place at: [stpeterschurchhgtooffice@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterschurchhgtooffice@gmail.com)



## Gaudete Sunday – Rejoice in the Lord always!



The Advent Wreath in St Peter's Church has a white candle in the centre surrounded by four candles; three are purple, the liturgical colour for Advent, and one is rose pink - it will be lit today. In medieval times, Advent was observed as a fast of forty days before Christmas. This 'Refreshment Sunday' was a welcome splash of colour in the restrained atmosphere of Advent; a break in the fast. The readings and liturgy for today speak of joy; we are urged to: *Gaudete in Domino semper* - Rejoice in the Lord always. So, today became known as Gaudete or Rose Sunday.

### Come and help to make Christingles

This year we have two Christingle Services on Christmas Eve, one at 3:00 pm and one at 4:30 pm, both in aid of the **Children's Society**. We will be making hundreds of Christingles on the morning of Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in Church. The oranges, red ribbons, candles and foil are here, we just need **YOU!** If you would like to help, please let Kate Blake (07931 382 756 or [kateblakefamily@gmail.com](mailto:kateblakefamily@gmail.com)) know.



### A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Join us for our traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Peter's next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, at 6:30 pm. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings. The readings are interspersed with Christmas carols and anthems sung by our wonderful choir.

### Donations needed for the children's clothes bank at SHINE

St Peter's Church is collecting donations of **pre-loved children's clothes** on behalf of SHINE. They need girls' clothes ages 5-12 years and boys' clothes age 3-4 years. Also new packs of underwear for these ages too. If you can help please bring your bags to church and leave on the table in the corridor opposite the spiral stairs : 9.00am-3.30pm Monday to Thursday or Sundays, last drop-off day is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. for more information please contact [Sam@shinewestbowling.org.uk](mailto:Sam@shinewestbowling.org.uk). Read more *about the SHINE project on the front page of Weekly News 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024 on our website.*



# Today's Services: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## *The Third Sunday of Advent*

Today is **Gaudete Sunday**, so the rose candle on our Advent wreath will be lit

### **8:30 Holy Communion**

### **9:30 Family Communion**

There is Sunday Club for school age children today - please gather in the café area at the front of Church at the start of the service. Please come to St Mary's Chapel after you have received Communion if you would like to pray with our Prayer Ministry Team.

**Hymns**            **602** While shepherds watched; **376** Love came down at Christmas; **36** Away in a manger; **438** Once in royal David's city

**Readings**        Zephaniah 3 v 14 to end  
Luke 3 v 7 - 18

**Preacher:**        Ruth Harris

**Our Duty Wardens today are**

Sue Heapy and Rachel Fell

### **11:00 Choral Matins**

**Setting**            Sumsion in Bflat (Benedicite)

**Hymns**            607, 595, 38 (omit \*verse)

**Psalms**            62

**Readings**        Zephaniah 3 v 14 to end  
Luke 3 v 7 - 18

**Anthem**            The angel Gabriel (arr *Jack Longstaff*)

**Preacher:**        Chris Clayton

### **4:15 pm Stepping Stones Service    Crafternoon Church**

**Preacher:**        Ruth Thompson-Vear

### **6:30 Choral Communion by candlelight**

**Setting**            Darke in F

**Hymns**            37, 25, 318, 33

**Readings**        Philippians 4 v 4 - 7  
Luke 1 v 57 - 66

**Anthem**            The Word made Flesh (*Wilby*)

**Preacher:**        Alan Garrow



## **The Third Sunday in Advent**

Today is Gaudete or Rose Sunday, so we light the rose pink candle on our Advent wreath. Gaudete simply means rejoice and is taken from the antiphon to be sung today- *Gaudete in Domino semper* – Rejoice in the Lord always. And so, as we make our final preparations for Christ's coming – we rejoice!

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

Pat Anderson, David Chambers, Graham Cornish, Jane Crabtree, Olive Davenham, Tony Edwards, Louise Emrullahu, June Hemmings, Trevor Hughes, Miriam Jones, Derek Mansfield, Kim Okell, Sheila Pantin, Matthew Pindell, Celia Preston, Richard Sadler and Michelle Simon.

RIP: David Yardley

**Also in our prayers this week:**

- Mon** The Syrian people after the Collapse of the Assad regime  
Those trying to rebuild a nation where justice and equality prevail
- Tues** Those who live in danger of violence and oppression  
*Amnesty International*
- Wed** Sarah Martin, Lay Reader  
The audio-visual team
- Thurs** St Peter's Evening Fellowship  
All who lead the prayers at our services
- Fri** The Sunday Lunch Club  
Tonight's performance of *Messiah*
- Sat** Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's  
Harrogate School of Theology & Mission

**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 each morning this week.*

- Mon** Psalm 40  
Isaiah 49 v 14 - 25  
1 Thessalonians 5 v 1 - 11
- Tues** *Eglantyne Jebb, social reformer, founder of 'Save the Children' 1928*  
Psalm 70  
Isaiah 50  
1 Thessalonians 5 v 12 to end
- Wed** Psalm 75  
Isaiah 51 v 1 - 8  
2 Thessalonians 1
- Thurs** Psalm 146  
Isaiah 51 v 9 - 16  
2 Thessalonians 2
- Fri** Psalm 46  
Isaiah 51 v 17 to end  
2 Thessalonians 3
- Sat** Psalm 121  
Isaiah 52 v 1 - 12  
Jude

**The Collect for The Third Sunday of Advent**

(Common Worship)

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:

give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

**The Collect for The Third Sunday in Advent** (Book of Common Prayer)

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

# What's on This Week

*St Peter's Church is open to visitors from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm every day except Sundays*  
***St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival*** - come and see our amazing display of decorated Christmas Trees and find out who the winners are!  
*The Fairtrade Christmas Shop is open in the Old Baptistery*

- Mon 16<sup>th</sup>** 11:00 am – 1:00 pm *Sit-n-Knit* in Church  
1:30 – 3:00 pm The *Thinking about God* group are meeting in the Undercroft  
2:00 pm The U3A Singing Folk group  
7:00 pm St Peter's Choir are singing at Rudding Park
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup>** **12:00 – 12:30 pm Healing Service**  
**1:30 Funeral of Marian Holmes**
- Wed 18<sup>th</sup>** **10:30 – 11:00 am Café RefleXions**  
**12:00 Funeral of Audrey Wood**  
7:30 pm Rehearsal for *Messiah*
- Thurs 19<sup>th</sup>** **9:30 am St Peter's CE Primary School Christmas Service**  
9:30 – 11:00 am The Toddler Group at St Peter's  
**11:00 am Holy Communion**  
7:30 pm St Peter's Choir Practice
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup>** 9:30 am AA meeting in the Music Room  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm St Peter's Cleaning Team  
7:15 pm Performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup>** 8:00 am Men's Breakfast at St Peter's
- Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>** ***The Fourth Sunday of Advent***  
1:00 – 1:30 pm Sunday Lunch  
7:30 – 8:30 pm AA meeting in the Brostoff Hall

## Next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 Holy Communion  
9:30 Family Communion  
with Baptism  
11:00 Choral Matins  
4:15 Stepping Stones Service  
– *Service of the Word*  
6:30 **Festival of Nine  
Lessons and Carols**

**The Breakfast Club** provides a free, hot breakfast from Monday to Saturday (8:15 – 8:45 am) for all those who are hungry or in need. A hot **Sunday lunch** is also served each week at 1:00 pm, except for the third Sunday of the month when it is *Sunday Lunch Club*.

**Hot food** is available 4:30 – 4:50 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

**Our mini Supermarket** is on Thursdays 4:30 – 4:50 pm.



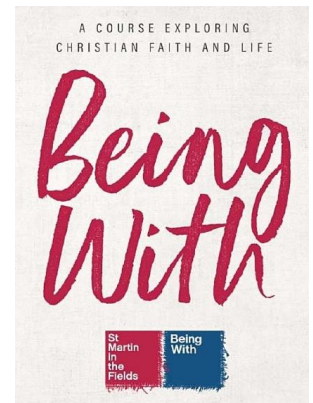
# The Boxing Day Pilgrimage to Fountains Abbey

The traditional Boxing Day Pilgrimage, from Ripon Cathedral to Fountains Abbey, will take place again this year. The celebration of Eucharist at the Cathedral begins at 9:30 am and then the pilgrims will walk the 4 miles to the Abbey where there'll be a service of carols and prayers from approximately 12:00 noon in the Cellarium. Entrance to Fountains Abbey is usually free if you are joining the pilgrimage.



## ***Being With*: an online course exploring Christian faith and life**

Starting in January, this ten week course is an introduction to Christianity with a difference. This is an opportunity to explore what Christian faith is all about, to reflect on the Christian story and to place your own story within it. It's a space to wonder, to think, to discover and build relationships. *Being With* was devised at St Martin-in-the-Fields by the Vicar the Revd Dr Sam Wells and the Associate Vicar for Ministry the Revd Sally Hitchiner. We will be running two courses both from 7:15 – 8:45 pm; one starting on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January and the other on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January. Interested in finding out more? Please contact Karin Shaw ([karinmshaw@googlemail.com](mailto:karinmshaw@googlemail.com)).



**Christmas Lunch  
will be served here on  
Christmas Day**

**1:00 pm**

**Contact Hannah Beck  
(07503 186 455)**

**JERVAULX SINGERS**  
DIRECTOR CHARLIE COMER-SMITH

# In dulci jubilo

Choral Anthems for Christmas  
by-Rutter, Howells, McGlade and more

**21** SAT  
DEC  
2024

St. John's Church  
**SHAROW**  
7:30 PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
[jervaulxsingers.com](http://jervaulxsingers.com) [jervaulxsingers@gmail.com](mailto:jervaulxsingers@gmail.com)  
07729 882 344 On the door - CASH OR CARD  
£20 • FREE FOR UNDER 18s



Refreshments are served after each of our Sunday morning services from the kitchen

area at the front of Church. Please come and join us.



Thank you so much if you remembered to bring some groceries, toiletries or treats to put in the hamper today!

### **The Christmas and New Year's editions of the *Weekly News***

The deadline for the next two editions of the *Weekly News* (22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> December) will be noon on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Please send any items (including photos) to **The *Weekly News* Editor**, Marian Chambers, or to Alan Garrow.

## **Welcome to St Peter's Church**

*You can join us online or in person*



**New to St Peter's?** Please fill in one of the welcome cards in the pews and hand it to one of the Clergy.

## **Key Contacts**

### **Vicar:**

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