



# Weekly News

17<sup>th</sup> December 2023

*The Third Sunday of Advent*

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

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

## A chapter closes for St Peter's Afternoon Fellowship

Until last Monday the venue enjoyed by the Afternoon Fellowship was once part of a hospital. For the past ten years it has been the regular scene of the warmest and most healing hospitality. At the Afternoon Fellowship in Gillian Taylor's home, it has been possible to enjoy the company of others, a wide variety of talks, and a very splendid afternoon tea.



*From the left: Gillian Taylor, Susan Cavestro and Stuart Heaton*

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December saw the final meeting of the Fellowship in its current venue, and we took the opportunity to thank Gillian for her remarkable generosity, and to also thank those who have ably assisted her and who have helped to provide transport for members.

As we give thanks for the past, we look forward to the future. The Fellowship is due to begin a new chapter in March 2024. From then it will meet on a Tuesday, rather than a Monday, and will take place in St Peter's Church. Full details will be posted in the *Weekly News*. In the meantime, thank you, Gillian!

Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's Church





## 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.

## St Peter's Ladies who Lunch

The **Ladies who Lunch** are meeting again on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December** at a town centre café catering for all 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)) before 24<sup>th</sup> December, so she can book a table.

## Come and help to make Christingles

This year we have two Christingle Services both 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 Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December from 10:00 am onwards in Church. The oranges, red ribbons, candles and foil are here, we just need **YOU!** If you would like to help, please let one of the Clergy know.



## Join us this CHRISTMAS

**St Peter's Christmas Fair**  
10:00 am – 4:00 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> December

**Advent Candle Service**  
6:30 pm 3<sup>rd</sup> December

**Saturday Shopper's Carols**  
4:00 pm 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm 23<sup>rd</sup> December

**St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival**  
9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December

**Nine Lessons and Carols**  
6:30 pm 17<sup>th</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 2024  
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

## Christmas Lunch will be served here on Christmas Day

1:00 pm

Contact Hannah Beck  
(07503 186 455)





## A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Join us for our traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Peter's tonight, Sunday 17<sup>th</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.



## 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 2024** from 4:00 – 6:00 pm and then later our atmospheric, candlelit **Watchnight Service** starts at 11:30 pm.



## *Artizan International* held a 'Carols by Candlelight' service

Susie, Andy and Rosie Hart had not long returned from Peru, yet here they are taking part in this enjoyable event. As you can see, Rosie hovered angel-like in the pulpit over the tableau whilst Helen Camm narrated the Christmas story. St Peter's Choir choir sang Gordon Langford's 'A Christmas Fantasy' with real inspiration.

*Many thanks to Michael Bell for sending in the photo and the report.*



# Today's Services: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## *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. Pre-schoolers and their parents are welcome to stay in this area, where there are Activity Bags to share.*

**Hymns**            **602** While shepherds watched; **739** Good news, good news to you we bring; **36** Away in a manger; **438** Once in royal David's city

**Readings**        Isaiah 61 v 1 – 4 and v 8 to end  
John 1 v 6 – 8 and v 19 - 28

**Preacher:**        Chris Clayton

**11:00 Choral Matins**

**Setting**            Sumsion in Bflat (Benedicite)

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

**Psalm**             62

**Readings**        Isaiah 61 v 1 – 4 and v 8 to end  
John 1 v 6 – 8 and v 19 - 28

**Anthem**           This is the record of John (*Gibbons*)

**Preacher:**        Chris Clayton

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

**Preacher:**        Ruth Thompson-Vear

**6:30 The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight**

*Please see separate order of service*



**Our Duty Wardens today are:**

Mo Atkinson  
and Paul Medforth

## **Prayer Ministry at the 9:30 am service**

At the 9:30 Service we offer prayer with members of our Prayer Ministry Team. If you would appreciate prayer for any reason, please come to St Mary's Chapel after you have received Communion and wait in the pews there. The team members will introduce themselves, ask for your prayer request and pray with you.

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

Pat Anderson, Beverley Cooper, Jane Crabtree, Tony Edwards, Louise Emrullahu, David Fisher, June Hemmings, Jean Houlden, Trevor Hughes, Jackie Kelly, Rachel Looby, Derek Mansfield, Steve Martin, Kim Okell, Sheila Pantin, Dora Ringrose, Richard Sadler, Michelle Simon and Richard Skidmore.

**Also in our prayers this week:**

<b>Mon</b>	Those who live in danger of violence and oppression <i>Amnesty International</i>
<b>Tues</b>	Victims of domestic abuse The Mothers' Union <i>RISE UP against domestic abuse</i> campaign
<b>Wed</b>	Sarah Martin, Lay Reader The COP28 pledge calling countries to transition away from fossil fuels
<b>Thurs</b>	<i>ARTIZAN International UK</i> , giving opportunities to people with disabilities in the UK and overseas Kate Blake, Safeguarding Officer
<b>Fri</b>	Hannah Beck, Lay Reader St Peter's Bellringers
<b>Sat</b>	The traumatised and exhausted people of the Holy Land Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's

**Daily Readings**

*Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer at 5:00 pm daily. Both services are livestreamed on Facebook and Zoom – 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>	Psalms 40 Isaiah 38 v 1 – 8, 21 - 22 Matthew 16 v 13 to end
<b>Tues</b>	Psalms 146 Isaiah 38 v 9 - 20 Matthew 17 v 1 - 13
<b>Wed</b>	Psalms 46 Isaiah 39 Matthew 17 v 14 - 21
<b>Thurs</b>	<b><i>Thomas the Apostle</i></b> Psalms 121 Zephaniah 1 v 1 – 2 v 3 Matthew 17 v 22 to end
<b>Fri</b>	Psalms 124 Zephaniah 3 v 1 - 13 Matthew 18 v 1 - 20
<b>Sat</b>	Psalms 130 Zephaniah 3 v 14 to end Matthew 18 v 21 to end

**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. Come and see all the entries for St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival on display this week.*

<b>Mon 18<sup>th</sup></b>	2:00 pm The U3A Singing Folk group
<b>Tues 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:00 – 12:30 pm Healing Service</b>
<b>Wed 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:30 – 11:00 am Café RefleXions</b>
<b>Thurs 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>9:30 am St Peter's School Crib Service</b> 9:30 – 11:00 am The Toddler Group at St Peter's <b>11:00 am Holy Communion</b>
<b>Fri 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9:30 am AA meeting in the Music Room 10:00 am – 12:00 pm St Peter's Cleaning Team
<b>Sat 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am – 12:00 pm Shoppers' Carols</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Christingle making
<b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><i>Christmas Eve</i></b> 1:00 – 1:30 pm Sunday Lunch 7:30 – 8:30 pm AA meeting in the Brostoff Hall

## Mary and Joseph bring in the crowds!



Our curate, the Revd Karin Shaw, and her husband, Graham, were sent out to the Christmas Fayre with leaflets to promote the Shoppers' Carol service last Saturday. They were very successful – over 100 people came!

### Next Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December *The Fourth Sunday of Advent* **Christmas Eve**

8:30	Holy Communion
9:30	Family Communion
11:00	Choral Matins
3:00	<b>Christingle Service</b>
4:30	<b>Christingle Service</b>
6:30	<b>Carols for Christmas Eve</b>
11:30	<b>Midnight Mass</b>

**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.

**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. Fountains Abbey is owned and managed by the National Trust and you may need to provide either proof of membership or pay an entrance fee to enter.



## A Prayer for the Holy Land

*Sue and Bryn Heapy have sent in this prayer written by the retired Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd John Pritchard, originally for Premier Radio.*

Gracious God,

we are stunned and aghast at what we see happening in Israel and Gaza.

This is your 'holy land' and there's nothing holy about the hatred and violence we see at the moment.

Your heart of love is being brutally attacked, and Jesus is once again flung on to a cross.

We continue to cry to you for help,

for the worst to be avoided,

for the men of violence to be held in check,

for the innocent to be protected

for the deep source of this conflict to be addressed,

and for justice and mercy to live again in this special place.

May the right of Israel to exist in peace,

and for Palestinians to have their land in security and with justice –

may these rights both be respected,

and may holiness be seen again in this Holy Land.

We pray this earnestly, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**





Refreshments are served after each of our Sunday morning services from the kitchen area at the front of Church. Please come and join us.



## WE JUST WANT TO SAY... **THANK YOU!**

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

Gillian Taylor thanks all at *St Peter's Afternoon Fellowship* for the generous collection made for her favourite charity *Guide Dogs for the Blind* at last Monday's meeting.

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

The deadline for the next two editions of the *Weekly News* (24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December) will be noon on Wednesday 20<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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