

St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival 2021

This time last year we were in the second lockdown, which lasted for most of the month of November. Churches in England were closed for public worship until 2nd December 2020, so our Advent Candle Service had to be online only. From 6th December two of our Sunday morning services returned, but you had to book your place and there were the various Tier 2 restrictions. Sadly, many of our well-loved events couldn't take place either: St Peter's Christmas Fair, Carols by Candlelight and of course, St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival.

But this year it is returning, and you will be able to come and see the amazing display of beautiful and quirky decorated trees from Saturday 4th to Saturday 11th December from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm daily. Visitors to the Church during the Festival will be invited to vote for their three favourites, with the winning trees being announced during the 9:30 am Family Service on Sunday 12th December 2021. The Tree of Remembrance will also be there, so you can hang a tag in memory of a loved one. Please contact the Festival organisers if you have any questions:

Annabel Hutchison (07765 914318 or <u>annabelhutchison@googlemail.com</u>) and Ellie Smith (07841 393295 or <u>eleanorsmith27@gmail.com</u>)



Here are the 2019 winners (*from left to right*): Most Creative Tree – *The Knitted Nativity*; Best Children's Tree – *Western Primary School*; Best Individual Tree – *Dolly Connors*; and Best Adult's Tree – *St Peter's Music Group*. Good luck to all this year's entrants!



Advent Candle Service

Next Sunday, 28th December, is the first Sunday in Advent, so please join us for our Advent Candle Service starting at 6:30 pm. St Peter's will be filled with beautiful words, music and candlelight, as we prepare for the coming of Christ into the world.





Stir Up Sunday!

Today is Stir Up Sunday – so called because it's the traditional day for making Christmas puddings, said to be inspired by the BCP collect for the day (*see page 5*) that begins: *Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people*. So if you are making your pudding today – happy stirring!





Have you always wanted to learn a language or improve your knowledge? Does your teenager need a boost? Would you like your little one to have a head-start in their language learning?

Please contact Caroline Jackson (<u>www.lingoexplore.co.uk</u> or 07841 161741) for expert French or Spanish tuition for all ages

St Peter's Church Refreshment Day

Hannah Beck (07503 186455) is organising a Refreshment Day to raise funds for our Church this Saturday 27th November from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. Would you be willing to bake a cake, some scones or biscuits? To comply with Natasha's Law, (the new law designed to protect allergen sufferers) please include a full list of ingredients with your contribution. Thank You!

St Peter's Ladies who Lunch

The **Ladies who Lunch** are meeting on Wednesday 24th November at the Palm Court Café at the bottom of Montpellier Hill. If you are interested in joining us for food and fellowship, then please contact Sue Heapy (07540 355 305 or brynsusie@hotmail.com) before 21st November so she can book our table.



St Peter's Evening Fellowship returns with a Christmas Quiz

We are delighted to announce, after a long absence, Evening Fellowship will be returning with a Christmas Quiz. This will be held in the Brostoff Hall on **Thursday**, **2nd December at 7:30 pm** when Paul Medforth will be our quizmaster. There will be no meeting in January but, shortly into the New Year, we will be publishing a full programme for 2022, starting with a talk by Tony Wilson, well known for his excellent presentations, entitled 'French Churches with a connection to Monarchs of England'. Do please come and join us, current member or not - everyone is very welcome.

harrogate school of **theology &** mission

Harrogate School of Theology and Mission Reading the Bible part 2 - a Bibletrack seminar by Dr Jane Williams (DVD and facilitated discussion) on Saturday 4th December 2021, 10:00 – 11:30 am

These seminars are online only (via Zoom) and cost £2 per session, bookable in advance only by the online booking system Eventbrite. To find out more visit <u>www.hstm.org.uk</u>.

Help feed a family this Christmas

St Peter's Church is launching a new initiative to help local families this Christmas. If you wish to take part, pick up one of these Christmas cards and inside you will find a list of five items needed to make up a Christmas hamper for a local family. The families have been nominated by North Yorkshire County Council and our own Pastoral Care Team. The cards also include instructions on how to label the items, where to leave them and by when. If you need more information to 'Help feed a family this Christmas' please see Carole Raw after today's 9:30 am service. Thank you!





St Peter's Library and Books Table

The 'Help Yourself' table has been a great success. We are now putting out books with Advent and Christmas themes for both children and adults to enjoy. Don't forget you can visit the Library on the shelves near the Welcomers' Desk – more inspirational books to choose from - to borrow one, just sign in the red exercise book on the lower shelf.

Today's Services: 21st November 2021

Christ the King

The Sunday next before Advent (BCP)

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 Today is the day we've been given; **1297** I behold Your power and glory: 1158 All my days: 1404 King of Kings, Majesty Revelation1 v 4b - 8 Readings John 18 v 33 - 37 **Our Duty Wardens today are:** Preacher: **Catharine Davies** Kate Blake and Sarah Martin 11:00 **Choral Matins** Dyson in D (Te Deum) Setting Hymns Hail redeemer, King divine: 164 (omit *verse), 398 Psalm 29 Readings Daniel 7 v 9 - 10, 13,14 John 18 v 33 - 37 Lift up your heart (John Longstaff) Anthem Preacher: **Catharine Davies** 4:15 pm Stepping Stone Service *Crafternoon Church* Nativity Characters Preacher: **Ruth Thompson-Vear** 6:30 **Choral Communion** Setting Darke in A minor 563, 172, 165, 607 Hymns Readings Revelation1 v 4b - 8 John 18 v 33 - 37 Anthem Beati quorum via (Stanford) **Preacher: Michael Hunter**

This week's worship online

We are continuing to live stream the following services on Facebook and Zoom: 9:30 am Family Communion on Sundays (also available on *St Peter's YouTube channel* to watch later); and Morning and Evening Prayer at 8:00 am and 5:00 pm from Monday to Saturday. To join in follow the <u>links</u> on our website.

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers: Pat Anderson, Ruth Bowes, Kenneth Coggane, Graham Cornish, Geni Emrullahu, Louise Emrullahu, Pam Gardiner, Vicky Harrison, June Hemmings, Miriam Jones, Jackie Kelly, Charlie Martineau and Sheila Pantin.			Evening Pr are the Bil in Church not read th	Prayer is at 8:00 am and rayer at 5:00 pm daily. These ble readings we will be using each morning this week. Why hem at home if you are unable the service? Cecilia, Martyr at Rome Psalm 96 Isaiah 14 v 3 - 20
Also in oi Mon	ur prayers this week: All the staff and pupils at West Primary School <i>Martin House,</i> hospice caring f children and young people		Tues	Matthew 9 v 18 - 34 <i>Clement, Bishop of Rome,</i> <i>Martyr, c 100</i> Psalm 97 Isaiah 17 Matthew 9 v 35 – 10
Tues	All those working with the elde isolated and vulnerable Staff and residents of care hom	•	Wed	v 15 Psalm 112 Isaiah 19 Matthew 10 v 16 - 33
Wed	St Peter's Ladies who Lunch Local restaurants and cafés			Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, 4 th century
Thurs	rs The NHS and other key workers Ambulance drivers and paramedics			<i>Isaac Watts, hymn writer</i> Psalm 125 Isaiah 21 v 1 - 12 Matthew 10 v 34 – 11
Fri	Jonathan Van-Tam, Deputy Chi Medical Officer North Yorkshire County Counci		Fri	v 1 Psalm 88 Isaiah 22 v 1 - 14 Matthew 11 v 2 - 19
Sat	Sian Lockwood, Churchwarden All our Duty Wardens and Sig persons			Psalm 97 Isaiah 24 Matthew 11 v 20 to end
The Collect for Christ the King (Common Worship) God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.		Ad Stin wil ple goo ple	The Collect for the Sunday next before Advent (Book of Common Prayer) Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through 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 Sundays.				
Mon 22 nd	1:30 – 3:00 pm <i>Thinking about God</i> discussion group in The Gallery. Contact Paul Gill <i>(07580 310971)</i> 2:00 pm The U3A Singing Folk group 6:00 pm AA meeting in the Music Room			
Tues 23 rd	12:00 – 12:30 pm Healing Service			
Wed 24 th	10:30 – 11:00 am Café RefleXions 12:15 pm St Peter's <i>Ladies who Lunch</i> are meeting at the Palm Court Café 7:30 pm Harrogate Harmony Men's Chorus			
Thurs 25 th	9:30 – 11:00 am Toddler Group 11:00 am Holy Communion 7:30 pm St Peter's Choir Practice			
Fri 26 th	9:30 am AA meeting in the Music Room			
Sat 27 th	10:00am – 3:00 pm St Peter's Church is holding a fundraising Refreshment Day			
Sun 28 th	The First Sunday of Advent 1:00 – 1:30 pm Sunday Lunch 7:00 – 8:30 pm Sanctuary , our Youth group, are meeting in the Brostoff Hall for drinks and snacks and then going to The Escape Room. Cost is £15 (<i>help with this is available</i>). Numbers are limited to ten, so please book your place as soon as possible with Chris Clayton (<i>chris.clayton@leeds.anglican.org</i> or 07407 258733)			

Next Sunday 28 th November The First Sunday of Advent		The Breakfast Club provides a free, ho breakfast from Monday to Saturday (8:2 – 8:45 am) for all those who are hungry o	
8:30	Holy Communion	in need.	
9:30	Family Communion	A hot Sunday Lunch is served from 1:00 –	
11:00	Choral Matins	1:30 pm.	
4:15	Stepping Stones Service	Hot food is available 4:30 – 4:50 pm on	
	– Service of the Word	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.	
6:30	Advent Candle Service	Our mini Supermarket is on Thursdays	
		4:30 – 4:50 pm.	

Afghanistan in crisis: they need our help NOW!

Due to decades of conflict, years of extreme drought and a harsh winter approaching, millions of people in Afghanistan face starving or freezing to death.

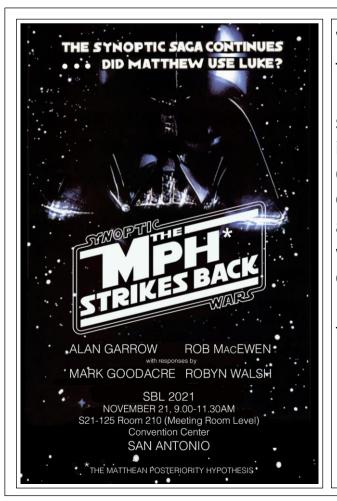
The executive director of the UN World Food Programme David Beasley's analysis of the situation is alarming. "It is as bad as you possibly can imagine," said Mr Beasley. "In fact, we're now looking at the worst humanitarian crisis on Earth.

"Ninety-five percent of the people don't have enough food, and now we're looking at 23 million people marching towards starvation," he added. "The next six months are going to be catastrophic. It is going to be hell on earth."

On 8th November, John Simpson, reporting on Radio 4's Today programme, almost breaks down describing the plight of Fatema, a widow and her seven children aged from three to 16 (*still available at <u>BBC Radio 4 – Today 08/11/2021</u> on the BBC website*). Under the last government she was able to get fairly regular supplies of flour and oil, but those stopped directly the Taliban took over. Fatema used to make a little money weeding the soil for a nearby farmer, but now thanks to the drought there is no work for her. "I'm frightened," she says. "I've got nothing to give the children. Soon I'll have to go out and beg."

The winter will very soon be here, and huge numbers of people like Fatema and her family will be on the very brink of catastrophe. Living in one of the richest countries in the world, can we stand by and let this disaster unfurl? Please donate to one of the emergency appeals: the UN World Food Programme (<u>www.wfp.org/afghanistan</u>) or the British Red Cross (<u>www.donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/afghanistan-crisis-appeal</u>).

Judith Simpson



Where is the Vicar this Sunday?

The Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature is a conference for biblical scholars that meets in the USA once a year – in 2021 this will be in San Antonio, Texas. On Sunday 21st November our Vicar, Dr Alan Garrow, will be participating in a debate about whether Matthew's Gospel was written with direct knowledge of Luke's Gospel. This theory is known as 'The Matthean Posteriority Hypothesis' (an overfancy way of saying 'Matthew wrote last').



Refreshments are served after each of our Sunday morning services from



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





St Peter's gives out food every day to those in need. Thank you so much if you remembered to bring some groceries or toiletries to put in the hamper recently.

Carols by Candlelight St Peter's Church 6:00 pm Thursday 2nd December *Come and enjoy an evening of Christmas carols, featuring a choir and acclaimed harpist and singer, Lucy Bunce. There will be a retiring collection for:*



Doors open at 5:30 pm for you to enjoy Crafts stall – Mulled wine – Mince pies



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

Next Week's Deadline

The deadline for the next edition of the Weekly News (28th November) will be noon on Wednesday 24th November. Please send any items (including photos) to Alan Garrow **or** to Marian Chambers (addresses below).

Key Contacts

Vicar:

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