



Weekly News

24th December 2023

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Eve

www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk

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

Happy Christmas - in the middle of the mess

The catalogue of catastrophe just gets longer, and the prospect of a brighter dawn continues to feel distant. Things are bad at the moment and yet it is all too easy to imagine how they could get a lot worse. Where, in all this gloom, can we find hope?

Jesus was born in the middle of the mess of our human story. Conflict, displacement, homelessness, poverty and oppression were all part of the landscape surrounding the manger. This was the world Jesus came to save. And, as the terrible events that fill our new bulletins continue to demonstrate, we still desperately need such a saviour.



Here at St Peter's we are also in the middle – in the middle of our town. My prayer this Christmas is that we will be, and ever-increasingly become, a faithful sign of the self-giving God who gets involved in the middle of the mess. For this reason, I have the confidence to wish you 'Happy Christmas'! Not because life is easy – it really is not – but because, in the middle of the rubble, Jesus is here.

Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's

The Boxing Day Pilgrimage to Fountains Abbey

The traditional Boxing Day Pilgrimage, from Ripon Cathedral to Fountains Abbey, will take place again on Tuesday. 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.



Join us to bring in the New Year!



On 31st December, New Year's Eve, we are holding two special services: **Pray for 2024** - come and light a candle and pray for our nation and for the world, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Then later our atmospheric, candlelit **Watchnight Service** starts at 11:30 pm.

St Peter's Ladies who Lunch

The **Ladies who Lunch** are meeting this week on Friday 29th December at 12:15 pm at a town centre café for food and fellowship. Please call or text Sue Heapy (07540 355 305) or send her an email (brynsusie@hotmail.com) if you would like to come.

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

1:00 pm

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



Join us this CHRISTMAS

St Peter's Christmas Fair
10:00 am – 4:00 pm 2nd December
Advent Candle Service
6:30 pm 3rd December
Saturday Shopper's Carols
4:00 pm 9th and 16th December
10:00 am – 12:00 pm 23rd December
St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival
9th – 16th December
Nine Lessons and Carols
6:30 pm 17th 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

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

St Peter's 2023 Christmas Tree Festival

*Best Adult Group –
The Breakfast Club*

*Best Individual Tree –
Frances Roxby-Proud
and Leigh Thompson*

*Best Children's Group –
10th Harrogate
St Peter's Guides*

Thank you to this
year's organisers -
Annabel Hutchinson
and Amy Moseley –
for all your hard
work. All the trees
will be on display
over the Christmas
period.

*Runner-up –
St Peter's CE Primary
School*

*Runner-up –
Sanctuary, our youth
group*

Today's Services: 24th December 2023

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Eve



8:30 Holy Communion

9:30 Family Communion

*There is **no** Sunday Club for school age children today, but all children and their parents are welcome to gather in the café area, where there are toys and activities to share during our Family Communion Service.*

Hymns **438** Once in Royal David's city; **602** While shepherds watched;
243 In the bleak midwinter: **491** See Him lying on a bed of straw

Readings 2 Samuel 7 v 1 – 11 and v 16
Luke 1 v 26 - 38

Preacher: Alan Garrow

11:00 Choral Matins

Setting Naylor in G (Benedicite)

Hymns 58, 35, 601

Psalm 144

Readings Isaiah 7 v 10 - 16
Romans 16 v 25 to end

Anthem I sing of a maid (*Jack Longstaff*)

Preacher: Sarah Martin

3:00 and 4:30 Christingle Services

Preacher: Karin Shaw

6:30 Carols for Christmas Eve by candlelight

Anthems: Midwinter (*Bob Chilcott*)
The twelve days of Christmas (*John Rutter*)

Preacher: Steve Gibbin

11:30 Midnight Mass

Setting Jackson in G

Hymns *Please see service sheet*

Readings Isaiah 52 v 7 - 10
John 1 v 1 - 14

Anthems The Word made Flesh (*Philip Wilby*)
Star Carol (*John Rutter*)

Preacher: Alan Garrow



Our Duty Wardens today are:
Sian Lockwood and Rachel Fell;
Kate Blake and Mo Atkinson;
and Ian Burt and Paul
Medforth

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:

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

RIP Jean Holden

Also in our prayers this week:

Mon	Chris Clayton, Associate Vicar <i>The Children's Society</i> , supporting vulnerable children
Tues	<i>Mission Possible UK</i> , serving the poor in Africa and Eastern Europe President Volodymyr Zelensky and the people of Ukraine
Wed	Sian Lockwood, Churchwarden All our Duty Wardens and Sidespeople
Thurs	The 999 and NHS 111 call centre staff All those working over the Christmas period
Fri	Rachel Fell, PCC secretary Our Deanery Representatives
Sat	St Peter's Music Group Stewart Davies, Lay Reader

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.

Mon	<i>Christmas Day</i> Psalm 110 Isaiah 62 v 1 - 5 Matthew 1 v 18 to end
Tues	<i>Stephen, First Martyr</i> Psalm 13 Jeremiah 26 v 12 - 15 Acts 6
Wed	<i>John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> Psalm 21 Exodus 33 v 12 to end 1 John 2 v 1 - 11
Thurs	<i>The Holy Innocents</i> Psalm 36 Genesis 37 v 13 - 20 Matthew 18 v 1 - 10
Fri	Psalm 19 Jonah 1 Colossians 1 v 1 - 14
Sat	Psalm 113 Jonah 2 Colossians 1 v 15 - 23

The Collect for The Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Common Worship)

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.

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

O Lord, raise up (we pray thee) thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honour and glory, world without end.

What's on This Week

Mon 25th

Christmas Day

See full details of services on the next page

1:00 pm Christmas Lunch is served

Tues 26th

St Stephen's Day (Boxing Day)

Wed 27th

10:30 – 11:00 am Café Reflexions

Thurs 28th

9:30 – 11:00 am The Toddler Group at St Peter's

11:00 am Holy Communion

Fri 29th

9:30 am AA meeting in the Music Room

10:00 am – 12:00 pm St Peter's Cleaning Team

12:15 pm St Peter's *Ladies who Lunch* meet in a café in town

Sat 30th

Sun 31st

The First Sunday of Christmas

New Year's Eve

1:00 – 1:30 pm Sunday Lunch

7:30 – 8:30 pm AA meeting in the Brostoff Hall



PIANO LESSONS

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with enhanced DBS and over 30
years teaching experience*

Contact: Jude Williamson

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FREE TRIAL LESSON



The flowers in Church today are in memory of
Brian and Anne Crawford, along with the
birthday of **Derek Clarkson** on 10th December,
and the anniversary of **Gill Gibson** on
15th December.

Thank you to all the sponsors

Next Sunday 31st December

The First Sunday of Christmas

New Year's Eve

8:30 Holy Communion

9:30 Family Communion

11:00 Choral Matins

4:00 Prayers for the New
Year 2024

11:30 Watchnight Service

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.

Tomorrow's Services: 25th December 2023

CHRISTMAS DAY



8:30 **Holy Communion**

9:30 **Family Communion**

Hymns **36** Away in a manger; Candle in the window; **408** O come all ye faithful; **155** Hark! the herald angels sing

Readings Isaiah 9 v 2 - 7
Luke 2 v 1 - 14

Preacher: Steve Gibbin

Our Duty Wardens today are:

Sian Lockwood, Richard Bion
and Carrie Brown

11:00 **Christmas Day Worship**

Hymns *Please see service sheet*

Readings Isaiah 9 v 2 - 7
Luke 2 v 8 - 20

Anthems Ding dong merrily on high (arr. *Charles Wood*)
I saw three ships (arr. *John Longstaff*)

Preacher: Alan Garrow

The Collect for Christmas Day (Common Worship)

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God.

The Collect for Christmas Day

(Book of Common Prayer)

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin:

Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit;

through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

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 worship online



Karin Shaw was live.

1 h · ZOOM Video Livestream · Prod ·

Morning Prayer for Tuesday
8am

We are continuing to live stream Morning and Evening Prayer on Facebook and Zoom at 8:00 am and 5:00 pm from Monday to Saturday. To join in follow the [links](#) on our website.

The Next Deadline

The deadline for the next full edition of the Weekly News (7th January 2024) will be noon on Wednesday 3rd January. Please send any items (including photos) to **The Weekly News Editor**, Marian Chambers, or to the Vicar, 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.

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