



this
month
includes...

December
2025

Rector's Journal

Poppy Pictures

Advent Lights

Thank you,
Richard

On this Rock

Reflecting Jesus...

Wednesday: I am in the office when a colleague offers me an "angelic card" reading. This is a pack of cards featuring various angels and their messages. You tap the pack three times, and select one card at random. My angel is Adriana, who advises me to take decisions based on my intuition (which, strangely, was exactly what I needed to hear at that time.) A less spiritually developed colleague has been banned as he is interested only in "hot" angels. The conversation flows smoothly into whether cats go to heaven. I lose this on a 3 to 1 vote; despite me invoking a Pope who said animals don't have souls.



Thursday: A funeral, and today the family have either requested, or felt they had to have, an address. So I am talking about heaven, and the Resurrection of Jesus. To

an outside observer, what is the difference between my colleague's angel cards, and my preaching about life after death for a faithful Christian? To a large percentage of our village both of us are talking nonsense. If you are looking for spiritual enlightenment, why bother with the church when there is a whole supermarket of supernatural offers to choose from?

Well, the church has been here before, St. Paul got himself into the very diverse Roman and Greek cities of his day, and argued with all-comers. He knew he had to sell the Christian message, and his basic point was this : **taste and see**. Jesus

really is alive, and the community of believers **really does work**, and it **really does make a difference**.

So, that's back to you and me again. It's **our task...**
see overleaf



...to create and nurture our church in Addingham. And the church we form here is a reflection of just what we believe. Can we make it a **living reflection of Jesus**?

Mark



PS C S Lewis thought there would be animals in heaven for our entertainment.

During December, in the hall foyer there'll be a pin board for Christmas cards, if you want to use it to send a greeting to your church family.

If you can't get here in person at Christmas and don't have the internet to join our services by **livestream**, or to view a **recording** later, then do watch the **BBC 1 Christmas Day 10am** service, it's from **Bradford Cathedral** this year.

A Christmas Alphabet

thanks to Laura at dtlk-bible.com

A is for **Angels**, appearing so bright, telling of Jesus that first Christmas night.

B is for **Bethlehem**, crowded & old, birthplace of Jesus by prophet foretold.

C is for **Cattle**, their manger His bed, there in the trough where He laid His head.

D is for **David** & his ancient throne promised forever to Jesus alone.

E is for **East**, where shone the bright star which Magi on camels followed afar.

F is for **Frankincense**, with myrrh & gold, brought by the Wise Men as Matthew told.

G is for **God**, who from heaven above sent down to mankind the Son of His love.

H is for **Herod**, whose murderous scheme was told to Joseph in a nocturnal dream.

I is for **Immanuel**, "God with us," for Christ brought man back to the Father's house.

J is for **Joseph** so noble & just, obeying God's word with absolute trust.

K is for **King**. A true king He would be, coming in power & authority.

L is for **Love** that He brought down to earth God enfleshed in lowly birth.

M is for **Mary**, His mother so brave, counting God faithful & mighty to save.

N is for **Night**, when the Saviour was born for nations of earth & people forlorn.

O is for **Omega**, meaning "the last;" He's eternal present, future & past.

P is for **Prophets**, when living on earth foretold His redemption & blessed birth.

Q is for **Quickly**, as shepherds who heard hastened to act on that heavenly word.

R is for **Rejoice**. The sorrow of sin banished forever when Jesus comes in.

S is for **Saviour**. To be this He came; the angel of God assigned Him His name.

T is for **Tidings** of joy, not of danger, telling of Him who was laid in a manger.

U is for **Us**, to whom Jesus was given to show us the way & take us to heaven.

V is for **Virgin**, foretold by the sage, God's revelation on prophecy's page.

W is for **Wonderful**, His works & His words, King of all Kings and Lord of all Lords.

X is for **Christ**. It's X in the Greek, Anointed, Messiah, mighty, yet meek.

Y is for **Yes**, called God's Yes in His Word; God's answer to all Jesus the Lord.

Z is for **Zeal** as it burned in Christ's heart. Lord, by thy Spirit to us zeal impart.

Our **Advent Bible study** has two sessions still to come during **December (Thursdays 4th and 18th)** at **3pm** in the hall. We're learning from the different Nativity narratives in the Gospels – come and join in one or both!



Thank you to Sue and all her team for the lovely poppies for Remembrance...



...both in church and in the churchyard



Following a idea from one of the young mums of how to encourage more families to step through the church door this Christmas, we've borrowed a few solar lights and a Star of Bethlehem, and from the middle of Advent we'll be trying them out to show the way to church.

The theme of the special **Messy Church** on **14th Dec @ 4pm** is **Christingle**. Do come and be a part of this different way of meeting as family-friendly church.



We'll make Christingles in the hall, share a snack, then take them to church for a Christingle service for all the family - looking forward to seeing you there!



There's a concert at St. Peter's on **Tuesday 16th December at 7pm** (free entry but donations welcomed for the **Salvation Army Christmas Appeal**) with the **Fairfax Singers** returning to lead **community carols**, and **Christmas favourites** old and new. Refreshments too. Come for a dose of Christmas Cheer, bring friends as well.

On this Rock...

The magnesian limestone used at York Minster came in part from a quarry at Thevesdale near Tadcaster, owned by the **Vavasour** family, long-time Lords of the Manor here in Addingham (see *13th Century section of our church history webpages*). When we visit that mighty building or perhaps see pictures of it on Christmas cards, let its stones remind us of St. Peter, named by Jesus as **the Rock** he would use to build not a construction but a **church community** of love and faith and outreach - and rejoice that we who are known as "St. Peter's" share the honour and challenge of that same calling today.



Wulpherans

The annual **Pea and Pie Supper** was held on 4th November. Fine food and cakes including Parkin Pigs were provided by committee members. This was followed by an enjoyable **Quiz** devised by Anne Hodgson with some ingenious questions and all the answers being Botanical Plants. Our next meeting is:

Tuesday 2nd December

7.30pm

Annual Dinner @

The Craven Heifer

Speak with Joy to book



A message from Richard:

This is my last write up for Wulpherans and I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a pleasant and peaceful New Year

Thank you Richard for your many contributions to Source through the years, we will miss your articles, Peace Points and Wulpherans' reports.

From the Registers

Baptism

30th Nov Ruairi Blocksidge

Funerals

11th Nov Brenda Crooks

12th Nov Jo Rickaby

20th Nov Pam Hall

Happy Christmas to you
from all at St. Peter's

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Find out more

www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk

St Peters Church Addingham

For up-to-date details of all services and activities, please look at our website, follow us on  Facebook or pick up a "What's On" leaflet.

Everyone is welcome and you can also join with St. Peter's online; we livestream many of our services to our  Facebook page, so take a look.

You can also follow  **C.a.f.e** – **children and family events** at St. Peter's Addingham

Men's Social

Our next meeting is

Monday 1st December at 7.30pm

all welcome to join us for a chat in
The Fleece (left hand bar)

Watch all **St. Peter's monthly Podcasts** via the church website – click **Online**, scroll down to **Podcasts**, then click **Watch on Vimeo**

Peace point

Peace is a state of
stillness, silence or serenity

Carbon net-Zero St. Peter's display at the Climate Action Addingham event in November reported progress towards the CofE aim to be carbon net-zero by 2030, and lifestyle changes made by church members to reduce their own carbon footprints. There were lots of good conversations, Fairtrade chocolate to share, informative displays and thought-provoking talks, including a presentation by the Church Orchard Group who also sold delicious Apple Juice.

TODAY'S TIP for saving carbon (and water!):
use a shower-timer to help you keep your showering to under four minutes, which reduces energy use.



photo by Rick Bottarbee