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**February  
2025**

this  
month  
includes...

Rector's Journal

Sudan bulletin

Children's Church  
news

More on Matilda  
by Robin

plus  
EcoChurch update  
Drama in Bingley

**Together...**

**Thursday:** Thursday is *Church Times* day, and even though the *Church Times* is stunningly tedious, I am addicted. It features a lot of bad (church) news at the moment.

Resignation of the Archbishop, struggling dioceses, and the imminent Church split over same-sex marriage.

I wonder if the last 30+ years have seen me shackled to a doomed organisation.

Cheer up, I tell myself. You've got two PCC sub-committees in the morning!

**Tuesday:** Strangely, a late night visit to a dying

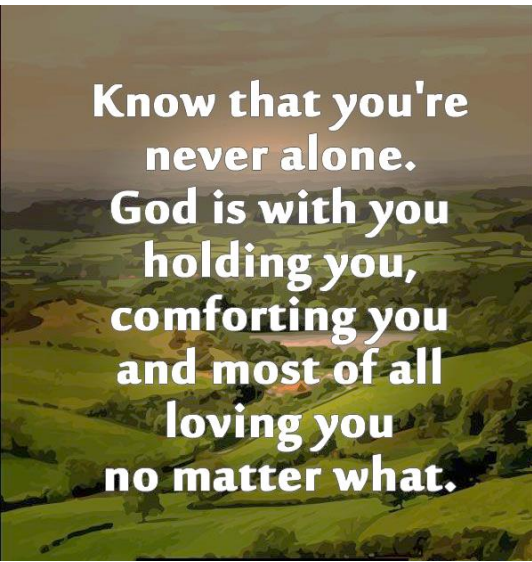
parishioner is a **source of hope**. I am doing the Final Prayers, and in the room is also a nurse. He joins in enthusiastically with loud "amens" and "alleluias". **Together** we commend a soul to its new life.

**Together**, Christians in Addingham are keeping the flame of faith burning in a largely indifferent world. **Be of good cheer**, whatever else is going on, we are **never alone**.

*Mark*



**Know that you're  
never alone.  
God is with you  
holding you,  
comforting you  
and most of all  
loving you  
no matter what.**



## Lorinda writes...

Did you know that Oxfam sell Fair Trade greetings cards? This lovely handmade Fair Trade birthday card was purchased from the Oxfam book shop in Harrogate and is made by young people in Rwanda, using handmade paper from local office waste. The card is also signed on the reverse by the young person who made the card and benefits from a fair trade job.



St. Peter's has now qualified as a **SILVER EcoChurch!**



### Who do you see?

*"I tell you truly, what you do for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me..."*

### Messy Church

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4pm**

**activities, fun, music, a meal - a different way to meet with God, especially for families. Bring your friends!**

*Live in such a way that you are living proof of a loving God*

**Echoes of Cadfael...** Inspired by **Ian Aldred's** article last month about the regal 'Matildas' (take a look back at the 'family tree' in that piece), **Robin Leleux** shares more of the history of 'Empress' Matilda, who you might recognise from Ellis Peter's stories about 'Brother Cadfael'...

Born in 1102, **Matilda** was shipped off to Germany at the age of 8, and by 12 was married to **Emperor Henry V**. She regarded Germany as her country and spoke German. She ruled wisely and sympathetically when her husband was away, and continued as regent after he died in 1125. She bitterly opposed her next, political, marriage to **Geoffrey of Anjou**. They soon quarrelled, but nevertheless a son, the future Henry II, eventually arrived.



On the death of her **father (Henry I)** in 1135, she quickly seized **Normandy**, but it was four years before she landed in England. By this time, her **cousin Stephen** had been crowned and had time to consolidate his position, though not his authority as several earls were eagerly seeking to extend their territories whilst others resorted to banditry. Bitter **civil war** broke out between Stephen and 'Empress'

Matilda. She set up court at Westminster but before she could get herself crowned she was driven out by Londoners tired of her arrogant and overbearing manner. Besieged in Oxford by Stephen, she escaped in winter across the snow, dressed in white. Both sides won some victories but neither was strong enough to dominate the whole country: the civil war was a **stalemate**, and in 1148 Matilda returned to Normandy, where she managed her domains effectively for twenty years. Her final achievement in England was to get Stephen to recognise her son Henry as his successor; and so **Henry II**, one of England's greatest kings, united England and Normandy again.



## Sudan bulletin

shared by Pat Laycock



The latest news coming through from **our Link Diocese** in Sudan is of very terrible conditions there, as the civil war continues unabated and famine is now widespread. The United Nations says that the country is **the world's worst humanitarian crisis**. There are ethnically-targetted **mass killings** and **destruction** in villages, and **attacks** even in refugee camps. The World Food Programme has extreme difficulty moving **aid** across warzones. Archbishop Ezekiel reports that in Khartoum, despite the conditions, "**The churches are full of Christians during worship and all the denominations work together in the spirit of ecumenism**". (More details are on the Sudan Prayer Board at the back of church.)

**PLEASE PRAY** with and for the people and churches of Sudan.

If you are able, you can help by **donating** via the World Food Programme at [www.wfp.org/emergencies/sudan-emergency](http://www.wfp.org/emergencies/sudan-emergency) or you can give a cash donation via Philippa in the church office (Tuesday and Thursday mornings).

Every Sunday at 10am Beth and Tamsin now run

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children and their parents start in church, then the children enjoy a separate session in the hall, before returning to church to share what they've been doing.

All school age children welcome.

Speak with Tamsin to find out more, or see CAFE Facebook or [stpetersaddingham.org.uk/life-at-st-peters/children-families/](http://stpetersaddingham.org.uk/life-at-st-peters/children-families/)



**Don't judge someone just because they sin differently from you...**

## The only Easter egg with Fairtrade chocolate AND an Easter storybook!

*If you have children or grandchildren, and want to treat them while sharing the Easter message, this could be for what you're looking for!*

The eggs are made using Fairtrade sugar and cocoa, blended into chocolate using a Belgian recipe. There are large single eggs, or boxes of smaller eggs to share, plus a 24 page **Easter story-activity book** all about the first Easter - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day - and with fun activities too.

These **Real Easter** eggs aren't sold in the shops, so order online [realeasteregg.co.uk/](http://realeasteregg.co.uk/) or by 'phone 01925 877004 - they sell out fast, so don't delay!



Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting  
**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Feb**  
**7.30pm**



Drop in! The door's open at

## ALPHA

at The Fleece  
Wednesdays 7pm

life, faith & everything

[stpetersaddingham.org.uk/alpha](http://stpetersaddingham.org.uk/alpha)



## Peace point

Peace begins with a smile  
*Mother Teresa*

free!

## I AM MARK

**Bingley Parish Church**  
**Sunday 6th April, 2.30pm**

Action-packed with no less than 19 miracles, the book of **MARK** was written to be shared live with 1st century audiences. This dramatic **solo performance** by Stefan Smart brings

us the story as originally **narrated**, with its **characters** and nuances brought to life. Bring your friends and imagine yourselves in Mark's first audience as you experience the Good News of Jesus in all its urgency and

## I AM MARK

A Daring New Staging of the Gospel of Mark

Performed by Stefan Smart  
Directed by Lisa Gilmour

One Man  
One Chair  
One Incredible  
True Story

Book your  
**FREE**  
ticket



"Sometimes it takes a living voice, like this one, to make you hear the Bible for the first time."  
*Archbishop Rowan Williams*

For more information go to  
[www.iam-mark.com](http://www.iam-mark.com)

FREE tickets: [www.tickettailor.com/events/allsaintschurch1/1490417](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/allsaintschurch1/1490417)

**2:30 pm Sunday 6 April 2025**

All Saints Parish Church,  
Old Main St, Bingley, BD16 2RH



power, challenge and comfort.

**Book your FREE tickets now**  
**before they sell out!**

[www.tickettailor.com/events/allsaintschurch1/1490417](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/allsaintschurch1/1490417)

**Rector:** Revd Mark Cannon 07866 298 892

**Children and Family worker:** Tamsin Carr  
[childrenandfamilywork@stpetersaddingham.org.uk](mailto:childrenandfamilywork@stpetersaddingham.org.uk)

**Churchwarden:**  
Margaret Widdowson  
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**Parish Office:** 01943 830 306  
[contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk](mailto:contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk)

## Find out more

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

St Peters Church Addingham

01943 830 306

[contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk](mailto:contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk)

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

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

### From the Registers

#### Baptism

19<sup>th</sup> January Matilda Kathryn Hopkin

#### Funerals

3<sup>rd</sup> January John Prophet

7<sup>th</sup> January Gerard Litten

**The snowdrops in the churchyard are out again!** They're planted at each grave



(thank you, Derek!). It's worth a trip just to enjoy their beauty – come and see!