



this  
month  
includes...

December 2022

Travelling Crib

Reverse Advent

Nature Notes

*from Margaret*

Biblical Fruit

*from Richard*

plus

Thoughts and prayers

Podcast preview

## Travelling Crib

During December, a set of crib figures will be “travelling” around the village, spending each night in a different home, reminding us that Advent is like the journey of Mary and Joseph towards the arrival of God with us at Christmas.

A lamb from the crib set will stay on in each house and be brought back to re-join the crib at the Family Christmas Service in church at 4pm on Christmas Eve. If you would like to be one of the homes hosting the Travelling Crib overnight and delivering it on to the next host, please speak with Tamsin asap.



*You, your family, friends and neighbours are invited to join in any and all of the Christmas services and events at St. Peter's – see posters, What's On, Facebook and our website for details.*

Love to you for  
Christmas  
from St. Peter's

# Nature Notes for November

Margaret Spencer

The garden birds have been busy as ever. Lots of Sparrows are here plus Blue Tits and our lovely Robin and Wren enjoying feeding on the lawn.



I was reading that the first swans are arriving soon, they come all the way from Iceland after a non-stop, 700 mile flight. They are resident here in the North of England but can best be seen at the Wetlands

Trust, Welney, Norfolk where they are fed by lamplight in the evenings! I was looking in



my bird book and noted that some swans and geese come all the way from Siberia - simply fantastic. I just love seeing them arrive, landing in the very same fields that they have used year upon year. It gives you a feeling of real courage and thankfulness to think that they have made it for another year. It seems to be such an amazing feat of endurance and navigation.

A pair of squirrels have been busy across the road in amongst the chestnut trees. They jump wildly from tree to tree almost without taking a breath!

There was a piece in the Yorkshire Post about night skies, it mentions the fact that we might see quite a few shooting stars travelling "at an impressive speed across the night sky of around 160,000mph!" Look up at the sky facing East after midnight, we just might catch a glimpse of them - here's hoping!!

## Podcast Preview The Darkest Night

"Joy to the World," the hymn goes, but not everyone feels joyful during Christmas. Festive lights and songs tell us to be happy, but maybe instead we are feeling the darkness of a recent bereavement or anxiety about a relationship. How do we look for light and hope in the darkness?

You can watch this podcast via the website later in December



*Compassionate God,  
you know the pain in our hearts.  
Our experience of Christmas has changed.  
We can find ourselves adrift.  
The memories of what was,  
the fears of what may be, can stifle us.  
Please, be near us every minute of  
this night, and help us find our way.  
Help us glimpse your light,  
however distant,  
shining for us in the darkness.  
Loving God,  
hear and answer our prayer.*

There is always someone at St. Peter's for you to talk to.

## REVERSE

### ADVENT CALENDAR

This year, instead of just opening a window on your Advent Calendar (and maybe taking out a chocolate), how about putting something into a box each day - a tin of fruit, a packet of cereal, a tube of toothpaste or whatever - so that by the time Christmas comes you have a gift ready for the Salvation Army foodbank for those in severe hardship - bring it to church and we will deliver it for you.

# BC-AD by UAFanthorpe

This was the moment when Before turned into After, and the future's uninvented timekeepers presented arms.

This was the moment when nothing happened. Only dull peace sprawled boringly over the earth.

This was the moment when even energetic Romans could find nothing better to do than counting heads in remote provinces.

And this was the moment when a few farm workers and three members of an obscure Persian sect walked haphazard by starlight straight into the kingdom of heaven.

## From the Registers

### Funerals

Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	Desmond Stapleton
Nov 9 <sup>th</sup>	David Rogerson
Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>	John Walmsley
Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Dorothy Vorster

## Thoughts & Prayers



Now is the time to wake out of sleep

## Christmas : not presents, but God's presence

### Biblical insight : Fruit

by Richard Thackrah

The fruit of the Holy Spirit basically, as stated in Galatians 5:22-23, “produces many kinds of fruit in our lives: **love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.**” Fruit grows because the plant is Rooted in fertile soil, and indeed God’s life-giving Spirit is fertile. James (3:17-18) takes this further: “the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure and then peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit is impartial and sincere. The peace makers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.” Psalm 1:3 is about a tree by streams of water that “bringeth forth its fruits in its season amid leaves which do not wither”.



One of the most well-known verses in the Bible is in Genesis, namely “Be fruitful and multiply”. A fruitful life is one that is filled with God’s grace and favour. God wants us to bear fruit of a Christian character and with a growth in converts. The vine tree is Jesus himself and Christians are its branches. It means **every Christian is connected to Christ and is part of the body of Christ.** When Paul talks about the fruit of the spirit he refers to fruit that comes from the spirit of God.

Paul was probably the most fruitful servant of the Lord in the New Testament. Writing from prison to the Philippians (1:11), he emphasises that the fruit of righteousness is the outgrowth of righteousness in the heart though belief in Jesus and to the glory and praise of God. Matthew (15:19) states that the fruit of life is a direct result of whatever controls our hearts. Since we are created in God’s image we are to be fruitful or creative, in other words like all fruit springing from a seed.

*Richard is now taking a break from writing biblically-based articles for Source because of other commitments, but will continue to share insights into peace – thanks for all your contributions, Richard.*



## Wulfherans report

At the Wulfherans meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November, grace was said by Chris Jackson and over 30 members sat down to a Pie & Pea supper baked by Wendy and seasonal parkin pigs baked by Christine.

Two quizzes chosen by Joy were enjoyed by members: "European Capital Cities"



and "Trivia Questions" on a wide range of topics!! Thank you to all concerned in making the evening so enjoyable.

*The next meeting is Party Night which will be on 6th December at 7p.m.*

## Advent : don't rush, just hush

### Christmas Cheer

Concert by Fairfax Singers

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup> December 7pm**

no ticket needed - donations to Salvation Army Christmas Appeal  
*Invite your friends!*

## Derek's woodturning gifts

Derek Higgs has made a range of beautiful wood-turned Christmas tree decorations - candles, bells, stars, trees, snowmen and tiny presents! You can see them in the hall during after-service coffee each Sunday morning.

Donations for these hand-made items are to support the work of St. Peter's – thankyou, Derek and Joan!



## Contacts

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## Find out more

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For up-to-date details of all services and activities, please look at our website or follow us on Facebook.

**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



## Thanks from Sue S

Thankyou to the volunteers who helped to decorate the church for Remembrance Sunday. A very happy morning was had by all.

**Don't forget to watch the Advent Message each day of Advent on our Facebook page**