



Carols on High Green going ahead, but sadly All Saints cancelled this year, so here's a memory of good times that will hopefully return soon.



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DECEMBER & JANUARY

- **4 Sat** 7pm Angrove Singers Concert in Church strictly by ticket only
- 5 Sun ADVENT 2 8am Holy Communion: 9.15am Parish Communion; 11am Holy Communion at St. Oswald's; 11.30am & 1pm Holy Baptism; 4pm Freemason's Carol Service.
- **6** Mon 2pm Coffee Lounge Carol Service.
- 7 Tues 9.45am Little Fishes in Church.
- **8** Wed 10am Holy Communion.
- 12 Sun ADVENT 3 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion, Zoom & Facebook; 4pm Cafe Church in Church Hall.
- 13 Mon 3pm Fry Court Christmas Carol Service
- **14 Tues** 9.45am Little Fishes in Church (Last one before Christmas)
- 15 Wed 10am Holy Communion.
- 19 Sun ADVENT 4 (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion in Church, Zoom & Facebook; 11am Christmas All Age Service at St. Oswald's; 6pm Christmas Carol Service
- 26 Sun Saint Stephen's Day 9.30am Parish Communion

January 2022

- 2 Sun An Early EPIPHANY 8am Holy Communion: 9.15am Parish Communion; 11am Holy Communion at St. Oswald's.
- **9 Sun** The Baptism of Jesus 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion, Zoom & Facebook; 4pm Cafe Church in Church Hall.
- 16 Sun EPIPHANY 2 (Foodbank Sunday) 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion in Church, Zoom & Facebook; Ham All Age Service.
- **Sun EPIPHANY 4** 8am Holy Communion; 9.15am Parish Communion, Zoom & Facebook; 4pm Cafe Church in Church Hall.
- 30 Sun EPIPHANY 5 8am Holy Communion: 9.15am Parish Communion; 11am Holy Communion at St. Oswald's

Prayer For The Day Every Weekday at 8.45am on Zoom & Facebook Live on Daily link below.

Daily Morning Worship ID: 895 1102 4740 Password: 450872

Christmas Services 2021

Sunday 5 December

4.00pm Freemason's Carol Service in Christ Church **

Monday 6 December

2.00pm Coffee Lounge Carol Service - All Welcome **

Monday 13 December

3.00pm Fry Court Carol Service **

Thursday 16 December

7.30pm Christmas Carol Service at Saint Oswald's

Sunday 19 December (Morning Services as normal)

11.00am All Age Christmas Service at St Oswald's, Newton

6.00pm Christ Church Christmas Carol Service**

Christmas Eve

2.00pm Christmas Communion in the Coffee Lounge

5.00pm Crib Service**

8.00pm Christmas Communion at St Oswald's (Note change of time)

11.00pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity (Note change of time)

Christmas Day

8.30am Christmas Communion (Prayer Book Service)

9.30am Christmas Communion & Carols

Boxing Day - St Stephen's Day - Sunday 26th

9.30am Holy Communion with Carols

All Services are in Christ Church, unless otherwise stated in italics

** Denotes that a collection is taken for the Christmas Appeal

Please note, due to Covid there will be no All Saints Carol Service this year and the Schools Carol Service will be recorded







Being Part of a Bigger Story

Looking through my story books each week in search of something new for Friday's Prayer for the Day and I came across this gem.



A hunter in India with a sling had come to the end of his stones and wanted one to sling at a bird in a tree. He saw some fine stones lying near, and took up a handful to hurl one by one with his sling. Without very much success, however, for the bird flew gaily off, and the stones fell into the river, only one remaining of the handful he had taken. He was going to throw it away, but seeing it was pretty, he saved it as a plaything for his little daughter.

On the way home, he met a diamond merchant, and showed him the stone. The merchant saw at once that it was a diamond, and offered a large sum for it. The hunter started lamenting his bad fortune, and on being asked why he was so disconsolate, he explained that it was because he had not realised the value of the stones he had thrown into the river. Had he but saved them, a fortune might have been his. They were now lost to him for ever. So is every day of life precious - it can never be recovered.

What else are we are in danger of losing if we don't value them, and what will happen if they go?

The Church no longer has the influence it had, and having seen how it has behaved in some ways in the past then this is no surprise, but don't confuse Institutions with Faith. People still are searching for meaning and the Christian Faith has so much to give to change us for the good. Numbers attending may be smaller in the UK, but no-one comes through fear today, and still lots of people still turn to Churches for life events like birth, marriage and death. We want something that makes us feel part of a bigger story.

The Monarchy is also under attack both from without and within and its just the huge respect people have for Her Majesty the Queen that is keeping things at bay. Republican voices are stronger, the makeup of the Country is now very different, and to be frank certain members of the Royal family have caused huge problems. The Queen has given remarkable service and her values seem to be inherited by Prince William, so let's hope they weather the storm. Times change, for who would ever have thought we would be now be so critical of Winston Churchill when just 19 years ago he was voted the Most Famous Briton and was greatly respected?

The family also is changing. It used to be mum and dad plus 2.4 children, but that model is changing all the time with the (rightful) inclusion of same sex couples, but there's also a whole developing gender issue that many find confusing. In seeking to include the new let's be careful we don't exclude the old.

Some things need to change in all these areas if we are to move with the times, but if we remove such foundations of society, what will we put in their place to help us tell our story and be part of a bigger narrative?

We need points of reference and to be part of a bigger story, that is why all across the world we will soon hear, In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David ...

Christmas - how God shows us that through the faith of a young family we can be part of God's big story of salvation. That's the sort of story that can still change the world for the good. Happy Christmas.

Paul



The Memory Tree

The Memory Tree will be up in Church from 3rd December. It is a way of remembering loved ones who have died, but are still in our hearts, especially at this time of year.

Please come into Church and write a message or simply their name on one of the cards and hang it on the tree.

Any donations made will be sent to support Herriott Hospice Homecare who do so much to support the terminally ill in our area.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Anyone wishing to sponsor a Christmas arrangement please contact Marina Charlton Tel. 01642 723087. The suggested amount is £30 and a small laminated card will be placed by the arrangement recalling the memory in which it is given.



Faith in Nature: Eco Tip 2

I enjoy both beef (and lamb!) and mushrooms and so I won't be switching to a completely meat free diet, but it is clear that if I want to reduce my carbon footprint, I need to eat more mushrooms and less beef!



Numbers vary depending on the source you go to but there is no doubt that meat from British

farmers is more environmentally friendly than overseas meat; and its also irrefutable that mushrooms are even better for the planet.

Mushrooms create 0.5 Kilograms of CO2 per pound (454g) of food consumed. In comparison per CO2 per pound (454g) consumed; chicken has 3.1 kg, pork has 5.5 kg and salmon has 5.4 kg.

The carbon footprint of a kilo of British beef has been estimated at around 17.12kg CO2 compared to a global average of 46kg CO2 per kilo. The carbon footprint of a kilo of lamb produced in England or Wales is around 14.6kg CO2 compared to a global average of 24kg CO2 per kilo.

75% of our mushrooms in Britain come from the UK and Ireland but it could be 100% - we have the capacity to make sure that all mushrooms sold in British supermarkets come from UK and Ireland but it needs us to ask and

insist on using home grown mushrooms.

So putting it simply - if I care about God's creation firstly make sure my meat and mushrooms are British and secondly increase my mushroom consumption and reduce my meat.

Geoff



Full Moon over All Saints Church



Back on General Synod

Nick Land was once again elected to represent York Diocese on the General Synod of the Church of England and is pictured here in Westminster with other York Delegates ready for their first meeting. It's good to know that Stokesley Deanery and Great Ayton have a voice at the top table.

BRINGERS OF LIGHT

As a result of the article last month of the new lighting project at Christ Church we have had two donations of £1,000 and £50. Not only is this generosity very much appreciated, it is also very encouraging that people not only read Spire but also act on what they read. For the Editor, that really is the bright spot!

Job Opportunity at Marwood School

If you are interested in working in our wonderful school then we currently have openings for Relief Midday

out Us Supervisory Assistants (MSAs). Governors

Our MSAs work from 11.45am-Ipm, supervising the children in the classrooms as they eat their lunch and then on the playground.

For more details, please contact the school office

01642 722389 oticeboard

or email admin@marwood.n-yorks.sch.uk

News from School Aid India



Special tuition November 1st Roseberry School Darjeeling

Covid has been nothing less than a tragedy for children everywhere because of the terrible disruption to their schooling. In India, the government seem to have put education at the bottom of its priorities leaving primary schools closed since April of last year. As always, it is the poorest who are most affected. Children from deprived families cannot access the education they so badly need because there is no home computer or even a mobile phone in some cases, so they cannot obtain the education they so badly need. In the Darjeeling area, the power supply is very precarious and during the rainy season which lasts for months, there are frequent power cuts making it difficult to keep mobile phones charged even if they have them. The Roseberry teachers have done their best to stay in touch with all their pupils, contacting those they haven't heard from for a while. Some parents without phones come into school to collect work. Many come to school to bring in work for marking. During October and November, Miss Smriti has been holding unofficial catch up sessions with her class who sit their Secondary School entrance tests in November. Classes are quite difficult because the children have forgotten how to learn and concentrate in this environment.

After a long time without any news I received a rather sad little video from Diksha recorded on a mobile phone. She has been more isolated than most, living as she does in a little house in the forest far from school and all her friends. The network is very poor in her area, and she has missed a lot of lessons. In spite of all this, she tells me she is aiming to become a police officer, because, she says, she wants to help keep women more secure.

Another ex student, 17 year old Heena, told me that learning online is making her feel unwell and very anxious. She is unable to contact any teachers to ask questions and spending 3 to 4 hours a day staring at a mobile phone screen to get her lessons is causing headaches and dizziness. I so hope they get back to school soon.

School Aid India is approaching a very important stage in its development. Several of our oldest ex pupils are approaching school leaving age at 18, when they will hopefully pass their class 12 exams and be qualified too apply for a variety of jobs. The oldest pupil Manoj has already finished school and is now at college training for a career in Hotel Management. This is a great success story for a boy who might have received no education at all but for Roseberry School.



In the meantime we at home are scratching our heads and wondering when we will next be able to hold fund raising events for School Aid India . We are so thankful to have had some reserves to carry us through the last two years.

Helen Jones

Charity Auction of Surplus Christmas Gifts



Christ Church Hall, Guisborough Road, Great Ayton.

Saturday 22nd January 2022

Viewing from 1.30pm - Auction starts at 2pm

50p admission includes half time cuppa!

Proceeds to support Roseberry School in Darjeeling

Mission Giving 2021

If this last year has been challenging for our churches, we are not alone, for many charities have lost considerable income due to the pandemic. Loss of revenue means cutting back on vital work predominately done with the poorest folk. Our PCC made a policy decision that despite a decrease in our Income, we would do our utmost to support those who rely on us as generously as before. Jesus said, "Give and it shall be given unto you, full measure, pressed down will be poured into your lap" so trusting his promise, this is where our PCC Giving has gone for this year. Each recipient was championed by a member of the PCC and the following have all been given £1,000 each.

The Genesis Project in Grove Hill, Middlesbrough was proposed by Helen Land. We have been so impressed with the work done by Rev'd Kath Dean and her team since she came to speak to us in 2018 in how they were helping meet the needs of a very poor part of Middlesbrough. Her visit began "Grace's Shed" where household good are taken to be redistributed to poor families. Over recent years the charity has grown and is doing a lot more. Well done to them all.



Respect Me was once again proposed by Jonny Winterschladen, having declared an interest earlier in the meeting as his son Joe works for them. Joe is one of the school workers who visit schools to try and get Christian values across to young people in an ever changing world. For many children this is the first contact with Christians, so to have someone more like them helps enormously. Joe keeps us informed of the many good meetings and conversations had.

Church Mission Society (CMS) & United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG) are the two main Anglican Missionary Societies who support the world Church in materially poorer countries abroad - their faith is often richer. These were proposed by Rosemary Wheway, for if Anglicans cannot support one another then who will.

Barnabas Fund ePAP Project This was the recipient of last year's Christmas Appeal as we asked for money to feed the undernourished children of Zimbabwe. Sadly the needs have grown in other areas too due to COVID, so we are once again seeking to feed the hungry knowing that this is what Jesus calls us to do. It was Nick Land's suggestion last year and again this year.

South Sudan Episcopal Church College Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, but teach him to fish and you feed him for life. What poorer countries need more than charity are able leaders to help develop their countries. The Anglican Church of South Sudan are trying to provide leaders for the future by establishing a college. The country desperately needs doctors, nurses, teachers, engineers, agriculturalists, lawyers and business people who are committed to building a peaceful and prosperous nation. This worthy cause was also proposed by Nick Land.

Together Middlesbrough & Cleveland This charity works with the local Churches in Middlesbrough and East Cleveland across the denominations and does great work. We have supported them many times over the years, including Christmas Appeals, so Helen Land suggested we do so again - especially after they had asked for help.

Big Kids, Middlesbrough Sam and Ste joined us on Zoom in lockdown to tell us of the work they have been doing going into Primary schools and Churches in Middlesbrough where they find new and exciting ways to convey the Christian Message. I have heard from schools and Churches where they work and know they are highly appreciated. They live by faith hoping for donations to support, so I gladly proposed them this year.

The Children's Society For many years we have had a very active Children's Society Committee in the Church community and have enjoyed many fund raising functions. Sadly COVID has stopped many of these. So the Charity doesn't lose out completely, Rosemary proposed them for this year.

Just when we thought we were almost there, we checked back over recent years and realised we had also supported **Church Army and Christians Against Poverty** in the past. These are both excellent organisations working in poor and struggling areas, so they share the last £1,000 with £500 each.

Stories of great suffering in Afghanistan are already hitting the news as they face a freezing winter with little support. Ken Taylor proposed that our **Christmas Appeal** should support them and be routed through **TEAR Fund** - an organisation we have dealt with many times before, so we can be assured help gets where it is needed.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Christmas is drawing near and we are planning our usual Carol Singing on WEDNESDAY, 22ND DECEMBER, from 10.30 - 11.30 am. We welcome anyone to join us near The Royal Oak.



Christ Church PCC has given The Society a generous donation to its funds as part of its Mission Giving for 2021 and we give it our grateful thanks for its continued support.

Just a reminder, following the recent box opening in September, we plan to repeat this next autumn, so please keep popping spare coins into your box!

Jancie Brown





We were shocked last month at the very sudden and unexpected death of Malcolm Goat whilst out with Jean delivering Spire. A lovely friendly and very fit man, he could often be seen walking to and from Marton on the main road. Jean sends the following message to the many people who have been in touch with her.

Jean, Veronica, Stephen and family would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the kind thoughts, prayers and cards of condolences on their recent loss of Malcolm and also for the generous donations to the British Heart Foundation of £665.01 through Church and £287.50 through the Funeral Directors making a wonderful £962.51. It is all very much appreciated.

Elaine Moves to Norfolk

I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes for the start of our new life in Norfolk. I was overwhelmed when it suddenly realized I wouldn't be a part of the day to day life of Christ Church but St Peter's and St Paul's Church in Swaffham. I am missing you all already. Love Elaine and Ian Brown



A Few Thanks

Now things are getting more back to normal and congregations are increasing, we took the opportunity to thank three people who retired from their roles over the Lockdown period. Ruth Waterton has organised Sunday Intercessors, Jan Thompson had helped in organising Church cleaning and Pauline Titchmarsh had done the after Church Coffee. All were presented with flowers after the Patronal Service, and Pauline's were presented virtually over the Zoom screen - hence no photo.

All three ladies did tasks that weren't seen by others, although we have all benefited from their work.

Irene Reah is continuing to organise the cleaning rota and desperately needs more volunteers. Could it be you? You don't have to be a Sunday attender, just someone who wants to help us give a welcome with a clean Church







It's Panto Time

Bradley's School of Dance & Musical Theatre Present

RAPUNZEL

A TANGLED PANTOMINE

Featuring Rev Pev at Nurse Hetty Hairspray, the Royal Nanny

Wednesday 8th and Friday 10th December at 7pm Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December at 1.30pm

At Christ Church Hall, Great Ayton

Call 07783 421730 for tickets £7 adults, £5 Concessions

Bring a donation to Middlesbrough Foodbank & receive a free mince pie



LOVE IN A BOX



Thank You to all who supported Love in a Box this year. I was delighted to visit Ingleby Greenhow school again and on 7th November we held our Annual Service. The Boxes filled the windows as we also had Christenings that day too. Stokesley Church also continued with their own service, and on the 25th November Santa's Big Helpers set off from Prestons of Potto to arrive in Romania in plenty of time for Christmas with 7,000 boxes filled with Love.

Remembrance Sunday 2021

A beautiful warm day welcomed the crowds back for Remembrance Sunday and Karen and Team did us proud with a colourful display. We were joined by Peter Scrope DL and the service was also streamed live on Facebook and has been

watched 788 times. Great Ayton Remembered.







We're going to light up the New Year

...with our enhanced, flexible, eco-friendly, low maintenance new lighting system in Christ Church!!

When the faculty is issued later this month we will be cleared to appoint Robinson's Lighting & Electrical of Knaresborough to install our new lighting system in Christ Church in January. The new system will provide

- Improved lighting for general congregational use
- Softer lighting for services such as Christingle and Crib Service
- Highlighting of the altar, lectern and pulpit
- Flexible lighting for concerts, plays and other community events

The total cost will be £12,180 + VAT – so far we have secured funds from

- Part of a legacy from the estate of Margaret Herriman (£5,000)
- A grant from the Jack Brunton Trust (£3,000)
- Donations of £1,300
- Giving a total of £9,300 which leaves a balance still to be raised of £2,880 (we can claim back the VAT!)

Would you like to make a donation to help us bridge the gap? £100 would pay for one of the new LED spotlights!

Help us make the church lighting more appropriate for services and the many other events we hope to organise for the future to ensure that the Church remains a true community resource!

Donations can be made

- By yellow gift-aided envelope
- Via the card reader in church
- Via the **Give-a-Little** site on the church website
- Direct to the church Santander Account No. 37616705 Sort Code 09-01-55, "Great Ayton Parochial Church Council"

In each case use the reference "lighting"

Many thanks

Ken

Post Office Finds a New Home



In November the village Post Office moved once again following the retirement of the previous Postmaster, Paul Ancell. I am sure many folk were worried that Great Ayton would lose this valuable asset as Worthy Pearsons was closing down. Thankfully Richard Thompson stepped in to the breach and found space in his shop that no-one quite realised was there to fit the Post Office in.

Not only has the Post Office moved to Thompsons, but so have the newspapers too, so Richard and Team are going to be kept very busy. Our very best wishes and thanks to Richard for ensuring these vital village services continue.

We also say a huge thank you to Paul Ancell whose family firm of Newsagents have been such a part of Great Ayton for many, many years. Paul is pictured here back in 2016 when Archbishop Sentamu called in on Christmas Eve on his pilgrimage around the Diocese. The counter was moved after that. We wish Paul a well earned retirement after many years of hard work and early mornings. Thank You from us all.



From the Registers

Holy Baptism

7 November 7 November 14 November 21 November

28 November

Edward Michael Harper Violet Durant George Paul Wordsworth Florence Lily Kathleen Lines Freya Alissimon Minnitt

Weddings & Blessings



Vanessa Cook & Paul Moffitt married at Christ Church on 13 November.



Abbie & Jack Lines had their marriage blessed and their daughter Christened at St Oswald's on 21 November

Funerals & Memorial Services

11 November Margaret Crombie12 November Malcolm Goat

Entries in Black from Great Ayton

Entries in Magenta from Newton under Roseberry

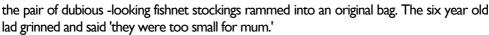
Parish website
Church Office e-mail
Diocese of York
Stokesley Deanery
A Church Near You

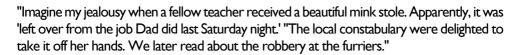
www.christchurchgreatayton.org.uk gapo l 876@outlook.com www.dioceseofyork.org.uk www.stokesleydeanery.org.uk www.acny.org.uk

Malcolm's Musings

Readers of a national newspaper reflected on the variety of Christmas presents they had received over the years. Needless to say, there were some surprises.

A primary school teacher recalled her experience in a deprived area of London in the 1970s and 1980s. "Most memorable," she wrote, "was





Another writer remembered receiving a box of chocolates from a maiden aunt, but her aunt's favourites had been removed and replaced by mint imperials and the box carefully resealed.

A man recalled being given a pair of miniature Givenchy aftershave bottles in a small plastic case - inscribed inside: "with salams. Air India."

Another said his mother-in-law once gave him two pairs of kippers. Next year it was a £5 wine voucher - with a bottle of champagne he was to pass on to her doctor!

One correspondent said his father was asked, over a pint, what he would like for Christmas by the landlady of his local. He replied" A load of manure for the garden. Next morning the local farmer arrived with tractor and trailer - and the steaming gift!

Newspaper Report: "The annual children's painting competition will be judged by the mayor on December 12th at the Guildhall. The theme this year is a Christmas card idea and the pic-

tures, as well as the winners, will be hung in the library.

Malcolm Race

Editor of Spire

Paul Peverell revpev@btinternet.com

If you would like a paper copy of Spire delivering to your door, please contact lean Goat on 01642 723274.

The Parishes of Great Ayton with Easby and Newton under Roseberry

Services

Christ Church, Great Ayton

Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
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9.15am Morning Worship 1st, Live on Zoom & Facebook.

9.15am Parish Communion on other Sundays Live on Zoom & Facebook.

4.00pm Cafe Church (2nd & 4th Sundays of month)

Tuesdays 9.45am Little Fishes Toddler Service (School Term time only)

Wednesday I Oam Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer - every weekl

At Saint Oswald's, Newton under Roseberry

Sunday 11.00am Holy Communion on 1st & 5th Sundays of the month

All Age Service on 3rd Sunday of the month (No Service on 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month)

Contact the Vicar for Baptisms & Weddings

Baptisms, Banns and Weddings can be arranged by emailing the Vicar, Paul Peverell at revpev@btinternet.com

Contacts

Vicar	Rev'd Paul Peverell	The Vicarage	01642 722333		
Curates	Rev'd Jane Robson		revjanerob@gmail.com		
	Rev'd Geoff Jaques		01642 722979		
	Rev'd Jon Dean		01642 722649		
Readers	Margaret Lewis		01642 722628		
	Peter Titchmarsh		01642 724153		
	Dr Nick Land		01642 778076		
Organist					
Pastoral Ass't	Rosemary Wheway		01642 722451		
Churchwardens	Dr Helen Land		01642 778076		
	Jonathan Winterschladen		01642 723576		
PCC Treasurer	Ken Taylor		01642 722400		
Safeguarding	David Fox		07595 898844		
Gift Aid Sec.	Ynez Clarke		01642 723181		
6.					

Church Hall Office

For **Church Hall bookings**, please contact the Church Office Email: gapo1876@outlook.com Tel 01642 722 665

Secretary available on Monday, Thursday & Fridays 9am - 12 noon (For services or pastoral matters, please contact the vicar)