

December 2024

January 2025



To grow through faith, prayer and worship in Brockworth, to make committed followers of Jesus.

Getting in touch:

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Office Hours: 9.30—11.30am, Monday—Friday

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Email: **admin@stgeorgesbrockworth.org**

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Facebook: Search for "St George's Brockworth" and 'like' our page

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Tel: 07415 089897
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Mike's day off is Friday

Licensed Reader:

Mrs Louisa Messenger 01452 862058, email: louisamessenger@hotmail.co.uk

Churchwardens: Positions vacant

Hon. Treasurer: Mr Derek Harbottle 01452 863732
email: treasurer@stgeorgesbrockworth.org

PCC Secretary: Mrs Elaine Marsh
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Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Liz Hopkins 01452 550554,
email: safeguarding@stgeorgesbrockworth.org

Magazine Editor: Mrs Pat Hartwell email: stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com

The article deadline for the February issue is 15.01.25

Please email: **stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com**

If unable to email, please deliver hard copy to the Church Office

Editorial Disclaimer & church policies :

Any ecclesiastical or political views contained in this magazine are not necessarily those of the PCC or the Editor. This church promotes good practice in work with children and young people. It has a current and active Child Protection Policy that's available to view at St George's Church & St George's Church Centre. St. George's, Brockworth is a Fair Trade Parish and supports the Parish Giving Scheme.

THIS MONTH'S COVER: Candles and stained glass. Photo: Chris Sandys

"To live without hope is to cease to live."

Fyodor Dostoyevsky

HOPE

Hope is a strange phenomenon. It can fuel the craziest plans and aspirations; and changes as we journey through life. When we are younger, hope can be as simple as a snow day, and as we journey through life, our hopes grow; we hope for family, health, and security. We may **hope to win the lottery**, we hope for a fresh start, or hope for good health – or at least for the pain to stop!

Research has shown that 'high hoppers' procrastinate less and tolerate more. Alternatively, we may also know the mental, physical and emotional effects of hopelessness: the despair and exhaustion of having no hope. However, does hope provide an irrational and delusional vision of the future, providing nothing more than a **fantasy of reality**?

**Is hope a powerful tool
or a dangerous weapon?**

Hope is not optimism. While optimism is the tendency to look for and expect the most favourable outcome. Hope moves beyond the boundaries of optimism and ignores the circumstances. As the author of one of the books in the bible describes it:

"Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen"

The optimists cannot see everything, only what a rational, logical, and reasoned mind can suggest, assessing what is possible. Hope sees the irrational, illogical, and unreasonable and fixes its eyes on the **seemingly impossible**. The impossibility of a blind person regaining sight, a deaf person hearing, and a dead man being raised to new **eternal life** – all accounts of people's experiences in the bible.

We live in a world which is **unpredictable and beautiful, tragic and encouraging, painful and comforting, and unjust and rewarding**, but the story of Christmas brings a message of wonder, and possibility, the essence of hope.

"God is a God of the possible"

C.S.Lewis

Look for the shining light which sparks that glimmer of hope. Surround yourself with people who will walk with you towards hope and will speak words of hope over you.

We are a church that believes in the power of hope. The hope of the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus is the foundation and blueprint for our hope, and we would love to share that hope in Jesus with you.

Please join us for any of the worship services this Christmas time; wherever you are on your journey of faith, we would welcome the opportunity to **walk with you towards hope.**

Mike Smith

Christmas Quiz

1. In which year did a British monarch deliver the first Christmas Broadcast and who was the monarch? 1922, 1932, 1942, or 1952?
2. In which ocean can Christmas Island be found?
3. If you were born on Christmas Day what is your star sign?
4. Who composed the Nutcracker ballet?
5. Which country first started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
6. The 12 days of Christmas end on which date?
7. Which of Santa's reindeers comes first alphabetically?
8. The Trafalgar Square Christmas tree is a gift from which country?
9. Which type of bird usually appears on a Christmas Card?
10. What gifts did the wise men give Jesus?
11. What was the Angel that visited Mary called?
12. What is the period before Christmas called?
13. A traditional Christmas day drink made from eggs, cream, sugar, nutmeg and whisky is called what?
14. On a Christmas wreath what does the holly represent?
15. Boxing Day commemorates which saint?
16. In 1847 Tom Smith invented which essential Christmas item?
17. What is the most popular and most recorded Christmas song of all time?
18. Which character is noted for saying "Bah Humbug" about Christmas?
19. In which country was St Nicholas a Bishop?
20. Which King started the custom of eating Turkey for Christmas dinner?

Allan Delves

Answers on P.34

Knit and Stitch



Our Knit and Stitch group is steadily growing, but is still small enough for everyone to chat to each other whilst knitting, crocheting or sewing.

We'd love you to come and join us. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, so the next ones will be on Tuesdays **December 17th (with mince pies) and January 21st at 10am.**

We enjoy a coffee, tea and a biscuit or two, all free of charge, and a good old natter.

Hope to see you!

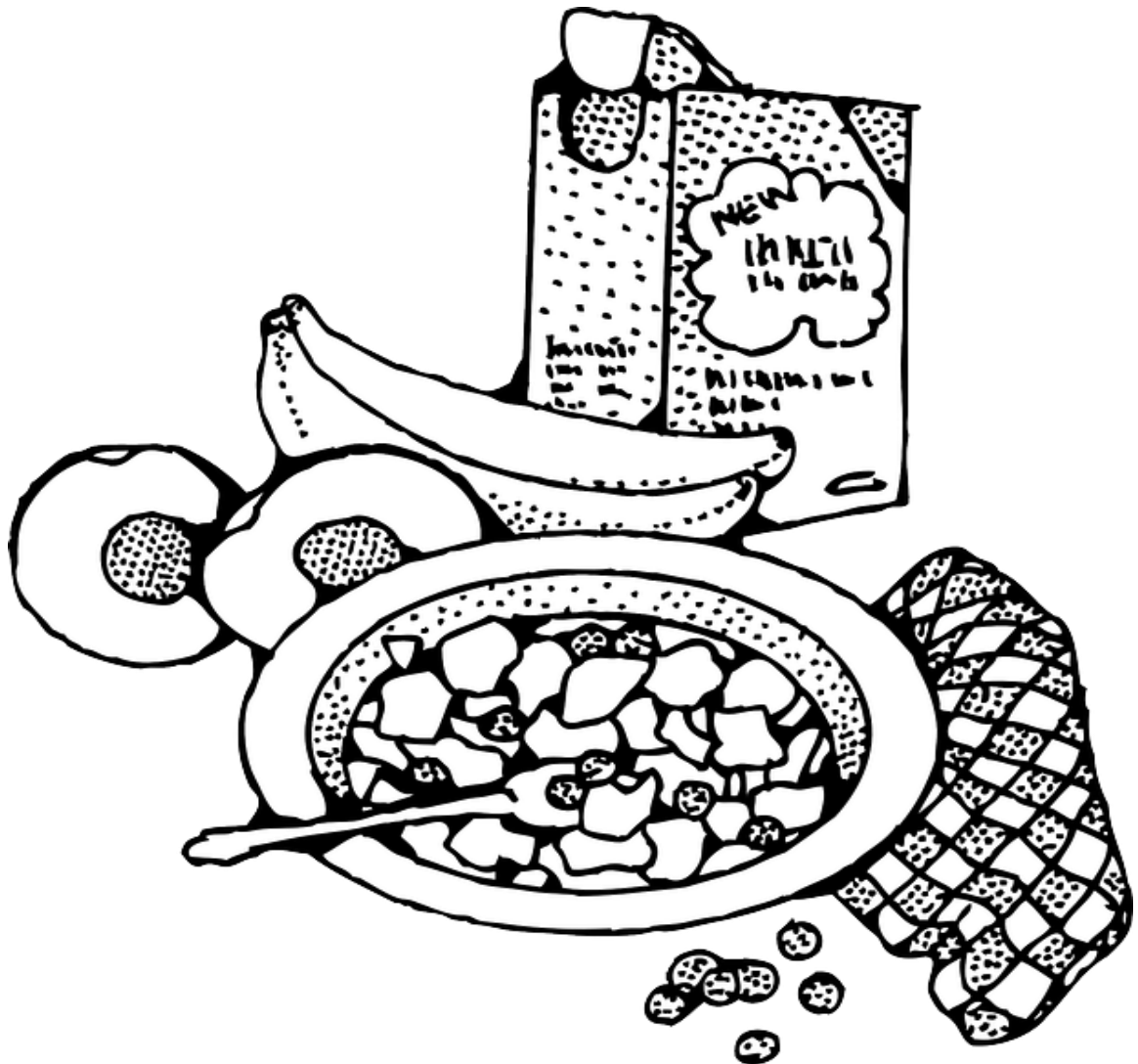
Look out for our tree at the Christmas Tree Festival and spot some of the lovely decorations as shown in the photo above!

PS. If you have any spare buttons we can use them on twiddle muffs for folk with dementia.

The Food Larder Brockworth

Please don't forget the food larder when you're doing your Christmas shopping.

Donations are accepted in the community centre.





Our next meeting is on

Monday 9th December at 1.30pm in the Church Centre

Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch will again be Fish 'n' Chips.

There will be mince pies, tea or coffee. You are welcome to also bring your drink of choice and if you are taking part in the raffle, please bring a wrapped "prize".

£10.00 each and be sure to give names to Enid or Coralie in advance.

****A date for your new diaries!!****

Looking ahead to the New Year, we will meet on 27th January for our AGM with puddings!

In October, we welcomed Rev'd Meg Heywood who spoke on From Darkness to Light.

We shared our own "good news" to each other and each have a candle to continue with light into the season of Advent.

The Mothers' Union Domestic Abuse Campaign 2024.

This is one of the prayers to be used during the 16 Days of Activism for this campaign.

Loving Lord

*who has called us to be the body of Christ,
make us ready to act as his hands and feet in the world,
to raise awareness of what must be challenged,
and to address the plight of the vulnerable. Amen*



Christmas Celebration & Services 2024

Christmas Tree Festival

Friday 6th 6.30pm Grand Switch On & Sing-a-long with refreshments for all the family (incl. mulled wine) in church

Saturday 7th 10-4pm Church open (with refreshments) to view the trees

Sunday 8th 11-4pm Church open (with refreshments) to view the trees

Monday 9th-10-4pm Church open to view the trees
Wednesday 11th

Sunday 15th 6pm Carol Service in church

Wednesday 18th 7pm Carols by Candlelight (TBC) in Church Centre

Sunday 22nd 10.30am Meet at Church Centre to go to Millbrook Lodge to sing carols for the residents

Christmas Eve 3pm Christingle Family Service & Crib Service in church

11.30pm Midnight Communion Service in church

Christmas Day 10am Christmas Day Communion Service in church



Churchyard tidy-up



After the photos, last month, of the disappearing view, Chris and Pete did a fantastic job of opening up the view of the Church again. Well done and thank you to all the folk who keep the Churchyard looking so well cared for. It is so very much appreciated by locals and visitors.



ST. GEORGE'S

Brockworth

WORSHIP NIGHTS

Every other Wednesday
7:20pm for 7:30pm start
8:10pm finish

Join us in the Church Centre for 30 minutes of contemporary (aka loudish!) worship, followed by 10 minutes for silent, or requested, prayer.

Feel free to sit and be still, sing, pray, walk around, soak in His presence; the time is yours to do as you wish.

The purpose of these evenings is to create space to worship God freely.

Our prayer is that you'll leave feeling blessed and refreshed.

Any questions? Please speak to Chris & Claire
hello@stgeorgesbrockworth.org

More info and dates visit:
www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org/worshipnights



Friendship club

@

St. George's Church Centre.

Join us on the first Tuesday of every month, 10—11.30 am in the lounge.

A social club that is an inclusive and welcoming space. A great way to meet like-minded people. We'll provide the tea, coffee and cake (all free) and you bring yourself and a friend or neighbour, or come on your own.

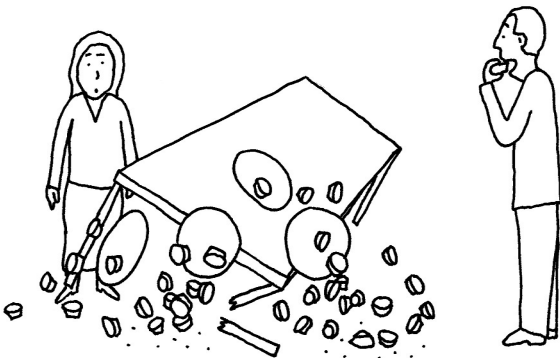
Everyone welcome!



Silent Night Oh Holy Night.

ADVENT

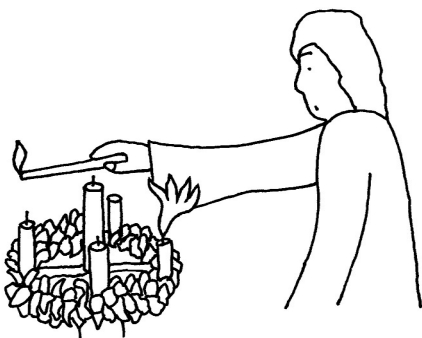
HAZARDS



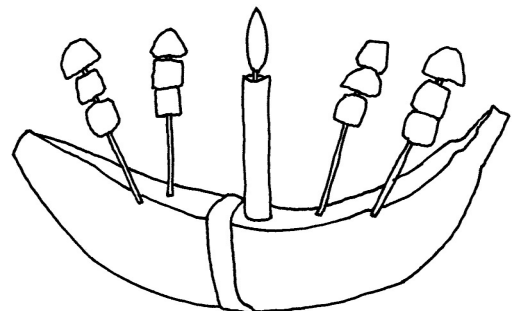
TABLES BUCKLING UNDER SHEER WEIGHT OF MINCE PIES



UNREST OVER THE CORRECT WEEK TO LIGHT THE PINK CANDLE



ADVENT WREATH FIRES



SUPERMARKETS RUNNING OUT OF ORANGES



Karen

For the past 15 years, the smiling, welcoming face in the Church office, and the friendly voice on the end of the phone has been Karen Leach. Many of you will have heard that Karen will soon be leaving us for a new job. We wish her well in this next stage of her career, of course, but are inevitably sad to see her go. The knowledge and expertise she has built up over the years will be missed.

On a personal note, I will miss her invaluable help in producing this magazine. As well as the printing, stapling and distributing, she adds the diary pages, bible readings, and register entries.

Thank you, Karen, for all your hard work on behalf of St. George's and all the very best wishes for your future!

Ed



**Support the work of St George's
church in Brockworth.**

**QR code for St George's
donations page on the Parish
Giving Scheme website.**

THANK YOU

Choruses

As a small boy attending Sunday School I always looked forward to the singing of Choruses as part of the service. One chorus I enjoyed was “Wide, wide as the ocean” which we sang with actions.

It was written by C. Austin Miles in 1941.

He was born in 1868 and died in 1946. Born at Lakehurst, NJ, he attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and the University of PA. He became a pharmacist. He married Bertha H Haagen, and they had two sons: Charles and Russell. In 1892 he abandoned his pharmacy career and began writing gospel songs. At first, he furnished compositions to the Hall-Mack Publishing Company, but soon became editor and manager, where he worked for 37 years. He felt he was serving God better in the gospel song writing business, than as a pharmacist. He published the following song books: “New songs of the gospel” (1900), “The service of praise” (1900), “The voice of praise” (1904), “The tribute of song” (1904),.

Here is the Chorus with the actions:

Wide, wide as the ocean, high as the Heavens above (arms out-stretched then pointing upwards)

Deep, deep as the deepest sea is my Saviour's love (arms pointing to the floor)

I, though so unworthy, still am a child of His care (arms cradling child)

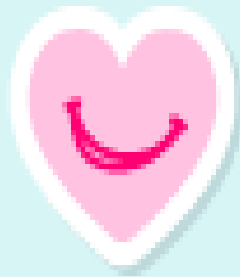
For His Word reaches me (arms crossed on chest)

And his love teaches me everywhere (arms making big circle)

Just try it!

Allan Delves

Thank you, Allan, for your contributions throughout the year, Ed



Join

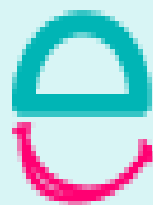


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Remembrance day 2024

I went to the remembrance day service on Sunday 10th November & watched our young folk marching along the road. I felt very proud to be British. It was very well organised & a lovely warm November day. In fact I was too hot in my thick coat.



This made me think back to about 45 years ago when the parade took place. At that time I was a Brownie guider & it always seemed to be freezing cold or wet. All the youth organisations would march to a band. I can't remember if it was the Scout band or the Army cadets who made up the band. The Brownies were always told to wear something warm under their cotton Brownie uniforms as they never wore coats on parade. We would march from the British Legion Hall, (knocked down & rebuilt in the last couple of years). From there we marched to the Churchyard war memorial for wreath laying etc. We always envied the dignitaries all wrapped up nice & cosy in their thick winter coats. After that we all marched back to the Legion hall & tried to get in the warm, before the rest of the procession & get a seat. We then had a service, led by the vicar, I think that was Peter Naylor, with the Church choir on the stage to lead us & Auntie Joan Prior/Belben on the piano to accompany us. We finished off with the National Anthem & a race to the bar where all the children were given a packet of crisps & a bottle of pop. Then they were collected by their parents & went home. Ah memories.

Jenny AKA Snowy Owl of the 2nd Brockworth Brownie Pack

Thank you Jenny, for your regular contributions. Ed

The Messenger, December 2024

From Thornbury with love: Christmas messages and aid head to Ukraine

Thornbury Benefice has joined forces with the local community and is continuing its support for people living in war-torn areas of Ukraine, providing essential supplies and Christmas messages with the cross-community 'Van collection for Ukraine' appeal.

Its twelfth supply-filled minibus departs this month, ensuring that practical aid, and a reminder of the Thornbury community's support, arrives just in time for Christmas.

The bus contains essentials that are hard to find in Ukraine, including candles, warm socks and vitamins, and local Ukrainians have written 100 Christmas cards with handwritten messages in Ukrainian.

"For the people here, it's a way they can show their support," said Jacquie Rinaldi, a volunteer with the Ukrainian initiative. "People living in Ukraine face extended power outages and need items like candles to survive. Men on the front line have poor diets, living on packet noodles, and they need vitamins and medicine.

"We tuck the Christmas cards in with the supplies so families in Ukraine find these notes as they go through the boxes. It's a reminder they're not forgotten."

This year's journey faces additional challenges due to the rising costs of petrol and insurance. For the first time, they appealed for cash donations and raised over £600.

"Our Ukrainian guests have become our friends and neighbours. We get to support them through Christmas, a time when they'd usually be surrounded by family."

Key to this effort is Thornbury's partnership with @BristolAid4Ukraine, a charity founded by Ukrainian Vera Staddon-Postavska and her husband, John. Their organisation arranged safe passage for the minibus, filled with donated supplies from Thornbury and South Glos to leave from Bristol to Staddon-Postavska's home community in Ukraine.

"We chose to support the minibus so it could be fully loaded on the way in and not return empty. Those with the paperwork in place, who are either injured or need to get out, can come back."

The Ukrainian Initiative began in early 2022 when a group of local volunteers recognised the need for support as refugees arrived in Thornbury.

"Thornbury isn't like Bristol or Gloucester – it's a small town. We weren't prepared at first, but the effort has evolved into a truly community-driven initiative. Many local groups and churches contribute to the cause. The Methodist church now serves as a twice-weekly meeting space where Ukrainians can gather, share meals, and pick up essential supplies. The URC has donated a social room where Ukrainians meet every Friday, always joined by a recently formed Ukrainian ukulele band for practice."

The community continues to grow, with over 70 Ukrainian people still awaiting much needed hosts in Thornbury.

For those interested in supporting the initiative, donations can be made by contacting Jacquie Rinaldi at jacquie.rinaldi1@gmail.com.

Calm and bright: Churches open to all for advent and Christmas

This year, churches across the diocese will be welcoming people to celebrate advent and Christmas with them. Whether you go to church every week, or you haven't been in 10 years, it's a place where you are welcome and valued.

Whatever you're planning to do, there will be a space for you with us, because no one should be alone at Christmas.

We asked some people about their favourite things to do over the festive season. Maybe you'll get some inspiration for a new Christmas tradition for yourself.

Emma Mignaud, Head at Primrose Hill C of E Primary Academy in Lydney said, "My favourite thing about the period of advent is seeing all the infant children standing on stage in their costumes performing the nativity to their families. There are always a few tear-jerking moments when the children start to sing or perform a dance routine. Nothing feels more like Christmas than the nativity performance."

For football fan Aaron from Cheltenham, it's about singing and living tradition: "Carol Services! Christmas to me represents tradition, a chain of celebration running back hundreds of years. Nowhere do I get this feeling more than when experiencing carols, often the same ones sung by countless generations before me. It like a little bit of history reminding everyone about the ancientness of Christmas."

Katherine from Lydney said: "Midnight mass is a special moment for me. There is something magical about the midnight toll of the church bells as Christmas Eve turns into Christmas Day. The slightly tipsy smiles from some of the congregation, the delighted whispers of 'Happy Christmas', the gentle glow of candlelight and the resounding chorus of O Come All Ye Faithful fills me with such joy and thankfulness."

If you're looking for somewhere to find calm, or a bright place to celebrate this Christmas, then visit www.achurchnearyou.com to find a service or an event close to your home. From December, achurchnearyou.com/Christmas will go live, where you will be able to search for specific Christmassy events, dates and occasions in your area.

Events and training More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events Nativi-tea at the Monk's kitchen, Gloucester Cathedral, GL1 2LX, 2 December to 24 December: A festive twist on their classic afternoon tea, featuring homemade mince pies, fudge, mulled wine, scones with jam and clotted cream, and sandwiches. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/nativi-tea-at-the-monk-s-kitchen-24>

Once upon a STAR: The Christmas story, Gloucester Cathedral, GL1 2LX, 6 December to 5 January: A festive family trail to discover the story of the first Christmas. Follow the path toward the star, meeting key figures from that holy night along the way. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/follow-the-star-to-bethlehem-trail>

Beer and carols at Trinity Cheltenham, 100-102 Winchcombe Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL52 2NW, 8 December, 5.30pm to 8pm: A festive night of live carol singing, beer and German bratwurst. <https://trinitycheltenham.com/christmas>

Faithful generations, Cathedral Green, Gloucester Cathedral, 1 February 2025, 12pm to 4pm Book now for this fun and creative afternoon where grandparents and grandchildren can explore Christian faith and spirituality together. There will be prayer spaces, story, activities, dance, interactive worship and more. <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/faithful-generations-event/>

Journey of the Magi

A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For a journey, and such a long journey:
The ways deep and the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.'
And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory,
Lying down in the melting snow.
There were times we regretted
The summer palaces on slopes, the terraces,
And the silken girls bringing sherbet.
Then the camel men cursing and grumbling
And running away, and wanting their liquor and women,
And the night-fires going out, and the lack of shelters,
And the cities hostile and the towns unfriendly
And the villages dirty and charging high prices:
A hard time we had of it.
At the end we preferred to travel all night,
Sleeping in snatches,
With the voices singing in our ears, saying
That this was all folly.

Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley,
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;
With a running stream and a water-mill beating the darkness,
And three trees on the low sky,
And an old white horse galloped away in the meadow.
Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel,
Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver,
And feet kicking the empty wine-skins,
But there was no information, and so we continued
And arrived at evening, not a moment too soon
Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.

All this was a long time ago, I remember,
And I would do it again, but set down
This set down
This: were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,
But had thought they were different; this Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.

T.S. Eliot



Ladies Evening

**Do come and join us for our next
Ladies evening which will be held
on**

**Friday 31st January
at 6.30pm
In the Church Centre**

**We will have a fish and chip supper
with nibbles to start and puddings.
Cost will be around £7.50. Please
bring your own drinks.**

**We look forward to another happy
evening and hope you can come
along and enjoy it with us.**

Grace Darling

As a small girl growing up in the Northeast, our holidays were taken by the North Sea. I remember being captivated by the story of Grace Darling. On a recent holiday to Northumberland, we stayed near Bamburgh and visited the museum where we saw the heavy old boat she helped row to rescue the survivors. We also took a boat trip out to The Farne Islands, which included a visit to the Longstone lighthouse. The day and the sea were very calm, but the tidal races between the islands were not! I have even more admiration for her achievement now.

Pat Hartwell



Grace Darling is remembered for the rescue she undertook with her father in the Farne Islands in 1838.

The SS Forfarshire had broken up on rocks within sight of the lighthouse at Longstone, which was home to Grace and her parents.

Grace was determined to undertake a rescue immediately but was persuaded by her father to wait until morning and better light.

Grace and her father then set out through the stormy sea and collected some of the survivors.

They rowed back to Longstone Lighthouse where Grace and her mother looked after the survivors while her father returned to the shipwreck to collect the last of the survivors.

Grace soon found herself celebrated in print... even Queen Victoria wrote to her with a reward.

Today Grace's memorial can be found in the churchyard at Bamburgh, where there is also a museum about her.

(Taken from BBC teach)



Church Register October 2024

Funerals

Friday 18th October

John Anthony Creese

Baptisms

Sunday 13th October

Bonnie

Sunday 20th October

Elizabeth Hizzett



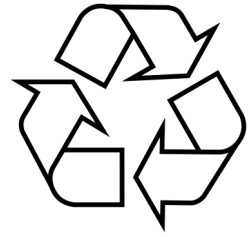
To all our
subscribers and
readers, thank you so
much for your support.
May we wish you a very
happy Christmas and a
happy and peaceful
New Year.

Recycle and raise money for our charities.

We collect::

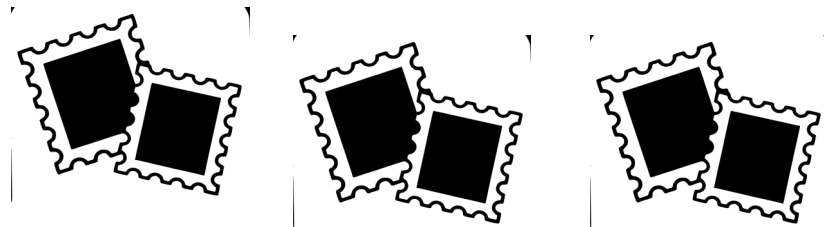
Used greetings cards for the Cobalt Unit

Christmas cards only until 15th January



Used postage stamps for The James Hopkins Trust.

***Don't forget to save the stamps from your Christmas post—
they will be much appreciated!***



Old or broken jewellery for The Alzheimer's Society

Old spectacles for Sightsavers

Ink cartridges for LINC

**Please remember we can no longer collect medicine blister
packs or milk bottle tops**

There are some boxes in the Church porch for some of these items or they can be taken to the Church office in the Church centre, Monday – Friday, 9.30 – 11.30am

Thank you for your support.



St. George's Church Christmas Tree Festival



Friday 6th — Sunday 8th December

Grand Switch On and Christmas Sing-a-long 6.30 pm on Friday 6th with

Refreshments for all the family

Including mulled wine.

Church Open (with Refreshments)

on Saturday 10am—4pm

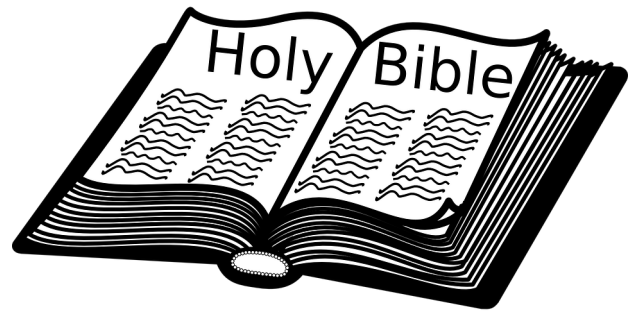
And Sunday 11am—4pm

Church Open

10am—4pm

Monday—Wednesday

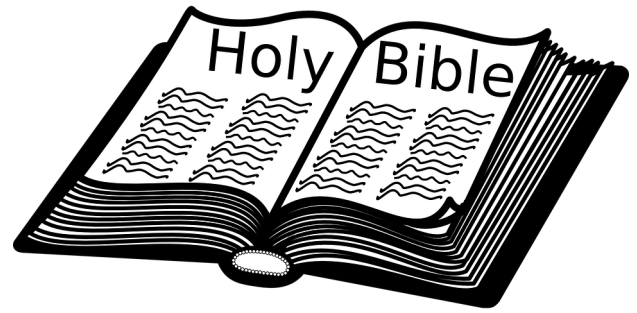




December 2024

Daily Bible Readings:

Monday 2nd	Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11
Tuesday 3rd	Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday 4th	Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37
Thursday 5th	Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21,24-27
Friday 6th	Isaiah 29:17-end; Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday 7th	Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1,6-8
Monday 9th	Isaiah 35; Luke 5:17-26
Tuesday 10th	Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14
Wednesday 11th	Isaiah 40:25-end; Matthew 11:28-end
Thursday 12th	Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15
Friday 13th	Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19
Saturday 14th	Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4,9-11; Matthew 17:10-13
Monday 16th	Numbers 24:2-7,15-17; Matthew 21:23-27
Tuesday 17th	Genesis 49:2,8-10; Matthew 1:1-17
Wednesday 18th	Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-24
Thursday 19th	Judges 13:2-7,24-end; Luke 1:5-25
Friday 20th	Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38
Saturday 21st	Zephaniah 3:14-18; Luke 1:39-45
Monday 23rd	Malachi 3:1-4;4:5-end; Luke 1:57-66
Tuesday 24th	2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-11,16; Luke 1:67-79
Wednesday 25th	Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-14
Thursday 26th	2 Chronicles 24:20-22; Acts 7:51-end
Friday 27th	Exodus 33:7-11a; John 21:19b-end
Saturday 28th	Jeremiah 31:15-17; Matthew 2:13-18
Monday 30th	1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40
Tuesday 31st	1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18



January 2025

Daily Bible Readings:

Wednesday 1st	Numbers 6:22-end; Luke 2:15-21
Thursday 2nd	1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28
Friday 3rd	1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1:29-34
Saturday 4th	1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42
Monday 6th	1 John 3:22-4:6; Matthew 4:12-17,23-end
Tuesday 7th	1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday 8th	1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52
Thursday 9th	1 John 4:19-5:4; Luke 4:14-22
Friday 10th	1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16
Saturday 11th	1 John 5:14-end; John 3:22-30
Monday 13th	Hebrews 1:1-6; Mark 1:14-20
Tuesday 14th	Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28
Wednesday 15th	Hebrews 2:14-end; Mark 1:29-39
Thursday 16th	Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-end
Friday 17th	Hebrews 4:1-5,11; Mark 2:1-12
Saturday 18th	Hebrews 4:12-end; Mark 2:13-17
Monday 20th	Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday 21st	Hebrews 6:10-end; Mark 2:23-end
Wednesday 22nd	Hebrews 7:1-3,15-17; Mark 3:1-6
Thursday 23rd	Hebrews 7:25-8:6; Mark 3:7-12
Friday 24th	Hebrews 8:6-end; Mark 3:13-19
Saturday 25th	Jeremiah 1:4-10; Matthew 19:27-end
Monday 27th	Hebrews 9:15,24-end; Mark 3:22-30
Tuesday 28th	Hebrews 10:1-10; Mark 3:31-end
Wednesday 29th	Hebrews 10:11-18; Mark 4:1-20
Thursday 30th	Hebrews 10:19-25; Mark 4:21-25
Friday 31st	Hebrews 10:32-end; Mark 4:26-34

Church diary—DECEMBER 2024

1st	9am	Communion Worship Service : Church
	10am	Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre
	10.30am	Family Worship Service : Church Centre
	5pm	Prayer Meeting : Church Centre
2nd	10am	Parent and Toddler Group : Hall, Church Centre
	11am	Funeral of Saverio Ierubino : Church
3rd	10am	Friendship Club—Cafe : Lounge, Church Centre
4th	9.45am	Communion : Chapel, Church Centre
5th	7.30-9pm	Bell ringing practice : Church
6th	6.30pm	Opening of Christmas Tree Festival : Grand Switch On & Sing-a-long with refreshments for all the family (incl. mulled wine) : Church
7th	10am	Churchyard Leaf Tidy-Up : Church
	10-4pm	Church open (with refreshments) to view the trees
8th	9am	Communion Worship Service : Church
	10am	Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre
	10.30am	Family Worship Service : Church Centre
	11-4pm	Church open (with refreshments) to view the trees
9th	10-4pm	Church open to view the trees
	10am	Parent and Toddler Group : Hall, Church Centre
	1 for 1.30pm	Mothers' Union Christmas Celebration : Hall, Church Ctre
	7pm	Standing Committee Meeting : Lounge, Church Centre
10th	10-4pm	Church open to view the trees
11th	9.45am	Communion : Chapel, Church Centre
	10-4pm	Church open to view the trees
12th	7.30-9pm	Bell ringing practice : Church
15th	9am	Communion Worship Service : Church
	10am	Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre
	10.30am	Family Worship Service : Church Centre
	6pm	Carol Service : Church
16th	10am	Parent and Toddler Group : Hall, Church Centre
17th	10am	Friendship Club—Knit & Stitch : Lounge, Church Centre
18th	9.45am	Communion : Chapel, Church Centre
		<u>Event to be confirmed :</u>
	<u>7pm</u>	<u>Carols by Candlelight : Hall, Church Centre</u>
19th	7.30-9pm	Bell ringing practice : Church
22nd	9am	Communion Worship Service : Church
	10am	Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre
	10.30am	Meet at Church Centre to go to Millbrook Lodge to sing carols for the residents (starts 10.45am)
Christmas Eve		
	3pm	Christingle Family Service & Crib Service : Church
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion Service : Church
Christmas Day		
	10am	Christmas Day Communion Service : Church
29th	9am	Communion Worship Service : Church
	10am	Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre

Church diary—JANUARY 2025

2nd	10am	Flower Arranging Team : Church
5th	9am	<i>Communion Worship Service : Church</i>
	10am	<i>Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre</i>
	10.30am	<i>Family Worship Service : Church Centre</i>
	5pm	<i>Prayer Meeting : Church Centre</i>
7th	10am	Friendship Club—Cafe : Lounge, Church Centre
8th	9.45am	Communion : Chapel, Church Centre
	7.30pm	Worship Nights : Hall, Church Centre
9th	10am	Flower Arranging Team : Church
	7.30-9pm	Bell ringing practice : Church
12th	9am	<i>Communion Worship Service : Church</i>
	10am	<i>Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre</i>
	10.30am	<i>Family Worship Service : Church Centre</i>
15th	9.45am	Communion : Chapel, Church Centre
16th	10am	Flower Arranging Team : Church
	7.30-9pm	Bell ringing practice : Church
19th	9am	<i>Communion Worship Service : Church</i>
	10am	<i>Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre</i>
	10.30am	<i>Family Worship Service : Church Centre</i>
	12pm	<i>Baptism : Church</i>
20th	7pm	PCC Meeting : Hall, Church Centre
21st	10am	Friendship Club—Knit & Stitch : Lounge, Church Centre
22nd	9.45am	Communion : Chapel, Church Centre
23rd	10am	Flower Arranging Team : Church
	7.30-9pm	Bell ringing practice : Church
26th	9am	<i>Communion Worship Service : Church</i>
	10am	<i>Coffee & biscuits : Church Centre</i>
	10.30am	<i>Family Worship Service : Church Centre</i>
27th	2.30pm	Mothers' Union AGM & Puddings : Hall, Church Centre
29th	9.45am	Communion : Chapel, Church Centre
30th	10am	Flower Arranging Team : Church
	7.30-9pm	Bell ringing practice : Church
31st	6.30pm	Ladies' Evening : Hall, Church Centre

Following the news that the Archbishop of Canterbury has today offered his resignation, Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert have updated the message they shared on 11 November.

“The Makin report on John Smyth makes sickening and sobering reading. That this level of abuse could be going on in the Church and other institutions, and knowingly by so many, is abhorrent and disturbs us to our core.

“As Bishops in the Church of England we are profoundly sorry for the hurt, the pain and the suffering which victims and survivors of John Smyth’s abuse have endured, and we are ashamed at the Church’s response to the allegations. We are also appalled that any clergy person could believe that covering up abuse was justified in the name of the Gospel.

“We agree with the Archbishop’s decision to resign, and hope that this goes some way in acknowledging the failures of the Church to act and respond to survivors and victims of this horrific abuse, while recognising that this can never undo the pain and impact on people’s lives.

“As Bishops we will continue to advocate for a process of satisfactory redress for victims and survivors of abuse and remain committed to creating a safer culture across our Diocese, and safeguarding the welfare of every child, young person and adult.

“We continue to pray for all whose lives continue to be impacted by the publication of the report and all that led to it becoming necessary”.

Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert

Answers to Christmas Quiz:

1. 1932 by King George Vth
2. Indian Ocean
3. Capricorn
4. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
5. Germany
6. January 5th
7. Blitzen
8. Norway
9. Robin
10. Gold, frankincense and Myrrh
11. Gabriel
12. Advent
13. Eggnog
14. Crown of Thorns
15. Saint Stephen.
16. Christmas crackers.
17. White Christmas
18. Ebenezer Scrooge
19. Turkey
20. Henry the Eighth

And finally

A couple were Christmas shopping. The shopping centre was packed and as the wife walked around she was surprised to discover that her husband was nowhere to be seen.

She was quite upset because they had a lot to do and hence, she became so worried that she called him on her mobile phone to ask him where he was.

In a quiet voice he said: "Do you remember the jewellers we went into about five years ago, where you fell in love with that diamond necklace that we couldn't afford, and I told you that I would get it for you one day?"

The wife choked up and started to cry and said: "Yes, I do remember that shop."

He replied: "Well, I'm in the pub next door!"

Mervyn Watts

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*Additional services in addition to toe nail treatments above
if conducted at the same appointment:*

Routine fingernail cut £5





Nails varnished (each set) £5

Foot & lower leg massage £5

Hand & arm massage £5



 **Have you got new neighbours?** 

 How about putting 
 a copy of our magazine 
through their door!

 You can get extra copies 
from 
the Church Office

01452 550 554



Something to say?

This is *your* magazine. We need your interesting stories, facts, jokes, poems, quotes, recipes, brain teasers, photos, notices or anything else that others would enjoy reading.

All contributions will be gratefully received by the church office or, preferably, please email:
stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com

**The DEADLINE for the
February issue is 15th January 2025**

Thank you.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VENUE

**for your children's party, family
gathering, meeting or other event?**

**St. George's Church Centre
is available to hire.**

The hall is located in the centre of Brockworth village on Court Road, GL3 4ET and has good facilities, including a private car park for hall users.

The main hall can accommodate up to 100 people, perfect for larger events, and can be hired for £20 per hour, or £70 for four hours.

The lounge can accommodate up to 25 people, ideal for smaller meetings, and can be hired for £11 per hour, or £40 for four hours.

**For further details, contact the
Church Office on
01452 550554**

Email: hire@stgeorgesbrockworth.org

**Or see our website,
www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org**