

The Church of England in the parishes of Melbourne,  
Smisby, Stanton by Bridge and Ticknall



## The Bulletin

*A weekly publication for the Parish of Melbourne*



### The Fourth Sunday of Advent – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Communion & Coffee

**Readings:** can be found on page 7

**Settings:** *Willan Kyrie/Harris*

**Gradual Psalm:** 80 vv.1-7 *plainchant* (page 8)

**Hymns:** 6, 11 v.5 men, v.6 women/children [181] 9

**Anthems:** E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come *Paul Manz*

O radiant dawn *James MacMillan*

**Organ Voluntary:** Es ist ein Ros entsprungen *Brahms*

*Refreshments are available after this service. Please join us at the back of church if you have time to stay*

6.30pm **Festival of Lessons and Carols, followed by mulled wine  
and mince pies**

(Please see Order of Service)

## Welcome!

Welcome to all worshipping here today with a special welcome to those who are visitors or newcomers.



## Daily Prayer in church

Tuesday & Wednesday      **Morning Prayer** 9.15 am

Tuesday                      **Evening Prayer** 5.00 pm (BCP)

Please note that for the time being, during the vacancy, Evening Prayer will take place on Tuesday evenings only. As is customary this will commence at 5pm in the Lady Chapel.

You will be very welcome occasionally or regularly. This church, all who live in this parish, and the needs of the world, are prayed for daily. Thursdays at 9.15am      **Holy Communion**

### Flowers at Christmas:

Thank you to everyone who contributes so generously to the flowers in church. Christmas will soon be here and once again it would be good to make the church look beautiful for this great festival. If you could donate towards the cost of the flowers, contribute greenery from your garden, an essential, or help with the decoration please contact Sheena Wilkins on 865053 or Margaret Murray-Leslie. The church will be decorated on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December from 10.30am.

*Sheena Wilkins*

### Christingle Preparation:

We shall be meeting on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 2pm in the Honner Room. As the saying goes "many hands make light work" we look forward to seeing as many people as possible. If you can spare an hour, please join us.

*Christine Franks*

Oh Joy.. to keep you out of mischief during the long dark nights and following the example set by our previous Rector, the Choir is publishing another lovely quiz! Sheets will cost £1 and the prize will be a £10 book token, and if Clive can get his act together these will be available **today** at the 8 o'clock and 10:30 services in the morning, and after the Carol service.

*Clive Avery*

***Tonight at 6.30pm***

***Festival of Lessons and Carols***

***Mulled wine and mince pies served afterwards***

***All are welcome!***



*In keeping with tradition the collection from tonight's Carol Service goes to the Padley Centre, and the Christingle Service collection goes to the Children's Society.*

### **First Lesson Reading at 8am:**

We are just entering our new church year and If anyone would like to participate in the 8am Lesson Reading rota please contact [karengrewcock@btinternet.com](mailto:karengrewcock@btinternet.com) The "8o'clockers" extend to everyone a warm welcome. [Sidespersons and servers are also needed for the 8am and 10.30am rota. If you would like to help, please ask the Wardens for more details or get in touch with Kate at the office - 862153]

### **Dower House Carols:**

The Choir has kindly agreed to sing carols at The Dower House on Wednesday 21st December 2016. The Choir will arrive at 7.45pm. The evening will conclude at 9pm following the serving of mulled wine and mince pies. All proceeds will go to support Melbourne Community Care in their work for our parish. Tickets, at £10 each are available from Griselda either in person after church or by email to [griseldakerr@btinternet.com](mailto:griseldakerr@btinternet.com)

### **Toybox Christmas Birth Certificate Appeal:**

"Toybox Christmas Birth Certificate Appeal.

A big thank you to all of you from Melbourne Parish Church, Melbourne Mothers Union and St George's Church Ticknall. A magnificent sum of £595.00 has been sent to Toybox. This means that they can start the research to identify almost over 18 street children and provide them with a birth certificate and a future. A full list of contributors will be held by the Treasurer of Melbourne PCC for church records. If anyone needs a receipt for their contribution please let me know and it can be provided.

Again, many thanks for this superb effort.

*Revd Margaret Jacques*

### **Advance Notice!**

#### **A Date for Your Diaries**

Back by popular demand - once again the choir will present

#### **THE TRAVELLING PEOPLE**

An evening of laughter, supper & song

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017

at Ticknall Village Hall

Tickets will be available in the New Year - book early to avoid disappointment!

**Giving and Receiving:** Many years ago, an American broadcasting company phoned some of the ambassadors in Washington DC and asked them what they'd like for Christmas. The calls were recorded and broadcast

on Christmas Day. The Soviet ambassador said that he would like to see the workers of the world uniting to overthrow the evil capitalist system. The French ambassador said that he would like to see the NATO powers working more closely together to bring peace and security to the world. The British ambassador said, 'Oh, that's very kind of you! I'd rather like a little box of crystallised fruit.'

I've never been very good at receiving presents. I remember the trial of family Christmases as a boy, opening all kinds of inappropriate and embarrassing presents under the eager gaze of assembled relatives, trying valiantly to inject my thank yous with some enthusiasm.

Giving and receiving. There is a short saying attributed to Jesus, not in the gospels but in Acts - 'There is more happiness in giving than receiving'. A throwaway line which we tend to assume is probably true. Yet is it so much better to give than to receive? It is of the nature of Christian life together, of any healthy life together, that we give to each other and receive from each other. And receiving, being able to receive, lies at the heart of this kind of life. What bothered me as a child - receiving all those awful presents - as it bothers me now is that being able to receive is important, and quite difficult, and yet we live in a culture where receiving is not given true recognition: we tend to judge people by what they give rather than by what they receive. But receiving is crucially important, and we need courage and faith to do it properly because it means losing control a bit, letting go, losing ourselves, putting ourselves at the mercy of other people. It is about being vulnerable.

As we prepare to celebrate another Christmas we are challenged anew to receive that greatest of gifts, the Christ who brings us eternal life. And that gift is, precisely, vulnerability, the vulnerability which lies at the heart of all our giving and receiving - the openness to others, the possibility of being rejected, the danger of manipulation. Yet the Christian message is that out of virtual nothingness, out of a fragile new life, good can and will come, and can and will triumph. It is hard to believe. It is hard to believe that the vulnerability will not be overwhelmed by the brutal reality of existence; that the light will be quenched by darkness. And perhaps that is why we have a tendency to become strident and competitive. But the Christian faith is earthed in vulnerability, it takes root there. It does not take the easy way out and push it to one side but finds its home there, among the doubt and uncertainty. God is to be found in the midst of the world's confusion of glory and suffering, even in the helplessness and total dependence of a newborn child - perhaps especially there.

*Archdeacon Christopher Cunliffe*  
*[Taken from Our Diocese, December edition]*

## **This week in connection with Melbourne Church**

<b>Tuesday:</b>	7.25pm	Bellringing Practice
<b>Wednesday:</b>	11am	Home Communion
	7.45pm	Choir Practice
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	10.30am	Decorating the church for Christmas
	2pm	Christingles in The Honner Room
<b>Saturday:</b>	9am	Bulletin production team in Church House
	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>Christingle Service</b>
	<b>11.30pm</b>	<b>Midnight Eucharist</b>

**A pattern for daily prayer, so that, at home or at church, we can pray together**

**Monday:** Those in great poverty or need.

**Tuesday:** Those who have asked for our prayers: Edna Brame, Anne Brazier, John Glaze, Roo Hubbard, Madge Limbert and Wendie Moore. Also those in Derby's hospitals and hospices. All at Pool Cottage.

**Wednesday:** Our group of parishes.

**Thursday:** The church worldwide. All Christian people. The local church. The Anglican Communion.

**Friday:** All in need, especially the hungry, poor and homeless.

### **The Departed**

In our prayers this week, we can remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur near this time John Simms, Audrey Clifford, Heather Cope and Marjorie Ashman.

### **Next Week at Melbourne:**

#### **Christmas Eve**

5.30pm **Christingle Service**

11.30pm **Midnight Eucharist**

(Sidespersons: Pam Starkey, Ros Bell)

#### **Christmas Day**

8am **Holy Communion**

(Sidespersons: Avril & Terry Harrison)

10.30am **Family Eucharist**

(Sidespersons: Sheena Wilkins, Margaret Murray-Leslie)

**No Coffee today**

6.30pm **No Evening Service**

# The Readings at 8am and 10.30am

## **First Reading:** *Romans 1.1-7*

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## **The Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 1.18-25*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

**Gradual Psalm:** *Psalm 80.1-7* (Plainchant sung by the Choir)

*(Please turn to face the Gospel Reader in the aisle during the singing of the Psalm)*

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep \*  
shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubims.

Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses \*  
stir up thy strength, and come, and help us.

Turn us again, O God \*  
shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

O Lord God of hosts \*  
how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?

Thou feedest them with the bread of tears \*  
and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.

Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Turn us again, thou God of hosts \*  
shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

## **Christmas Services**

### **Christmas Eve**

**5.30pm Christingle Service**

**11.30pm Midnight Eucharist**

### **Christmas Day**

**8am Holy Communion**

**10.30am Family Eucharist**

**All are welcome!**

