

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN MELBOURNE, SMISBY,  
STANTON-BY-BRIDGE AND TICKNALL



# THE BULLETIN

A weekly publication for the Benefice

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Services across the Benefice**



**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

- 9.15am Morning Prayer – **Ticknall** – Canon David Edwards  
10.30am Parish Eucharist – **Melbourne** – Revd Michael Rogers  
11.00am Holy Communion – **Stanton** – Revd Steve Short /  
Revd Alan Winfield  
5.30pm Evening Prayer – **Smisby** – Dr Nick Gravestock  
6.30pm Carol Service – **Facebook** – Revd Steve Short

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve**

- 4.00pm Christingle – **Live on Facebook** – Revd Steve Short  
11.00pm Midnight Mass – **Ticknall** – Revd Steve Short /  
Revd Alan Winfield

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day**

- 9.00am Holy Communion – **Smisby** – Revd Michael Rogers  
10.30am Parish Eucharist – **Melbourne** – Revd Steve Short /  
Revd Alan Winfield

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December**

- 10.30am Benefice Eucharist – **Melbourne** – Revd Michael Rogers

## From the Rector

Listening to the radio the other evening, the original 'Band Aid' single began to play. I was immediately transported back to the winter of 1984 where the 13-year-old me was bowled over by the vision (and the attitude!) of Sir Bob Geldof. It was quite a feat to see all the pop stars of the day hastily gathered together to produce a hit song that would raise so much for the benefit of starving millions.

Singing isn't something we have been able to do much of in church recently. Accordingly, everyone is very warmly invited to join in with our carol service that, God-willing and technology permitting, will be available on our Facebook page from 6.30 pm on Sunday night – please sing heartily!

My main Advent book this year is 'Into the Heart of Advent – Twenty-five conversations with Jesus' by Penelope Wilcock (SPCK publishing). In one of the daily encounters, Jesus talks about singing, saying:

“All creation is always singing. Birds, obviously, but the stars sing, too. There's the song of the sea and the song of the dawn. The vibration of everything that is harmonizes in the most glorious choral song and finds its keynote and its resonance in me. I hold all creation together in a harmonious balance of reconciliation in my heart. Nothing can sing without me, and where they lift their voice in song, I am the music. The melody of life runs through my heart.”

The Christmas story is full of singing and the harmony of heaven – mostly through angels and the heavenly host but also resonating in and through the main characters of the story. They come alive to the 'enduring melody' as the priest Michael Mayne would term it. It doesn't matter whether they were singing outwardly or not – their lives were transformed with a form of music that echoes into eternity.

This Christmas, may our very souls be touched once again by the harmony of heaven, that it may indeed resonate through us, giving us hope, joy and peace at the birth of a long-promised child who represents 'the invasion of time by eternity' (the theologian Hans Urs Von Balthasar).

*'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' Luke 2.14*

## **Advent Hope**

Between 30 November 2020 and 24 December 2020, Bishop Libby invites us to join her each week for an hour of prayer and reflection based upon seasonal Bible passages and collects as together we look for the coming of Christ and the hope that gives us of his kingdom. Advent Hope is open to all and will be held on Mondays from 8am-9am and repeated on Thursday 8pm-9pm. Please email [halina.johnson@bishopofderby.org](mailto:halina.johnson@bishopofderby.org) for the access link.

## **Compline**

Each Wednesday of Advent at 9pm there will be a service of Compline in traditional language shown live on our Facebook page ('Melbourne Parish Church'). Everyone is warmly invited to join together in these acts of worship – an opportunity to slow down and wait upon God. These are the links for each Wednesday:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-2-december-2020>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-9-december-2020>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-16-december-2020>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-23-december-2020>

**Every blessing, Steve**

## **Online Advent Calendar**

Many thanks to all who have contributed to the online Advent Calendar. This is available on our Facebook page each day during Advent. I will endeavour to post first thing each morning something from either a member of our Benefice congregations or an item from another source.

Many thanks,  
Alan Winfield



## Community Development

The COVID - 19 pandemic has highlighted how closely we are connected to one another and the importance of community. As we move into 2021, I believe that it is time for us to review how we provide support, development and care to both our church members and the wider community.

I have asked a small team comprising: Alan Winfield, Andrew Baldwin, Linda Latchford, and Kit Emery to undertake a scoping study to review current support mechanisms and the needs of our community and then to present suggestions as to how we should develop new ways of providing community support. They will be talking to church members across the Benefice. If you would like to contribute to this study please contact Andrew Baldwin via: [andrewbaldwin2012@gmail.com](mailto:andrewbaldwin2012@gmail.com) or via 07526 162305.

- Steve

## Christmas Window Trail

Christmas in Melbourne is likely to be rather different this year with many of our village traditions unable to take place as normal. Churches Together in Melbourne wanted the children and families of Melbourne to have something to look forward to and so have organised the "Melbourne Christmas window trail".

The trail will run from 18th December until 1st January 2021 4pm-6pm daily. Windows in homes, shops and public buildings will be decorated to depict different Christmas carols. Children will be asked to guess the Carol. Trail maps will be available to download from the Melbourne Methodist Church website. Paper copies will be available in The Rectory porch, Church Square, DE73 8JH or from 15 Packhorse Road, DE73 8EG. Many thanks to everyone who is decorating their windows to support this new village event.



## Quiz

In this strangest of years, some things remain. As a result of massive demand (well, three of you asked...) there is still a Choir quiz this year! Due to our altered circumstances, it isn't practical to charge for it, although as always donations will be gratefully received! There will be paper copies available in Church, it will be on the Church Facebook page, or available direct from [clive.r.avery@btinternet.com](mailto:clive.r.avery@btinternet.com). Happy quizzing, and we hope that by the time the results come out there may be a path back to normality.

Clive Avery

## Prayer Pilgrims

Friends will be aware of the opportunity made for private prayer in Melbourne Parish Church during the COVID-19 crisis.

Following feedback, the Prayer Pilgrims Wednesday midweek slot has been moved to straddle the lunch break (12:30-14:00) so that people at work in the town (either from home or at their place of work) can take advantage of Covid safe peace in the church building for prayer and reflection.

As the church will be opening up on 6 December, Saturday sessions will not take place December onwards.

Please let your friends and neighbours know of this opportunity.

No need to book, just turn up wearing a mask if you can.

If anybody else would like to join the volunteer team please contact Marcus Nolan on: (07966)545281 or by email : [thewordsmith@gmail.com](mailto:thewordsmith@gmail.com)

Thanks,  
Marcus Nolan



This is a link to a carol service that was recorded at Gas Street Church in Birmingham and has an outreach message as well, which ties in to the Bishop's vision of Mission and Evangelism. Gas Street is a HTB church plant in Birmingham.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1nA7vsXVX8>

This is the "Blessing" that was from that same team (Tim Hughes plus 65 other churches in the UK) that had wide circulation on social media and of course was praised by the Prime Minister for its inspirational music and message.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtll3mNj5U>

Nigel Coupe

## Church booking for Christmas

Booking is now open for the following services:

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass 11.00pm – **Ticknall**

Christmas Day 10.30am – **Melbourne**

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am - **Melbourne**

To book for the Melbourne services please contact Rachel Short on 07747 898638 or by email at [rach.short27@gmail.com](mailto:rach.short27@gmail.com)

To book for Midnight Mass at Ticknall please contact Mary Hirst on 01332 862647 or by email at [rtmh2007@yahoo.com](mailto:rtmh2007@yahoo.com)

Please provide names of everybody who wishes to attend and one phone number per bubble.



## An Invitation to Join Carols on the Doorstep

During the run up to Christmas many of us like to go to a Carol Service or Community Carol Singing event, this year we cannot do that but that does not have to stop us having a good sing with our neighbours and our community. On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 5:30pm the whole country has the chance to join in Carols on your Doorstep. All you need to do is have a radio at hand. That can be a DAB radio, Freeview on your TV (725) or the Premier Radio phone app. Premier Radio will play 3 or 4 carols for everyone to sing along to. A carol sheet will be posted through your door nearer the time.

This is a good chance to dust off that festive jumper or your most festive headwear if you like. It will be family-friendly so children welcome to bring something to shake or rattle along too.

At this challenging time for all of us let's try and bring a little joy to our community this Christmas. Why not dust off your favourite festive jumper or headwear too? More information can be found

at <https://www.facebook.com/CarolsOnTheDoorstep> or [www.newcastledistrictmethodist.org](http://www.newcastledistrictmethodist.org)





## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE 2020**



### **Sunday 20th December**

**11.00 am Christmas Communion**

- St Michael, Stanton-By-Bridge

**6.30 pm Carol Service**

-St Michael with St Mary, Melbourne

*This service will be pre-recorded 'live' and uploaded to our Facebook page ('Melbourne Parish Church'). There will also be an order of service to download also from Facebook.*

### **Thursday 24th December-Christmas Eve**

**4.00 pm Christingle and Crib Service**

*This year our Christingle will be broadcast live on our Facebook page. We will be putting together Christingle Bags that will contain everything (apart from an orange) you need to make a Christingle. These will be available to pick up from Melbourne Rectory in the days before Christmas Eve-check our Facebook page for more details!*

**11.00 pm Benefice Midnight Mass**

-St George, Ticknall

*To book your place, please phone  
Mrs Mary Hirst on **01332 862647***

### **Friday 25th December - Christmas Day**

**9.00 am Holy Communion**

-St James, Smisby

**10.30 am Family Eucharist**

-St Michael with

St Mary, Melbourne

*to book your place email:  
[rach.short27@gmail.com](mailto:rach.short27@gmail.com)  
or phone **07747 898638***





**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: Anne Brazier, Roo Hubbard, David Ingram, Kate Landenberger, Bob Smith, Joan Tatam.

Those in Derby's hospitals and hospices. All at Pool Cottage. All who are suffering from Covid-19.

**Wednesday:** Our benefice and our diocese. For our bishop, Bishop Libby and our cathedral dean, Peter.

**Thursday:** Our schools as they continue their new academic year. 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 remember those who have died recently and also those whose anniversaries occur near this time, among them Marjorie Ashman, Heather Cope, John Simms, John Rowatt, Kathleen Winifred Jackson, Wendie Elizabeth Ann Moore, Danny Blinco, Florence Caroline Paget, Joseph Laban and Gladys Marston.

**Bible Readings for Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

**Collect**

Eternal God,  
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory;  
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age  
to see, with her, our great salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## **Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 7.1-11,16**

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.'

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

## **Gospel Reading: Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will

conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Bible Readings for Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December**

### **Collect**

Merciful Lord,  
cast your bright beams of light upon the Church:  
that, being enlightened by the teaching  
of your blessed apostle and evangelist Saint John,  
we may so walk in the light of your truth  
that we may at last attain to the light of everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ your incarnate Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **Old Testament Reading: Exodus 33.7-11a**

Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand, each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tents. Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp; but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.

## **Gospel Reading: John 21.19b-end**

(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about him?' Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!' So the rumour spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?'

This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Grant, O Lord, we pray,  
that the Word made flesh  
proclaimed by your apostle John  
may, by the celebration of these holy mysteries,  
ever abide and live within us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Daily Hope**

The Church of England continues to run a free phoneline service of hymns, reflections and prayers. To access call: **0800 804 8044**

## **Contact Us**

**Rector:** the Revd Steve Short (day off Monday) 01332 864741

**Email:** [rector@melbourneparishchurch.co.uk](mailto:rector@melbourneparishchurch.co.uk)

**Churchwarden:** Dr Terry Gilbert – 07852 974147

**Churchwarden:** Mrs Linda Latchford – 07838 685243

**Assistant Curate:** the Revd Alan Winfield – 07796 560814

**Email:** winfieldalan28@yahoo.co.uk

**Parish Office:** 01332 862153

**Email:** melbourneparishchurch@gmail.com

**Website:** [www.melbourneparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.melbourneparishchurch.co.uk)

**Facebook:** Melbourne Parish Church or

<https://www.facebook.com/Melbourne-Parish-Church-Derbyshire-198938417583824/>

If there is anyone you know who would like to go on our prayer list or who would appreciate a phone call, do please contact Steve, one of the wardens or the parish office. Thank you.

## Christmas Music suggestions

I provide a selection of Christmas Music including many items we would sing and hear during a “normal” Melbourne Christmas, whatever that is! I do hope that it serves as a reminder of our usual marking of the Season. Members of the Church Choir recorded an Advent Carol Service last weekend and it is the plan to upload our Christmas Carol Service for 6.30p.m. on Sunday, the time when we would have welcomed you into Church for our popular Annual Carol Service. Please join in heartily at home with the well-known carols and enjoy the music the choir offers alongside the familiar Christmas story. I would like to thank those of you who have made such positive comments about our Advent Carol Service – we were all delighted with the recording as it seems to have “captured the moment”, enabling us to offer something familiar in such a difficult year. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfQrnwferqM>

I would like to record here my thanks to the Choir for their continued commitment and for achieving such a high standard of singing after 6 months with not singing together and with no midweek practices since March. I do believe the experience of singing regularly in Cathedrals, where we have to adapt quickly to sitting in various formations and singing in different acoustic properties, has helped enormously now that we have to sing socially-distanced in other parts of our church building. Please stay in touch: 07808 474236 or [simon.e.collins@btinternet.com](mailto:simon.e.collins@btinternet.com)

### Hymns

Once in Royal David's City <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xeZOnW2v6k>  
O little town of Bethlehem <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTPyKwqUUgc>  
It came upon the midnight clear [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSn0\\_Zj6gjQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSn0_Zj6gjQ)  
God rest ye merry, gentlemen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDcSyaW-tTI>  
Hark the herald angels sing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89k5cLsnx4Q>  
O come all ye faithful [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1wHyMR\\_SCA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1wHyMR_SCA)

### Choral Music

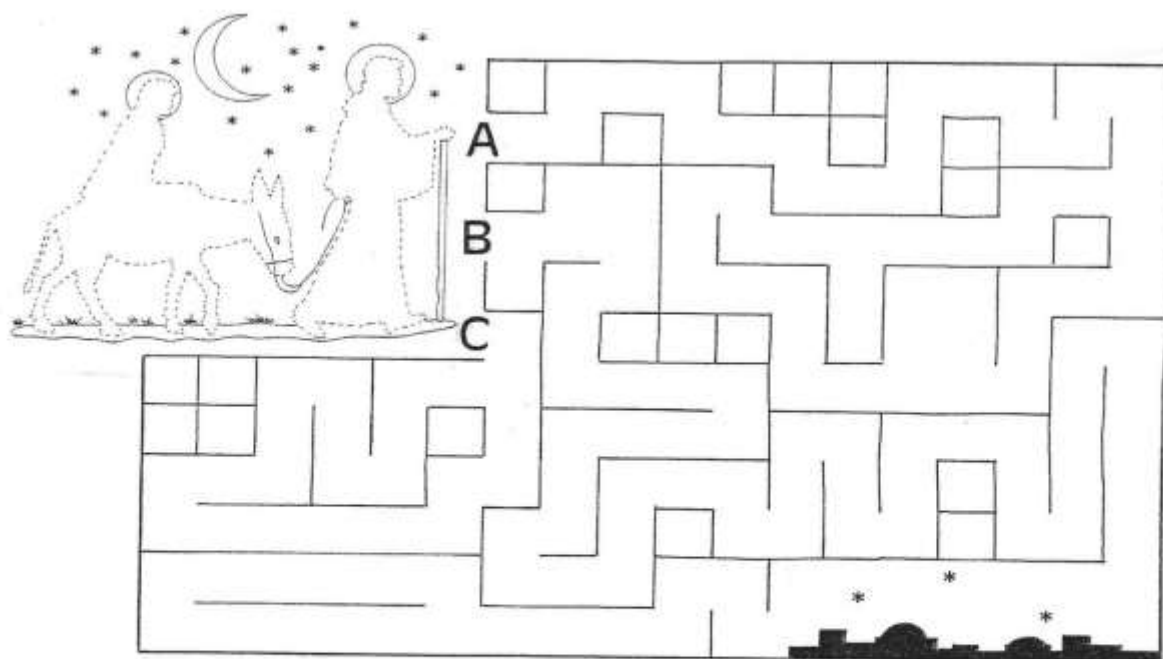
Philip Stopford: In the bleak midwinter [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRyLmNjAB\\_o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRyLmNjAB_o)  
William Mathias: Wassail Carol <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKdPMnNaGOQ>  
Bob Chilcott: Shepherd's Carol <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j8N2YTikOsc>  
Philip Ledger: On Christmas night <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Oef14kh3V0>  
James Whitbourn: A great and mighty wonder <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bt4ZbluobMg>  
John Rutter: Nativity Carol <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GiWPoXYNtZw>  
John Tavener: The Lamb <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-mSmEfLmZc>

### Organ Music

John Cooke: Paeon on Divinum mysterium <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbcWFerDyyY>  
Bach: In dulci Jubilo (BWV729) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MYcZoUsxPo>  
Bedard: Noel Huron <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWWpYSwTf80>  
Herbert Sumsion: The Holly and the Ivy <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbvSVAr4VJY>  
Buxtehude: In dulci jubilo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T2B8JV6fc7s>  
Garth Edmundson: Von Himmel Hoch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnxVALwvNcA>

I join the Parish Church Choir in wishing you all a very Happy Christmas.  
With very best wishes,  
Simon Collins, Director of Music

## Children's Corner!



Which road will Mary and Joseph take on their journey to Jerusalem?

This crossword has 10 gaps. Fit in the letters **coming soon**

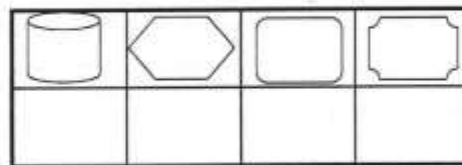
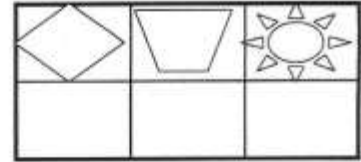
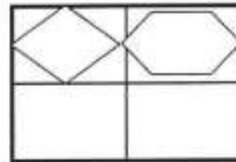
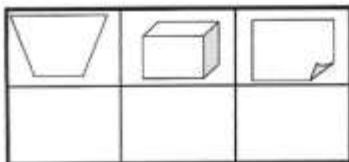
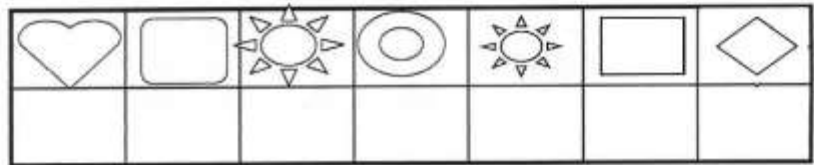
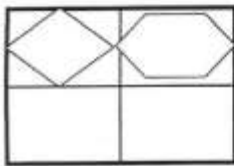
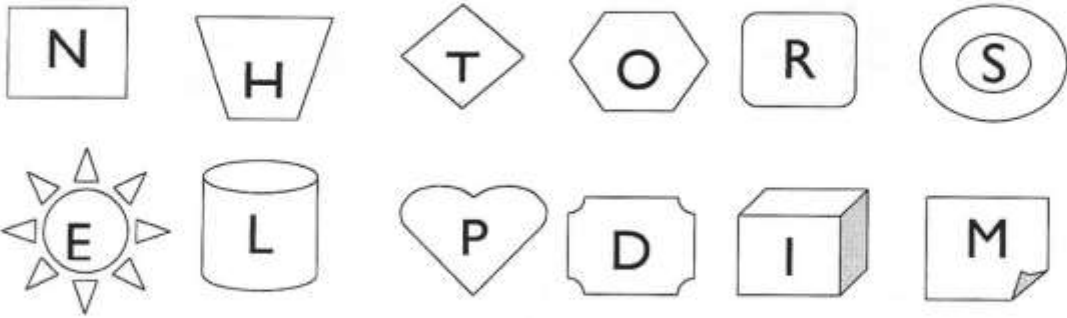


**Did you know?**  
It doesn't say in the Bible that Mary rode on a donkey!

Let us travel to Christmas  
By the light of a star.  
Let us go to the hillside  
Right where the shepherds are.  
Let us see shining angels  
Singing from heaven above.  
Let us see Mary cradling  
God's holy child with love.

Why did Mary and Joseph take baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem?

Fit the shapes into the puzzle below to find out



What did the big candle say to the little candle?  
I'm going out tonight!

**Groan!!!**



**Please take this bulletin home with you to  
minimise any risk of transmission.**