

# THE PARISH MAGAZINE

## December 2019



**17th December — Eglantyne Jebb, social reformer,  
founder of 'Save the Children' 1928**

**The United Benefice of  
St Michael Lichfield, with St John, Wall**

**80p**

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# Reflections for December

Dear Friends,

We are now at the darkest part of the year – the longest nights and shortest days. During December the daylight is just under 8 hours. Contrast that with June when we experience 16 hours of daylight. I feel for the folk living in the far North at this time, who have no daylight at all, just continual night! I once visited Norway in June when it was continual daylight. Although lovely, I found it difficult to sleep, even with dark curtains around the bed. And during the daytime it was so bright that ordinary sun glasses hardly helped.

In the Genesis Creation stories, light was the first element to be created -

“darkness covered the face of the deep” ..... “Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that it was good;”

This is mirrored by St John in the beginning of his Gospel, as he speaks about the “Word”, meaning Jesus the Messiah. - “In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”

One of our oldest fears is the fear of the dark.....the fear of the unknown. What is out there? Are we in danger? For our distant ancestors the fire would have been of major importance, not only did it give warmth and a means of cooking, it gave light in the darkness. Fire kept away dangerous animals too.

If I walk up to St Michael's in the evening for a Service, I always have my torch! Even if I have used the car and parked near the church, I still find the beam of light from my torch reassuring.

In St John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of his role as our guide, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.” (John 8, 12)

And “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” (John 9, 5)

If we follow his teaching, to love one another, pray for our enemies, and comfort the bereaved and persecuted, we will be walking in the right pathway, treading in our Saviour's footsteps, and we will not stumble, “But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” (John 11, 10)

Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains celebrate the festival of Divali, a festival of lights, in October. This celebrates new beginnings, the triumph of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.

At Christmas, into the dark comes the Light of the World, in the form of a new born child. And we may celebrate this wonder with lights. Lights on our Christmas Tree, in our windows, or outside. And in church with candles, whose flickering flames seem alive; reminding us of the ever-present Holy Spirit.

I'm sure we will all enjoy the Christmas lights in our city centre, and the excitement of Christmas shopping and preparations. As we are spending Christmas and New Year with our daughter Joanne and family in Washington DC, we will miss you all.

We will be attending Joanne's Church, St John's Norwood, where she sings in the choir. Their Rector is Rev. Sari Ateek, who was actually born in the Holy Land.

Like the beam of my torch in the dark, Jesus may shine in our lives – showing the pathway before us. Sometimes it is a path we are joyful to follow. But not always – it could be a challenging path to take, but if we trust him, it may be the most rewarding.

My best wishes to you all this Christmas, my heart will be with you.

Lesley

## Christmas flowers



The flower team will be decorating St Michael's Church on the morning of **Monday 23rd starting at 9.30**. The theme this year is silver and white. Flowers will be provided, but if you would like to bring extras or other items for your own display, that would be great. We always need greenery so please bring what you can and leave it at the back of church. New experienced or inexperienced flower arrangers are always welcome and help is available if needed.

We no longer use Oasis in the church for environmental reasons. If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one, please put the money in an envelope marked "Christmas flowers" and include the name or names of your loved one/s. Give this to Ann Lingwood or Diana Baker and a card with the names will be placed in an arrangement.

Thank you.

## Deadlines!

For **JANUARY** 2020 Magazine:  
Deadline is  
**MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
Contact David Bull

**Pew Sheet:**  
7:30am  
every Thursday Morning.  
Contact Parish Office

# Christmas Services at St. Michael's

## *Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December*

4.30pm Messy Church for Christmas

## *Sunday 22nd December*

4.00pm Carol Service

## *Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December*

4.00pm Christingle Service

6.00pm Christingle Service

11.15pm Midnight Mass



## *Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December*

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Carol Communion

### **Community Carol Singing**

***Saturday 21st December, 5pm***

in the car park near the entrance to

Roman Heights, Streethay.

Mulled wine and mince pies

# Christmas Services at St. John's Wall

## *Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December*

7.00pm Traditional Carol Service  
with mulled wine and mince pies  
(from 6.30pm)

## *Sunday 22nd December*

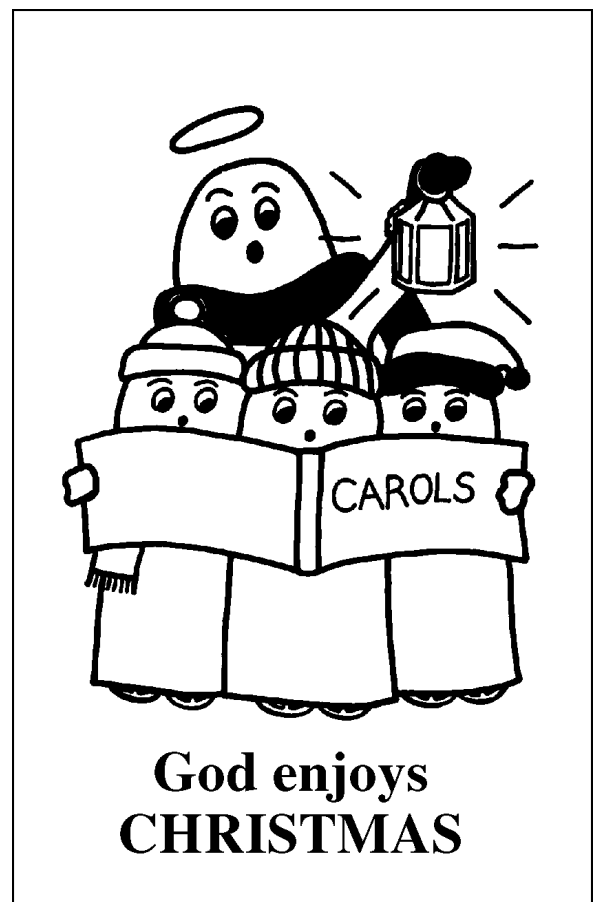
4.00pm Christingle

## *Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December*

11.15pm Midnight Mass

## *Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December*

9.00am Carol Communion



# Regular Services and Worship in the Benefice

## Regular Services at St Michael's Sundays

8:00am Holy Communion  
10:00am Holy Communion

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

10:00am Family Praise

## Regular Services at St John's Sundays

10am Holy Communion

### Baptism @ 11.30am

4th Sunday

## Other Services at St Michael's Sundays

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 12:30pm

Holy Baptism

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 6:00pm

Holy Communion

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 4:30pm

Messy Church

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 6:00pm

Choral Evensong

### Tuesday

School Service

### Wednesday

9:30am Holy Communion

## Music in the Benefice

St Michael's Church

### Wednesdays

6.30pm Girls Choir

7.15pm Other parts &  
St Michael's Singers

### Bells Practice

Every Thurs 7:30pm, St Michael's

### Baptism

Preparation First Tuesday at  
8:00pm at St Michael's

## St Michael's Prayer Group,

For information contact June Frayn (264920) or Brenda Liptrot (251863)



## Parish Surgery

For Baptisms, Banns and Weddings, staff are available at the Parish Office in St Michael's Church, Church Street on the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday mornings** in the month by appointment only.

Please telephone 01543 262211 or email [office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk) to make an appointment.



# CHILDREN'S SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

## First Steps



**Monday 9th December**  
**10am St Michael's**

## Family Praise

### Toy Service



**Sunday 8th Dec**  
**10am St Michael's**

Come and join us at our ...

## MESSY CHURCH

for craft, story, song and food on



**Sunday 15th December**

4.30 – 5.45pm

in St Michael's Church  
Ages 0-11 yrs. welcome

# MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION DAY

for the

## JANUARY EDITION

will be on

**WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER**



### **PARISH MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2020**

The annual subscription from January issue (delivered at Christmas) will be £8.50 for 2020 and 85p for individual copies. Subscriptions will be collected before Monday 13th January. Cheques payable to "P.C.C. of St. Michael and St. Mary".

If you wish to pay me in church I am usually at the 10 am service.

Thank you to our teams who help to deliver the magazine through the year and those who collect the annual subscriptions.

If you are reading this magazine for the first time and would like to have it delivered monthly please contact the office on 01543 262211 or email me at [brian@britcave.co.uk](mailto:brian@britcave.co.uk)

Many thanks,

*Barbara Homewood*

## Christmas IS coming

In my spare time I have made two stables with cribs.

If you have nowhere to place your biblical figures they could be the answer in which case please speak to me in church or telephone me on 254811 to arrange a viewing.

A donation would be welcome, which I would pass on to St Michael's Church.

*Peter B*



The floodlights at  
St Michael's will be lit on  
**December 24<sup>th</sup> 2019** in  
loving memory of  
3 generations of the  
**Barnes Family**  
**1884-2013**

## **FLOODLIGHTING**

Sponsor St Michael's floodlights to mark a special occasion or remember a loved one!

Your donation will brighten up the skies over Lichfield for the night.

**Contact the  
United Benefice  
Office on 01543  
262211**





**Eglantyne Jebb,  
social reformer,  
founder of  
'Save the Children'  
17th December 1928**

Eglantyne Jebb – the woman who founded Save the Children a century ago in 1919 – was one of the world's most charismatic, fiercely intelligent and influential champions of human rights. A British social reformer and former teacher, Jebb was appalled by newspaper photos she saw of children starving in enemy countries like Germany and Austria – starving because Allied troops' blockades wouldn't let supplies through. She joined Fight the Famine Council, a group working to get food and medical supplies to these children. She stood in Trafalgar Square and handed out leaflets that showed the emaciated children with a headline: "Our blockade has caused this – millions of children are starving to death."

"The child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress."

Passersby turned away from the disturbing flyer. But Eglantyne was determined not to let people ignore what she believed was a violation of these children's human rights. Her passion that day led to her being arrested, and she was found guilty and fined for her protest. But the judge was so impressed with Eglantyne's commitment to children, that he paid her fine. His money became the first donation to Save the Children.

Two years later, Save the Children was making a difference in the lives of children beyond war-torn Europe. Russia was experiencing famine, due to political and civil unrest and a rail system that couldn't effectively distribute food. Millions of children were dying. In the fall of

1921, Eglantyne and Save the Children chartered a cargo ship, the SS Torcello, to carry 600 tons of lifesaving food and medical supplies to Russia – an impressive feat of international negotiations and logistics that saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

A few years later at the 1924 League of Nations convention in Geneva, Eglantyne presented a Declaration of the Rights of the Child to leaders from around the world. Written by her, this short but clear document asserted what she believed were the human rights of every child. Stressing the need to especially remember “forgotten” children, the rights she called for read, “the child that is hungry must be fed, the child that is sick must be nursed, the child that is backward must be helped, the delinquent child must be reclaimed, and the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succored.” The declaration was adopted a year later and adopted in an extended form by the United Nations in 1959. The declaration later inspired the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, a landmark human rights treaty.<sup>1</sup>

Now, 100 years later, her legacy continues. Last year, we created ripples of change in the lives of 134 million children, including 447,000 in the U.S. Coupling our efforts with advances in medicine and technology, we could be the first generation to ensure that no child dies from a preventable disease, and that every child gets the chance to fulfill her or his potential. These now-possible realities were part of Eglantyne’s pioneering vision: a world where every child receives a healthy start, a chance to learn and protection from harm – for a brighter future.

1. *Convention on the Rights of the Child* [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convention\\_on\\_the\\_Rights\\_of\\_the\\_Child](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convention_on_the_Rights_of_the_Child)

<https://www.savethechildren.org/us/about-us/why-save-the-children/eglantyne-jebb>

**LARGE COPIES** of the magazine are available on request

## ***Intercession for Christmas time***

Christ, for whom there was no room in the inn,  
give courage to all who are homeless;  
in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, who fled into Egypt,  
give comfort to all refugees;  
in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, who fasted in the desert,  
give relief to all who are starving;  
in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, who hung in agony on the cross,  
give strength to all who suffer;  
in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord of the Church  
**hear our prayer,**  
**and make us one in heart and mind**  
**to serve you with joy for ever. Amen**

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers/prayers-christmas>



## Take a seat!

If you have walked through St Michael's churchyard recently, you will probably have noticed the bench that has been moved to outside the church entrance.



It has been positioned so that, when sitting there, you can see the Easter Garden and also the beauties of rest of the churchyard, especially the trees and the wild flower meadow, in due season.

It is also a welcome seat for those gathering outside the church for weddings, baptisms and especially funerals.

It complements the other seat near the church entrance which looks out over the city; and the area around it is due to be re-landscaped when the season allows.

# Mothers' UNION

Dr. Who had a Tardis and C.S. Lewis gave his characters a wonderful wardrobe to lead to adventures.

Somewhere in Burton Hospital is a special cupboard which is not so magical but can make life a lot happier for very ill people and their families. It belongs to Dawn Hardy who is an “end of life quality facilitator” She has been both a Macmillan and Marie Curie nurse and worked in a hospice. Now she works with doctors and nurses treating terminally ill patient and she encourages them to consider what matters to the well-being of those patients as well as their medical needs.

A patient who misses out on family events, birthdays, anniversaries , can have the party at their bed-side. From the cupboard come bunting, balloons and banners to decorate their room. Also pets can be brought in by arrangement. Also from the cupboard come pairs of teddy bears, one for the patient and one for a relative, usually a grandchild. These provide a connection between patient and family. Small lap blankets give comfort and can be taken home by a relative after the patients death. Some people like to create a memory box to pass on.

Dawn also supports the families and tries to provide pretty fabric bags and purses for them to take home their late relative's possessions instead of plastic bags and brown envelopes. All these comforts come out of the cupboard and need to be continually replaced as nothing



can be re-used, Unfortunately the NHS has not got the funds to help so she relies on gifts and does a lot of fund-raising.

Since her talk we have started collecting items for her cupboard so she can continue her work at Burton, Robert Peel and Samuel Johnson hospitals.

ON 11<sup>th</sup> November we welcomed Ted Green to give his Armistice talk which gave us a lot of back ground to World War 1. We learned about relationships between our political leaders and also between countries. Britain was not at first the super power in the relationship but under Lloyd George and the coalition our manpower and influence increased. In 1917 valuable assistance came from the USA with additional troops. 1918 saw The Black Day for Germany at the Battle of Amiens but even so we lost more men in the following 100 days than were lost in the whole of the Somme offensive.

November 11<sup>th</sup> holds various names in different countries, Armistice, ANZAC, Day of the Dead. The poppy was the idea of Moira Michael from USA and Madame Guerin from France. It was first sold here in 1921.

The 2 minute silence was first held in Cape Town in 1919. Ted gave us details of books to read to follow up his talk in more detail.

*Betty Lyne*

# ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD

On Thursday November 7th., members of St. Michael's Congregation and Lichfield Botany Group met at Martin Heath Hall for a **Presentation about the Trees and Wild Flowers of St. Michael's Churchyard.**

This event was a culmination of the Tree and Wild Flower Survey that had taken place over 3 days in August, 2018 and April and July, 2019.

The Presentation was given by Mark Duffell, Ecologist from Shropshire, who led the survey.

Mark's talk and photographs were excellent, and gave thorough explanations of the wealth of trees and wild flowers we have in our beautiful Churchyard. Having started with just 1 record in 2018 we now have hundreds of records covering not only trees and wild flowers but mammals, invertebrates, fungi and much more.

Of particular note are 3 special trees, a Japanese **Amur Cork Tree**, a **Bay Tree** and an **Oregon Maple**. Also, as well as the common wild garlic we have the much rarer **hairy garlic** growing in the Spring.



I would like to thank all those who helped with the survey. A full report will be published quite soon and copies will be available to all.

As I write we are looking forward to our **Community Bulb Planting Day** when we hope to further increase numbers of Spring flowers in the Churchyard.

I would like to thank all those who have helped in the Churchyard in any way in 2019. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. A particular word of thanks to Michael Toplis who works all day on most Saturdays of the year. Michael has done a tremendous amount of work in opening up new areas which will encourage wildlife to thrive in the years to come. The results of this are already beginning to be seen as we walk around.

Best Wishes to you all. Do enjoy the Churchyard in the winter months. Snowdrops will soon be appearing once again!

*Ray Allen*



**NATIONAL  
LOTTERY FUNDED**



# UNITED BENEFICE WALKING GROUP



Fortunately the weather was dry and sunny for our October walk at The Wolseley Centre, home of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. A short walk near to the Centre was followed by coffee at the new Kingfisher Cafe which has a very friendly, welcoming atmosphere and a great view towards Swan Lake.

The walk after coffee took us around the wider parts of the Reserve. Following heavy rain the River Trent was very high and part of the walk was not possible because of the amount of water blocking the path. However, we saw a large variety of wildlife and ended our walk with an excellent lunch, again in The Kingfisher Cafe.

*Ray*

There is **no walk in December** but our January walk will be to Barton Marina and details will be in the January Edition of the magazine.

*Angie*



I am organising a **Group Tour of BBC Birmingham** as part of a **Walk in Birmingham on 2 successive Saturdays: Saturday February 8th. and Saturday February 15th., 2020.** As well as the Tour we will be walking by the canal and having **lunch at The Malt Shovel pub.** We will be travelling to and from Birmingham by train.

If you would like to go on the walk please let me know as soon as you can. I also need to know your preferred date: **February 8th., 15th. or either date.**

**Payment for the Tour MUST be made NO LATER THAN SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH.** The cost is **£10.25 for Seniors; and £12.50 for Adults.**

Please telephone me if you would like to go on the Tour so arrangements can be made for booking a place and making the payment. Full details of the walk will be given much nearer to the date.

I am sure this will be an enjoyable walk and visit to BBC Birmingham. Do please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to go on the Walk and Tour and your **preferred date or either date.**

*Ray Allen. 01543 251654*



# ***St. Michael's Film Club***

## **1. Dick Whittington**

*Pantomime 111 mins*

Live broadcast of the 2014 pantomime recorded at the Bristol Hippodrome. The cast also includes Brenda Edwards, Andy Ford, Eric Potts and 'Britain's Got Talent' winners Ashleigh and Pudsey.

**Monday 2nd December, 1.30pm  
start**

**Refreshments £3.00 from 1.00pm.**

**St. Michael's Church**

**All welcome.**

Contact: Parish Office 01543 262211

## **2. Yesterday**

*PG-13 1h 56min | Comedy, Fantasy, Music |*

A struggling musician realizes he's the only person on Earth who can remember The Beatles after waking up in an alternate timeline where they never existed.

**Monday 2nd December, 1.30pm start**



**Film Review for  
December Magazine  
Casablanca**



In 1941 the city of Casablanca in French controlled Morocco is easy to enter, but hard to leave. The Vichy French police chief is under the watchful eye of the German Major Strasser and he will not let anyone he suspects go from Casablanca to Lisbon and on to the free world. In the centre of Casablanca is Rick's American Bar – *“everyone goes to Rick's”* – run by the world-weary Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart), an American who once found love in Paris with the glamorous Ilsa (Ingrid Bergman) but was parted from her when the Nazis took the city. Broken hearted and cynical Rick seems to care for nothing and no one. Yet, the casino in his bar is often fixed so that desperate refugees can win enough money to pay off the self-serving chief of police Louis Renault (Claude Rains) who is otherwise always prepared to exchange the attentions of a young woman for an exit visa.

In Casablanca the hopeless and the hopeful wait and wait and wait (as the film's opening sequence says). Into this tension come Ilsa and her husband the resistance activist Victor Laszlo. From this moment the rest of the film plays out the moral dilemma that faces Rick and Ilsa. Will Rick accept Ilsa's offer to stay with him in exchange for Lszlo's safe transport out of the country? Will he choose his own happiness or the greater good and the cause of freedom?

As the story unfolds Rick and Ilsa test their resolve as they listen to the song that meant so much to them in Paris - *As Time Goes By*. *“Its still the same old story, a fight for love and glory, a case of do or die.”* And as they part for the last time they agree *“we will always have Paris”*.

Every word counts in the carefully crafted, witty script with its suppressed emotions and passion. The second world war is played out among a group of seemingly polite people in a cocktail bar. The acting

is often understated but always good. There is no great violence but under the civilised surface there is real menace and tension. All of this is faced by characters whose dry humour and witty cleverness represents their bravery and ability to survive. Made and shown in the middle of the war the film holds up a mirror to the bravery and stoicism of ordinary men and women in the midst of horror at home and abroad. The one moment when real passion is expressed is when Victor Laszlo leads the assembled customers in a heart felt singing of the French National Anthem in riposte to the Nazi officers (sitting at the best table) who have begun a German drinking song. An eternal and moving scene. Indeed, in 2016 after terrorist attacks in Paris, this was the film clip that thousands shared on line.

Casablanca has a great claim to be one of the best films ever made. Fine acting, clear and concise dialogue and the themes of sacrifice, hope and redemption all contribute to this masterpiece. What is more it has left us a wonderful legacy of quotable lines: here are a few of them.

*Here's looking at you kid!*

*Major Strasser has been shot, round up the usual suspects!*

*Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world, she walks into mine.*

But Rick never says– “Play it again Sam!”

You will have to watch the film to find out what he does say to Sam the pianist.

*Simon Baker*



# WALL WOMENS' INSTITUTE

**FOR SEPT/OCT 2019-11-09**

Autumn will soon be behind us now, it has been wet, but now abundantly golden and flourishing in its glory. Our meetings recently have delighted us with happenings in the Garden. We were given an informative talk by Byron who has a Garden Centre at Curborough. He has been running his business since 2010, having moved from the Valleys of Wales. He gave us some good advice on feeding of plants now and for creating our winter gardens. He arranges garden visits throughout the year to places such as Chelsea and the like. Plants he brought for sale were eagerly taken up. There is always room for another one.

October's meeting was all about "Dragonflies", or The Devil's Darning Needle, as they are also called. Odd because they have no sting, and not harmful to humans. They eat most insects that surround the water areas, mosquitoes especially, which we should be happy with. There are 6000 species in the world, 45 species in the U.K. and 30 species in Staffordshire. They have 2 pairs of wings and an elongated body. They can spend 4 years as a nymph before becoming an adult, of which they live but a few months. Having listened to this very knowledgeable talk by Mr. Reynolds, our delight and appreciation of the dragonfly has further increased.

The Group meeting at Hammerwich was enjoyed by those who could make it, all about a Partial History of the Comic Song.

Christmas meal is booked now for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at Whittington Golf Club.

November meeting will be in the form of a Memory night. A warm welcome awaits anyone who feels they would enjoy evenings of learning and friendship.

*Margaret Wilcox, Vice President*

## Ramblings – December 2019

Help! Have you ordered the turkey, bought the stamps and the Christmas cards? What shall we buy Aunty Mabel... the children.... Have you bought baubles for the Christmas tree yet? Where is Father Christmas' beard?..... and so it goes on.....

Let us go back 2000 years....

Call the midwife...! Probably Mary didn't have one or maybe a kind woman helped with the birth. She was only a youngster after all. And so the baby was born – a son. Isn't He lovely! He looks just like His .....mother? He wasn't born in the best of conditions but He was much loved I am sure. We don't hear of the locals bringing cards and presents but we do know that shepherds came to visit straight from the fields where they had been spending the night looking after their sheep, probably smelling of sheep and none too clean either.... They were not exactly the most popular of people in those days, in fact they were on the very edge of society. Their job involved them in 24 hour care of their animals and as a result they couldn't always take part in normal religious life, go to the synagogue on Shabbat or to Jerusalem for Passover and the other festivals. And yet it was to them that the angels brought their message of the birth of someone who would save them, the Messiah promised by God. And they abandoned their sheep and came to see the child...

The other visitors we know about had travelled a long way to reach the baby. They were some sort of astrologers and had found out about the birth of the baby from the birth of a new star. They were learned and wealthy men, wealthy enough to bring expensive gifts to the child. It was not an easy journey. By the time they had assembled their

caravan of camels, servants and provisions and ridden all the way from the East to Jerusalem to find out where exactly the baby had been born, the baby was no longer a baby... probably a toddler of about 2 years old. We know that because the Jewish King Herod, frightened of a possible rival to his throne and power, killed all the children in Bethlehem of 2 years old and under. If you read the gospel accounts carefully you will find that by this time Joseph, Mary and their son had moved into a house. They escaped the slaughter of the children by fleeing by night to Egypt where there was a large Jewish community in Alexandria and other cities.

Think about it for a moment... If you could have chosen suitable visitors for the baby Jesus, who would it have been? What a contrast between shepherds and kings from the east! Think of the courage required to go to see the child. The shepherds had to overcome their fear of the angels who brought them the message, they risked their jobs and their livelihood by abandoning their sheep. The expedition of the wise men took 2 years just to arrive, it cost money, would probably have been dangerous and they did not know where they were going – they just went.

How will you celebrate the birth of the Christ child this Christmas? Don't miss Him in all the hustle and bustle. There is a cost involved in finding Christ and worshipping Him. Are you prepared for it?

*Christine Higgs*



## *Christmas Wreath Masterclass*

Wall Village Hall

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019

7p.m. – 9.30 p.m.

Cost: £5

Demonstration followed by opportunity to make your own Christmas wreath.

The cost includes the wreath frame, moss, wires and basic foliage.

*20 places available (first-come, first-served)*

*You will need to bring items to personalize your wreath (e.g. baubles, ribbons, fir cones, cinnamon sticks etc)*

**Ring Rob on 07765 122222 to reserve a place**

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# LICHFIELD WILDLIFE GROUP



Photo: Peter Norbury

**A talk by Denise Gold  
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**Tuesday 3 December 7:45 p.m.**

**Wade Street Church  
Frog Lane, Lichfield WS13 6HL**

**Admission: £3:50 (under-16s free)**

**Under-18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult.**

**Contact (01543) 263082**

 [www.facebook.com/lichfieldwildlifegroup](http://www.facebook.com/lichfieldwildlifegroup)



**LICHFIELD  
WILDLIFE GROUP**



# Winter Bird Walk



Photo: Peter Norbury

Photo: Tony Higgett

**A guided winter bird walk at RSPB  
Middleton Lakes led by Julia Winhall**

**Saturday 4 January at 10:00 a.m.**

**Meet in reserve car park, Bodymoor  
Heath Road, Tamworth B78 2BB**

**Under-18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult.**

**Contact (01543) 257812**



[www.facebook.com/lichfieldwildlifegroup](http://www.facebook.com/lichfieldwildlifegroup)

Design: Edith Coxzola

## St Michael's Rota - December 2019

Sunday 8.00 am	1 Decem- ber	8 December	15 Decem- ber	22 Decem- ber	29 Decem- ber
<b>Sidesperson</b>	Sandy Baker	Brian Smith	David Bull	Brian Smith	Martin Dewes

Sunday 10.00 am	1 Dec	8 December Family Praise	15 Dec	22 Dec	29 Dec
<b>Welcomers</b>	Mary and Robert McAllester Jones	Angela Burgess	Maureen Brand	Anne Lingwood	Alison Anketell
<b>Sidespersons</b>	Viv and Stephen Oliver	Caroline and Ted Green	Judy and Mike Godfrey	Barbara Homewood  Richard Keay	Pat Toplis  Mike Jones
<b>Reader</b>	Kay Martin		Mike Godfrey	Elizabeth Salt	Stephen Barton
<b>Servers</b>	Kay Martin David Shiel		Maggie Easton Elizabeth Allen	Kay Martin Elizabeth Salt	Maggie Easton David Shiel
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Sheila Vaughan		Elizabeth Allen	Elizabeth Salt	Maggie Easton
<b>Intercessor</b>	Trevor James		Peter Salt	David Easton	Trevor James
<b>Coffee</b>	Lynn and David Edge	Alison Anketell Judy Godfrey	Brenda Liptrot Shirley Trelfa	Caroline Green Brenda Eley	June Frayn Betty Lyne
<b>Healing</b>				David Easton Sheila Vaughan	
<b>Transport</b>	Ron Plimmer	Elizabeth Allen	Ray Allen	Ron Plimmer	Brenda Liptrot
<b>Flowers</b>					Christmas flowers



<b>Sunday</b> <b>12.30 pm</b>	<b>1 December</b> <b>Baptism</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Server</b>
		Kay Martin	Lynn Edge	Kay Martin

<b>Sunday</b> <b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>1 Dec</b> <b>Advent</b> <b>carols</b>	<b>8 December</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>15 Dec</b> <b>No service</b>	<b>22 Dec</b> <b>Carol</b> <b>Service</b>	<b>29 Dec</b> <b>No service</b>
<b>Sidesperson</b>	Brenda Liptrot  Maureen Brand	Sandy Baker		Lynn and David Edge  M and R McAllester Jones	
<b>Reader</b>		Ray Allen			
<b>Communion</b> <b>Assistant</b>		Ray Allen			

<b>Christmas</b> <b>Eve/</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Day</b>	<b>24 Dec</b> <b>4.00 pm</b> <b>Christingle</b>	<b>24 Dec</b> <b>6.00 pm</b> <b>Christingle</b>	<b>24 Dec</b> <b>11.15 pm</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>25 Dec</b> <b>8.00 am</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>25 Dec</b> <b>10.00 am</b> <b>Communion</b>
<b>Sidespersons</b>	Maureen Brand  David Bull  V and S Oliver	Maureen Brand  Mike Jones  M and R McAllester Jones	Brenda Liptrot  M and R McAllester Jones	Martin Dewes	Pat Toplis  Ted Green
<b>Reader</b>			David Easton		Angela Burgess
<b>Servers</b>	All please	All please	Maggie Easton Elizabeth Salt		Kay Martin David Shiel
<b>Communion</b> <b>Assistant</b>			Maggie Easton		Kay Martin
<b>Intercessor</b>			Phil Clayton		Stephen Barton

# Bible Readings

**Sunday 1st December**  
**1st Sunday of Advent**  
**[Purple]**

Isaiah 2.1-5  
Matthew 24.36-44

**Sunday 8th December**  
**2nd Sunday of Advent**  
**[Purple]**

Isaiah 11.1-10  
Matthew 3.1-12

**Sunday 15th December**  
**3rd Sunday of Advent**  
**[Purple]**

Isaiah 35.1-10  
Matthew 11.2-11

**Sunday 22nd December**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
**[Purple]**

Isaiah 7.10-16  
Matthew 1.18-end



**Sunday 25th December**  
**Christmas Day**  
**Midnight Service**  
**[White]**

Isaiah 52.7-10  
John.1-1-14

**Sunday 25th December**  
**Christmas Day**  
**[White]**

Isaiah 9.2-7  
Luke 2.1-20

**Sunday 29th December**  
**1st Sunday of Christmas**  
**[White]**

Hebrews 2.10-end  
Matthew 2.13-end

**Sunday 5th January**  
**Epiphany**  
**[White]**

Ephesians 3.1-12  
Matthew 2.1-12

**Sunday 12th January**  
**Baptism of Christ**  
**[White]**

Acts 10.34-43  
Matthew 3.13-end

# From the Registers



## Baptism

St John	27th Oct	Phoebe Sophia Rubisch	8 yrs
St Michael	3rd Nov	Rosie Anna Kobylanska	8 mths
St John	16th Nov	Grace Eleanor Hardie	8 mths
St Michael	17th Nov	Amelia Alice Moffat	4 yrs



## Wedding

St John	16th Nov	Paul Matthew Hardie & Helen Elizabeth Goodwin
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## At Rest

St Michael	28th October	Sylvia Gerda Edmonds	80
St Michael	4th November	Dorothy Joan Hill	85

# And Finally

When you look for the good in others, you discover the best in yourself.

*Martin Walsh.*

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>St Michael's Church</b></p> <p><b>Verger:</b> <i>Lynn Rock 252634 or 07765 312411</i></p> <p><b>Sacristan and Head Server:</b> <i>Maggie Easton 255308</i></p> <p><b>Organist and Choirmaster:</b> <i>Peter Hawksworth 251938 or 07771 986538</i></p> <p><b>Music Group:</b> <i>Richard Brooks 07918 906 350</i></p> <p><b>Transport Rota:</b> <i>Brenda Liptrot 251863</i></p> <p><b>Pastoral Care:</b> <i>Peter Salt 250723</i></p> <p><b>Flowers:</b> <i>Diana Baker 01543 416232</i></p> <p><b>Safeguarding:</b> <i>Maureen Brand 264880</i></p> <p><b>Junior Praise:</b> <i>Viv Oliver 258054</i></p> <p><b>Bell ringers:</b> <i>Gillian Eastwood 480017, Thursdays, 7:30pm to 8:55pm. <a href="mailto:gillieastwood@gmail.com">gillieastwood@gmail.com</a></i></p> <p><b>Mothers Union:</b> <i>Elizabeth Allen 304938</i></p> <p><b>Social Team:</b> <i>Contact via the office 262211</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>St John's Church, Wall</b></p> <p><b>Verger:</b> Hilary Barker 01543 482027</p> <p><b>Pastoral Care:</b> Christine Gilbert 07821 987999</p> <p><b>Safeguarding:</b> Maureen Brand 264880</p> <p><b>Magazine Distributer:</b> Eileen Carson 254107</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Other Useful Numbers</b></p> <p><b>St Michael's School:</b> 227425</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Parish Magazine</b></p> <p><b>Magazine Distributor:</b> <i>Barbara Homewood 255909</i> E-mail <a href="mailto:brian@britcave.co.uk">brian@britcave.co.uk</a> Magazine Editor: <i>David Bull 07525 012272</i> or email: <a href="mailto:dkbull053@hotmail.co.uk">dkbull053@hotmail.co.uk</a></p>
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