

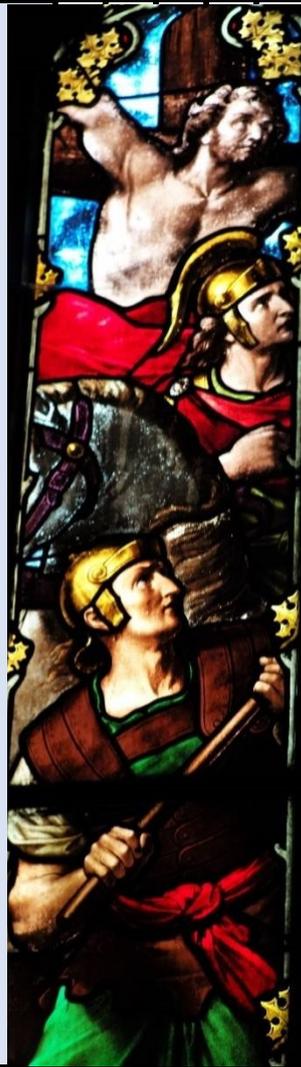
# Church Window

The magazine for the parishes of

**St. Peter's**  
Leighton-  
cum-  
Minshull  
Vernon



**St. Leonard's**  
Warmingham



*"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." John 1: 14a*

## December 2021

# Contacts

Enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals should be made to the Administrator:

## St. Leonard's

*Baptisms are usually held on the third Sunday of the month.*

### Churchwardens:

**Mike Sant** Tel: 01270 762819

Email: [mikesant@talktalk.net](mailto:mikesant@talktalk.net)

**Janet Furber** Tel: 01270 526393

Email: [lesjan@talktalk.net](mailto:lesjan@talktalk.net)



### Safeguarding Officer:

**Caroline Morgan** Tel: 07883 615910

Email: [morganburke120408@googlemail.com](mailto:morganburke120408@googlemail.com)

Website: <http://www.warminghamchurch.weebly.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StLeonardschurchwarmingham/>

## St. Peter's

### Churchwardens:

**Chris Ward** Tel: 01270 668 703

Email: [chris@ward1247.plus.com](mailto:chris@ward1247.plus.com)

**Patrick Smith** Tel: 01270 255705

Email: [patrickmartinsmith27@gmail.com](mailto:patrickmartinsmith27@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.stpeters-leighton.org.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stpeterslcmv>

## Registers & Information on Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

We are following Covid-19 guidance from the Church of England and the government in all our church services at the moment. Please check current laws yourself as well before planning to come to church, and please do get in touch if you have any questions. Current restrictions will remain for occasional offices unless a conversation with the Wardens has taken place to ensure sufficient measures are in place.



**Baptisms** can be held in both churches. Concerns about social distancing should be discussed with the churchwardens.



**Weddings** can be held in both churches. Concerns about social distancing should be discussed with the churchwardens.



**Funerals** can be held in both churches. Concerns about social distancing should be discussed with the churchwardens.

***"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted"***

## **An Open Meeting**

**Monday 13th December, 7.30pm in St Peter's Community Hall**

You are cordially invited to an Open Meeting with the Venerable Ian Bishop, Archdeacon of Macclesfield, to discuss the past, present and future direction of our Parish.

If you have strong views, or any views at all, this is the opportunity to air them!

The Archdeacon's stated intention is "To reflect together on the experiences of the last two years and to plan together for the years ahead".

The meeting will be held in St Peter's Community Hall on Monday 13th December at 7.30 pm.

Please come along if you feel able and participate in the future of our Parish Community.

## **A Thank You**

Thanks must go to Phillipa Goyer and John Edge for serving us with tea, coffee and biscuits every week after the morning service, plus all the others who help to wash up and tidy the tables and chairs away. We are all very grateful to them as it is a wonderful way of chatting and sharing fellowship with other members of the congregation and the visiting vicars who take the services. After the lockdowns of the pandemic we are enjoying catching up with each other - sharing news and events which we have undertaken during the week. Thank you.



## **Family Nativity Service**



***Sunday 19th December at***

***11.30am***

***St Leonard's Church***

**Children - come along dressed to take part "Round the Crib"**



**6 December**

## **How Father Christmas got where he is today**



One person you are bound to run into this Christmas season is Father Christmas. These days he seems to frequent shopping malls and garden centres. If he looks tired, just remember that he has been around a long time and gone through a lot of transformations.

Father Christmas wasn't always the red-suited, white-bearded star of the retail trade that he is today. He began life as Nicholas, born way back about AD260 in Patara, an important port on the southern coast of what is now Turkey. When his parents died and left him a fortune, Nicholas gave it away to the poor. He became a bishop of the nearby city of Myra, where he almost certainly suffered persecution and imprisonment at the hand of the Roman Emperor Diocletian.

Nicholas was a serious theologian: he was a participant at the First Council of Nicaea, which formulated the Creed which we still say today. He even, reportedly, slapped another bishop in a squabble over the exact nature of the Trinity.

Nicholas died in Myra about AD343, but the stories of his generosity and kindness were just beginning. One enduring tale tells of the three girls whom he rescued from certain prostitution by giving them gold for their dowries. When the father confronted him to thank him, Nicholas said he should thank God alone.

In the UK, Nicholas became the basis for Father Christmas, who emerged in Victorian times as a jolly-faced bearded character. Meanwhile, Dutch and German settlers had taken him to America with them as Sinter Klaas and Sankt Nicklas.

It was in America that Nicholas received his final two great breaks into real stardom. The first was when the Rev Clement C Moore, a New York Episcopal minister, turned from his life-work of writing a Hebrew/English lexicon, to write a fun poem for his children one Christmas. His 'The Visit of St Nicholas' is now universally known by its first line: 'T'was the Night Before Christmas'.

From Clement Moore we discovered that St Nicholas is round and pink-cheeked and white-bearded, and that he travels at night with sleigh, reindeer and a sack of toys on his back. It was Clement Moore who also revealed that St Nicholas enters houses down chimneys and fills children's stockings with toys and sweets.

So how did we find out that Father Christmas wears red? That was the US Coca-Cola advertising campaign of 1931, who finally released the latest, up-to-date pictures of Father Christmas: wearing a bright red, fur-trimmed coat and a large belt.

These days, it is good that Father Christmas uses reindeer and doesn't have to pay for petrol. In order to get round all the children in the world on Christmas Eve, he will have to travel 221 million miles at an average speed of 1279 miles a second, 6,395 times the speed of sound. For all those of us who are already exhausted just rushing around getting ready for Christmas, that is a sobering thought.

# Saturday Church

*“Telling the Christmas Story”*

Saturday 11th December

9.30am to 11.00am

in St Leonard’s Church



*Come along dressed to play a part in our Nativity Story as we meet together for story- time and carols.*

All families are welcome.

Arrive from 9.30am for 9.45am start

Try to let us know if you are coming but you can just come along.

For more information contact Helan by emailing [helan.isherwood@sky.com](mailto:helan.isherwood@sky.com) or ring on 01606 841711

## Family Nativity Service

Sunday 19th December in St Leonard’s Church at 11.30am

## Future Saturday Church dates for 2022

Saturday - 8th January, 12th February, 12th March, 9th April, 14th May, 11th June, 9th July - to be held in Warmingham Village Hall

**Introducing your community policing team**  
for Leighton

PC 30073  
Louis Martin

PCSO 23132  
Matt Oliver

You will see us out and about in your area. Please come and talk to us at one of our regular surgeries at your **Police Community Base.**

## Crewe Foodbank

We want to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to all of you who have collected and donated food particularly this Harvest. An amazing 4,402 kg of food was donated in October! This is a tremendous total and we are so grateful as the pantry had previously become **very** short of a number of food items.

In October St Paul's Pantry provided 217 people with crisis food parcels which represents 83 households.

We are aware that many of you may be thinking of collecting food donations for Christmas. We would really appreciate it if you could get any Christmas food items to us by 10th December in order to ensure that clients receive them in time for Christmas. Please remember that ordinary long life food items are still really the main priority and we are currently continuously short of items such as UHT milk, jam and long life cakes/puddings.

## Remembrance Sunday



As a wintery, watery sun filtered through the remaining autumnal coloured leaves on the trees, a small group began to gather in front of the war memorial at Bradfield Green. By 10.45am there were forty-four people and a beautiful black labrador called Hugo, waiting to join in a Service of Remembrance to honour those from the village who had lost their lives in the two World Wars.

Paul Ramsey led the service, a lay reader from St Mary's Nantwich. He began by reading the names and ages of those men who are remembered on the memorial. The oldest amongst them was only 33 years old, a Polish airman lost in one of the three air accidents that had occurred in the area during World War 2. The youngest was a 17-year-old, lost in World War 1.

The eerie sound of the air-raid siren from the Crewe Railway Works could be heard alongside the sounds of Big Ben to signal the beginning of the two minutes silence. This was very moving and even Hugo the dog stood to attention.

Wreaths were laid by a member of the Parish Council and John Whittingham aged ninety, Freeman of the Village and a member of St Peter's Church.



The service concluded with prayers and the National Anthem before the majority of those assembled made their way to St Peter's for another service in the church.

The church service was very moving as it concluded with those gathered making their way into the churchyard to the grave of John Robinson. John was a boy from the village who sustained severe injuries in World War 1. He was repatriated to hospital in Harrogate, but sadly he succumbed and died from his wounds. Again, John Whittingham laid a wreath on behalf of the congregation.



Following the service, refreshments were served in the hall.

Those of us who were gathered enjoyed listening to John Whittingham recounting how as a 7-year-old lad he had witnessed the loss of the three aircraft during World War 2 and could tell us exactly where they had fallen and how scary it had been.

As other conversations began to flow, the Davidson family told us how their son Jamie - a historian - working for a production company called Squeaky Pedal had helped them locate one of the graves on the war memorial belonging to the Crawford family. They have now set themselves the task of visiting more of the war cemeteries in Belgium and France in the hope of locating as many of the others as they can.

Considering we are still in the grip of a pandemic the turn out for Remembrance Sunday 2021 was something we at St Peter's can all be enormously proud.

Gilly Gainsborough Booth.

**Thanks must go to Paul Harvey and Philip Simcock** for their continued work keeping the areas of the churchyard, which Hardings don't maintain, looking so tidy. Particularly the area just outside the choir vestry door, plus other maintenance jobs. We are very grateful to them for their loyal support.



# Minshull URC

I realise that by the time you read this the event will have passed but regrettably we received notification too late for the November magazine. Many people in St Peter's parish will know the Chapel to which the article refers and will doubtless be saddened to learn of its closure. We always used to publish their calendar of services in our magazine every month and it's a great shame that we'll no longer be able to do this. We wish their now scattered congregation all the best for the future and will remember them in our thoughts and prayers.

**Minshull United Reformed Church have decided to close.**  
(due to lockdown and our age)



Rev. Geoff Felton, Moderator of the U.R.C. Mersey Synod, will lead us in our final worship, as a church, of the true, ever-lasting and never-changing God.

The service on 28<sup>th</sup> November will begin at 2.30pm and could last more than an hour.



It is rather sad for us as we might lose touch with friends who are special.

We remember with affection the many who supported our special events, especially the choir who sang for us.

We are grateful to the many people who have helped with our services: preaching, playing the organ, resolving practical problems, etc.

Without you our worship of Jesus Christ would have been modest.

We plan to close in glorious praise of God rather than a whimper.

However, because we are limited by the size of the church and social distancing, we can only welcome people into the church by invitation. Sorry.

You can still join us by watching on Zoom. For details on that please email Peter ([minsec@jamjar.org](mailto:minsec@jamjar.org)).

Our annual collection for the Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal will also be on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

This year we are asked to give money rather than toys etc. That will be easier to handle and it will help the Army to continue giving suitable presents to celebrate Christmas.

Any member would pass on cash or cheques for you, or you could donate directly to the Salvation Army.

Account name – SATCO General Income

Sort code – 60-01-73

Account – 00178123

Reference – CR01/11000/GP1-NM

**God bless you all**



**Thanks must go to John Harding and his men** for making a superb job of laying the stones at the back of the Hall, on the path leading to the Vicarage and the car park. It looks great and has finished off our ground works. It will be much appreciated by all as it was a wet messy area to walk on in wet weather.



## **Online Advent and Christmas services**

National online services can be found on the Church of England You tube channel and Facebook page.

### **Service details**

- **5th December at 9.00am** - Worship at Home for the Second Sunday of Advent. A Christingle service with the Children's Society.
- **12th December at 9.00am** - Worship at Home for the Third Sunday of Advent. A service of Readings and Carols.
- **19th December at 9.00am** - Worship at Home for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, a service of Solace.
- **24th December at 10.00pm** - Midnight Mass at St Paul's Cathedral with Sarah Mullally, the Bishop of London.
- **25th December at 9.00am** - Christmas Day family service with a message from Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- **26th December at 9.00am** - A service of Morning Prayer for the Feast of Stephen, the first Christian martyr, from Tewkesbury Abbey in Gloucestershire, led by Rev Catherine Williams, featuring some of the people who record and listen to the Daily Prayer podcast from the Church of England.
- **2nd January at 9.00am** - Worship at Home for the Feast of Epiphany.

## St Peter's Calendar of Services, Readings, Readers and...

Date and Day	Times and Services	Readings and Readers for the 10.45am services	Readings and Readers for Evensongs
<b>Sunday 5th December</b> Advent 2	9.30am BCP HC 10.45am Family Service	Philippians 1.3-11 <i>Gillian Booth</i> Luke 3.1-6	N/A
<b>Sunday 12th December</b> Advent 3	9.30am BCP HC 10.45 HC 7pm Evensong	Philippians 4.4-7 <i>Chris Ward</i> Luke 3.7-18	Isaiah 40.1-11 <i>Stuart Moss</i> Luke 1.1-25 <i>Ted Bermingham</i>
<b>Sunday 19th December</b> Advent 4	9.30am BCP HC 10.45am HC 6pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	Hebrews 10.5-10 <i>Ruth Edge</i> Luke 1.39-45 (45-55)	N/A
<b>Friday 24th December</b> Christmas Eve	3pm Christingle 11.30pm Christmas Holy Communion	Hebrews 1.1-4 John 1.1-14	
<b>Saturday 25th December</b> Christmas Day	10am HC	Hebrews 1.1-4 John 1.1-14	
<b>Sunday 26th December</b> Christmas 1	<b>No Service</b>		
<b>Sunday 2nd January</b> Christmas 2	10am HC	Ephesians 1.3-14 <i>John Edge</i> John 1.(1-9)10-18	

### ...Other Rotas for December

Date and Day	Sidespersons	Cleaning	Altar Flowers
<b>Sunday 5th December</b> Advent 2	Mr R Hodson	Mrs Darlington, Mrs Edge and Mrs Riley	No flowers in Advent
<b>Sunday 12th December</b> Advent 3	Mr P Smith Mr A Hollinshead	Audrey Bergin	No flowers in Advent
<b>Sunday 19th December</b> Advent 4	Mrs D Riley Mr P Smith	Mrs Harvey and Mrs Simcock	Christmas Flowers
<b>Sunday 26th December</b> Christmas 1	<b>No Service</b>	n/a	Christmas Flowers
<b>Sunday 2nd January</b> Christmas 2	Mr R Hodson Mr J Edge	Mrs Darlington, Mrs Edge and Mrs Riley	Christmas Flowers

For all those who usually decorate a window, we would appreciate it if we could have the windows decorated for the Carol Service on 19th December. Please contact the Wardens, Alison Bate or Audrey Bergin if you would like to decorate a window. Thank you.

# St Leonard's Calendar of Services and Rotas for December

Date and Day	Times and Services	Sidespersons	Altar flowers and brasses	Cleaning
<b>Sunday 5th December</b> Advent 2	11.30am Morning Prayer	Mrs J Baxter	Mrs K Richardson	Janet Furber/ Judi/Anne/Jane Newton
<b>Sunday 12th December</b> Advent 3	11.30am Holy Communion	Mrs B Whittaker	Mrs H Walker	
<b>Friday 17th December</b>	7pm Carol Service			
<b>Sunday 19th December</b> Advent 4	11.30am Nativity Service		Mrs H Walker	
<b>Saturday 25th December</b> Christmas Day	9am Communion with Carols		Christmas Flowers	
<b>Sunday 26th December</b> Christmas 1	<b>No Service</b>			
<b>Sunday 2nd January</b> Christmas 2	11.30am Morning Service	Mrs C Royston	Mrs J Sant	
<b>Sunday 9th January</b> Epiphany	11.30 am Plough Service	Mrs H Walker	Mrs J Sant	



*Christmas Lunch*  
*Sunday 12th December*  
*after the morning service*

**£25 including a glass  
of wine**

**Open to all ages**  
**Names to Mike or**  
**Janet ASAP, please.**



## Warmingham Village Hall

Available for bookings for Weddings, Birthdays, Christenings and much more. We have a meeting room and kitchen available

Please contact the bookings secretary:  
07483 906104

or visit our website for more information:

[www.warminghamvillagehall.org](http://www.warminghamvillagehall.org)





# **Christmas Raffle**

**to be drawn after the Carol Service on Friday 17th December**

**Tickets £1.00 each.**

**First prize is M&S Christmas Hamper  
plus lots more prizes**

**Tickets available from Kate Richardson or Janet Furber.**

## **Upcoming Services and Events**

**St Leonard's, Warmingham**

~~**Wednesday 8th December** Carol Singing in Bear's Paw **Cancelled**~~

**Sunday 12th December** Christmas Lunch 12.30 for 1pm  
Warmingham Village Hall  
Please contact Janet or Mike for more details and to add your name to the list.

**Friday 17th December** Carol Service 7.00pm  
Warmingham Church

**Sunday 19th December** Family Nativity Service 11.30am

# Warmingham Village News

## December Diary Dates

<b>Wednesday 1st</b>	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
<b>Saturday 11th</b>	Saturday Church	Church	9.30am
<b>Friday 17th</b>	Carol Service	Church	7.00pm
<b>Sunday 19th</b>	Nativity Service	Church	11.30am

## Warmingham & District W.I.



On **Wednesday 3rd November** members gathered in the Village Hall for the annual meeting. After the welcome we joined together in singing Jerusalem. There were reports of the previous two years events as the last annual meeting had been in 2019. The committee for the next 12 months was elected and from these members a new President was nominated and elected.

The new president is Caroline Dawson.

On **Thursday 18th November** Caroline was joined by some members to plant bulbs round the W.I. tree which was planted twelve months ago near the entrance to the church field. The commemorative plaque was also dug in.

Thanks to Mike for the plaque placement and Mike and Clive for help with the digging.



Clive, Helan, Cecilia, Lesley, Jenny, Celia and Mike joined Caroline to help with the bulb planting.

This month's meeting is on **Wednesday 1st December** at 7.30pm at Warmingham Village Hall and we are looking forward to being entertained by magician Matt Parrott.

Meetings of Warmingham & District W.I. are usually held on the first Wednesday of every month in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome and for further information please contact Caroline on 01270 526022

## Walk 'n Talk

On Tuesday 9th November the group took a local walk in Sandbach enjoying the autumn colours and observing a range of fungi in the Dingle area. Although the walks are organised by Warmingham W.I. they are open to everyone; we do fairly short walks with time to ponder the scenery and chat.



There is no walk in December but we hope to gather for a walk in January on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact Helan on 01606 841711.

Items for Village News should be sent to [helan.isherwood@sky.com](mailto:helan.isherwood@sky.com)

## News for Warmingham CE Primary School



On Remembrance Day we came together this morning to honour those who served in the armed services and thank them for the sacrifices they made for us.

Red poppies are a symbol of remembrance and hope for a peaceful future. During WW1, much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. The countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over repeatedly.

Beautiful landscapes turned to mud; bleak and barren scenes replaced them. There was a notable and



striking exception to the bleakness - the bright red poppies.

These resilient flowers flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, growing in the thousands upon thousands.

Some of our relatives and local residents have served in the armed forces to protect us. Some gave their lives for us. We are truly thankful.

Three brave young men from Warmingham gave their lives for our country during World War 1:

**Sergeant Richard Ashley** who served in the Cheshire Regiment whose motto was ' Ever Glorious'. He died of his wounds on 19th October 1914, aged 28.

**Private William Boulton** was killed in action on 24th April 1916, aged just 21. He served in the 7th Battalion of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry. The battalion earned the most honours so William was part of a very dedicated and brave group of soldiers.

**Private Joseph Henry Thomas** died of his wounds in October 1918, only days before the Armistice. Like Richard Ashley he served in the First Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment. They would have known each other, and may have even be good friends.

They are commemorated on the brass plaque on the west wall here in St Leonard's. The clock in the clock tower was purchased after the war in their honour.

We are also truly thankful to our brave relatives who served in the armed forces to protect us.

**Officer Carl Hoyle** who served 27 years in the RAF. He completed several tours including some in Afghanistan, Iraq and Bosnia. He even had a mention on the Queen's Honours List and received a medal from her.

**Private Charles Harold William Rawlings** served in the 7th Battalion Worcestershire regiment. He was killed in battle.

**Private Dennis Rawlings** who was killed in battle.

**Corporal Stewart Butters** served with the Royal Engineers for 13 years. He received medals for serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Corporal Arthur Walker** who was in command of a tank in World War Two. He was involved in the D Day invasion.



They shall grow not old,  
as we that are left grow old;  
age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and  
in the morning,  
we will remember them.

# November Puzzle Solution

How did you get on? I could not do better than 9 drivers. Did anyone do better? Here is my solution using 9 drivers.

Remember everyone including drivers has to sit with everyone once only! (Drivers are shown in **bold**)

The stages 1, 3 and 5 drivers will have to meet each other in stages 2 and 4 but this does not give enough opportunity for them to meet each other once only so I had to enlist another driver! Do you agree with this conclusion?

Love to hear from you! David [thulse@btinternet.com](mailto:thulse@btinternet.com)

	CAR 1	CAR 2	CAR 3	CAR 4
STAGE 1	D <b>A</b> C B	N <b>G</b> M J	K <b>F</b> O I	E <b>H</b> L P
STAGE 2	A <b>E</b> G F	D <b>L</b> O J	I <b>P</b> C M	H <b>K</b> B N
STAGE 3	J <b>A</b> I H	D <b>G</b> K P	C <b>F</b> N L	E <b>M</b> B O
STAGE 4	D <b>E</b> I N	A <b>L</b> K M	F <b>P</b> B J	C <b>H</b> G O
STAGE 5	P <b>A</b> O N	B <b>G</b> I L	D <b>F</b> M H	E <b>K</b> C J

## St Peter's Community Hall, Minshull Vernon

For hall bookings please contact Miriam:

Email: [mvchall@yahoo.com](mailto:mvchall@yahoo.com)

Tel: 07902 936490



**St Peter's Community Hall** has a small and beautifully formed committee of people who look after it. If you might be interested in joining this committee, please contact one of the wardens.



## St Peter's December Book of Remembrance

- 1st Lily Edge (1992), Winifred Mary Hollinshead (1992), Jonathan Lee Horn (2011)  
2nd Peter Williams (2016)  
3rd Darren Geoffrey Patrick (1994)  
4th John Stewart Thorpe (2008)  
5th William John Mackle (1988)  
7th Esther Foster (1913), Edna Craven (1994)  
8th Jacqueline Barnes (1995), Peggy Joan Winzer (1996), David Morris (2018)  
9th Douglas Tye Spencer (2015)  
10th Herbert Adolf Karl Winzer (2006)  
11th Frank Ollerhead (1989), Louisa Ethel Bolderson (1990), Elsie Barrett (1997),  
Vera Joan Earrey (2013)  
12th Archibald Leslie Goldie (1989)  
13th Tom Darlington (1993)  
14th Shirley Moss (2005)  
15th George Jinks (1992), Cecil Herbert Knapper (1996), Percy Edge (1999), Freda Nisbett (2006)  
17th David Graham Booth (2011)  
18th Arthur William Cooke (1983), Ellen Davenport (1998)  
19th Ivy May Knapper (1988), Diane Marie Manley (2019)  
21st Betty Foxley (2015)  
22nd Frederick Austin Cooper (2009)  
23rd Emily Hilda Jinks (1973), Robert Hazeldine (2008), Audrey Callwood (2019)  
24th Thelma Marie Epps (2012), Pamela Ivy Ward (2015), Harold Bolderson (2017)  
26th Rosina Hopley (2010)  
27th Winifred Maxwell (1992), Barbara Howarth (2017)  
28th George Henry Wilde (1961), Edward Haughton (1996)  
29th William George Young (1995)  
30th Reginald Arthur Gough (2008), Stephen John Foxley (2011), Mary Cecilia Mackle (2018)  
31st John Heming (2004)



## LESSONS *and* CAROLS

**St Leonard's Church, Friday 17th December, 7pm**

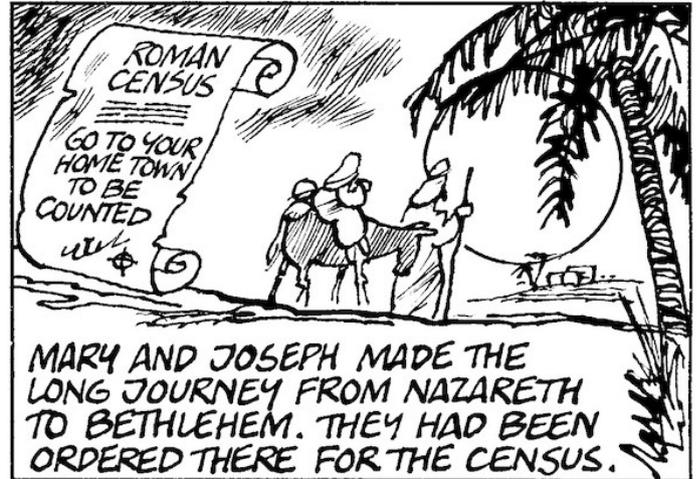
**St Peter's Church, Sunday 19th December, 6pm**

# A Very Special Baby

JESUS WAS BORN ABOUT 2,000 YEARS AGO IN THE SMALL TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, NEAR JERUSALEM.



AN ANGEL HAD TOLD MARY SHE WOULD HAVE A VERY SPECIAL BABY.



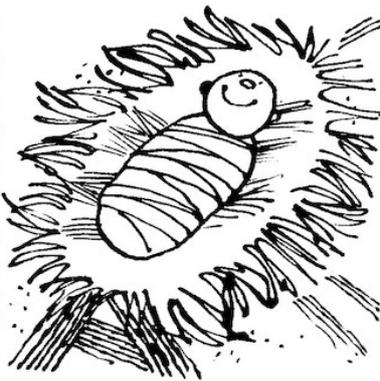
MARY AND JOSEPH MADE THE LONG JOURNEY FROM NAZARETH TO BETHLEHEM. THEY HAD BEEN ORDERED THERE FOR THE CENSUS.

BUT THE TOWN WAS FULL



THE ONLY SHELTER THEY COULD FIND WAS A STABLE...

...WHICH IS WHERE JESUS WAS BORN.



SHEPHERDS IN FIELDS NEARBY RACED TO SEE THE BABY



AN ANGEL HAD TOLD THEM WHERE JESUS HAD BEEN BORN.

WISE MEN CAME FROM THE EAST. THEY TOO WANTED TO SEE JESUS. THEY HAD BEEN GUIDED BY A STAR.



THEY BROUGHT GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH.

BUT MARY, JOSEPH AND BABY JESUS SOON HAD TO ESCAPE TO EGYPT...



...AS KING HEROD WANTED JESUS DEAD!!



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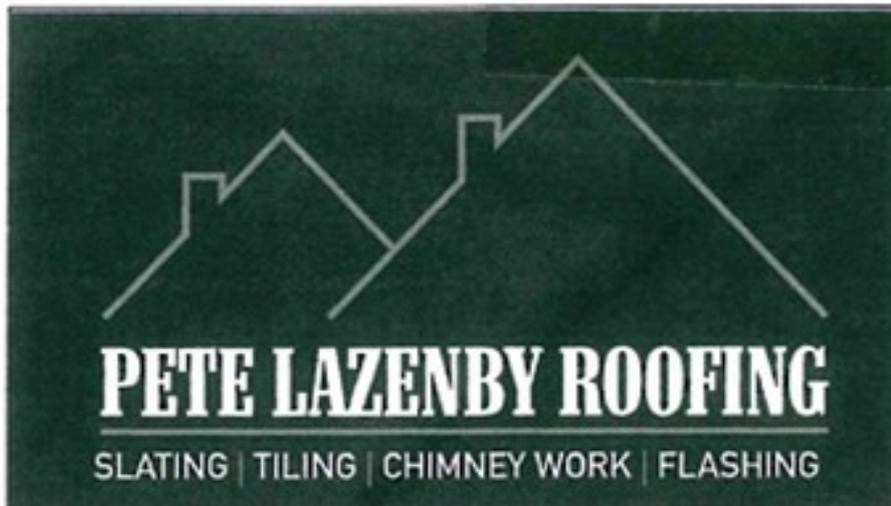
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