

Saturday 18th November 1973

THE VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioners,

Being the month that it is, this letter will obviously be about our festivities at Christmas. But let me first mention an event at each end of the season. The first we all know about - the start of our singing of the Series 3 Communion Service at the Parish Communion. This begins on Advent Sunday, 2nd December at 9.30 am. On the same day we have our annual Advent Carol Service and Procession by candlelight. This has grown to be very popular, and I hope it will grow each year.

From the beginning of our preparations for Christmas, to the aftermath of the festival. [sic] You may have heard that BBC Radio 4 has asked to transmit nationwide the Morning Service at 10.30 am on Epiphany, Sunday 6th January from St. Mary's. The service will be our Parish Communion, though as it is a live broadcast we shall have to adjust our time. The congregation are asked to be in Church by 10 am to allow time for the BBC Producer and his engineers to explain the procedure to you and to carry out sound-balancing tests before going on the air. Further arrangements for this will be announced in Church nearer that time.

The core of the Christmas celebrations will follow the same pattern as usual. The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday 23rd December at 6.30 pm. There will be no service at St. Chad's that night.

The Midnight Eucharist on Christmas Eve will start at 11.30 pm as last year with the Blessing of the Crib. On Christmas Day itself there will be services of Holy Communion at 8 am, 9.30 am and 11.30 am. The Christingle Service at 4 pm on Christmas Day has been a great success in the last two years. I hope that the number of children and their parents will continue to grow - last year there were nearly a hundred at the service. The children will be learning to make their Christingles at Sunday School during the next few weeks.

The Sunday Schools have their celebrations on Sunday 30th at St. Chad's when we hope that many parents will come to the Nativity Play and Prize-giving which begins at

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2.30 pm. The Sunday School New Year Party is on Saturday 5th January at St. Chad's.

May I wish you all a very joyful Christmas and New Year.

Darrel Speedy

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER AND CHRISTMAS

- 1 Saturday Holy Communion 9am
- 2 SUNDAY ADVENT 1 4th before Christmas
The Advent Hope
*Isaiah 51:4-11
Romans 13:8-14 Holy Communion 8am
Matthew 25:31-46 Parish Communion Series 3 (Dearnley & Wicks)
Sunday Schools 11am and 2.15pm
Holy Baptism 3.15pm
Advent Carol Service & Procession 6.30pm
- 3 Monday Holy Communion 7pm
- 4 Tuesday Holy Communion 7.30am
Junior Choir 5.30pm
- 5 Wednesday Holy Communion 9.30am (Mothers' Union)
- 6 Thursday Holy Communion 10am
- 7 Friday Choir Practice 6.45pm and 7pm
Holy Communion 8pm
- 8 Saturday Holy Communion 9am
- 9 SUNDAY ADVENT 2 3rd before Christmas
The Word of God in the Old Testament
*Isaiah 64:1-5
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Holy Communion 8am
Luke 4:14-21 Parish Communion 9.30am
Sunday School 11am and 2.15pm
Evensong Holy Baptism 3.15pm
1 Kings 22:5-17 Evensong 6.30pm
Romans 10:5-17
- 10 Monday Holy Communion 7pm
- 11 Tuesday Holy Communion 7.30am
Junior Choir 5.30pm
Finance & Planning Committee 8pm Vestry
- 12 Wednesday Holy Communion 9.30am
- 13 Thursday Holy Communion 10am

- 14 Friday Choir Practice 6.45pm and 7pm
Holy Communion 8pm
- 15 Saturday Holy Communion 9am
MESSIAH 7.30pm
- 16 SUNDAY ADVENT 3 2nd before Christmas
*Malachi 3:1-5 The Forerunner
Philippians 4:4-9
Matthew 11:2-15 Holy Communion 8am
Parish Communion 9.30am
Evensong Sunday School 11am and 2.15pm
Amos 7:4-15 Holy Baptism 3.15pm
Luke 3:1-17 Evensong 6.30pm
- 17 Monday Church School Carol Service 2.30pm
Holy Communion 7pm
- 18 Tuesday Holy Communion 7.30am
Junior Choir 5.30pm
- 19 Wednesday Holy Communion 9.30am
- 20 Thursday Holy Communion 10am
- 21 Friday SAINT THOMAS Apostle and Martyr
Choir Practice 6.45pm and 7pm
Holy Communion 8pm
- 22 Saturday Holy Communion 9am
- 23 SUNDAY ADVENT 4 Next before Christmas
* Zechariah The Annunciation
2:10-13
Revel. 21:1-7 Holy Communion 8am
Matthew 1:18-23 Parish Communion 9.30am
Sunday School 11am and 2.15pm
Evensong said Holy Baptism 3.15pm
5.30pm FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS 6.30pm
- 24 Monday CHRISTMAS EVE Isaiah 9:2-7
MIDNIGHT EUCHARIST I John 4:7-14
11.30pm John 1:1-14
- 25 Tuesday CHRISTMAS DAY
The Birth of Christ Micah 5:2-4
Titus 2:11-15
Holy Communion Luke 2:1-20
8am, 9.30am and 11.30am
Christingle Service 4pm

- 26 Wednesday SAINT STEPHEN
Holy Communion 9.30am
- 27 Thursday SAINT JOHN the Evangelist
Holy Communion and Address 10am
- 28 Friday HOLY INNCCENTS' DAY
Choir Practice 6.45pm and 7pm
Holy Communion 8pm
- 29 Saturday Holy Communion 9am
- 30 SUNDAY SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
Isaiah 49:7-13 The Wise Men
* Ephesians 3:1-6
Matthew 2:1-12 Holy Communion 8am
Parish Communion 9.30am
Evensong Sunday School Nativity Play & Prize-giving, 2.30 pm St Chad's
Isaiah 61 Holy Baptism cancelled
Romans 15:13-21 Evensong 6.30pm
- 31 Monday Holy Communion 7pm
- January 1974
- 1 Tuesday Holy Communion 7.30am
Junior Choir 5.30pm
- 2 Wednesday Holy Communion 9.30am (Mothers' Union)
- 3 Thursday Holy Communion 10am
- 4 Friday Choir Practice 6.45pm and 7pm
No Communion Service
- 5 Saturday Holy Communion 9am
Sunday School Party at St Chad's 3pm - 6pm
Broadcast Rehearsal 7pm
- 6 SUNDAY EPIPHANY 2nd after Christmas
The Showing of Christ to the Nations

Holy Communion 8am
Parish Communion 10.30am Broadcast Radio 4
(congregation in Church by 10am please)
No morning Sunday School
Holy Baptism 3.15pm
Evensong 6.30pm