



St Peter's
Glenfield

*connecting our
community to Christ*

Parish Magazine

Keynotes



**December 2021/
January 2022**

www.stpetersglenfield.org.uk

In this issue:	page
Staying in Touch with Keynotes / From the Registers/	3
Rector's Remarks: At the Heart of Christmas	4
Prior of our Community of the Tree of Life	5
Next Suffragan Bishop of Loughborough	6/7
Update on Singing in Churches	7
A New Dawn After COP26 Pam Harvey	8
Pray as you can, not as you can't	9
Glenfield Park W.I.	10
The Mothers' Union at St Peter's	11
Services for December 2021	12/13
Services for January 2022	14/15
Recipe: Tuna Fish Roll	16
On Reflection 9	17
St Nicholas	18
The Advent Ring / A Christmas poem	19
John van Hengel	20
Local Food bank	21
Growth Group/ Growing Together/	
The Arches/ Live-alone Lunch	22
Bumps and Babies/ St Peter's Music Time	23
Who's Who at St Peter's/ Members of the P.C.C.	24



February 2022 Magazine

The next magazine will be the February 2022 issue.

Please send copy for it by **18 Jan 2022**
to Doreen Denney, email: doreenmdenney@yahoo.co.uk
tel. 0116 233 8604

~~~~~

If you wish to receive online copies,  
please contact as above.

If you wish to receive regular hand-delivered  
copies of the magazine contact: Elaine Trayner,  
119 Faire Rd., Glenfield LE3 8EG, tel. 0116 287 2239

10 copies of Keynotes are produced during the year with a double  
month for July/August and December/January.

It would be greatly appreciated  
if our readers are able to make an annual donation  
towards the cost in time and finance.

## Staying in Touch with Keynotes

In the past, traditionally, there has been an annual charge for the magazine collected at the beginning of the year, which we have dropped.

Donations are very welcome but not mandatory. However, there is a printing cost and a number of volunteers are involved in the delivery of paper copies.

For information on how to donate please contact Doreen Denney by email to [doreenmdenney@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:doreenmdenney@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 0116 233 8604, but here are some useful suggestions.

Donations could be made using bank transfer, making sure the correct title for the account is used, which is 'Parochial Church Council of St Peters Glenfield', (no punctuation marks) sort code: 09-01-55, account no: 23015186, please quote reference: Magazine.

The other way of making a donation online is by using our online gift page and a credit or debit card. People can also Gift Aid that way.

<https://bit.ly/spg-donate>

For those who would like to give, but do not wish to use a digital option, either cash or a cheque made payable to St Peter's Church, Glenfield, in an envelope can be handed to a distributor or delivered to 33 Clovelly Road, Glenfield, LE3 8AE or 119 Faire Road, in order to donate any amount you feel appropriate. If you pay Income Tax, please ask for a Gift Aid envelope so that the church can claim the tax back. If using a different envelope, please mark on the outside 'magazine'.

For those who receive Keynotes digitally by email, the same methods of donation apply. An envelope can be obtained by emailing to [doreenmdenney@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:doreenmdenney@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 0116 233 8604.

----0000----

Contributions to the **content** of the Keynotes magazine are very welcome also and can be transmitted to Doreen by email or sent to her at 33 Clovelly Road, Glenfield, LE3 8AE.



### From the Registers. . .



**Baptisms** We welcome to God's family

Leo Turner 10 October 2021

**Funerals.** We commend to God's keeping

Dorothy Horsewood 18 October 2021 age 88

Janina Ann Khan 2 November 2021 age 74

John Frederick Bollands 8 November 2021 age 78

Kenneth Victor Russell 16 November 2021 age 91



Revd. Richard Trethewey,  
The Rectory,  
Main Street, Glenfield, LE3 8DG  
Email: richard@stpetersandallsaints.org.uk  
tel: 0116 287 1604

Rector's remarks



## At the Heart of Christmas

Christmas is about a thousand things, many of which we are going to enjoy resuming after an unexpected and unwelcome break last year – meeting family, singing carols and Christmas songs, even gathering with others for good food and fine wine!

Whether your Christmas is all about the events – the turning on of community decorations, the fairs and craft sales, the big family gathering, the work ‘do’ – or about your own personal traditions – the house decorations, the advent calendar, the Christmas morning bacon and egg sandwich (just me?) – this year we get a renewed chance to appreciate them together. I heard the other day about someone who starts their Christmas in August by getting the classics album on in the car. That’s a bit early for me, but it is nearly time for the annual dose of Slade and Wizzard in all the shops (other Christmas artistes are available).

Last year we had to celebrate a Christmas stripped of our customary patterns. And what was left? Did it feel like Christmas for you?

For me it did, not just because we had a brand-new baby boy in the house, but because even without all those other wonderful things, the heart of Christmas still felt very real and necessary: that 2000 years ago God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, born to bring peace, joy and hope.

This new family, living so many years ago, contains what we need this year, as every year: the chance to meet God and know his love for ourselves. However you celebrate – with traditions old or new – may I invite you to make sure you have space to connect with the real and lasting heart of Christmas: Jesus Christ, born for you?

*Richard*

**At the heart  
of Christmas**





## **Prior of our Community of the Tree of Life,**

Revd. Rachel Bennetts has committed to a life of celibacy in a moving service led by Bishop Martyn.

Rachel committed to the Single Consecrated Life in the service at St John the Baptist Church in Leicester.

After the service Rachel wrote about her decision to explain it to others: "I made my First Vow to the Single Consecrated Life in a service of celebration among friends, family, colleagues and Community. This is a call I have heard God whispering into my life over the years, but it came very clearly and invitingly whilst I was on retreat three years ago.

"I realise this isn't something you hear of someone doing terribly often, so let me explain a little of what it means to me...God has already gifted me other vocations; to be a teacher, to be a priest, but now this, which goes right to the heart of me, bringing a sense of fulfilment and strengthening my capacity to live out the other callings.

"What is Consecrated Celibacy? Well, just as the Church recognises marriage as a vocation and 'state of life', it also recognises the call to consecrated celibacy, which is why I was able to have my vow received by Bishop Martyn in a public service. From the days of the New Testament Church, we know there were people who felt this call of God to remain single, following the example of Jesus, making this choice in order to dedicate themselves, body and soul, in a completely 'undivided' way (2 Corinthians, Chapter 7, v34-35).

"Two words that are important for me in this commitment are 'chosen' and 'contemplative'.

"**Chosen:** for many people the single life is not chosen or desirable; I too felt this very keenly at times. My experience now, though, is of 'being chosen' and 'choosing', stepping deeper into my relationship with Christ. It feels every bit as fulfilling and beautiful as being invited into a marriage. So, whilst the vow of celibacy involves renouncing the possibility of marriage, it is for me now, an overwhelmingly positive choice, a joy-filled response to God's choosing, a 'YES' that I am saying wholeheartedly and gladly.

"**Contemplative:** the vow of celibacy is the touchstone of the monastic tradition that has for so long drawn me. In this vow I am voicing my commitment to live a rhythm of prayer, exploring a 'new monastic way' in everyday life. The charism of celibacy is about creating a rule of life in which there is 'space' for God, a solitude of heart, seeking 'the one thing necessary' (Luke, Chapter 10, v42)."

## Next Suffragan Bishop of Loughborough Announced



The Queen has approved the nomination of the Reverend Malayil Lukose Varghese Muthalaly (known as Saju), Vicar of St Mark's Gillingham, in the Diocese of Rochester, to the Suffragan See of Loughborough, in the Diocese of Leicester.

He succeeds the first-ever Bishop of Loughborough, the Right Revd. Dr. Guli Francis-Dehqani who became Bishop of Chelmsford earlier this year.

The announcement naming the next Bishop of Loughborough was made by Downing Street at 10.02am on Friday, 12 November 2021. The identity of any Bishop-elect has to be kept a closely guarded secret until Number 10 publishes the news.

The night before, Bishop-elect Saju and his family attended Curve Theatre in Leicester to see *The Lion*, *The Witch* and *The Wardrobe* and were introduced to the diocese at various events in Leicestershire on Friday.

The day began with Bishop Martyn announcing the news in the Old Hall of Brooksby Melton College, where the new Bishop Elect of Loughborough was also presented with a number of gifts each representing an area of diocesan life with which he'll be involved. Saju and his family received gifts representing various elements of the life of the diocese from various people including school children from Church of England schools Thrusington Primary and Rawlins Academy and members of the Bishop's Youth Council. The party then travelled the short distance to the rural parish church of St Michael and All Angels, Brooksby, where prayers were said for him and his family asking for God's blessing on their forthcoming move to the diocese.

Lunch was at Christ The King Church, Beaumont Leys, Leicester, where Saju learned about the church's social action projects, which include a Holiday Hunger scheme, food bank and Cook and Eat Hub. Saju's consecration service is likely to take place in London in January and an official public welcome service will be held in the diocese in the spring when he and his wife and four children move to the county.

As Suffragan Bishop, Saju will share oversight of the diocese with the Diocesan Bishop, The Rt.Revd. Martyn Snow, Bishop of Leicester, and will support clergy and lay ministers in every Anglican worshipping community across our city and county.

Alongside the normal duties of a bishop, Saju will have particular oversight responsibilities for:

- ◆ Our 'Intercultural Worshipping Communities' programme and our Diocesan Racial Equity Strategy
- ◆ Our development of 'new communities' (church plants and fresh expressions of Church)
- ◆ Our vocations and training work



Bishop of Leicester, the Rt.Revd. Martyn Snow said: "We are delighted that Saju is coming to join us in the Diocese of Leicester where we cherish the wide diversity of our worshipping communities and are looking to strengthen parishes and help them do more with their local schools. We look forward to the energy and enthusiasm Saju brings, knowing that he will be a Bishop who is first and foremost a disciple committed to listening and learning as he joins us in our vision of seeking the Kingdom of God."

He is married to Katy who has a background in Youth & Community Work and has more recently dedicated her time to raising their four children: Jonah (8), Abraham (9), Zipp (10) and Zeph (12).

### **Background**

Saju was brought up in the Syrian Orthodox Church in Kerala India by his family who are Christians who trace their spiritual and cultural lineage back to St Thomas the Apostle who is said to have taken the Good News of Jesus to the region in the first century AD.

Saju committed his life to Christ as a young teenager and studied at the Southern Asia Bible College in Bangalore and trained for ministry at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. He served his title at St Thomas', Lancaster in the Diocese of Blackburn and was ordained Priest in 2009.

Currently Captain of Rochester and Canterbury Diocesan Cricket Team, Saju also enjoys running (having just completed his third marathon), playing the guitar and cooking.



### **Time for a smile**

Do you sometimes get pestered by unwanted telephone calls from people who want to either sell you something or get you to take part in a survey? If you see a number on your phone you don't recognise, try answering the phone with, "Hello, thanks for ringing. You're on the air now!" Most of them will hang up.

## A new dawn after COP26?

How can we, as Christians, continue to have hope as we move forward following the UN climate talks?

*You will remember that in our November magazine, we highlighted the importance of COP26. As a church we support Tearfund in prayer and giving. They were well represented at COP26 and here are their reflections.*

The climate crisis can feel like an overwhelming issue, one where it can be difficult to imagine that we can make a difference. Yet as we look back at COP26, we can see that, while it fell short of delivering all that we need, a difference *has* been made. The prayers and actions of ordinary people around the world have borne fruit.

And no matter the challenge ahead of us – we take heart from our belief in the God of justice. Alok Sharma, who led the talks, called them our ‘last, best hope’. Yet, as Christians, we know that this is not true. Hope is alive in Christ.

A key priority going into COP26 was for governments to take action that would limit global heating to 1.5°C. If the promises made during the conference are kept, then heating could be kept to below 2°C. While this is not enough, it is progress – previously, we were on track for a disastrous rise of closer to 3°C.

Governments have been asked to make stronger plans to limit global heating further, ahead of next year’s climate talks. Every fraction of a degree can make the difference between life and death for people living in poverty.

Furthermore, almost 40 nations and institutions have committed to end overseas public finance for coal, oil and gas by the end of 2022. This could shift at least \$24 billion a year out of fossil fuels and into clean energy. This is a welcome signal that polluting, creation-harming fossil fuels are being consigned to the history books.

Again, there is far more to be done. But we believe – and we will keep believing – that if we continue to put pressure on governments to take action then it can, and will, be done.

One of the most heartening things about COP26 and the lead up to it was to see the growing movement of Christians who are now praying, speaking up and taking action on the climate crisis. If we continue to raise our voices together, then the door of possibility will always be open.





*Pray as you can, .....not as you can't!*

Dr Ruth Valerio works with Tearfund and is their Director of Global Advocacy and Influencing. She says: “*Climate justice won't be achieved by a single person, decision or conference, but millions of us will continue to play our part and demand that world leaders play theirs.*”

*“We will continue to pray, to act, to hold leaders to account and to call for justice. And we will continue to walk by faith and keep our eyes fixed on God who can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine.*”

*“We won't give up. Hope is not a feeling, it is a decision – a decision we can continue to make each day. We will continue to be God's hands and feet as we strive to protect the world's most vulnerable communities from the climate crisis. Please join us in prayer.”*

**God of justice, We pray that the progress made at COP26 will be a stepping stone to genuine change: that following these talks governments will put words into action, and the policies will be put in place that will avert disaster. Help us continue to hold on to hope – to never give up but keep praying, speaking out and taking action. And we lift up people around the world whose lives today are being turned upside down by the climate crisis. May the world hear their cries, and do something about it. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

When I was in Sunday School many years ago the Collect of the Sunday before Advent went like this:

***Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

That Sunday was called “Stir up Sunday” and the Christmas puddings were supposed to be prepared and made by that Sunday!

It is a good prayer for each one of us to pray for ourselves! The dark evenings and chilly mornings are liable to make us slow and even downhearted. COP26 which we have heard so much about can add to that, too.

But as the late Ray Piggins used to say “God is good all the time, and all the time God is good”. I do hope you believe that. I do!

*Pam Harvey*



## Glenfield Park W.I.

*Meetings 1st Thursday each month  
in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.*

*New members and visitors are always welcome*



Wow! we managed another meeting. This was our Annual Meeting. “How boring” you say but, in fact, we had a good meeting, albeit with depleted numbers (covid and super-cold were to blame.) The committee and officers agreed to stand for another year (no arm twisting involved.) We then had an overview of the past year. This didn't take long (I wonder why?) We agreed it was lovely to be able to meet up again and we looked forward to the next year . Do we need to cross our fingers?

Our treasurer also presented the financial statement so we can carry on, which is good news. After all this business, it was enjoyable to have some social time which involved a random selection of quiz questions with varying degrees of success. For example, What is the county flower of Leicestershire. No, we didn't know either. In fact it's the foxglove. Another selection was about Monopoly. Perhaps we thought we might do better with this. However, not having played for years, we didn't fare much better. Perhaps you know at which property Hamley's is situated . Did you do better than us? That's right, it's Regent Street. Still it was fun guessing and gave rise to a few laughs..

Finally the highlight of the evening - Food!!! an excellent spread provided by members in true W.I. tradition and an excellent end to the evening as members took the opportunity to socialise.

*Pam Wilson*

Our next meeting is on **December 3rd** In the Memorial Hall and the talk is 150 years of Primary Education by Michael Dix. Do come and join us.



Sat it again, quickly

## Mothers' Union Group at St Peter's



Greetings members and friends.

I write on November 11<sup>th</sup> after observing the two minutes silence, a day when we remember with thanksgiving all who gave their lives to keep others safe.

We have also marked All Souls Day by remembering our nearest and dearest and those who have influenced our lives in so many ways. In reminiscing and sharing of memories we reaffirm the importance of family and community.

During these last twenty two months we have realised the need for those friends and family. With them and through them, we build memories. We keep these memories in objects which we store away or handle regularly; some are shared experiences and ideas and some we keep close in our hearts.

The Israelites were constantly being encouraged to 'remember' their story- Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, the Exodus. It is vitally important that WE look back and remember, but that we also look forward with hope and determination to build a 'new story', a better story for ourselves and all who mean so much. Trust in the Lord for He is our Hope for the future.

As we prepare to join with family over the Christmas season- either personally or remotely- please remember those who have no one to celebrate with or who are prevented from doing so.

*Lydia*

---

Elaine Trayner has invited us to her home for our December gathering. It will be held at 2-15pm on Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. at 119 Faire Road.

---

'Oh God our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.' *Isaac Watts.*



***Strapline***

In those churches where vagueness is in vogue,  
all they have is the courage of their confusions.

\* \* \*

Christmas isn't a date – it's a state of mind and heart.

# SERVICES DECEMBER 2021

| DATE                                             | GLENFIELD                                                                      | NEWTOWN LINFORD                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 5 Dec<br>A2<br><i>A Harvest of righteousness</i> | 8.30am Holy Communion<br><br>10am Baptism                                      | 10am Holy Communion                                |
| 12 Dec<br>A3<br><i>Guarded in peace</i>          | 10am Holy Communion<br><br>3pm Family Carols/Christingle<br><br>Online service | 10am Morning Prayer                                |
| 19 Dec<br>A4<br><i>Joy and blessing</i>          | 10am Morning Worship<br><br>5pm Carols by Candlelight                          | 10am Holy Communion<br><br>7.30pm Carols           |
| 24 Dec<br>CE<br><i>The midnight message</i>      | 11.15pm Midnight Communion                                                     | 3pm Crib Service<br><br>11.30pm Midnight Communion |
| 25 Dec<br>CD<br><i>Light has dawned</i>          | 10.30am Holy Communion<br><br>Online Service                                   | 9am Holy Communion                                 |
| 26 Dec<br>BD<br><i>Different receptions</i>      | 10am<br>Group Holy Communion<br>at St Peter's                                  | 10am<br>Group Holy Communion<br>at St Peter's      |

When no separate Online Service is indicated,  
the 10am onsite service will be live-streamed on our Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield/live](http://www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield/live)

## MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES

|                        |       |         |                 |                 |  |                  |  |
|------------------------|-------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|--|------------------|--|
| <b>GLENFIELD</b>       | Wed   | 10.30am |                 | 8 <sup>th</sup> |  | 22 <sup>nd</sup> |  |
| <b>NEWTOWN LINFORD</b> | Thurs | 10am    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |                 |  |                  |  |

**ST PETER'S SERVICE DIARY**  
**DECEMBER 2021**

**5 Second Sunday of Advent** - *A Harvest of righteousness*

**8.30am** HC      **10am** Baptism of Thomas Trethewey  
*Philippians 1:3-11*      *Philippians 1:3-11*  
*Luke 3:1-6*

8 Wed      **10.30am** Holy Communion

**12 Third Sunday of Advent** - *Guarded in peace*

Online Service  
*Philippians 4:4-7*      **10am** Holy Communion      **3pm** Family Carols  
*Philippians 4:4-7*      *Philippians 4:4-7*      and Christingle  
*Luke 3:7-18*

**19 Fourth Sunday of Advent** - *Joy and blessing*

**10am** Morning Worship      **5pm** Carols by Candlelight  
*Luke 1:39-55*      *8/9 lessons*

22 Wed      **10.30am** Holy Communion

**24 Christmas Eve** - *The midnight message*

**11.15pm** Midnight Communion  
*Luke 2.1-20*  
*Isaiah 62.1-5*

**25 Christmas Day** - *Light has dawned*

Online Service  
*John 1.1-14*      **10.30am** Holy Communion  
*John 1.1-14*  
*Hebrews 1:1-12*



26 **Boxing Day** - *Different receptions*

**10am** Group Holy Communion  
*Luke 2.41-52*  
*Acts 7.51-60*



St Peter's  
Glenfield

*connecting our  
community to Christ*

# SERVICES JANUARY 2022

| DATE                                        | GLENFIELD                                                | NEWTOWN LINFORD           |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 Jan<br>E<br><i>Epiphany</i>               | 8.30am Holy Communion<br>10am Morning Worship            | 10am Holy Communion       |
| 9 Jan<br>BoC<br><i>Do not fear</i>          | Online Service<br>10am Holy Communion<br>4.30pm Compline | 10am Baptism              |
| 16 Jan<br>E2<br><i>A sign of glory</i>      | 10am Morning Worship<br>3pm Worship for All Ages         | 10am Holy Communion       |
| 23 Jan<br>E3<br><i>What is my part?</i>     | Online Service<br>10am Holy Communion                    | 10am Morning Prayer       |
| 30 Jan<br>E4<br><i>Faith, hope and love</i> | 10am Joint Holy Communion                                | 10am Joint Holy Communion |

When no separate Online Service is indicated,  
the 10am onsite service will be live-streamed on our Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield/live](http://www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield/live)



| MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES |       |         |                 |  |                  |  |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|-----------------|--|------------------|--|
| GLENFIELD                  | Wed   | 10.30am | 5 <sup>th</sup> |  | 19 <sup>th</sup> |  |
| NEWTOWN LINFORD            | Thurs | 10am    | 6 <sup>th</sup> |  |                  |  |

**ST PETER'S SERVICE DIARY**  
**JANUARY 2022**

**2 Epiphany** - *Epiphany*

**8.30am** HC  
*Matthew 2:1-12*  
*Isaiah 60:1-6*

**10am** Morning Worship  
*Matthew 2:1-12*

5 Wed

**10.30am** Holy Communion

**9 Baptism of Christ** - *Do not fear*

Online Service

**10.30am** Holy Communion  
*Isaiah 43:1-7*  
*Luke 3:15-22*

**4.30pm** Compline  
*Isaiah 43:1-7*  
*Luke 3:15-22*

**16 Second Sunday of Epiphany** - *A sign of glory*

**10am** Morning Worship  
*John 2:1-11*

**3pm** Worship for All Ages  
*(Starting again)*

19 Wed

**10.30am** Holy Communion

**23 Third Sunday of Epiphany** - *What is my part?*

Online Service

**10am** Holy Communion  
*1 Corinthians 12.12-31a*  
*Luke 4.14-21*

**30 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany** - *Faith, hope and love*

**10am** Joint Holy Communion  
*1 Corinthians 13.1-13*  
*Luke 2.22-40*



St Peter's  
Glenfield

*connecting our  
community to Christ*

## Recipe of the month: Grandma's Christmas Pudding

### Ingredients

- 24 oz currants
- 16 oz raisins
- 16 oz sultanas
- 16 oz suet
- 7 oz self-raising flour
- 1 grated carrot
- 1 grated cooking apple
- 2 eggs
- Juice of one lemon
- 1 teaspoon mixed spice
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 16oz dark brown sugar
- 2oz mixed peel
- 4oz fresh breadcrumbs
- Brandy - about 3 oz



### Method

Place all the ingredients in a large mixing bowl, stir well and make a wish!  
This mixture fills two 1½ pint sized pudding basins.  
Steam basin for about 4 hours, then leave to cool and store in cool place.  
On Christmas Day, steam for a further two hours.  
Serve with brandy butter, brandy sauce and cream.

*Courtesy of ACE*





*'In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So, Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.'* (Luke 2:2-7)

I heard someone say: "We're not human beings having a spiritual experience, we're spiritual beings having a human experience." I thought a lot about that while reflecting on this passage.

It was such a human experience. Mary had to travel 80 difficult miles because of a census called by Caesar so he could tax his subjects. She spent many nights on the road and when she did arrive in Bethlehem, there was no reservation waiting for her. Mary was travelling with a man who was not the father of her baby and perhaps she was hoping to get away from all the gossip her pregnancy most likely caused. She wouldn't have had any privacy when giving birth and, once he was born, seemingly the best place to put her baby was the animal feeding trough.

And yet, it was such a spiritual experience. Mary travelled from Nazareth to fulfil an Old Testament prophecy which foretold that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem. She travelled while pregnant following a visit from the Angel Gabriel and what the Bible calls an 'overshadowing' of the Holy Spirit'. Joseph hadn't divorced her, but only after a dream in which an angel had told him that the child was very special and not to worry about the fact that he wasn't the father. And when Jesus was born, Mary used strips of linen to wrap the baby and put him in the manger so that the shepherds would know they had found the King of Kings (v12).

Nothing was random.

- God caused Caesar to call a census so that a prophecy could be fulfilled.

- A dream with an angel caused a man thinking of divorce to marry his betrothed.

- A baby's wrappings and crib were a sign for the shepherds.

I think of the song 'Mary, did you know?' in which there's a line that says, *'the child which you delivered will soon deliver you'*. Mary delivered naturally; Jesus delivers us spiritually.

We too are both spiritual and human. We're living our lives with experience of both, just as Mary and Joseph did. God uses things of the world to work out His purposes. Sometimes we see it, sometimes we don't. Sometimes we just treasure these things in our hearts as Mary did.

## **Santa Claus, Kris Kringle, Père Noël, Ded Moroz, Papa Noel, Babbo Natale, Papai Noel, Święty Mikołaj, Weihnachtsmann, Dziadek Mróz, Gwiazdor, Father Christmas . . . or do they mean Saint Nicholas?**

It's the time of year for that very mysterious man in red to appear with his splendid white beard and sack full of gifts for children. Around the world he is known by many different names, some of which are listed above. When translated into English we find the mysterious man in red has different names such as: Daddy Christmas, The Starman, Father Christmas, Christmas Man, Grandfather Frost, Santa Claus and perhaps most strangely of all, Christ Child, which is what Kris Kringle means.

It may have been this name, *Kris Kringle*, that a few years ago led to an unusual Christmas decoration in a shop in China. It had the mysterious man in red with his splendid white beard, but he was nailed to a cross!

Whatever this mysterious man is called, his original name can always be traced back to a real person - St. Nicholas.

For example, Santa Claus, a popular name in the US for our mysterious man in red, is derived from when German and Dutch immigrants to America took the story of St. Nicholas with them and used the names of Sinter Klass and Sankt Nicklas. These subsequently evolved into Santa Claus which, like many American words, is now commonly used throughout the world.

St. Nicholas was born about 260AD to wealthy parents living in Patara - today it is part of Turkey. He grew up as a Christian and, when he inherited the family fortune, he seems to have followed the advice of Jesus who, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, told a rich son to give away his wealth and follow him. Nicholas gave all he owned to the poor and devoted his life to the church.

This was clearly not an easy life to choose, but he became a Bishop in Myra, where it is said that he was persecuted for his faith and imprisoned by the Roman emperor, Diocletian. Despite this, or maybe because of it, he continued to be held in high esteem in the church. At the age of about 65 years, Bishop Nicholas became a member of the First Council of Nicaea, a body which was responsible for writing the Creed that Christians around the world use today.

Bishop Nicholas died, aged about 83 years, in 343AD. He was venerated in all churches that recognise saints and so many legends about him emerged around the world. Some of the legends led to him being given the different names he has today. It was in Victorian times that St. Nicholas became the basis for the Father Christmas that we all know and love in the UK.

In the Western world, the feast day for St. Nicholas is usually 6 December, with the day before being called the Eve of St Nicholas. In some traditions St Nicholas Eve is when children leave a shoe or a boot in front of the fireplace or by the front door, hoping to find it filled with gifts from St Nicholas in the morning.

*Courtesy of ACE*

## The Advent Ring by Deidre Morris

Many churches have an Advent ring as part of their Christmas preparations, and some people have one at home as well. It is usually a ring of greenery with four candles round the edge and a larger one in the centre. Sometimes one of the outer candles is coloured pink. On the first Sunday in Advent, one candle on the ring is lit at the start of the main service, to burn for the whole service. Often it is lit by a child, and a special prayer may be said and/or a verse of a special hymn is sung.

On the second Sunday the first candle and another on the circle are lit, and (if using the hymn) two verses are sung. On the third Sunday three candles (and three verses), and, on the fourth Sunday, the four candles on the ring are lit and four verses sung. On Christmas Day all five candles are lit, the central symbolising Christ, the light of the light of the world.

If you have a pink candle it is lit on the fourth Sunday because this is the day we think of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of Jesus. For each Sunday in Advent there is a specific theme and a watch word:

|               |                  |                |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| Advent 1      | The Patriachs    | <i>Awake</i>   |
| Advent 2      | The Prophets     | <i>Be Glad</i> |
| Advent 3      | John the Baptist | <i>Return</i>  |
| Advent 4      | The Virgin Mary  | <i>Prepare</i> |
| Christmas Day | The Christ       |                |

So, during Advent we follow the pattern of God's redemption through the Old Testament and into the New and are challenged to prepare spiritually for the wonderful gift given to us at Christmas. Each candle is a light for our path through Advent.

*Courtesy of ACE*



## Christmas is a Song of Joy and Love

**C**hristmas is a song of joy and love,  
**H**owever it is sung, however rendered,  
**R**ich source of childhood pleasures that will prove  
**I**n later life a lesson long remembered.  
**S**o may you share the joys of Christmas time,  
**T**hough still a child, by giving more and more,  
**M**aking child and adult combine  
**A**s slowly, slowly you approach that door,  
**S**urer of what giving might be for.

## John van Hengel

It may surprise you to learn that the first food bank was opened in 1967 at St Mary's Basilica in Phoenix, Arizona. Today, there are food banks in over 80 countries but, sadly, the need for them is growing faster than ever.

John van Hengel, a devout Roman Catholic, is known as the 'Father of Food Banks'. He died, aged 83, in 2005. The idea came to him while working in a soup kitchen in Phoenix. In the evening he took leftovers to the homeless and, while doing this, he met a woman with 10 children, and whose husband was on death row. She was searching through bins for food that had been thrown away by a grocery store and suggested to John van Hengel that there ought to be a place somewhere that such food could be deposited for the hungry, something along the lines of a bank where instead of depositing money you could put unwanted food, and the hungry could withdraw it. John took the idea to his church, St Mary's Basilica, who gave him a derelict building and the money to set up the world's first food bank. He named it St Mary's.

In 1976, John left St Mary's to create an organisation called America's Second Harvest — since 2008 it has been known as Feeding America. This organisation established food banking standards and guidelines and worked with large national companies to develop ways of supplying food banks in ways that, as well as helping the hungry, was financially beneficial for the companies. Today Feeding America distributes 2 billion pounds of groceries to feed 23 million Americans every year.

However, John van Hengel's work was not confined to America, he went on to help start food banks in Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America. He was involved in creating the Global Foodbanking Network (GFN) whose mission is 'to nourish the world's hungry through uniting and advancing food banks'.

GFN's statistics are amazing: 278,000 volunteers have served 40 million people in 44 countries with 2.4 billion meals, and they work with 59,000 food bank agencies. It is not difficult to see why John van Hengel is called the 'Father of Food Banks'.

Most food banks continue to reflect his Christian outlook on life and most of them have been set up and run by churches from all denominations.

The first food bank in the UK was not opened until 2000 because our welfare service at that time meant that the demand was not as great as elsewhere in the world. However, following the coalition government's Welfare Reform Act of 2010 - which introduced Universal Credit - the demand soon increased.

The story behind the UK's first food bank follows a similar pattern to that of John van Hengel. Three years previously, in 1997, Carol and Paddy Henderson were left a legacy by Carol's mother, Betty Trussell. They created the Trussell Trust with the focus on helping more than 60 deprived children who slept at a railway station in Bulgaria. However, in 2000, a Salisbury woman told them that she was struggling financially and had to send her children to bed hungry. Her

call prompted them to look more closely at poverty in the UK and resulted in the Salisbury Food Bank being opened by Paddy in his garden shed. The food bank aimed to provide three days of emergency food for local people in crises. Inspired by the words of Jesus: 'I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink ...' (Matthew 25: 35), the idea was soon picked up by churches around the country, many of which are now working in partnership with the Trussell Trust which supports about two thirds of all the UK food banks. Many of the other UK Food Banks come under the wings of smaller charitable trust funds set up mainly by churches.

## **Our local food bank,**

Glenfield is blessed with one based at the Parish Council Annexe, known as the Glenfield Community Food Hub, by Morrison's Car park. Apart from donations of food it is supported by grants from all the levels of local government, as well as local businesses and local residents.

Run by Cllr. Nick Chapman and local businessman, Justin Smith, they have supported families and individuals throughout the pandemic and continue do so with regular weekly deliveries of fresh food and supplies, as well as manning the food bank every Saturday 9 till 12 pm.



Justin Smith (left) Cllr Nick Chapman (right) and in the centre Ed Argar our MP



### ***Strapline***

Your merry Christmas may depend on what others do for you;  
but your happy New Year will depend on what you do for others.

## RENEW CAFE

Our new café runs every Thursday with a range of art and crafts activities for people to do as well as chat and support one another in wellbeing. Why not come down to the Church Centre and join in 9.30am - noon?

Would you be interested in helping out? A few more people are needed to supplement the existing team. Either let the Rector know or speak to the team on a Thursday

## GROWTH GROUP

Wednesday evenings fortnightly. 7.45pm  
(cancelled until further notice)  
*Contact:* Brian Hughes



## GROWING TOGETHER

Wednesday morning fortnightly. 10.30am at 76 Clovelly Road  
(online only until further notice)

*Contact:* Geoff Stokes  
Cherryl Read



## THE ARCHES

Bereavement peer support group

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month.  
(cancelled until further notice)  
Meetings are held in Glenfield, at 2pm

*Contact:* Revd. Richard Trethewey on 0116 287 1604



## LUNCH FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ALONE

Bring and Share (Savoury or sweet)  
Sunday 12.30pm in the Church Centre  
(cancelled until further notice)

*Contact:* Lydia Speight

Revd. Pam Harvey



## Bumps & Babies weigh & play group.

A group for expectant and new parents to come for a relaxed chat over a drink and biscuit to share ideas and concerns and to weigh their babies.

Entry £1

Meeting at St. Peter's church hall,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays 1 - 2.30pm during term time.

We are back in action and our next meeting is 8 November

Find more information on: [facebook.com/stpetersweighandplay](https://www.facebook.com/stpetersweighandplay) or  
contact Diane Hughes on 07790410659 /  
[diane\\_hughes41@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:diane_hughes41@hotmail.co.uk)

\* \* \*

## St Peter's Music Time for Mums and Tots

Meeting on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm. Songs, rhymes, instruments, actions and fun for children aged 0 to pre-school and their carers. Refreshments provided.

See the St Peter's Music Time for Mums and Tots  
Facebook page for information :  
[facebook.com/stpetersmusicime](https://www.facebook.com/stpetersmusicime)



\* \* \*



**2021**

|      |        |          |                                                   |
|------|--------|----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Sun. | 5 Dec  | 10am     | Baptism of Thomas Trethewey                       |
| Mon. | 6 Dec  |          | St Nicholas Day (Sunday 5 Dec is St Nicholas Eve) |
| Sun. | 12 Dec | 3pm      | Family Carols and Christingle. p13                |
| Mon. | 13 Dec | 1-2.30pm | Bumps and Babies<br>St Peter's Church Centre      |
| Fri. | 17 Dec | 12-5pm.  | Light a Candle Candlelight.                       |
| Sun. | 19 Dec | 5pm.     | Carols by Candlelight. p13                        |



St Peter's  
Glenfield

*connecting our  
community to Christ*

## WHO'S WHO AT ST. PETER'S, GLENFIELD 2021

Rector Revd. Richard Trethewey                      287 1604  
Retired Clergy Revd. Pam Harvey                      232 2959

Church Centre bookings                      Hayley Moore  
[bookings@stpetersglenfield.org.uk](mailto:bookings@stpetersglenfield.org.uk)                      0116 239 3768 Mon.-Fri. 9.30-11.30am



### The members of the Parochial Church Council are:

**Clergy:** Revd. Richard Trethewey

**Churchwardens:** Rob Foster (Vice-Chair) and Jane Quarmby

**Deanery Synod Reps:** Brian Hughes (Secretary to the PCC),  
Diane Hughes and Geoff Stokes

### **Other members:**

Glenise Bowyer, Doreen Denney, (Treasurer),  
Andrew Leeson (Assistant Treasurer), Elizabeth Oldridge,  
Max (Mark) Oldridge, Emma Winfield

**Attendees:** Barry Jones.

**Co-opted:** Revd. Pam Harvey, Andrew Norman



### **Have your say!**

If you have any comments to make about any of the items in the magazine, good, bad or indifferent, you can email me at [doreenmdenney@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:doreenmdenney@yahoo.co.uk) or write it down and pass it on to me. Please let me know if I have your permission to print what you have to say.

Thank you

*Doreen Denney*

