

Honley with Brockholes Parish Magazine



DECEMBER 2008 (part 2)

Price 30p

Preparing for Christmas

Early this year Meltham Methodist Church asked for an Advent Labyrinth to be set up in their church. As we weren't sure what stage we would be at in St Mary's with regard to roof repairs and pews/chairs, this seemed a good idea, and so you are all invited to visit the **Meltham Advent Labyrinth** in the Methodist Church, Mill Moor Road, Meltham on **11th, 12th or 13th December**.

At St Mary's, instead of the Labyrinth we are having a **Travelling Crib** to help us in our Advent preparations. This is a simple way of celebrating Advent and of taking the good news of Jesus into the homes of our parish community.

The Travelling Crib, or Posada, is an old Mexican tradition which has been adapted in recent years, first by the Church Army, and now by many churches, in this diocese and beyond. Nativity figures of Mary and Joseph travel from place to place, giving each 'host' the opportunity to create their own celebration within their home, and, if they wish, to invite others to share this occasion with them.

All you need to do is add your name to the Journey Rota in St Mary's Church, for a night or nights which will suit you to 'host' Mary and Joseph. Someone will bring the figures to your home at an arranged time, and for the evening that you host the figures you can do whatever you like. There will be lots of suggestions in the box along with the figures - prayers, a game, craft ideas, books etc. You can spend the evening alone, making it a time for personal reflection and prayer, or invite neighbours, family members or friends to join you. The next day you take the Travelling Crib to the next host on the Journey Rota. It's as simple as that.

There will be a short blessing and sending-out service at **2.15 pm** in church on **6th December**, as part of the Street Market celebrations. After its travels, the Travelling Crib will be received back into church as part of the **Crib Service** on **24th December**.

Please consider which evening(s) between **6th - 23rd December** you would like to be a host and add your name to the Journey Rota as soon as possible.

Parent and Toddler Group

The committee are busy making plans for the Christmas Party that will take place on Thursday 18th December. It will start with a short service in church and end with a visit from Santa. To make things easier for Santa, tickets are needed for admission.



This term the group have purchased some new mats for the babies to play on, replacement safety gates and some new toys and materials for activities.

The helpers have organised activities relating to the 'Year of the Child', a Mothers' Union initiative that continues into next year. So far they have completed projects on 'My Community' and 'Our World'. Some of their work has been displayed in church and in the parish room.

Their latest effort was to cover and fill four shoeboxes for the Christmas Child Appeal.

The group have kindly made a donation to church funds in appreciation of the church providing a free, warm room for them each week and ladies to help with refreshments. Although this was not necessary, the gesture is much appreciated.

Numbers fluctuate due to weather, illness and other things but the group has a good list of regular members. One or two will sadly be leaving us after Christmas so there will be plenty of space for new carers and children of any age from a few weeks old until they are of nursery school age.

Sessions are held on Thursdays during term time 1.15pm - 3.00pm. It is very informal, come and go as you like and they provide an opportunity for new Mums to get to know one another.

Pat Green

<p>Two snowmen were standing next to each other. One said to the other: "Can you smell carrots?"</p>
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ST. GEORGE'S CALENDAR

DE-

DECEMBER

Saturday 6	10.00 am - 4.00 pm	Street Market in Honley
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Sunday 7		<i>2nd Sunday in Advent</i>
	11.00 am	Family Communion (Refreshments after service)
	3.00 pm	Carols with Vintage Brass in Methodist Church
	6.00 pm	Compline
Tuesday 9	7.30 pm	D C C Meeting at 8 Crodingley
Thursday 11	6.30 pm	A D Meets
Saturday 13	10.00 am - 12 noon	Cribs, Carols, Coffee & Cakes at Christmas with the A D Group

Sunday 14 ***3rd Sunday in Advent***

	11.00 am	Parish Communion
		<i>No Evening Service</i>
Tuesday 16	10.00am – 3.00pm	Brockholes School Christmas Exhibition in the Methodist Church
Wednesday 17	10.00am – 3.00pm	Brockholes School Christmas Exhibition in the Methodist Church
	6.30 pm	Christingle Service in Methodist Church

Sunday 21 ***4th Sunday in Advent***

	11.00 am	Parish Communion with Holy Baptism
	6.00 pm	Compline
Wednesday 24		<i>Christmas Eve</i>
	6.30 pm	Carols by Candlelight
Thursday 25		<i>Christmas Day</i>
	9.45 am	Parish Communion

Sunday 28 ***Sunday after Christmas***

	11.00 am	Parish Communion
	6.00 pm	Compline

JANUARY

Sunday 4		<i>Feast of the Epiphany</i>
	11.00 am	Family Communion (Refreshments after service)

BROCKHOLES NEWS

AD

11 young people met for the meeting on Thursday 13th November. Work continued with the creation of crib scenes for Saturday 13th December. Music and singing from Build Up was again performed well and with enthusiasm. With a couple of games and the usual quick drink and biscuit, the hour and a half had gone. A sure sign that all, including the leaders, had had an enjoyable evening.

The next meeting is **Thursday 11th December**, 6.30 to 8.00pm. Do come along if you are in the 8 to 12 age group. For more information contact Sue on 686642.

Sue Clay, Caroline Lee, Verena Wood and Kate Drake

Cribs, Carols, Coffee and Cakes at Christmas

Organised and presented by the AD young people; so please pop into the church between 10.00 am and 12 noon on Saturday 13th December. Enjoy a cup of coffee, have a look at a variety of crib scenes (some made by the children – see above) with pleasant background Christmas music.

Donations for Church funds and Koala Klub. For more information contact Kate on 663678.

Sue Clay, Caroline Lee, Kate Drake, Verena Wood

Christmas Puddings

Kate was delighted to receive an order from St Mary's. Many thanks. She is hoping by the time this magazine is printed that most puddings will have been sold. However, at the last minute you may wish to purchase and there may be still be a few for sale – so don't hesitate to ring 663678 and Kate will deliver to your home. Pudding cost is £5.50.

Kate Drake

OTHER ITEMS

1 Corinthians 13 - The Christmas Version

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows,
strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls,
but do not show love to my family,
I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas puddings,
preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtimes,
but do not show love to my family,
I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home,
and give all that I have to charity,
but do not show love to my family,
it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes,
attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata,
but do not focus on Christ,
I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.
Love sets aside decorating to kiss the husband.
Love is kind, though harried and tired.
Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.
Love doesn't yell at the children to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.
Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return,
but rejoices in giving to those who can't.
Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
Love never fails.
Computer games will break, cashmere jumpers will wear out, golf clubs will get lost.
But giving the gift of love will endure.

Happy



*Parish Pump
Author unknown*

Father Christmas or Jesus?

Father Christmas lives at the North Pole: JESUS is everywhere.
Father Christmas rides in a sleigh: JESUS rides on the wind and walks on water.
Father Christmas comes but once a year: JESUS is an ever present help.
Father Christmas fills your stockings with goodies: JESUS supplies all your needs.
Father Christmas comes down your chimney uninvited: JESUS stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart.
You have to queue to see Father Christmas: JESUS is as close as the mention of his name.
Father Christmas lets you sit on his lap: JESUS lets you rest in his arms.
All Father Christmas can offer is HO HO HO: JESUS offers health, help and hope.
Father Christmas's little helpers make toys: JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.
Father Christmas may make you chuckle but: JESUS gives you joy that is your strength.
While Father Christmas puts gifts under your tree: JESUS became our gift and died on the tree.

Parish Pump - Author unknown



You are cordially invited to
A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!!!

Guest of Honour: Jesus Christ

Date: Traditionally, December 25th,
but he's always around, so the date is flexible.

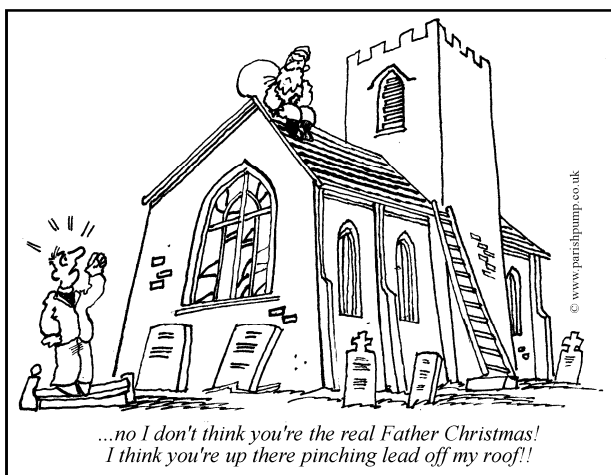
Time: Whenever you're ready.

Please don't be late, though, or you'll miss out on all the fun!
Dress Code: Come as you are, because Jesus will give you fresh,
new garments of his righteousness and purity to wear.
Place: In your heart.... he'll meet you there. You'll hear him knock.

Confectionery Prize Quiz

Will you be chomping your way through any of these this Christmas?

1. Wobbly infants
2. Wise guys
3. Where refined people live
4. Edible fasteners
5. After a job well done
6. Nine, ten, eleven...
7. Occult perhaps
8. Home for alcoholic teeth
9. Fallen fruit
10. Sport for a Prince
11. 100% metal
12. From a Christmas Carol
13. Carrier for dairy product
14. Type of stone
15. Very dark Nicholson's
16. Seen on a race course
17. Aromatic spheres
18. Royal herb
19. Mothers' Local
20. Endurance race
21. Nearly between
22. Belly dancer
23. The Pirates Loot
24. All sorts of girls
25. Beyond the planets
26. A type of bus
27. Outdoor eating activity
28. Gravely sound
29. Hogan's _ _ _ _ _
30. Mouth halt



If you would like to win a delicious prize send your answers to the Editor on or before the first Sunday in January.

With thanks to Stephanie Childs for supplying the quiz.

Alison Dean

Supping soup for the Salvation Army

The New Covent Garden Food Company has dedicated its December Soup of the Month to the Salvation Army. The soup (chicken, vegetable and pearl barley) is on sale throughout December across the country. Look out for the special cartons carrying the Army's Red Shield logo.

The company expects to raise £10,000 for the Army to provide food and Christmas gifts for homeless and vulnerable people.

Parish Pump

Material for Publication

All contributions to future editions of the Magazine welcome.

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Address: 26 Croft Court, Honley, Holmfirth HD9 6HB

Deadline for January Magazine: **Wednesday 17 December**

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WEEKDAY SERVICES	9.30 am Wednesdays, Holy Communion <i>See weekly list on Church Gate Notice Board</i>	
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SUNDAY SERVICES	11.00 am Parish Communion (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sundays) Family Service with Communion (1st Sunday) 6.00 pm Compline (1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sundays) Sung Evensong (2nd Sunday)	
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