

Parish Magazine

St. Leonard's and St. Luke's Churches

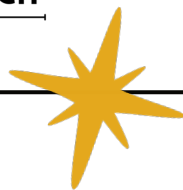
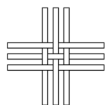
December 2023- January 2024

Suggested donation **£1.00**



Happy Christmas





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Welcome

Last December, thousands of churches extended 'The Great Invitation' from the Church of England to *Follow the Star* to their local church in person once again. Helped, of course, by a return to a more normal Christmas, 2022's *Follow the Star* saw significant growth in engagement across a wide range of indicators.



This year's theme – **Follow the Star: Join the Song** – highlights how singing can help draw us closer to God and each other through the journey from Advent to Epiphany.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have invited parishes, choirs, and congregations to take part in the premiere of a special new Christmas carol in 2023. This new carol, a fresh interpretation of the famous words 'The First Nowell', has been composed by the well-known composer Bob Chilcott.

The mass carol premiere forms part of the Church of England's focus for Advent and Christmas 2023 'Follow the Star: Join the Song.' You can hear the new song at the Service of Lessons and Carols in St. Leonard's on Sunday 17th December at 6.00pm. Parishes and choirs may share performances on social media using the hashtag #FollowTheStar.

In recent years, The Church of England has successfully engaged millions of individuals with the Christmas message through reflections, special events, music and resources. This year's theme 'Follow the Star: Join the Song' emphasises the spiritual connection that singing can foster between individuals and God, as we journey from Advent to Epiphany, and the part that carol singing plays in many people's Christmas traditions.

The Archbishops write: **"The shepherds were astonished to find the night sky filled with angels singing God's praise. And before long they were singing, too... Centuries later, singing is still central to how many of us celebrate Christmas. We invite you this Christmas to follow the star, journey to the manger, join the song and come into the presence of Jesus Christ."**

Further details about this year's 'Follow the Star: Join the Song' campaign can be found at [churchofengland.org/Christmas](https://www.churchofengland.org/Christmas).

Parish News

Parish Lunch

The next Parish Lunches will be on Wednesdays 6th December and 3rd January. To book a place please call Sue on 01323 490415 or Julia on 01323 895073. We serve a hot meal followed by dessert, tea or coffee for just £6.00, and the added enjoyment of eating together with friends.

St. Luke's @7

St. Luke's @7 is usually on the 4th Sunday of the month. However December we meet on Sunday 10th December.



There'll be bring and share Christmas nibbles (mulled wine provided) from 6.00pm. In January it's back to normal as we meet on Sunday 28th January. Folks gather and share supper at 5.45pm with worship from 7.00pm. Everyone is welcome, if you want supper please let Kate Steer know.

Coffee, Prayer Ministry & Communion

You are welcome to join in our next Service of Prayer Ministry with Communion at St. Luke's on Tuesdays 12th December, 16th and 30th January at 11.00am. Coffee will be available from 10.00am to 12.00pm.

Seaford Parish Women's Group

Women's Group and the Mothers' Union are collecting for Stopover Charity to provide Christmas presents for young/adult girls living in houses based in Hove, Brighton & Worthing.

We will hand over our gifts to the Stopover representative at a combined Mothers Union Advent Service in St. Leonard's Church on Friday 8th December at 2.30pm. Gifts can be brought on the day or left at the back of St. Leonard's Church. Please wrap in Christmas paper, and children's gifts should be labelled "child". Tins of biscuits or snack bars are also welcome and need not be gift wrapped. Suggested ideas:

For the young girls/adults Toiletries, Socks or Tights, Hats, Scarves or Bags, Hair Accessories, Make-Up, Nail Varnish or Jewellery, anything pretty and brand new.

Gifts for toddlers aged 2 years: Toys, clothes, & books etc

Monday 18th December

Women's Group Carols we will have a social evening of favourite Carols in St. Luke's at 7.30pm, followed by refreshments, mince pies and closing with evening prayers.

Monday January 15th, 2024

Women's Group will hold their AGM and election of Committee, followed by an Upside-Down Raffle. Our meetings are usually in St Luke's Church Walmer Road on the third Monday of the month starting at 7.30pm. We enjoy fellowship, listening to interesting topics, refreshments and closing our meetings with evening prayers. New members are always welcome.

The Meeting Place

The new-look Meeting Place continues on the 1st and 3rd Sundays each month at 11.15am. There will be a time of meditative worship, and a reflective thought, leading to the aim of the service to be prayer, prayer for each other and ourselves, an opportunity for us to practice the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and to minister to one another. Do ask Derreck or James for more info. Please do continue to pray for this service as we continue to discern where God may want to lead us as we begin a new time of The Meeting Place... and of course please do come along. Maybe we will not all fit into the chapel.

Shoebox Appeal 2023 Update

Total number of shoeboxes this year is 54. 19 Elderly and 35 Family. Thank you so much.



On Wednesday 8th November the shoeboxes, along with many bags and boxes of other items were taken to Link to Hope Ferring ready to be packed into cardboard outers for transporting to Eastern Europe. Money to cover transport costs, plus extra donations were also passed on. A number of gift aid forms were filled out which enables 25% extra money to come from the taxman. Thank you very much, every little helps.

As before our knitters have been very busy throughout the year producing hats, scarves, gloves etc along with teddy bears with different facial expressions. If you have any surplus knitting yarn please consider donating

it to help our knitters to continue producing these goods. Also, if you are a sewer and able to make bags, sensory sachets, glasses cases etc they are also very useful. Contact me for further information using the details below

You can check out the Link to Hope website - www.linktohope.co.uk - to find more information about the many projects which are supported. Videos of the areas in Eastern Europe where your boxes of smiles are taken and pictures of families who receive them, along with the people who help them, make interesting reading to give us some insight about their lives. Please pray for them. Thank you so much for your continued support. Contact Hazel Bramley on 01323 892883, 07890 726957 or by e-mail bramleyd620@btinternet.com

Lunchtime Concerts

2024 will be the seventeenth series of Lunchtime Concerts at St. Leonard's Church. During the past seasons there have been 157 concerts with audience numbers ranging from 50 to 100 each month. The Concerts remain free and self supporting by the donations given at the end of each concert by our generous audience, to whom we are deeply grateful. The 2024 season begins on Saturday 17th February with a concert by harpist Fiona Hosford. For details of the entire season pick up a leaflet in church or visit www.seafordparish.org.uk/saturday-lunchtime-concerts/

Parish Magazine

The copy date for the February_March edition of the Parish Magazine is Tuesday 16th January. Items of news and articles should be sent to magazine@seafordparish.org.uk.

Parish News

Film Nights

Crossway Church, opposite Tesco's, host a film night once a month organised by Sally and Lloyd Thompson. They meet at 6:45pm for a 7:00 start, have ice creams half way through and just ask for donations, which go to Church funds, and other projects. In December donations will be going to Seahaven food bank. You don't need to book just turn up. Coming up...

Friday 15th December:

The man who invented Christmas. A story of Charles Dickens

Friday 19th January:

The Duke

Friday 16th February:

The Great Escaper

For further information please contact Sally via email Tigerfeet9@gmail.com

Fortnightly News

The regular news sheets with updates and reminders is published every two weeks. You can also receive this as an email. Please do ensure that you are receiving this. If you are not on our e-mail list you can sign up through our website at www.seafordparish.org.uk.

Seaford Christmas Magic: Saturday 2nd December

The Seaford Christmas Magic day is changing



St. Leonard's Open Church Cafe

Free refreshments, crafts & conversation



In line with the Town Council's commitment to community engagement with accessible, affordable, family-oriented events, Seaford Christmas Magic will now focus on the children's lantern parade and lights switch-on with additional free family-friendly activities at various locations in the town. Amongst the venues St. Leonard's Church will once again be open from 10.00am to 3.00pm for some messy play, creative craft, refreshments and live music. There will also be Messy Church from 2.30pm.

www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk/seaford-christmas-magic/

Christmas Services

St. Leonard's and St. Luke's Churches

St. Luke's@7 Christmas

St. Luke's on Sunday 10th December at 7.00pm
with nibbles from 6.00pm

Carols in the Pub

Wellington Inn on Saturday 16th December at 8.00pm

A Service of Lessons and Carols*

St. Leonard's on Sunday 17th December at 6.00pm

Messy Christingle ✨

St. Leonard's on Friday 22nd December at 4.00pm

Crib Service ✨

St. Luke's on Christmas Eve at 3.00pm

Nativity ✨

St. Leonard's on Christmas Eve at 6.00pm

First Communion of Christmas*

St. Leonard's on Christmas Eve at 11.00pm

Christmas Holy Communion*

Both Churches on Christmas Day at 9.30am

*Also livestreamed

Follow The Star
Join the Song

Family friendly ✨



www.seafordparish.org.uk



This Year... Next Year

James Hollingsworth

That was the year that was ... The Old Testament.

This year, I hope, you have noticed that we spent quite a lot of it in the Old Testament. For many people the Old Testament is difficult to relate to with its 'myths' and 'biblical proportions' and so on. I don't quite buy into that. Exodus has plagues and we're still slowly coming out of one. Ezekiel has refugees many driven from their home by war, and some taken into slavery and trafficked away. Likewise with Jeremiah, we have seen another year of more and more refugees struggling to find a peaceful part of the planet to rebuild their lives. The book of Kings contains dictators who decide that it's the time of year for invading their next door countries and we have continued to see armies and terrorists and wars and bombs even this year.

We used to look at the Old Testament and dismiss it as being part of a cruel ancient world but we continue to see cruelty. Wars, plagues, economic crises, refugees, cruelty, trafficking slaves. It is perhaps disappointing that we are not as evolved as we sometimes think we are.

But running through the Old Testament is the persistent love of God. God guides Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God is there for Rahab, Ruth, and Esther. In

this way each generation has a chance to remember God, to rediscover hope, and to live a life that breaks the cycle of hate and hurt. Jesus will do this absolutely through his dying breath on the cross: 'It is finished'. Jesus bought the reconciliation that we need between us and our creator. He began the work of reconciling us to ourselves, to each other, and to creation.

Over the year, we've also looked at some fun bits of the OT. The talking donkey of Balaam's Ass. Here we saw the lengths that God will go to to keep us on the straight and narrow. In Jonah, the lengths that God will go to to keep us living a fruitful life. In Daniel's lions, the witness of a persistent faith that won't give up on God, knowing that God will not give up on you.

Its not always easy to know where to start so I say start with a Children's Bible, try The Graphic Bible or The Action Bible as a simple way of seeing how it all ties together. Two chapters of OT a day and you'll read it in a year. So start now!

The Year to come... New Testament

Bishop Martin, having declared last year to be the Year of the Old Testament has invited us to look to 2024 as the Year of the New Testament. In the year 325, the Church had a big gathering at a small place called Nicaea. From it they agreed the Creed that all of Christendom say most Sundays. Perhaps you can see why, if you're quick with your maths, as to why 2025 will be the year of the Creed. This year of 2024 we will be focussing on the New Testament. We will be particularly looking at the Gospel of Mark and of

John. We will also be looking at 1st John, 2nd Corinthians, Ephesians, James and Hebrews. You know what to do if you want to be reading ahead. We have plenty of pocket John's Gospels at the back of Church.

We will still continue to hear quite a lot of Old Testament along the way because it helps us hear God more fully as we read the New Testament. One chapter a day will take you through the whole NT easily in a year. So that's just three chapters a day!

Merry Christmas

I've been reading Amy Orr-Ewing's *Mary's Voice* as an Advent Book. If you don't have an Advent book then go for this. It got me thinking about the journeys: Mary to Cousin Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Holy Family to the Temple in Jerusalem, their flight to Egypt. You can think of others, like the journey of the Shepherds from Beit Sahour to Bethlehem and of course the Magi.

Mary visits Cousin Elizabeth. This is where Mary bursts out with her song the Magnificat. I love that Elizabeth has the kindness, grace, maturity, to not steal the moment. So, she does not say 'You're pregnant? And it's a miracle? Funny you should say that because, well look at me!' Elizabeth allows Mary to have her moment, to share uninterrupted and so Mary just erupts with this song – "Tell out my soul the greatness of the Lord." It's as if this song has been building up inside of her. She has had no one that she can simply, honestly, fully share with, the joy that is going on inside of her.

It reminds me of the importance of having an Elizabeth in your life; someone that you can go to and talk about anything no matter how happy or sad it might be, no matter how ordinary or exciting. Mary knows that this pregnancy will bring with it shadows of shame, that Joseph will be processing what this means for him, for them, but in this moment with her cousin she knows that she can truly, freely, uncomplicatedly, express what she's feeling.

It also reminds me of the importance of being an Elizabeth to others: listening unconditionally, not prejudging, not interrupting, not diverting the conversation.

Here is this wonderful moment when Mary expresses her faith that God has remembered the poor, the outcasts, the forgotten. Expressing the joy of our faith is good for our faith. Perhaps you might consider inviting others to a Carol service or two. People like to be invited. Mary sings of God's goodness. So be like Mary and sing a carol or two through your week, a song of praise, and notice how it encourages your faith. Our church Facebook page will be having me singing a bit of a carol each morning, tune in to that!

Let this Advent be a journey where you reflect on the Prince of Peace, on God with us, in the darkness of all that you or a friend might be going through, and of all that we see on the news. And pray that you might know the peace and presence of Immanuel, of Christ with you. Then pray for that peace to ripple through all your prayers as you hold others in prayer, and as you pray for peace in the Holy Land.

And a Happy New Year

Leave out your Nativity set for as long as possible. I find them helpful reminders of all that I've been thinking about over Christmas. Especially leave out the Shepherds. The shepherds are the ones who go back to work as normal the next day and nothing has changed.

The Romans are still in charge. There are still debt and tax and scams and people making life difficult and all that. But whilst it may seem that nothing has changed actually, for the shepherds, everything has changed. They have had an encounter with God, with the baby in the manger, with Immanuel and they now know that God is with us, with them. "Bones will still break; hearts will still break but in the end the light will overcome darkness" (that's a quote from *The Chosen* which you should set as a New Year's Resolution to watch). The shepherds have worshipped Jesus Christ and that has brought them a level of hope and faith and love that will begin to transform them. They have received the light of Christ and though they walk through dark valleys, the darkness will not overcome them.

When you see your shepherd throughout this month, look at him, her, and remember the injection of hope, the infusion of faith and love that came to them through worship. Take a moment to pray, to give thanks to God for the blessings you can see, to bring to God the hopes and fears that you are carrying and remember Immanuel, remember that God is with you through your day.

I would also like the Shepherds to remind you of shift workers, of those

who work in the NHS or in Schools or Garages or Shops or

The shepherds have seen Jesus. The angels came to them and God said 'You matter to me, not just the rich powerful Magi but you who are working a late shift again, staying with your sheep'. I love that God sent angels to the shepherds. Perhaps they might symbolise those people who are so often not really noticed by us, or perhaps I mean that we too easily see the uniform, the role, the job rather than the person.

When you see your shepherd pray for them. Pray for faith and hope and love. Pray for them to know that God is with them. Pray for the ordinary struggles they might have with parents, children, relationships, finances, as they struggle to find enough joy and energy through the day to be a blessing to all the people that they connect to.

So leave out your shepherds. May they remind you to pray for all sorts of people, and may they remind you of the faith and hope and love that those first shepherds received as they came to worship Jesus Christ, God with us.



In the stocks at Holiday Club

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Children, Youth & Families

Stefan Bracher

As we hurtle towards one of the best and sometimes, busiest times of the year, I look back and just think... wow! What amazing few months it has been across all of the groups, but mainly in the Holiday Club.

Holiday Club

This year we have seen over 80 children attend the Watt-A-Lott Castle Holiday Club over the whole week with numbers on Monday and Tuesday being the highest we have ever had at holiday club, with 62 children attending on both days!



Throughout the week we looked at Old Testament people such as Moses, Joseph, Joshua and King David and then finishing with a look at Jesus entering Jerusalem (Palm Sunday style!). Whilst at the same time looking at the Armour of God (Ephesians 6). It was an action packed week with over 270 pieces of craft being made! From hacksawing a photo frame, threading a flying dragon, elastic band twisting, making a catapult and making cookies, to finally some

ingenious junk modelling of various different castle like creations, including a castle cat bed!

However none of this would have been possible without the help of two key groups of people. The amazing working group of Alice, Kim, Lucy and Anna (and wee Jesse) had been working really hard in the background getting things ready for the week. From painting backgrounds, bouncing various different ideas around about the crafts, recording the puppet voice overs and music videos, helping to plan the whole week, to keeping me sane, they have been kept very busy!

But we also had an incredible amount of volunteers during the week. 39 volunteers helped across the week with a huge push to make sure all of the sessions had been covered. It meant that we managed to have enough leaders to have some really lovely discussions with the children about the week and how it was going! We had people making sandwiches and refreshments, people leading crafts, people assisting



crafts, leaders of groups, assistant leaders of groups and so many other roles! Thank you to all of the people who came and worked and supported on the holiday club, it was a huge, noisy, explosive effort, but something which is so worth it! The Church of today and tomorrow continues to grow!

Just in case you were wondering, we raised a huge £960 at the holiday club quiz night back in September. But we also had some amazing donations which came in too, taking the total raised to £1,600. This completely covered the cost of holiday club! Thank you again for your amazing support!

Next year's holiday club will be from Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024. Please do mark it in your diaries, we will need help and support again.

Church Family Camp

We had left over funds from the brilliant donations for the Sparks summer camp this year, so we have decided that we will use those funds to book the same campsite for a whole Church Family Camp, not just the families in the Church, the whole Church Family... everyone! This will be in the late bank holiday in August 2024. Make sure you make a note of the date. You'll be able to camp in tents and there is also limited spaces for caravans or you can come as a day visitor. The campsite is Coldharbour Meadows, which is a Christian campsite in Chiddingly. Wouldn't it be amazing to have us all there to worship and take part in a whole Church family event? Please do think about booking into this when the bookings open. We are

currently planning this and may of course ask very nicely if you might be able to help over the weekend, (i.e. being on the cooking team, activities team, leading a craft session for the kids and/or adults, etc.) This is an opportunity to come together and appreciate each other's skills and love for one another. If you have something you think would be good to add to the Church Family Camp, please do get in touch with me.

Sparks (Children's Group)

We made a cracking start to the year by looking through the Old Testament in Sparks. It's good to know that many of the children are able to tell us about some of the things they have been looking at and doing at school in their RE lessons!

The Sparks group has dropped in numbers this academic year, not because the children have left us, but because most of our older children have moved up to the Ignite group. We do have a few who have also started groups such as swimming, etc, which meet on a Friday evening. But that is just one of those things! But it does mean that we can now accept some more children to the group, so do make sure you get the word out there if you know of any primary school aged children. Let them know they can pop along and join in with us on a Friday evening... it's free! Parents just need to complete a quick online consent form. Which can be found on our website under 'Children and Young People' and then 'Join a Group'.

We do need a few more volunteers for this group to join a regular rota. If you would like to be part of the team and

can give up one or two Fridays a month to help with crowd control and give guidance, it would be greatly appreciated! Drop me an email, call or message: 07506 143 476, cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk.

Ignite (Youth Group)

Ignite has just been a crazy mix of fun and dodgeball! Who would have thought that St. Luke's would be the home of dodgeball for Seaford – hmm maybe we need to look at setting up an official dodgeball team! Anyway... we have been getting on really well with the young people who have been coming through the doors on a weekly basis and young people are understanding the rules and the setting of the group, a lot better. They have got a really good understanding of what is and is not acceptable in the building. Most slip up from time to time, but they are quick to genuinely apologise.

However, we still do need to have another group open on a Sunday evening for this age range. This is so they have a space where they can come together and talk about God in a safe and secure way and throw things at us that they disagree with about faith or that they find problematic. We need to allow them to explore faith without the pressure of 'you must believe in Jesus'. This group will be looking at using such resources as Christianity Explored, Youth Alpha or The Chosen. I will be asking folk if they are able to come along and help on these evenings, either all the time or once/twice a month. This is so key to see the continual growth of faith in the young people who are coming from Sparks and those who have a heart and mind to find out more. If you can help or

would like to find out more about this additional group it would be great to know! Drop me an email, call or message.

Tots' Treats

Tots' Treats has been going really well! We have a really good team on board at both sites (although of course always looking for additional helpers at these groups, if you're up for it let me know using the details below). We have developed more of a baby following to the groups, therefore it's time to really look at developing the baby area in the Church. This will include newer visual stimulating toys, for example black and white toys. Toys and roll mats which encourage motor skills and visual awareness. If you have found something which you think looks amazing, let us know so we can look into it.

Glow

Glow has just been amazing! If anyone asks what it is like, let them know it's like a mini Messy Church. We have craft, dancing, stories and then a game (if we have time). We have been looking at story books based on the Bible. Jesus calming the Storm, learning to accept and be friends with those who are different from us, becoming fishermen of people, are all but a few which we have been getting up to! Not to mention we also have breakfast each Glow morning, either toast or croissants from 9.00am. Interested in seeing what it's like? Drop me an email, call or message to arrange a time to come into the group.

Messy Church

Messy Church has had two meetings since the last update. Back in October



James spoke to us all about his role in the Church, what he wears and what he does, along with looking at how Jesus sent people out to go and spread the good news. In November we welcomed the Bishop of Lewes, Rev Will Hazlewood who came along and joined in with the singing, dancing, crafts. He told us all about what he does in his role for the Church and why we have Bishops. The children also got to try on some of his hats and clothing which he would wear. It was huge fun and the children loved it!

St. Luke's Garden Project

We are starting up the engine again and getting things moving with this project. If you take a look around the side of St. Luke's you will see that the fence has been replaced, by a very generous member of the congregation. This is a key part of the security of the garden.

Next we need to meet to discuss the final plans for the garden development and then get quotes for levelling the whole area, adding slopes where

needed and then to re-lay the walk way around the back of the annex/kitchen, making sure it is accessible for a wheelchair user. Keep an eye on this space!

In the meantime, if you have anything which you think we could make use of in the garden, such as pallets, small plant pots, wood, garden tools, water butts, guttering, compost, compost bin, etc. It would be great to know. We might not be able to accept it right away depending on how big things are, but please do let me know.

If you would like to volunteer with any of the groups, please either complete the form using the link below, or phone/emailing me. Volunteer form: <https://seafordparishchurch.churchsuite.com/forms/bxz0n0b8>

God Bless.

E: cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk
P: 07506143476

SeaFriends Update

Stephanie Baker

Janet Kent and I, as Mothers' Union members are trustees of the local charity SeaFriends, which you may recall reading about in previous editions of this magazine. Here are some points from our latest report.

SeaFriends is expanding. We receive referrals from a range of organisations including, Age Concern (Newhaven Branch), Adults Social Care, SCDA, Care for the Carers and the Social Prescribers. Our aim is to help people in Seaford who are isolated and lonely.

We secured Lottery funding which allowed us to set up the charity and employ 2 members of staff- Mary Lumley and Min Stone. Earlier this year Min retired and we are very grateful to Mary for effectively doing 2 jobs. We will be advertising for Min's replacement very soon.

We run a coffee morning each Wednesday at St James's Trust, providing transport so no one is excluded. There is usually cake to be eaten and a variety activities including card games, Scrabble, Rummikub, Dominoes.

There is also the Forget Me Knot Café on a Friday for those living with memory issues and their carers, at St Peter's. This is a volunteer led event with background support provided by SeaFriends and has been running for



over a year continuing to grow with attendees numbering around 20.

Blatchington Manor often bring 4 or 5 of the residents with two carers to visit us. St Peter's provide the hall and refreshments for this.

Social trips and outings are very popular too when we can find a suitable minibuss which has been a problem recently.

'Sew Social' is a new group started recently as a pilot in response to requests from members. It is an opportunity to bring along a sewing project to work on while socialising with others. It's free and tea and coffee are supplied. Initially 6 sessions have been arranged and if it continues to be popular it will continue in the New Year. We also signpost people to other services when it is needed, set up one to one befriending (although the demand for this has reduced since the end of lockdown), point people to trusted trades people, help with basic form filling, refer people to local lunch clubs, make weekly welfare calls if needed...the list goes on! Some clients and volunteers have simply become

friends and no longer need the structure of SeaFriends.

We hire Waves on a Monday morning as a drop in centre for anyone enquiring about our services. Mary is there most Mondays, why not pop in and see her? On Wednesday 6th December we will have our Christmas party in place of the coffee morning with refreshments and entertainment.

On Monday December 11th we will be holding our Annual General Meeting at St. James's Trust at 7.00pm which is open to anyone interested in what we do. A full report will be available on our website nearer the time.

As a fairly new charity there are things we need:

- Volunteer drivers to bring people to our groups, the journeys are local and a petrol allowance can be claimed.
- More trustees, at the moment there are just 3 of us and we would like to increase the number to between 5 and 7. We are especially looking for people with experience of charity management and simple accounting.

If you would like to know more about us or think that you could help in some way please ask Janet or myself or visit the website www.seafriends.co.uk

hello@seafriends.org.uk
01323 914689

Prayer Time by Bob Rice

How do I pray ,what things should I say?

Do I ask for today or thank for yesterday?

Who should I address my musings to Father, Son or Holy Ghost?

Do I ask a saint to intercede?

Who do I turn to the most?

Should I stand ,sit or kneel?

Can I pray the way I feel?

I have so many questions to ask,
Prayer seems such a tricky task!

Sitting in a church,I could light a candle
I suppose,
I don't understand prayer or even

where it goes,

I've seen incense drift like a fragrant
cloud,

Upward, like a choir's voices good and loud.

At the end of all time might God simply
press rewind?

Replaying my prayers, thinking at least
some were kind?

What about the moments that had
made him truly sad?

Christ had pressed 'erase' for those,
I'm often so glad!

Advent, what's it all about?

Derreck Lee-Philpot

Good question! To help answer the question let's get our terminology straight. What society, our modern culture, (and more often than not) we Christians mistakenly call 'the Christmas season' is really Advent season. Advent is the period that starts on the first Sunday in November and runs through to Christmas Eve. The season of Advent, as it first emerged in the Church in the fourth and fifth centuries, lasted, for 40 days, the tradition gradually developed into the Advent we know today, of four Sundays before Christmas Day. Advent marks the beginning of the church year, is a time for reflection in darkness, for renewal of hope and for a movement towards a beginning.

There is no definite credible explanation of the origins of Advent, but one of the earliest references to it is the ordering of Monks to fast during December by the Council of Tours (567AD).

Hang on a minute, a season that lasts 40 days, involves reflection and fasting, am I getting confused with Lent? No, there are many similarities with the two seasons and not just its length (now changed to just the four Sundays before Christmas), reflection and fasting. Lent was traditionally the time of preparation for baptism of new converts on Easter Day, Advent too was used as a preparation period for



baptisms held at Epiphany. Over the centuries the western church has grown out of these Advent practices (especially fasting) to focus upon other, newer, traditions.

Maybe we have lost sight of some other elements of Advent, especially in our confusion with Christmas itself. In our focus upon Christmas and the babe in the manger we easily forget that most celebrations of Advent in history had a twin focus, emphasised by the language used to describe the events. The Latin word 'adventus' was the translation of the Greek 'parousia' - a word used for both the coming of Christ in human flesh and his Second Coming as Heavenly King. Advent, then, was always intended to focus on both. For the first two weeks of Advent, the church would reflect on the Second Coming. Disciples would chasten their hearts, confess sins, and spend time hoping for the quick coming of the Lord. The second two weeks of Advent would then transition to focus on the

first parousia, Christ in the manger. This double meaning in Advent history signals an important reality in the liturgical calendar: Advent and Christmas are never held as a full re-enactment of the life of Christ but point to our place between the Resurrection and Second Coming. Advent and Christmas are not merely about the coming of Jesus, but about everything since the birth of Jesus.

There is a third element to Advent, the coming of Jesus at Bethlehem, His coming as King, and thirdly His coming into the hearts and lives of ordinary people today. Here is a series of transformations, after Bethlehem, nothing would be the same on earth, Satan's tenure was over, sin would be neutralised, guilt, shame and death were defeated. As people receive Jesus into their lives, here too is a transformation, individuals are never the same again as their hearts are turned from sin and rebellion against God to a joyous, redeemed and forgiven, intimate, personal relationship with the risen Lord Jesus. The third transformation is upon His return to earth – the Second Coming. That will be transformational not just for our earth, but for the whole of

creation as all that has been corrupted, demeaned and degraded by sin will be put right, throughout all creation. Advent suddenly seems a little more... well more, now doesn't it.

By contrast the 'season' of Christmas lasts at most two Sundays, this year just one! Because Christmas Day falls on a Monday, the '1st Sunday of Christmas' is the 31st December. The Christmas 'season' closes with Epiphany, the 'First Sunday of Epiphany' is on January 7th. So, the Christmas season is very short this year; blink and you miss it!

So, as we enter Advent, let's consider all that has gone before in our Christian heritage, lets immerse ourselves in the Carols, the Advent Wreath/Ring, the anticipation of the Christmas Babe in the Manger. But let us also not lose sight of those things we have forgotten, or just let slip a little. The reflection, chastening of our hearts, confession of our sins, fasting, an evaluation of our personal relationship with Jesus as we receive Him anew (or even for the first time) in our hearts and lives.

Maybe, to hold our focus upon this amazing season of Advent.

Name that Christmas Carol or Song

These are the initials of some popular carols and songs... but which ones? Answers next time.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. AFTROG | 8. OIRDC | 15. JTTW |
| 2. AIAM | 9. TTD0C | 16. GKW |
| 3. DDMOH | 10. THATI | 17. ICUTMC |
| 4. WC | 11. TFN | 18. SATWS |
| 5. GRYMG | 12. SN | 19. WSWTFBN |
| 6. ISTS | 13. HTHAS | 20. ITBMW |
| 7. OCAYF | 14. OLTOB | |

Self-Supporting Ministry at 60

Lucy Hollingsworth

As many of you will know, I am a self-supporting minister or SSM in the Church of England. Some of you may be more familiar with the term NSM which is a non-stipendiary minister and exactly the same role! 2023 is a significant year for Self-Supporting Ministers in the Church of England. It marks the 60th anniversary of the first ordination of SSMs in Southwark Cathedral in 1963 of the first to complete the Southwark Ordination course.

In September I attended a seminar and Festival Eucharist at Southwark Cathedral to give thanks for 60 years of self-supporting ministry. It was an interesting and encouraging day.

The service book introduction starts: 'Around three in ten licensed clergy in the Church of England are Self Supporting Ministers (SSM's). They undertake the full range of clergy duties, including some leadership roles but do not receive a stipend or pension. Some SSMs give most of their time to parochial ministry after careers in other sectors. Around half sustain themselves in work outside the church, following in the tent making tradition of Paul and Barnabas. Many (including ministers in secular employment) consider the workplace to be their main focus of ministry'.

We first gathered in an upstairs room



at Southwark Cathedral and were encouraged by a greeting read from

Archbishop Justin. He said that he was grateful for the generous support of SSMs and our modelling of servant hearted leadership and that we were welcomed and valued by the church.

We then heard from John Lees who wrote the book 'Self Supporting Ministry – a practical guide' in 2018 and went on to form the National Network of Bishops Advisors on Self Supporting Ministry. The steering group of the National Network has undertaken ground breaking work with the Ministry Council on creating best practice guidance for SSMs.

Our seminar talk was from Bishop Eleanor Sanderson the Bishop of Hull since 2022, formerly Assistant Bishop of Wellington in New Zealand. She spoke deeply and beautifully about us being pilgrims together in the movement of God. About the importance of our stories and the stories of the beginning of faith in the country we are ministering in. She called us to a fresh missionary adventure that comes from the ground up as we are going through our lives, about taking responsibility, agency and empowerment in partnership with God. And the importance of prayer and changing the culture of the Church of England by not fitting the mould, but that this will be hard!

After the seminar we moved into Southwark Cathedral itself for our Festival Eucharist where we heard from Bishop Julie Conalty the Bishop of Birkenhead. She encouraged SSMs saying that we were not just an extra pair of hands, not lesser versions of stipendiary ministers and that we are simply distinctive. That our sacrifice is very real but has its rewards. She

talked of the joy and privilege of ministry and of finding Jesus at work in liminal spaces. She thanked SSMs for all that we are and all that we bring, assuring us that our ministry is seen and valued. So be encouraged if you are an SSM and if you think that you might be interested in this type of ordained ministry, please do talk to me.

A poster for an Opera Gala Evening. The background is a photograph of an ornate opera house interior with a red curtain. A large chandelier hangs from the ceiling. In the top right corner, there is a triangular warning sign with a red border, depicting a person playing a musical instrument. The text is centered over the image.

Opera Gala Evening

Join us for an unforgettable evening with performers from Glyndebourne Opera, English National Opera and the Royal Opera House as they perform a variety of popular operatic repertoire on

Sunday 10th of December 2023 7:30pm
St. Leonard's Parish Church, Seaford

Tickets are £15.00 per person. Reservations advised. Call Charlotte Wicks on 07966 621229 or email intergenopera@gmail.com. Payment by cash or cheques on the night. Proceeds are in aid of Dementia UK and Intergenerational Opera, a project which brings together primary school children with older people in the community through creative music making.

www.intergenerationalopera.com

New opportunities in the New Year!

David Farey

Roll on the New Year! It's often a time of fresh starts and resolutions and 2024 looks to see some exciting developments on our groups that meet in homes. We hope to be able to have details of two new groups that hope to start sometime in the new year.

The book, *The Church of Tomorrow*, by John McGinley, which has been reviewed in previous magazines has been used as a basis for discussion and teaching by a number of our home groups. An important principle he teaches is that following Jesus should inspire us to make a difference. One couple have taken on that we should be witnessing more outworking of the Holy Spirit in people's lives and are intending to launch a group at their home early in the New Year to explore the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

A course that many have found inspiring and helpful in their Christian

growth is run by the organisation Freedom in Christ. Their website says, "Our driving motivation is the conviction that the effectiveness of the UK Church could be revolutionised if enough individual Christians understood better how to walk in the freedom that Christ has won for them." A couple that have benefitted from being a part of a Freedom in Christ course intend to begin a course in the New Year. More information can be found on the Freedom in Christ website - www.ficm.org.uk.

More details will be released as they become available, but if in the meantime you are interested in what either of these two groups are about then speak to James or Derreck, or get in touch with us.

Happy New Year!

homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk

Christmas Card

In the centre of this magazine there is a Christmas Card for you to pull out, fold and display.

Thanks to all who have contributed to this.



Prayer Diary

This prayer diary offers a focus for personal and corporate prayer

I will lift my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.
(Psalm 121: 1&2)

Pray for Mission Partners during December

CHURCH ARMY

- For those who are in training to work in the Church Army and all Staff at the college in Sheffield.
- For Church Army Officers in this Diocese who are retired, but still serving in their local parish, meeting together 4 times a year for fellowship and support.
- For the Chief of Church Army as he joins a Sleepout for the Marylebone Project for Women who are Suffering Homelessness for many reasons. For the staff seeking to help them.
- For the over 30 Centres of Mission across Britain seeking to help people in deprived areas suffering with the cost of living crisis, as well as encouraging work with families and the young.

MOTHERS' UNION

- Pray alongside the Mothers' Union Worldwide for an end to modern day slavery, and gender based violence.
- Alongside the parish branch members for all the children baptised in our Churches in 2023 and their families.

SUNDAY - The Church Worldwide

- Pray for the renewal of the Church in vision, service and the power of the Holy Spirit, revealing the love and saving power of Jesus.
- For all in Christian leadership seeking to preach the gospel and minister to those around them. Pray for wisdom and courage.
- During Advent pray that many will seek the Christ Child and in the coming year will trust in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.
- Pray for the sanctity and preservation of Christian marriage and for the healing of family breakdown and division.
- Pray for a renewed desire for the Word of God to change lives and make us to be more like Christ.

MONDAY – The UK

- Homelessness - 153 councils met in Eastbourne on 31st October to discuss the crisis in their boroughs. Many are unable to provide emergency housing or cater for general demands increasing due to changes in letting rules, rise in rents and mortgage rates.
- Artificial intelligence – in use in NHS, medicine, education, government. For right controls and regulations.
- Protection for the democratic right to protest but correct legislation empowering the police to deal with extreme violence, hatred and vandalism.
- Dangerous dogs - after a number of harrowing attacks, wisdom in drafting and implementing new legislation and restrictions to protect the public .
- Crises in overcrowded prisons with experienced senior staff leaving service resulting in staff shortages. Very low morale among both staff and prisoners. Pray for prison chaplains in their support of prisoners and staff.

TUESDAY - Parish

- James & Lucy, Derreck & Corrinne for strength and energy in Advent and for relaxation and rest following the busy Christmas period.
- As we start a New Year, let's pray for each other that we might go forward together following in Christ's footsteps.
- For the clergy, the leadership and the PCC as they review the vision of the parish in action and in budget setting.
- Those who are sick or living with chronic illness, that they may know God's peace, healing and wholeness.
- Those attending the Advent and Christmas services that they might clearly hear the message of the coming of the Christ-child.

WEDNESDAY – Children & Young people

- Give thanks for the amazing leaders, helpers and children from half term holiday club, for teamwork, safety, fun and learning about Jesus.
- Pray for Stefan & Alice, the leaders and helpers at Tots, Sparks and Ignite as they share the true Christmas story with parents and youngsters.
- Ask God how you can play your part in supporting this vital work to grow and enhance the Church of today and tomorrow.
- For families worshipping together, to discover all that God has for their lives and families.
- Give thanks for the growing relationships with local schools – pray that the story of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem will have fresh impact this Christmas for children, parents and staff.

Follow The Star
Join the Song



Happy Christmas



Christmas Greetings to all my wonderful friends at St. Leonard's & St. Luke's who have been beside me in my new life alone. Peace, joy, love and many blessings. Jane Riley

Alan and Margaret Miller wish all our friends at St Leonard's a peaceful but joyful Christmas and a blessed New Year.



A very happy and blessed Christmas to all at St Leonard's. Thank you for making us very welcome; we really feel part of this church's family.

Wishing a very Happy Christmas to all the house group leaders and members, and all our friends at St Luke's and St Leonard's Churches.
David and Pat Farey

Seasons greetings to all in the Parish of Seaford. May you experience all the joy, mystery and wonder of the Advent of Christ this Christmas-time.
With Love and Blessings, Derreck and Corrinne

Wishing everyone Love, Joy and Peace for the Christmas Season and into the New

Blessings, Diana (W)

Year.

Christmas wishes to all members of the parish.
Bob, Heather & James Rice x

Wishing everyone, here and in all those places in the world where they are so urgently needed, peace and love this Christmas, and throughout 2024.
Ruth and Martin

To all our friends A very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Much love in Jesus.
Mark and Tracy Cheal

To All our wonderful friends at St Leonards and St Lukes. Thank you for all the love, support and prayers you have given our family this year. We wish you all a wonderful Christmas!
All our love Paul, Sam, Hope, Noah, Leo and Milo Fowler





God Bless you at this Christmas as you follow the Star with love Heather & Terry Howell

Happy Christmas and pray that we will see a more peaceful New Year.
From Phil & Gail xx

Merry Christmas to you from Revs James & Lucy

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas.
Janet Fairchild

From Mike and Wendy with love for a Happy Christmas and New Year full of peace.

Christmas greetings and joy to everyone in Seaford Parish.
With love Aileen and Pat.

To everyone at St Luke's and St Leonard's we send you love, virtual hugs and prayers this Christmastime and all the best for 2024. Thank you all for your love support and encouragement, it is very appreciated. Sally and Lloyd xxxx

Happy Christmas to everyone at St Leonard's and St Luke's from Alan and Chris Thomas

Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and blessed New Year.
With love from Linda Parsons.

Wishing all a blessed and peaceful Christmas, love from Dawn and Graham Allen

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.
Sue and Darrel Topp

Hello Everyone and here is wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year. Bob Carrington.

To our Church Family, may you know God's blessing at Christmas and during 2024. Love from Jenny Rolfe.

Happy Christmas and Happy New Year, love from Nicola H xx 



Wishing all our Seaford friends a wonderful Christmas.
Eddie and Rosemary Collicott

To our dear friends at St Leonard's and St Luke's, may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace this Christmas.
Blessings from Ethel & Esther

Wishing everyone in our church family of St. Leonard's and St. Luke's a Merry Christmas and a Joyful, Healthy New Year. With love from Hazel and David Bramley xx

Thank you for your love, support, care and prayers throughout all the challenges of 2023. Praying for God's richest blessings for all as together we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel – God with us. Sue Griffiths

Grace and Peace at Christmas from across the miles in Tarbela, Pakistan.
Hope to call in over the season. Mark and Ali Gill

Happy Christmas. Love from Bridget and Malcolm



Follow The Star
Join the Song

Happy Christmas

THURSDAY – For those living in

December 7th	Church Lane, Church Street, South Street, Broad Street, Place Lane,
December 14th	Clinton Place, Clinton Lane, Blatchington Road, Richmond Terrace, Saxon Lane
December 21st	Blatchington Hill, Sutton Park Road, Avondale Road, Warwick Road, East Street
December 28th	High Street, Crouch Lane, Crooked Lane, West Street, Green Lane, Dane Road, Dane Close
January 4th	West View, Pelham Road, West Street, Chatham Place Richmond Road
January 11th	Barcombe Close, Barcombe Avenue, Steyning Road, Steyning Close,
January 18th	Findon Close, Lindfield Avenue, Ladycross Close, Rodmell Road
January 25th	Chittenden Ave, Trenchard Close, Mabey Drive, Berry Lane, Montgomery Way

FRIDAY – Seaford

- Give thanks for the local Foodbank and SEA Climate Hub Community Larder. Thank God for local Churches' responses to the need for warm spaces
- Pray that those struggling financially will be able to access support and be helped to make wise choices.
- Churches of Seaford - for leaders and people, for God's blessing on their Christmas worship and renewed vision for 2024.
- Care Homes – that staff and residents will be able to enjoy the Christmas celebrations. For staff as they face the ongoing challenges and demands of caring.
- Give thanks for all local businesses and tradespeople who continue to provide individual quality services in spite of financial uncertainty and pressure.
- For those who have been bereaved this year or who face Christmas alone.

SATURDAY – World

- As we celebrate Christmas & the New Year, pray for those living in areas of war and civil unrest, that they might know lasting peace and reconciliation. Each Saturday this month, focus on a different area of the world living in the midst of war.
- For migrants arriving in Europe, seeking refuge and asylum. For government collaboration to seek fair and just solutions to immigration; asylum seekers accommodation, unaccompanied children and people trafficking. For a united international effort to solve the problem of people trafficking and those fleeing their homelands as refugees.
- For those living daily with the challenges of shortage of clean water and

sanitation, famine or shortages of staple foods – a compassionate sharing of resources and action from those nations who live in plenty.

- Pray for those who have had their homes, families and employment decimated by natural disaster this year and for the response of other nations to offer support and help.
- For an end to the war between Russia and Ukraine. For all trying to come to terms with the consequences of the conflict and rebuild shattered lives
- For a united international effort to solve the problem of people trafficking and those fleeing their homelands as refugees

Pray for Missions Partners during January

LAMA MINISTRIES

- Pray for 2 children who usually come to LAMA every day to play, their father has moved them and we have no news of them.
- A former boy from LAMA. Married in a forced Muslim wedding. God knows who they are.
- For funds for LAMA as we are getting low.
- Michael and family's health - coughs, sore throat, wisdom teeth for Michael which stops him leading worship & visiting the centre for boys.

HOMELINK

Please pray:-

- For people who are homeless or in temporary accommodation.
- That HOMELINK may be effective in housing people giving hope to those without hope.
- For those offered loans desperately looking for a place to rent.
- For all without funds offered empty accommodation but needing grants
- That we may show Christ's compassion to all

Feedback Needed please

Are we still giving you what you require to help with your prayers. Please let us know whether you use the diary, what is helpful, how it can be improved and importantly if you would be able to join a small team to produce it. Please send your comments and suggestions to:

prayerpastor@seafordparish.org.uk



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The Serving Africa Mission... still growing!

David Farey

Back in August Pat and I spoke at a service in St Luke's about the Serving Africa Mission of which I'm a trustee. It can be that a project or mission is brought before a church, but then without any more being heard. So this article is an update on what was shared at that time.

I mentioned the project to launch the Faith Football Stadium to build an Astroturf pitch next to our school just north of Accra in Ghana. It's a poor area and children would be helped to have a sense of being appreciated and bring them together in a way to motivate and provide them with life skills.

As a result we had people respond in donations, but also in prayer support. We have a way to go on raising the money for the stadium as it was a considerable sum needed to buy the land in the face of competition. The school continues to grow with just over 200 children. There are further projects in the pipeline to include a boarding provision, a vocation hub and a training scheme for new teachers. The construction of extra classrooms is continuing and block work has gone in before the roof goes on. The work carries on apace and as our founder and Head of Mission, the Rev Jim Smith says, "We never close!"

Jim has spent November out on the



base with his wife, Mary. Both are in their mid-seventies, showing that age is no restriction on serving the Lord! They have had a busy time preaching and teaching in the church on the base and the surrounding locality, as well as maintaining a full programme of live streams on Facebook and YouTube.

Christmas is a good time to be reminded of the worldwide church and how the Lord is working in far off foreign lands. This and the many projects and missions around the world that we have heard about in our parish and in this magazine are all in full vigour because of that baby, born in a stable in Bethlehem. As we munch our mince pies let's pause a moment and offer a prayer for our brothers and sisters working in the frontline of Christian ministry around the world.

www.servingafrica-mission.org

What Will Heaven be Like?

Beryl Davies

As I am 88 and as the event is getting nearer, I have been thinking about heaven. What will it be like? I think Heaven must be a pretty good place to be. To start with there will be no sin.

Imagine that – we will be about that “root of sin” which pushes us to go our own way all the time. We shan’t want to be or do anything nasty – no unkindness of any sort. We shall have new bodies – imagine no arthritis, no pain, I’ll be able to breathe properly, all my insides will work well and I may even be beautiful – that will be something to behold!

Will the Lord Jesus meet us at the “pearly gates”. I have a copy of a picture called “First Day in Heaven”. It shows a picture of a woman jumping into the arms of a man in white – obviously the Lord Jesus – which I find a joyful thought. Will He lead us into the presence of the Heavenly Father and we

shall truly be able to worship him, and try to thank him yet again for His love and care all the years of our lives.

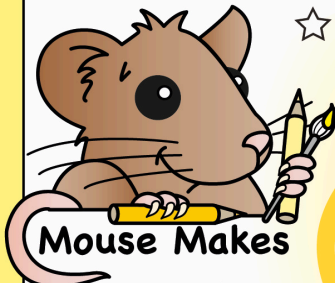
Heaven will be pretty good, I reckon. Imagine being in a place where there is no sin – no murder, no adultery, no envy, greed, lust or anything else opposed to holiness – there will only be goodness. There will be fun and laughter, jokes and stories. Imagine meeting all those loved ones who have gone before us and with whom we shall be reunited. May be there will be lots of people whom we didn’t suspect, lots of historical people – I would like to talk to Anne Boleyn and Julian of Norwich and heaps of others. What a wonderful time we shall have in every sort of way and then I think we shall find out what the Heavenly Father has for us to do. I doubt if we’ll be sitting about in our armchairs. I am looking forward to it.

Hymn on the Morning of Christ's Nativity (excerpt)

John Milton 1608-1674

But peaceful was the night
Wherein the Prince of Light
His reign of peace upon the
earth began:
The winds with wonder whist
Smoothly the waters kissed,
Whispering new joys to the mild
ocean,
Who now hath quite forgot to rave,
While birds of calm sit brooding on the
charmed wave

The stars with deep amaze
Stand fixed in steadfast gaze,
Bending one way their precious
influence,
And will not take their flight,
For all the morning light,
Or Lucifer that often warned them
thence;
But in their glimmering orbs did glow,
Until their Lord himself bespake,
And bid them go.



Mouse Makes



GOD'S PROMISE

Isaiah 9:6-7

CHILD • BORN • SON
GIVEN • WONDERFUL
COUNCELLOR
MIGHTY • GOD
EVERLASTING
FATHER • PRINCE
PEACE • LORD



AN ANGEL MESSENGER

Luke 1:26-38

ANGEL • GABRIEL
JOSEPH • MARY
FAVOUR • SON
JESUS • GREAT
THRONE • REIGN
FOREVER • HOLY
SERVANT • WORD

ADVENT
comes from
the Latin
'AD VENTO'
which means
ARRIVAL

In Advent we
celebrate Jesus' birth
and look forward to
the time when Jesus
will come again.



A LONG JOURNEY

Luke 2:1-20

BETHLEHEM
REGISTER • BIRTH
MANGER • INN
SHEPHERDS • FLOCK
ANGELS • JOY
GOOD NEWS • PRAISE
SAVIOUR • CHRIST



THE BEST GIFT OF ALL

John 3:16

GOD • SO • LOVED
WORLD • HE • GAVE
ONLY • SON
WHOMEVER • BELIEVES
ETERNAL • LIFE

V	R	P	R	I	N	C	E	L	R	O	D
W	O	R	D	C	F	A	T	H	E	R	E
J	A	G	M	A	N	G	E	R	G	E	B
O	W	H	O	E	V	E	R	W	I	I	J
S	J	O	Y	B	O	R	N	O	S	G	E
E	S	L	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	N	S
P	P	Y	J	C	H	I	L	D	E	P	U
H	R	O	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S
F	A	V	O	U	R	E	F	R	W	S	O
B	I	R	T	H	S	W	O	F	O	D	L
I	S	A	V	I	O	U	R	U	R	L	O
F	E	C	O	U	N	C	E	L	L	O	R
A	N	G	E	L	B	J	V	K	D	V	D
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	G	E	S
L	A	N	G	E	L	S	R	G	O	D	V
I	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	T	D	S	M
F	P	G	I	V	E	N	A	H	U	O	A
E	E	H	G	A	V	E	S	R	W	N	R
S	A	E	G	R	E	A	T	O	N	L	Y
O	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	N	J	O
N	E	O	G	O	O	D	N	E	W	S	N
F	L	O	C	K	M	I	G	H	T	Y	B

Colour in one star each day until Christmas

Dec23 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Christmas Crackers...

Sums up Christmas

Three phrases that sum up Christmas are, 'Peace on Earth'; 'Goodwill to Men'; and 'Batteries not included'.

Children's version of the Christmas story

- When the three wise guys from the east side arrived, they found Jesus in the manger.
- When Mary heard that she was the mother of Jesus, she sang the Magna Carta.
- Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.

Santa

What do you call Santa's helpers? - Subordinate Clauses.

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Christian Aid

Nicola Ferguson

Charity Gifts

This year, Christian Aid is asking that we give a gift with real meaning for Christmas.

Every purchase acts as a donation. The money is used for a specific project with you, or the person to whom you are sending the 'gift of donation' receiving a greetings card explaining more about the project.

Virtual gifts are not a new concept and you or your recipient don't have goats or chickens arriving at your door! Your money is a donation for a specific area of Christian aid's work. The gift of a goat for example, puts your money into Christian Aid's Food Security Fund, so our local partner in Ethiopia then uses the fund to supply goats to families in Ethiopia.

Gift Aid still works, as your purchase is a virtual donation and there's no VAT due. You receive a physical card or a 'print-at-home card' which tells the story of a real person who has benefitted from a similar contribution.

Simply go onto the website www.charity-gifts.christianaid.org.uk, and pick the gift you'd like to send. You will then be able to choose a style of card, which will then either be sent to you directly or you can choose to download a printable version during the payment



process.

There are many options and budgets to choose from:

- 10 Cocoa Saplings - £ 9.00
- A Cookstove - £ 15.00
- Emergency Food Kit - £ 75.00
- Vegetable Irrigation Kit - £ 330.00
- A Nanny Goat - £ 35.00
- Five Mosquito Nets - £ 15.00
- A Sheep - £ 37.00
- Olive Tree Sapling - £ 20.00
- Tropical Juice Kit - £ 40.00
- Farmer Training - £ 60.00
- Healthcare Essentials - £ 31.00
- Bee Hive - £ 63.00
- A Mobile Health Clinic - £ 115.00
- A Pair of Chickens - £ 8.00
- Clean Water - £ 30.00
- Send a Child To School - £ 18.00
- Train a soap-maker - £ 15.00

And lots more at
www.charity-gifts.christianaid.org.uk

Christian Aid Quiz Night

Friday 26th January 2024
Cross Way Church & Halls, Seaford

Make up your own teams (maximum 6) or arrive with your ticket
and we shall arrange teams.

Entrance only by advance tickets, available from your Christian Aid
representatives: Paul Bloxham & Nicola Ferguson.
Alternatively, ring Colin on (01323) 894899.

Tickets will be on sale directly after Christmas and will be priced at £8 (to include
supper). Please bring your own drinks, nibbles and glasses.



Lewes, Seaford and District Branch



Please contact: Jean: 01323 892930

KITTENS TO ELDERLY CATS

ALL NEED LOVING HOMES!



Neutering

We can also help towards the cost of
neutering your cats and kittens.

Please phone 01273 813111 (Option 3)
and leave a message including your phone number
so that we may contact you.



DO YOU HAVE ROOM FOR A FURRY FRIEND?

-PHONE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION IF YOU CAN HELP

Book Review

Corinne Lee-Philpot

How to talk about Jesus without looking like an idiot

by Andy Bannister.

Published by Inter-Varsity Press

ISBN – 978-1-78974-487-3

You might be sitting with colleagues during a work tea break, or passing the time of day with your neighbours as you put the bins out when you hear it.... . the dreaded question! Someone turns to you and asks, ‘what did you do at the weekend?’

Your mouth goes dry, you gulp and your blood turns to ice, you manage to mention all sorts of stuff but ch – ch – ch – Church! Eeek, not so easy. I think it’s highly likely that we have all been there at some point in our lives.

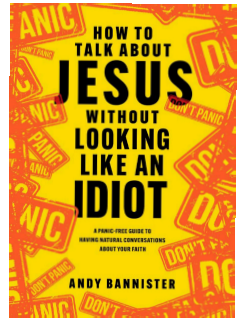
Andy Bannister calls it being an ‘undercover Christian’. We so often find it perfectly simple to talk about the weather, hobbies, bus timetables or the price of carrots but find it so hard to talk about the most important part of our lives.

This intensely practical and often very funny book goes some way towards addressing the ‘whys’ of the way we

feel, but also the ‘what’ and ‘how’ solutions and helps. The author brings out the way that Jesus models for us what it means to live a life that is attractive, generous, engaging, and open; how he so often used questions to draw people out and help them to think and consider things for themselves. If someone asked Jesus a question He would often ask a question in reply.

In “How to talk about Jesus without looking like an idiot” Andy Bannister offers the reader some very useful guidelines as to what kinds of questions to ask, the ways that scripture can be brought into conversations and how to share in a kind, respectful and gentle way. He has even given a ‘Handy, one page cut out and keep guide’ at the back of the book so that maybe, we could be that much braver and more confident as we engage with our neighbour when putting out the bins!

I highly recommend this book.



It's Panto Time...Oh Yes it is!

Graham Tubb

After the 2nd World War a local woman, Kathleen Marsh, decided to wake up Seaford! So she founded Seaford Children's Theatre. She was also a member of Seaford Operatic Society, now Seaford Musical Theatre of which I am now president and had connections with the founding of Glyndebourne Opera. Strangely enough my father worked on the construction of the original opera house.

It was also Kathleen Marsh's intention that as the children grew older they would join the Operatic Society which many, including myself, did.

Every Christmas we put on the town's pantomime at the Queen's Hall. It was always a sell out! We also performed a summer show at Clinton Hall. Both buildings are now flats.

Costumes and sets were made by parents and friends, materials were hard to come by it still been so close to the end of the war. Often these productions had over seventy children in the cast. Over the years we performed pantomimes such as Babes in the Wood, Cinderella, Mother Goose, Robison Crusoe and Jack & Jill.

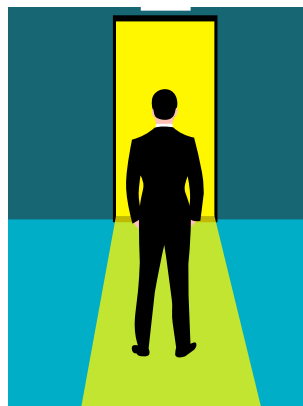
When television became more popular Kathleen Marsh retired and for a while Doris Beal took over until everyone grew up and moved onto the Operatic Society or other things as I did together with the actress Judy Cornwell who was to go on in later years to star as Daisy in Keeping Up Appearances.

A smile in the church

Can you value a smile in a church doorway?
Does it make you turn and run away?
What can the church seek to give?
Will they change the way I live?

That smile is of welcome, of honest love within,
They won't need to know or judge you for a sin,
For when the church opens its doors wide,
Christ dwells within with nothing to hide.

Bob Rice



Helping people into Housing

Terry Howell



A new home? Imagine that living in emergency or temporary accommodation for as long as six months, you are offered a new home. Of course you are delighted, but soon dismayed as you learn that the new home lacks basic white goods and has bare floors.

What can you do? You face the stress and anxiety of how to get the vital things you need and you have no savings. Cases like this are frequently referred to us for help. HOMELINK may offer help with a grant. This could be for £250 for a second-hand washing machine and fridge freezer. (Gill our volunteer who works very hard on these cases can obtain these white goods remarkably cheaply.)

The flooring problem. However, you may still be faced with a bare floor. Carpeting costs far more than white goods. This problem can be more serious if you live in an upstairs flat. Your neighbours below are going to object to the noise. The cost of floor covering is not cheap and is probably about £300 even for one room. This problem arises because of the Local Authority's policy (a national one,) to remove all carpeting from houses once they become vacant! While it may be necessary for an old and much worn carpet, steam cleaning should often be good enough and much cheaper. Private landlords, of course, do not remove all carpeting.

Finance: HOMELINK faces a financial problem with these grants. Our main task is to provide loans for the first month's rent and damage deposit. These loans are usually repaid; this allowed our finances to survive Covid19 well when other charities struggled. However, the number of grant requests has increased from 89 accepted to 114 accepted. We now find that our budget for grants of £25,000 pa has been exhausted and we cannot help with grants for two months until January. Next Year we cannot increase our budget so we will have to restrict grants to £2,000 per month with £100 in reserve. Loans continue with the same uptake as last year in spite of the great difficulty in finding affordable rented property. LDC (District Council) are providing about half our referrals. A lot of work is done by our staff in giving hope to those who never receive one of our loans by referring them to other agencies for help.

Personnel: We have made Wendy's post permanent. We still need more Trustees. We have a vacancy for one from Seaford churches and we could co-opt three more.

Prayers

- For all without funds offered empty accommodation needing grants
- For our staff that they may be effective in housing people
- That we may give hope to those losing hope.



Christmas with Ashdown Singers

Director Sam Barton

3.00pm

3rd December 2023

**St Thomas More Church
Seaford BN25 1SS**

Proceeds in aid of Homelink



www.leweshomelink.com

HOMELINK is a registered charity led by a Board of Trustees (including one from our Parish) and run by a Management Committee, all of whom are volunteers. Other volunteers help in a wide range of roles.

HOMELINK normally employ five part-time staff: two Client Managers; a Repayments Officer; a Finance Manager; and an Administration and Development Officer;

HOMELINK's office is rented from Age Concern in the House of Friendship in Lewes.



Life And More Abundant Ministries

LAMA

Lesley Gomez

Dear Friends,
Thank you for staying in touch, it is always good to hear from you - heartfelt thanks to all who donate your regular support means we can continue to reach young people with the Good News.

Luke 10:9 "Say to them, 'the Kingdom of God has come near to you'." This is how we interpret our mission, we take the Kingdom, through our worship to places that are not church, and speak of Jesus to people who have not encountered Him. When Michael, Ana, Simon and Leah sing at the beach Café, customers ask; "What genre of music is this?" The staff explain it is worship, Who we worship, and why! Every week we reach a different group of people who came to drink smoothies and watch the sunset. They hear about God's love at the same time. It is wonderful!

Little children

A year ago we noticed a little boy, three years old, wander through the gate at LAMA House to gather tiny pine cones that had fallen in our driveway. His older sister, 10, followed him telling him to come home. We prayed we could get to know them and had the idea to move our playground from the back of the house to the front, so children would feel welcome. We now have around 30

children coming every day when school is out at 4pm, these two were the pioneers! However, recently their father left the house in the night and nobody knows where he has taken them - it is hoped they went to his older daughter in another town. (Their mother works abroad). We miss them and would love to receive news. Please pray they will be safe. The little boy seems to be autistic, this will be traumatic for him and his sister. They were especially close to Simon who does Playground Duty.



Baby Matheo

Ana's foster-baby is one year old. We can't believe he has been with us for a year! On Sunday 5th November we held a Dedication Service for him. He is very attached to Ana ("E-ma") Simon ("Mon-mon") and Charis and family, and friends at church. Every Sunday at least one of the men can be seen lying on the

floor playing with him! One of the ladies said, "How we let him go? He is such a part of our church!" The Social Worker has taken a very long time to process even his 'Certificate of Abandonment' which is the first part of the adoption process. Pray into this with us. He is starting to walk and loves to chatter and sing. He has certainly had a very happy first year with lots of giggles and cuddles, as have we!

Prayer

As Michael was leaving the Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth this morning, one of the boys ran to him asking that they pray. We have prayed often with him over the past weeks as he was diagnosed with a heart problem. He was advised not to over exert, no basketball, and told he would need a pacemaker operation. He was scared. We had tried to reassure him to go ahead with the operation and we prayed for a new heart. But today, he just wanted to thank God and he prayed beautifully for 5 minutes or more. The Dr told him this week that his heart is normal. Whatever was wrong is miraculously healed! Another extraordinary answer to the boys prayers.

I have been so blessed over the past forty years as a missionary to have such faithful support! But, many of these lovely people were older than me and have now gone ahead to heaven. Our funds have reduced significantly. Because of illness, I haven't been able to visit churches to fund-raise for years. We don't have the same needs today, as we are no longer a Residential Home for Boys, but do need an additional £1500 monthly. Rising costs, especially fuel, restrict how much we can do. We were

not able to celebrate LAMA Anniversary this November for the first time. Michael ministers at RRCY Detention Centre on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday each week. This is an hour's drive from his home. His Chaplaincy Course finishes in January 2024. On Sunday mornings, he leads worship at Epicenter Church in San Fernando, with Simon and Ana. Practice is on Saturdays at the church. On Fridays, they go the the beach Café for evening worship. We would love to have funds to visit former boys of LAMA House and RRCY who live further away. We also need a good second-hand van to transport the sound system.

You can donate through Just Giving at www.lamaministries.org

May you all have a very HAPPY and BLESSED CHRISTMAS!

Lots of love from Peter and Lesley, Michael and Jeli, Ana and Simon.

I have published a small book of prayers titled Through Jesus Christ my Lord by Lesley Keenan-Gomez. It is available on Amazon.com. A great Christmas gift for all your friends!



The Eagle had landed!

David Farey

It's around this time of year that the annuals start appearing! It's good to see the regulars, like Beano, Dandy, Doctor Who and being joined by the relative newcomers like Strictly Come Dancing and Peppa Pig. But people of a certain age will remember the eager anticipation of waking up on Christmas morning to the latest Eagle annual!

The Eagle comic first hit the streets on 14th April 1950. It was the brainchild of the Rev Marcus Morris working with artist Frank Hampson. Marcus had been in a parish in Southport and began with improving his parish magazine. He teamed up with Frank, fresh out of the Royal Army Service Corps and at the local school of arts and crafts.

Marcus wrote an article for The Sunday Dispatch entitled, "Comics that bring horror into the nursery"! He felt that boy's comics, many from the States, were filled with death, destruction and low morals. His vision was for a comic that would give children a different diet, a wholesome and inspirational one. Thus was the genesis of the Eagle comic.

Marcus and Frank met in 1947 and it took two years of hard work before a dummy edition was produced that could be hawked round the publishers. The artwork was meticulous with models and costumes being made.

Marcus pounded the streets of London knocking on publisher's doors until Hulton Press decided to take the risk.

Weeks before the launch Humber cars with dummy gold eagles on their roofs toured the country publicising the new comic, and giving out coupons to use at their local newsagents. The end result was a distribution of a million copies in the first week!

The Eagle was chock full of colourful and entertaining material, with characters and stories to capture the reader's interest. It was informative with articles on self defence, looking after pets and iconic colourful cutaway drawings showing how things worked. There were adverts for all the usual things that boys were into in the early 50s, including air rifles! It had pieces on people of the day, such as actors, sports personalities and articles from top journalists of the day.

Readers were encouraged to join the Eagle Club for a modest subscription, members being able to sign up for outings and competitions with wonderful prizes. Interaction with the readership was an important aspect to the comic. There would be a "Mug of the month" feature of someone who could be referred to as a "mug" for going out of their way to help someone, but who the Eagle was marking out as a true hero. There were some amazing stories recounted.

The faith side of the Eagle was very important. There would be annual carol

services in St. Paul's Cathedral, no less. Among the comic strips of Harris Tweed, the bumbling spy and gripping stories of PC49 there would be colourful articles recounting stories from the gospels and a series on the life of St Paul.

The lead storyline which appeared on the front page and which was eagerly consumed every week, was that of Dan Dare, pilot of the future. These stories, beautifully and imaginatively illustrated by Frank Hampson are often reprinted and eagerly sought by collectors. Amazingly Dan originally started off as chaplain to the space fleet in the trial runs! He was soon promoted! There's the occasional lovely touch such as where Dan suggests to a young cadet when they are in a crisis that they should pray about it. You can't imagine

that happening in any modern comic today!

The Eagle had its heyday through the fifties and early sixties, and spawned Girl and Robin for younger readers. But tastes change and the wholesome content of the Eagle went out of fashion and after amalgamations of publishers and comic titles the Eagle passed from the public eye.

The Eagle was a product of a time when faith was still regarded as an essential part of everyday life and the principles of fair play and decency were still respected by the public at large. Perhaps now is a time for a new champion in the mould of the Rev Marcus Morris to launch some new project that would reignite the embers of faith and behaviour.

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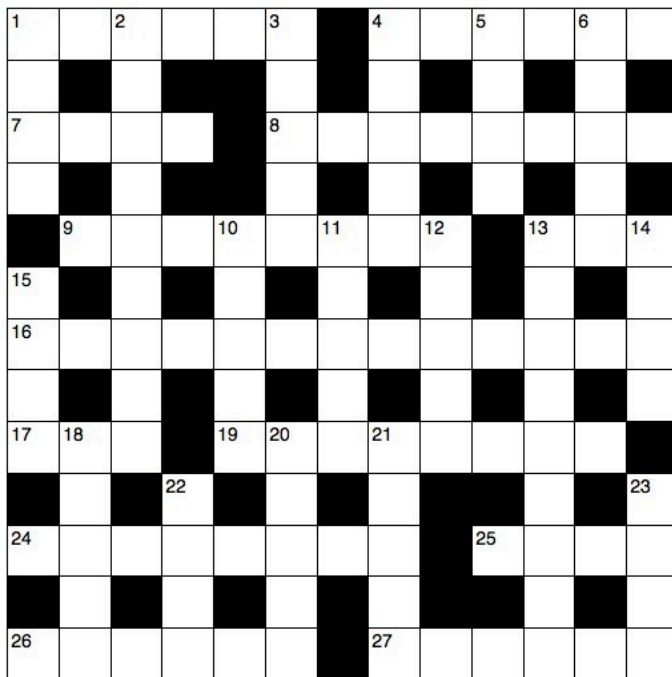


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Crossword



Across

- 1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)
- 4 'He stretches out the heavens like a — , and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)
- 7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)
- 8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)
- 9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)
- 13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)
- 16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)
- 17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)
- 19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)
- 24 Able dock (anag.) (8)
- 25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)
- 26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)
- 27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

Down

- 1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)
- 2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)
- 3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)

December-January Lectionary

Sunday 3rd December Advent 1

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

Sunday 10th December Advent 2

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-8

Sunday 17th December Advent 3

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8,19-28

Sunday 24th December Advent 4 and Christmas Eve

Romans 16:25-27,

Luke 1:26-38

Christmas Day

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:1-20

Sunday 31st December Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12.

Sunday 7th January

Baptism of Christ

Genesis 1:1-5

Mark 1:4-11

Sunday 14th January

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Revelation 5:1-10

John 1:43-51

Sunday 21st January

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Revelation 19:6-10

John 2:1-11

Sunday 28th January

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Revelation 12:1-5a

Mark 1:21-28

-
- 4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)
5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)
6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)
10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)
11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)
12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)
13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)
14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)
15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)
18 Narnia's Lion (5)
20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)
21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)
22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)
23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)
-

December Calendar

Saturday 2nd	10.00am-3.00pm	Seaford Christmas Magic: Open Church & Messy Church	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 3rd	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.15am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 6th	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 10th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7 Christmas	St. Luke's
	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
Tuesday 12th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 13th	6.30pm	Mayor's Carol Service	St. Leonard's
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
Friday 15th	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
Saturday 16th	8.00pm	Pub Carols	Wellington Inn
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.15am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
Sunday 17th	6.00pm	A Service of Lessons & Carols	St. Leonard's
	7.30pm	Parish Women's Group	St. Luke's
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 20th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Friday 22nd	4.00pm	Messy Christingle	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
Sunday 24th Christmas Eve	3.00pm	Crib Service	St. Luke's
	6.00pm	Nativity	St. Leonard's
	11.00pm	First Communion of Christmas	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Christmas Day	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
Wednesday 27th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 30th	10.00am	Open Church Cafe	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 31st	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Luke's

January Calendar

Wednesday 3rd	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
Saturday 6th	9.30am	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 7th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.15am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 10th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Friday 12th	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 14th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	Prayer@7	St. Luke's
Monday 15th	7.30pm	Women's Group	
Tuesday 16th	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
		Magazine copy date	St. Luke's
Wednesday 17th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 21st	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.15am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 24th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 28th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Family Worship	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
Tuesday 30th	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
Wednesday 31st	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's

Crossword answers

ACROSS: 1, Depend. 4, Canopy. 7, Beak. 8, Irritate. 9, Zedekiah. 13, Ate. 16, Job's comforter. 17, NAE. 19, Lang Syne. 24, Blockade. 25, Five. 26, Enigma. 27, Drench.

DOWN: 1, Debt. 2, Peaceable. 3, Drink. 4, Curia. 5, Nuts. 6, Put it. 10, Excel. 11, Is man. 12, Hoofs. 13, Attention. 14, Ezra. 15, Ijon. 18, Aslan. 20, Abana. 21, Greed. 22, GCMG. 23, Leah.

Regular Services & Group

Services in St. Leonard's Church

Sundays

- 8.00am Holy Communion: a quiet said service
- 9.30am Holy Communion: a service with choir and hymns
- 11.15am The Meeting Place: a service of praise and prayer for healing (1st & 3rd Sundays)



Wednesdays

- 11.00am Matins: a quiet said service (1st Wednesday)
- 11.00am Holy Communion: a said service (other Wednesdays)



Services in St. Luke's Church

Sundays

- 9.30am Holy Communion: a service with hymns (1st and 3rd Sundays)
- 9.30am Family Worship: informal worship (2nd and 4th Sunday) with bacon rolls from 9.00am
- 7.00pm Prayer@7: a short time of worship followed by prayer (2nd Sunday)
- 7.00pm St. Luke's@7: Contemporary worship (4th Sunday)

Tuesdays

- 11.00am Prayer Ministry and Communion (2nd and 4th Tuesdays) followed by refreshments

Sunday	Glow (children's group)	9.30am	St. Luke's	1 st and 3 rd Sundays
Monday	Women's Group	7.30pm	St. Luke's	3 rd Monday
Tuesday	Bell Ringers	7.30pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
Wednesday	Tots	9.30am	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Parish Lunch	12.30pm	St. Luke's	1 st Wednesday
Thursday	Tots	9.30am	St. Leonard's	Weekly*
	Choir	7.00pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
Friday	Mother's Union	2.30pm	St. Luke's	2 nd Friday
	Sparks	5.45pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Ignite	7.45pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
Saturday	Messy Church	9.30am	St. Leonard's	1 st Saturday
	Open Church	10.00am	St. Leonard's	See calendar

*Term time

Parish Directory

Clergy

Revd. James Hollingsworth	01323 893508	vicar@seafordparish.org.uk
Revd. Derreck Lee-Philpot	01323 893391	dlp@seafordparish.org.uk

Children, Youth & Family Missioner

Stefan Bracher		cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk
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Parish Office- calls can be taken Monday to Friday 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Charlie Christie	07391 787130	admin@seafordparish.org.uk
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Churchwardens

Fred Bass	01323 893054	fred@seafordparish.org.uk
Liz Morgan-Jones	01323 890644	liz@seafordparish.org.uk

Deputy Wardens

Janet Kent (St. Leonard's)	01323 490050	janet.seaford@btinternet.com
Paul Waller (St. Leonard's)	01323 872088	
Joanne Lalla (St. Luke's)		joanne.lalla@btinternet.com

Parish Treasurer

Paul Waller	01323 872088	atreasurer@seafordparish.org.uk
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Prayer Pastor

Sue Griffiths		prayerpastor@seafordparish.org.uk
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Safeguarding Officer

Ruth Saunders		safeguarding@seafordparish.org.uk
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Home Groups

David Farey		homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk
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Hall Bookings	07425 936674	bookings@seafordparish.org.uk
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Fortnightly News		news@seafordparish.org.uk
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Magazine

Distribution	01323 892883	David and Hazel Bramley
Editor: Malcolm Anderson	01323 891252	magazine@seafordparish.org.uk

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email: amsteerltd@uwclub.net

