#### Letter From the Vicar

#### Advent means O come, O come Emmanuel

One day during the first week of November I suddenly burst into joyful song. There's nothing strange in that I hear you say. Most of us often go about our daily work singing a well-known song, which frequently reflects the mood we are in. My song was a little unusual however in that it was a Christmas Carol. As I realised what I was singing I also became aware that I was feeling particularly happy at that moment. I was unsure as to whether I was just generally happy or if I was subconsciously aware that Christmas was upon us and I was already feeling the joy of the season.

There had already been numerous reminders of the time of year that was approaching. Adverts for Christmas fare, as usual, started after August Bank Holiday Monday! The stores started selling goods for Christmas gifts weeks ago. The City Council has switched on the Christmas greeting lights. The supermarkets have special offers of drinks, biscuits and nuts. My grandson has made his choices from the adverts for toys and games with the positive attitude that what Santa does not bring then Daddy will supply.

Many people object to what they see as the overshadowing of a religious festival with the prolonged and commercialised run up to one day of intensive eating and drinking, accompanied by the opening of soon discarded or unwanted presents.

We are now in Advent - but what is the season of Advent. As Christians what should we be doing?

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of Christ so we are looking back. At the same time we are looking forward expectantly to the final day when Christ will return in great glory to take us unto himself. This double celebration is what makes Advent a favourite season for many Christians. We prepare to celebrate the arrival of the Son of God on earth over 2000 years ago. Christ humbled himself to come among us in human form. He came to save us from our sins by sacrificing himself for us. This is the good

news we remember and give thanks for in the Eucharist.

We also pray for the day of Christ' second coming. On that divine judgement day we will have to give an account of how we have lived our lives as followers of Christ. I love Christmas but in the excitement of preparing we may be less willing to contemplate what that second coming may mean if we have not quite lived up to Jesus' expectations of us. We pray that Christ will help us to live our lives in the light of his word, continually longing for the coming of his kingdom.

We all know someone who started Christmas shopping as soon as the summer holidays were over. The really keen bargain hunters started with Christmas cards in last January's sales. They are well advanced in preparations for Christmas and in a couple of weeks' time they will say 'I've done it all, I'm ready'. But how prepared would we be if Jesus arrived again this Christmas? Like the baby in Elizabeth's womb, I hope I would be able to leap for joy singing 'Joy to the world, the Lord has come. Let earth receive her King'.

I wish, hope and pray that you enjoy an Advent that is full of Christ-like excitement and a Christmas brimming full of joy and peace.

## Reverend Dorothy

# DECEMBER PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 2nd	11.00 a.m.	Service at Crossley House Care Home
	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 3rd	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 4th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	4.30 p.m.	K:Ing's Way Club
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts
SUNDAY 7TH	SECOND	SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
	2.00p.m.	Messy Church
Tuesday 9th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 10th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

11.30 a.m. 6.15 p.m.

Ing's Way Lunch Day

Cub Scouts

Thursday 11th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer

4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club 6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts

7.30 p.m. Scouts

Saturday 13th Carol singing at Morrison's

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SUNDAY 14TH THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Monday 15th 11.00 a.m. Carol singing at Crossley House Care

6.30 p.m. Carol singing at Allerton Congregational

Church

Tuesday 16th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing

Wednesday 17th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's

6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts

Thursday 18th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer

4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club 6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts

6.00 p.m. Carol singing at BRI

7.30 p.m. Scouts

Saturday 20th 4.00 p.m. Carol singing at Morrison's

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SUNDAY 21ST FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00 a.m. Parade Service, Nativity & Communion

3.00 p.m. Service of Readings and Carols

Wednesday 24th 11.00 p.m. Midnight Eucharist Thursday 25th 10.00 a.m. Family Communion

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**SUNDAY 28TH HOLY INNOCENTS** 

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Wednesday 31st 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's

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#### Christmas at St. Saviour's

As always, we will be celebrating Christmas in style at St. Saviour's. Do please come and join us whenever you can!

Carol singing seems to feature quite prominently this year. We have had requests from various agencies to bring a little festive cheer. It would be difficult to support them all, but you will be most welcome whenever you can join in. Please let the wardens know if you are planning to go along.

We start on **Saturday 13th December**, when we will join members of the Court Chaplaincy to sing carols at Morrison's, Girlington at various slots throughout the day. On **Monday 15th**, we will bring some cheer to the residents of Crossley House Care Home at 11.00 a.m., along with members of St. James's. Later that day, Churches Together in Allerton and Fairweather Green have organised a joint carol session with the other churches in the group from **6.30 p.m.** on the steps of Allerton Congregational Church, Allerton Road. The Chaplaincy at BRI have invited church members to sing carols round the wards on **Thursday 18th** from 6.00 to 8.00 p.m. Then, on **Saturday 20th**, we have been invited to sing carols in the foyer of Morrison's Supermarket at Girlington from 4.00 p.m., in conjunction with St. Paul's, Manningham.

The Scout Group will be leading a Nativity presentation during the morning service on **21st December** and, if you have any voice left, at **3.00 p.m.** on that same day, we will again be telling the Christmas Story at our **Service of Readings and Carols** when we sing traditional and some lesser-known carols and hear readings from the Bible and other sources. To revive us after these exertions, there will be refreshments in the hall afterwards. On **Christmas Eve**, we will welcome in Christmas Day at the **Midnight Eucharist at 11.00 p.m.** and on **Christmas Morning**, there will be a **Family Communion** at 10.00 a.m.

Throughout December, there will be the collecting Pillar Box out at the back of church for your donations to Candlelighters and the Save the Children Fund.

# Christmas Messy Church

# Sunday 7th December

2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

A wonderful new baby; a true and special Bible story; a special celebration.

We would like to welcome children, along with a family member, to enjoy our Christmas programme with games, carol singing, music and guitar.

We'll have several tables of interesting, attractive crafts for children and adults to enjoy.

There will be soft drinks, tea, coffee and refreshments available, including savoury starters and homemade cakes.

Past popular activities have involved children having great fun icing biscuits and spreading chocolate on buns (and on themselves!)

Altogether, a warm and special afternoon. Do please come!

## **Christmas gifts**

Grandfather was talking to his grand-daughter, "When I was a child all we got for Christmas was an apple and an orange." The little girl clapped her hands in joy. "Brilliant! I'd love a new computer and a mobile!"

© Parish Pump

# **The Everlasting Turkey**

On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me I've bought a big fresh turkey and a proper Christmas tree. On the second day of Christmas much laughter could be heard As we tucked into our turkey – a most delicious bird. On the third day of Christmas people came from just next door, The turkey tasted just as good as it had done before. On the fourth day of Christmas came relations young and old We finished up the Christmas pud and had the turkey cold. On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snowflakes scurried, But we were nice and warm inside, and had the turkey curried. On the sixth day of Christmas, the Christmas spirit died. The children fought and bickered – we had the turkey rissoles fried. On the seventh day of Christmas my true love he did wince When he sat down at table - and was offered turkey mince. On the eighth day of Christmas, the dog had run for shelter, For he'd seen our turkey pancakes and the glass of alka-seltzer. On the ninth day of Christmas, by lunchtime dad was blotto, He knew that bird was back again, this time as a risotto. On the tenth day of Christmas we were drinking home-made brew, Anything to help us face that steaming turkey stew. On the eleventh day of Christmas our lovely tree was moulting. And with chilli, soy and oyster sauce, the turkey was revolting. On the twelfth day of Christmas we had smiles back on our lips, The guests had gone, the turkey too – WE DINED ON FISH AND CHIPS.

<sup>©</sup> Parish Pump

# Recycling your cards and stamps

It's always a shame to take down the exciting displays of cards when we get to Twelfth Night. Doesn't everything look bare and drab when they are gone? It might help to know that they can be recycled to bring happiness to needy children next year. Margaret Baker would love to receive your used cards so she can make the front pictures into new cards to put in next year's shoeboxes which go out to underprivileged children all over the world. There will be a box in the narthex to put them in. Similarly, Val Muff would be glad to receive the stamps from your Christmas post which will go towards funding leukaemia research. Please cut them carefully from the envelopes, leaving a border of about 1/4" around each stamp.

This year's Shoebox collection resulted in an amazing 132 shoeboxes being sent from St. Saviour's to the Samaritan's Purse distribution warehouse. Margaret also received cash donations amounting to around £140 which will go a long way towards paying for transport. Many of the boxes contained cash for postage in addition to this. The boxes will be going to the Philippines, where many families are still recovering from losing everything in last year's hurricane. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed in any way to this magnificent effort.

#### **Christmas Tree Festivals**

Our neighbours at St. Peter's Church. Allerton Road, are holding a Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December. The theme is "Around the World".

St. James's, Thornton, hold their tree festival from 29th November to 6th December. They are open from 11.00 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. (12 noon to 7.30 p.m. on Sunday) and there will be a café, gift shop and Santa's Grotto to enjoy as well.

#### From the Archives

A recent article in the Telegraph and Argus reported that it is 50 years since work began on the present St. Saviour's Church building. The projected cost was £37,000 and although the initial appeal was begun in 1924, it took 40 years to raise the money. How grateful we are for their perseverance!

# The Induction Service for the Revd. Dorothy Stewart

Ian Mc Alpine.

At last we have a new Vicar!

After an interregnum lasting about two and a half years and complex negotiations we welcomed Rev. Dorothy Stewart to our Christian community in a most impressive and well-attended service held on the evening of 10<sup>th</sup> November.

Dorothy has lived in Leeds since childhood where she worshipped at St. Aidan's Church, taking a very active part in church life. Eventually she felt called to ordination and trained at the College of the Resurrection in Mirfield. After she was ordained she served as a curate in the urban parish of St Martin's in Potternewton in Leeds.

The service opened with a processional hymn, "Lord, for the years" and we were then welcomed by Bishop Tom Butler, the Acting Bishop of Bradford. The churchwarden of Dorothy's previous parish in Leeds gave an impressive commendation of her character and work within that parish. Our Area Dean, Rev. Gary Hodgson, then presented Dorothy who made a formal commitment to her new ministry at St Saviour's.

After readings and a hymn Bishop Tom delivered a sermon in which we learned more about Dorothy's impressive commitment to public service as a nurse, midwife and magistrate. He thanked all who had helped at our church during the long interregnum, notably the nineteen members of the clergy who had taken services during this period.

Dorothy then renewed before the Bishop the vows she had made at her ordination in 2010. The Diocesan Registrar confirmed that Dorothy had made the Declaration of Assent and taken the Oath of Allegiance to the Queen and the Oath of Canonical Obedience to the Bishop of Leeds.

Following this Bishop Tom read the deed of collation (the document giving Dorothy the right to hold office at St Saviour's) and placed it in her hands, blessing her.

The Bishop, Archdeacon David Lee and Dorothy then moved into the narthex - the symbolic and actual entrance to the church - where the Archdeacon formally inducted Dorothy into the benefice. We sang the modern hymn, "Brother, Sister, Let me serve you" so appropriate to this special occasion, and the church bell, cast as long ago as 1838, was rung to signify that Dorothy was now formally taking up her pastoral responsibilities.

The Bishop, Archdeacon and Dorothy then returned to the body of the church and David presented our new incumbent to us. We all applauded and Dorothy thanked us for the welcome she had received. Bishop Tom commissioned all of us to continue our commitment to the service of God before concluding the service with the sending out - "Go into the world in peace: be of good courage ... and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always"

This memorable and impressive occasion concluded with the recessional hymn "We have a Gospel to proclaim". An excellent buffet was then served in the church hall.

As a choir member I was very pleased to see so many of our friends from Thornton in the choir stalls so that the choir numbered about 20. After such a long interregnum it is wonderful to have a new Vicar at last. Her name, which in Greek means "Gift of God", could scarcely be more fitting and we wish Dorothy and her family a long and happy association with our church.

#### December

December, December,
A month to remember,
A month full of darkness and light,
A month full of rushing
And sharing and hoping,
A month full of one special night.

By Daphne Kitching

# The story behind the hymn: O Come, All ye Faithful

Nobody knows who wrote this well-loved Christmas carol. It was originally a Latin Christmas hymn, 'Adeste Fidelis'. It seems to have first 'surfaced' in English due to a John Francis Wade, who lived in the 18th century, and who made his living copying manuscripts and, sometimes, music by hand. Wade was a Roman Catholic, and all services in the church at that time were conducted in Latin, and so he knew the language well.

The story goes that in about 1750 he slipped this hymn into a manuscript he was copying for the English Roman Catholic College in Lisbon, Portugal. 35 years later, in 1785, it turned up in the Portuguese Chapel in London, where it became known as the 'Portuguese Hymn'. From there the hymn appears to have 'travelled' across to the Margaret Chapel in London's West End. Young William Ewart Gladstone, who later became British Prime Minister, greatly appreciated the services at this church. He said that the congregation were "the most devout and happy that I have ever seen." The minister at that time was Frederick Oakley, one of the leaders of the 19th century Oxford Movement, who was later to convert to Roman Catholicism. Oakley believed strongly in the power of religious symbols and fine music, and before he bade farewell to the Margaret Chapel, he introduced this hymn to the congregation. Having started as 'Adeste Fidelis', and been for a while 'The Portuguese Hymn', this hymn soon became known – and loved worldwide – as 'O Come, All Ye Faithful'.

O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!

# 46TH BRADFORD NORTH SCOUT GROUP FAMILY CAMP 2014

To celebrate our Group's 70th Birthday we held a camp at Blackhills from the 19th - 21st September. Sixty five young people, leaders and parents enjoyed a range of activities during the weekend. The first challenge was a hike to the waterfalls at Goit Stock. The two-hour walk, over some rough terrain, was enjoyed by all. After a supper of hot dogs, hot chocolate and cookies everyone made their way to their tents and, what we hoped, would be a long night's sleep - zzzzzzzz .

At half-past six some of the leaders were up and about quelling the noise of those who seem not to need sleep when they're not at school!

A full English breakfast revived us all before we embarked on a very busy day full of fun and adventurous activity including: archery and rifle shooting, climbing, fire-lighting and toasting marshmallows and orienteering. There was also time to be creative with the children making picture frames from twigs and natural materials.

Whilst the leaders prepared for the evening's entertainment the children had some 'free' time: some enjoyed the playground whilst others built dens or climbed trees.

Several parents and friends joined us for our BBQ and party. Burgers, jacket potatoes, salad and savouries were all devoured with glee. One of our parents had made four birthday cakes including one with a copy of our anniversary badge on the top - delicious!

The Beavers and Cubs then enjoyed a puppet show, sing song and balloon making. Meanwhile the Scouts were jiving along on the Wii Dance and singing karaoke. The Explorers were to be found 'chilling' around the fire outside. A game of Bingo followed a supper of hot chocolate and biscuits with all young people in bed by eleven o clock and fortunately sleep by midnight.

We'd hoped for a lie-in on Sunday morning but alas the Beavers and

some of the Cubs had other ideas and were bouncing around at 6am!! Aaargh! (Personally I never heard a thing and was so grateful to the leaders who had hauled themselves out of their slumber to deal with them and make a start on breakfast!)

Following another hearty English breakfast everyone went on a walk through the woods down to the folly. Their task en-route was to collect several items, which they would then need to use in a collage on return. Their creativity was amazing and everyone 'won' a prize for their efforts. After this there were more activities and games. Lunch was followed by everyone packing up their bags and equipment and litter

We played a wide game (Prisoner of War) before parents arrived on site to collect their tired and weary offspring.

A very memorable 70th Birthday camp for us all - long may we reign as a Scout Group at St. Saviour's.

What we've been up to this Autumn:

#### BLACKHILLS BONFIRE

November 1st must have been the warmest and driest that I have ever known making the celebrations most enjoyable. A huge fire was lit at 6.30pm and whilst everyone enjoyed pie and peas, chilli, or burgers the fireworks display began. A brilliant evening.

#### 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

The Cubs won the District tournament for the fifth year in succession (we're very well liked in the District for this feat - NOT!). The Scouts qualified for their final but alas were beaten - so near - yet so far!

#### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

We'd decided to host a service to commemorate the anniversary of the Armistice and were delighted that so many young people, together with their families and some of our friends, were able to join us. We received a great deal of positive feedback afterwards and may repeat such a service in the future.

#### FAITH PARTNERSHIP AWARD / FAITH ACTIVITY BADGES

We're all focusing on the above badges at the moment. Preparation and participation in the Harvest & Remembrance Services will contribute to the badges being awarded. The children have written prayers and poems and recognised the place of singing in worship. The Cubs were challenged to create a poster depicting everything they knew about Christianity - eg symbols - it was amazing what they came up with. We also looked at the features of St. Saviour's and compared our church to the children's own places of worship. Kaaren, our churchwarden and Group chairperson, is coming to explain to the children about the job she does at St. Saviour's. We also hope that Dorothy and other members of the church community will be able to join us at some of our meetings.

#### EUREKA!

Thirty Beaver and Cub Scouts enjoyed a visit to the Children's Museum in Halifax on November 16th. We travelled by First Bus and then train which was all very exciting - too much for some! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed learning about their bodies, playing in the 'bank', Post Office, kitchen and Marks and Spencers!

#### CHRISTMAS

We are to hold traditional Christmas parties this year instead of heading off to the laser zone, bowling or cinema. The Beavers and Cubs will be partying on the 17th December and the Scouts and Explorers on the 18th. The Explorers are very excited and can't wait to play the 'mars bar' and 'flour' games! Sometimes the simple things are the best.

#### BIG CAMP 2015

From 1st to 4th May 2015 West Yorkshire County Scouts are organising another camp to be held at the Yorkshire Showground in Harrogate. Over 3000 participants are expected and we will be among

them. There will be hundreds of activities for the young people to participate in during the day plus a wide range of evening entertainment on offer including live bands, discos, a funfair, puppet theatres and shows. Technically something for everyone! I am hoping it will be much warmer than the last Big Camp when the temperatures at night went below zero and we awoke to ice on the tents! Brrrr. Bev Howard, Group Scout Leader

# The Children's Society

Thank you to all Children's Society box holders who handed in their boxes for emptying in November. These have been handed back to their owners, together with a total of how much the coins amounted to! I shall report the final total in our January 2015 magazine. I have quite a stock of new boxes, so if anyone feels they can take a box, and fill it with loose change, this would be brilliant as it would increase our support to The Children's Society for the valuable and necessary work they will do in 2015.

## Val Muff

Part of their recent newsletter is reproduced below:

"In May this year, the campaigns team released a new report along with the financial advice charity Step Change, entitled 'The Debt Trap: Exposing the impact of problem debt on children.' It revealed that children in families with problem debt are more likely to be bullied, feel anxious and miss out on essentials.

Research shows that personal debt has risen steadily for years. For some families - particularly those on low incomes - debt repayments and creditor demands can spiral into unmanageable situations and devastate lives. Indeed for some families, it is a daily battle to pay bills and meet mortgage or rent payments, resulting in nine out of ten parents in problem debt having to cut back on essential items for their children.

Our work tells us that significant debt can damage children's health and happiness and do long-term harm to their lives. Parents have told us that they worry about how to provide their children with the very basics,

becoming stressed and fearful for their children's future. Children see, hear and feel what is going on and as a result, debt can damage a child's mental and physical health. It can undermine relationships with peers and affect their school experiences, causing long-term harm to a child's life

We want to end the damage debt is having on children. But to make that happen, we need to lift a lid on this issue and help people understand how debt is ruining millions of young lives. If you would like to find out more about our research around problem debt, or would like to add your message to our wall of support, visit www.childrenssociety.org.uk/debt"

# Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer turns 75

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, a stock character in extra-biblical Christmas stories, is younger than you might think. He did not come on the Christmas scene until December 1, 1939 – 75 years ago. His first appearance was in a children's colouring book written by Robert May and given away by Montgomery Ward stores in the USA. The illustrator had to fight for him because the store owners were worried that the red nose might be associated with drunkenness.

The story of Rudolph is one of triumph over adversity: Rudolph, initially scorned by his fellow-reindeer, was chosen by Santa to haul the sleigh because his nose lit the way on a dark night. The story was so appealing that it spawned a hit song, written by Johnny Marks, brother-in-law of Rudolph's creator. Gene Autry's recording of it sold 25 million.

Preachers have found elements of discrimination, epiphany, redemption and mercy in Rudolph's story. And it does appear that reindeer do have red noses. Researchers in Sweden have used thermal imaging cameras to capture the heat from reindeer as they graze, and discovered that while most of a reindeer body is well insulated, their noses glow bright orange, due to the large amounts of heat that they release. The reason is simple: reindeer have a high concentration of blood vessels in their nose and lips to help keep those areas warm and sensitive as they rummage through snow, looking for food.

## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 2014

Ian Mc Alpine.

Recently, Rev Canon Gordon Dey led the latest of his pilgrimages to the Holy Land and gave us a fascinating talk in the church hall about his experiences.

All too often when we read the Bible today place names from that distant time and distant country seem to exist in isolation. Even such famous places as Bethlehem, Jerusalem, the River Jordan and the Red Sea are difficult for us to visualise because few of us have ever been there. Gordon's tour aimed to introduce these and many other places to his party of pilgrims to show them what they were really like - some had changed little in 2,000 years - and enhance their understanding and appreciation of stories in the New Testament, especially those relating to the life and Ministry of Jesus.

Gordon's talk, beautifully illustrated with colour photographs, lasted well over an hour and enthralled his audience of nearly 20. His 12 day tour began by the Sea of Galilee which featured so prominently in the New Testament. Much of the area seemed virtually unspoilt after 2,000 years. The pilgrims were very impressed by the atmosphere of the place and found it quite easy to visualise the scene during the time of Christ when they actually sailed on the Sea in a boat of an ancient design.

On the third day Gordon's party visited the Church of the Annunciation at Nazareth, built on top of two earlier churches constructed by the Crusaders and the Byzantines. Underneath was a grotto or cave where Mary and Joseph were thought to have lived, the most probable scene of the Annunciation. Again, Gordon's party were overwhelmed by the idea that it <u>actually happened here, where they were standing</u> - a vivid experience surely equal to many hours of Bible study.

On the next day Gordon and his companions visited the River Jordan. Parts of it still have great beauty and even today Christians can be baptised in its waters. Later in the day the party visited the Mount of Beatitudes where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount. Very often the party read the Bible accounts of events which took place where they

stood - this must have been an extraordinary and moving experience, especially in this case.

Later in their tour the party visited the cave at Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947 and which are still shedding new light on the early days of our Christian Faith.

Another high point in every sense was a visit to Mount Moriah in Jerusalem, the place where Abraham so nearly sacrificed his son Isaac and where Jesus himself - the supreme sacrifice - was crucified centuries later. Jerusalem is built on three hills - Mount Moriah, Mount Zion (where the Last Supper took place) and the Mount of Olives. The Mount of Olives was the site of the Garden of Gethsemane and contained olive trees well over a thousand years old. Could any date back to the time of Jesus?

Towards the end of their visit the pilgrims visited the Church of the Holy Nativity in Bethlehem, believed to be the oldest church in the world. It was built by St Helena, the mother of the Roman emperor Constantine the Great (306 - 307 - proclaimed emperor at York!). St Helena devoted a great deal of effort to identifying sites associated with the early days of Christianity including the site where Jesus was actually born.

In this short article it is difficult to do justice to Gordon's fascinating talk and I have omitted many of the sites which he visited. Certainly the experience had a profound effect on the pilgrims.

And one of them told Gordon it was "the best thing he'd ever done in his entire life". Surely, there can be no greater commendation than that!

#### Notes from the PCC

We were delighted to welcome our new vicar, Dorothy, to the meeting on Wednesday 18th November, and made sure it was memorable for her by arranging for a power cut during the proceedings! Fortunately, being in a church, there were plenty of candles around, but it made for a very interesting meeting!

We took the opportunity to arrange dates for the next few PCC meetings, which we will now hold on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, except December and August. The Annual Parochial Church meeting will be on Sunday 8th March at 11.30 a.m., following the service and coffee.

We also looked at arrangements for Christmas and decided we would again suggest that people could just send one Christmas card to all at church, rather than individual ones and put the money thus saved into the pillar box. This money will this year go to Candlelighters and Save the Children. We also agreed to ask for donations of small gifts for the men of Box Tree Cottage and their female counterparts. There will be a box at the back of church for this purpose. Details of services are given elsewhere in the magazine.

The Archbishop of York, Dr. John Sentamu, has asked us to consider supporting the "Feed the Minds" campaign, which was started 50 years ago by Dr. Donald Coggan, the then Archbishop of York, and aims to help those in the most deprived areas of the world—especially women—improve their lives through education. We felt that just at the moment we are quite stretched with what we are trying to do, but we are hopeful we can do something next year to support this worthy cause.

Grateful thanks were expressed for the magnificent way people rose to the challenge of an extremely busy schedule over the last few weeks. Everyone responded with great generosity, both of their time and in items donated, ensuring that the Collation and Induction service, Lunch Day, Christmas Fair and all the other activities all ran smoothly and were enjoyed by our guests. It was very much appreciated.

Hilary Davis, PCC Secretary.

# December Roll of Remembrance

3rd	Florence Baker	(1983)
4th	Ellen Ainsworth	(1937)
6th	Ellen Perkins	(1949)
7th	Sara Story	(1978)
	Emily Holmes	(1984)
	Edith Wilkinson	(1988)
9th	Doris Quin	(1993)
	George Boynton Smith	(1993)
12th	Gordon Waterworth	(1988)
14th	Alice Maud Barrett	(1961)
	Dorothy Cooper	(1974)
17th	Stuart Raistrick	(2010)
20th	Annie Jones	(1975)
21st	Jack Renton Newsome	(1941)
	Arthur Jackson	(1960)
	George Arthur Whiteley	1974)
24th	Bernard Wigglesworth	(1972)
	Charlotte Harrison	(1981)
25th	Arthur Hind	(1982)
26th	Arthur Holmes	(1984)
27th	Frank Tonge	(1953)
29th	Leslie Redshaw	(2000)
30th	Irene Peck	(1993)

# ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH FAIRWEATHER GREEN BD8 0LU

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