

Trinity News

November 2006

Do it for the glory of God

Christmas is almost upon us and along with its approach come all the usual complaints.

From the religious come the complaints of the secularisation of Christmas and the corruption of the message by a barrage of consumerism.

From the secularists come the counter claims that Christmas is too religious for our day-and-age.

But what about you and me? How do we see Christmas? In your household is Jesus still the reason for the season or does he tend to get lost in the round of present buying, Christmas concerts and over indul-

gence? It has frequently been pointed out that if we remove Christ from Christmas, all we are left with is M&S.

For me there is a central truth of Christmas which never loses its power to amaze.

The birth of Jesus was the moment when God broke through all that distances us from him to enable us to be in a relationship with him.

In the uncertainty of our world with the threats to our environment by pollutants and global warming, the increase of terrorism, and unrest in the Middle East, more and more people are looking for spiritual

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Christmas services

Sunday 17 December:

10.30am: Nativity led by G-Zone & Methodist Junior Church

6.30pm: Carols by Candlelight in the Methodist Church

Christmas Eve:

4pm: Family Carols & Christingle (United with the Methodists in Holy Trinity)

11.30pm-Midnight: Communion

Christmas Day:

8am: Holy Communion

10.30am: Family Service (followed by short service of Holy Communion.)

This year we are delighted we have been able to combine with Heworth Methodists for some of our Christmas services. As in previous years there will be a combined nativity, largely led by the young people and their leaders. Then there will be Carols by Candlelight in the Methodist Church and the Family Carols and Christingle, here in Holy Trinity.

Holy Trinity Services

Sunday

- 8am: BCP Holy Communion (1st and 3rd)
- 10.30am: Morning Prayer (1st and 3rd)
All-age (2nd)
Communion (4th and 5th)
- 4.00pm Sunday Plus (1st) meeting in the Hall
- 6.30pm Heworth Churches Together (5th)
Rotating around the member churches

Wednesday

- 9.30am Holy Communion

New services

On Sunday 12 November, we launched our new arrangement for Second Sundays with Morning Prayer at 9.15am and Trinity Praise at 10.30am. People who attended both services were excited by the way the services went. It will be repeated on Sunday 10 December and subsequent Second Sundays with an added bonus on 10 December of two church babies, Hannah Griffiths and Matthew Bonarius, being baptised in Trinity Praise.

Exciting news

As part of their nationwide tour, Riding Lights, will be performing "Scrub that Manger" in Holy Trinity Church Hall on Friday 22 December, 2.30pm. Tickets: £3.50 for adults and £2 for children. This is an amazing opportunity to see such high class acting on our doorstep and, if well supported, could be the start of a regular relationship with Riding Lights.

From the Rector ...

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answers. What is interesting is how many of the spiritual paths on offer attempt to elevate us beyond the physical.

At Christmas, Jesus did just the opposite – he embraced a physical body and by doing so brought God into our physical world.

I wonder if sometimes we inadvertently deny the Christmas message by separating our normal lives from the spiritual.

Jesus, as carpenter, was doing more than just earning a living and following in his earthly father's footsteps. He was also bringing into the world his heavenly Father's creativity.

I sometimes catch myself on a Sunday making the mistake of saying something like: "We'll begin our worship by singing..." Of course, everyone knows what I mean – but it is a serious mistake; what do we think the people who have been in church early to get the music, the PA, the projection, the refreshments etc. ready have been doing?

What do we think we have been doing when we have been chatting to one another and welcoming visitors?

The answer should be, "They and we have been worshipping!"

The apostle Paul said: "Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God!" Whatever

we do, whether it be housework, job, sport, socialising or singing hymns; if we do it for the glory of God, then it is worship. We don't come to church on a Sunday to leave the rest of what we do behind to worship, rather we come to bring the worship of our

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whole lives into a focused act of united worship.

Because Jesus brought God into our physical lives by embracing a human body not only can we say that, "Jesus is not just for Christmas, he is for life;" we can also say that, "Jesus is not just for Church he is for everyday, ordinary life as well."

May Jesus, who brought heaven into our physical world that first Christmas fill your whole lives with his presence this Christmas and for all time.

With every blessing

Michael

Staff changes

We are delighted to welcome the Rev Rachel Hirst to be part of the ministry team here in Holy Trinity. She is employed by the diocese as Training and Parish Development Officer for the Archdeaconry. Rachel's job will involve her in going to churches round the Archdeaconry on many Sundays but, when at home, she will make Holy Trinity her spiritual base. We also delighted to welcome Andy, her husband, and Katie, Helen and Claire, their daughters. As Rachel joins us Kate Wiley's job will be taking a slight change of direction.

It was always in Kate's job description that she should spend some time out of the parish, especially looking to St Thomas.

As part of supporting the mission at St Thomas this agreement is being formalised. The Rev Terence Macdonough will be licensed as Priest in Charge (in addition to his role as vicar of Christ Church) and Kate will be licensed to the parish for 1 ½ days a week.

The licensing ceremony will be at 8pm on Tuesday 5 December in St Thomas' and all are welcome to attend.

Baby thanks

Ewen, Diane, Hugh and Lucie Turner would like to thank everyone in the church family for their prayers and kind thoughts following the birth of Harry Peter.

News from St Wulstan's

Report on the building work at St Wulstan's

We are only part way through our building programme but it does seem as though we have achieved a great deal up to the present time.

We have spent approx £65,000 – and we still have nearly £6,000 left in the bank! Praise the Lord for all His goodness.

So far - we have removed asbestos from the roof space- approx £ 5,000
we have made the building water-tight - approx £ 20,000
we have built a new kitchen in the north transept
toilet facilities in the old kitchen
improved the ramp up to the front doors- approx £ 40,000

We estimate that we still require approx £45,000 to complete necessary work, which includes

- Re-wiring
- Re-decoration
- Improvement to the main entrance and vestibule
- New access to the gallery
- Other cosmetics, such as some re-plastering, etc

Discussion and planning starts on this in the New Year.

Thank you to those from Holy Trinity who support us in so many ways. We really do appreciate it.

SERVICES OVER CHRISTMAS AT ST WULSTAN'S

17th Dec	10.00am	Morning Worship
20th Dec	6.30pm	Carol Singing in the area - do come and join us! We meet at church beforehand
24th Dec	10.00am 4.00pm	Communion Service Carols for everyone
25th Dec	10.00am	All Age Worship (followed by a brief Communion Service)
31st Dec	10.00am	Morning Worship

In the hotseat

Name: Giles, Annie, Tom and Jake Roberts

Role in Holy Trinity: Crosslinks Link Mission partners

Tell us about your family:

Sometimes I think we are totally nuts! We live in a small African village in Tanzania. We have no mains electricity or water, so power is from the sun (good job we don't live in the UK then!) and water is from the bore hole. If you want the water hot then you light a fire under a metal barre! We have a small lizard release programme in our house i.e the boys catch lizards outside and release them inside the house. They tell me they eat mosquitos so it's a good idea!

What's your day job?

Giles is Dad to Tom and Jake but also works in the hospital. His main role is overseeing a major refurbishment of the 150 bedded hospital. He also preaches and teaches at the Bible school when he can get off site. Annie is Mum to Tom and Jake. She is also a midwife so works in the hospital when she's not teaching Tom and Jake at home school or looking after the volunteers who come to help out. Tom's day job as big brother to Jake is to be bossy. Jake's job is to irritate Tom as much as possible! When they're not doing that, their main job is to have fun with their Tanzanian mates and terrorise the village

Do you have any special hobbies or interests?

With no TV and limited power all of us enjoy reading. The boys love hanging around in trees. We do enjoy a DVD if there is enough power.

Who would you most like to invite to a dinner party and why?

Whoever would like rice and beans!

If money were no object what would you most like to do and why?

I guess the 'Miss World' answer would be to bring world peace! but there is some truth in that.

If you could make one law in this country, what would it be?

That overseas Mission Partners shouldn't be charged UK Tax (not that I'm bitter or anything!)

If there was one talent you wished you had, what would it be?

I'd like to be able to 'beam up' like in Star Trek so we could pop back to the UK to visit friends and family for a cuppa!

How would you most like to be remembered?

As a family who did what God asked of them and had fun doing it!

Brownie friends



Some 11 Brownies were recently enrolled in Heworth Brownie Pack.

The pack meets in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Melrosegate, every Wednesday, 5.45pm-7.15pm.

Those who made their Promise were Elizabeth Mannion, Grace Whorley, Anna Hayes, Anna Kedge, Robyn Leonard, Joanna Hall, Molly Williams, Isabella Moverley, Emily Jones, Megan Dunstan and Lucy Edmunds.

We now have a very full and enthusiastic Brownie Unit!

As part of the Friends to Animals badge, the Brownies filled 30 sacks for the PDSA

Challenge and the items will be sold in the local charity shop, so we don't know exactly how much money the things we collected will raise.

However, the PDSA reckons that on average the contents of five sacks raises enough money to treat four-five sick or injured animals – so hopefully the Brownies have helped around 20-30 animals and all with things people would potentially have thrown away, so environmentally friendly as well!

Adult volunteers are most welcome. Further details are available from Sue Waller on (01904) 430652.

Sue Waller

Lively meetings

Since reconvening after the summer break, the Monday Fellowship group has been busy enjoying all kinds of activities. They began in September with a lively meeting, led by Kate Wiley.

In October they enjoyed lunch at The Walnut Tree in Heworth village. On Monday 23 October, David Rymer gave a very entertaining talk entitled: "A reluctant funeral director" which had many members laughing.

New members are always welcome, male or female, of any age.

For further information, please contact Judy Gill on 01904 656876.

The programme for the rest of the year is as follows:

27 November: The Rev David Simpson - Looking towards Advent

11 December: Pre-Christmas concert and party

8 January: The Rev Michael

Woodmansey

22 January: Open afternoon - Bring and buy sale, tea and cakes

12 February: The Rev Michael Nokes - update on CPAS

26 February: Traidcraft sale - Mrs Jean Frost

12 March: The Church Mission Society - speaker to be announced

26 March: Pedalling paramedics

9 April: Holy week meditation - committee

23 April: Karen Hill Tribes Trust - News from Thailand

14 May: Day in the life of the Head Verger at the Minster - Mr Carbery

28 May: To be announced

11 June: Flying with the North Yorks Air Ambulance

25 June: Summer outing - venue to be announced

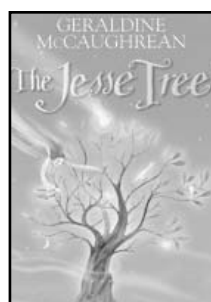
Book reviews

Angels
Jane Williams
Lion Adult - ISBN
007459 52224



Jane Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury's wife, provides a fascinating insight into the world of angels in this beautifully illustrated book. The Bible describes a universe in which we are not the only created beings. There are other creatures who are not human, not animal and not God. Angels are one of those orders of being. Jane Williams opens up the scriptures of the Bible to uncover the world of angels and what we can learn from them today. She writes in a very accessible and inviting way, encouraging you to explore the chapters with her. You will discover; Angelic messengers; Stern angels; Angels of the Incarnation; Guardian angels; Fallen angels; Beyond the Bible; Angels and God. This book would make an ideal Christmas gift or even one for your own wish list.

Jesse Tree –
Geraldine
McCaughrean
Lion Children's -
ISBN: 07459 60766



I recently saw the much talked about and reviewed book, "Peter Pan in Scarlet" by Geraldine McCaughrean who had written the official sequel the JM Barrie Peter Pan book.

This month her book Jesse Tree is released, and even though it may escape the hype, it is none the less a compelling story.

The inspiration for this book was the tradition of carved Jesse trees and stained glass windows used in medieval times to tell people Bible stories.

In this book she tells the wonderful story about the creation of a modern-day Jesse tree by Mr Butterfield, the woodcarver, who would really like a nuisance of a boy to go away.

He needs to concentrate on the work he is doing – crafting a Jesse tree, trying to bring ancient stories and symbols to life.

But the boy is annoyingly persistent, and Mr Butterfield begins to explain the Jesse

Tree and, in spite of his short temper, small miracles begin to happen...

The competition this time is for adults. To win a signed copy of "Jesus" A Novel by Walter Wangerin, all that is required is to answer the following question. In the genealogy of Jesus, who is the father of Jesse?

- a) Obed
- b) David
- c) Boaz
- d) Solomon

Written answers to be given to Michael before the end of Sunday 17th December 2006.

A winner will be picked randomly from the correct answers.

The winner of last issue's competition was Oliver Bonarius with the correct answer b) King Darius.

Julian Sandell

All the books featured are available from SPCK or Waterstone's.

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The next edition of the newsletter will be as follows:

Distributed: Sunday 28 January

Submission deadline:

Friday 19 January

Please send all submissions to:
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E: emma.edmunds@fsmail.net
T: (01904) 415431

Funerals

Our sympathy goes to family and friends of those who have recently died:

29 Sep: **Joan Gee of Rawdon Avenue**

3 Oct: **James Colley of Third Avenue**

Baptism

We welcome the following into the family of the church:

8 October: **Laura Helen Barber**

5 November: **Mae Amber Baldock & Jamie Nicholas Baldock**

Mid week events in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Melrosegate

Monday (2nd & 4th): **Monday Fellowship:** 2.30pm-4pm

Tuesday: **Play and Praise:** 1.30pm-3pm (term time only)
(worship and play for all pre-school children and parents/carers)

Kids Plus: 5.30pm-6.30pm (term time only)
(6-11-year-olds)

Keep Fit: 7pm-8pm

Wednesday: **Brownies** 5.45pm-7.15pm (term time only)

Thursday: **Mothers Union:** 2pm-4pm (1st only)
Guides: 7pm – 9pm (term time only)