

St. Peter's Ardingly

Parish Magazine

December 2022/January 2023



*CHRISTMAS
GREETINGS*

*We would like to send our very best wishes to everyone
in the village and to all of those who read this magazine
for a very happy and holy Christmas
and for a peaceful New Year*



From John and Sally Crutchley



St Peter's Church, Ardingly

Who's Who at St Peter's

Rector	Revd John Crutchley	892332
Reader	John Witherington	892277
Wardens	Nigel Cheater John Witherington	892769 892277
Secretary to the PCC	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Treasurer	Jean Jeffery	415317
Organist	Jill Veasey	892442
Safeguarding Coordinator	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Church Centre Manager	Jill Veasey	892442
Church Centre Bookings	Carol Grossman	416707
Magazine Editor	Sue Laker	892117
Pastoral Care Authorised	Kathy James	891047
Lay Ministers	Sue Laker	892117

SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00 am A traditional form of Holy Communion

10.30 am Morning Worship – our main service – see Services page

**The church is also open Mondays-Fridays
from 10am to 4pm for private prayer**

See the following pages for full details of all this month's services

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

This year I am determined not to rush through the season of Advent. Each year there's the pressure to begin thinking about Christmas from early December, and I understand why that is. Christmas is all around us and so much needs to be prepared.



But alongside of that, this year I am also determined to dwell in the richness of the season of Advent, a season that is all about thinking and reflecting on the proper message and meaning of Christmas and so preparing to receive the gift of Christmas.

I have already started to think about this by looking again at the so-called 'Servant Songs' in the Book of Isaiah. In the first of them the prophet Isaiah speaks of a servant of God who will bring justice to the nations, and who will put God's plans for his people into full effect making the truth about the Lord known everywhere. And what is that truth? Nothing less than that the Lord is the sovereign creator and Lord of history, whose servant brings release from bitterness, from blindness, from captivity and from spiritual darkness. In short, messages of comfort and of healing; of *God's* healing, and of *God's* love.

Then, in the second 'Song' the servant himself speaks, to remind us that there is a whole world out there waiting to hear this truth about God, and that healing will begin when we stop focusing on ourselves and start looking instead outwards to the world that God loves, and which needs to know about him. It's a message of God's saving work for *all* people, whoever and wherever.

In the third 'Song,' the servant is attentive to God. He simply listens as God instructs him and that instruction is then translated into obedient action. This is a reminder perhaps that what God requires from us is wholehearted, costly obedience.

Finally, and in the fourth 'Song,' the servant reminds us that he is the key to it all. He is the sage, the priest, the sacrifice, the servant,

the sufferer, the conqueror, the intercessor. He is the channel of God's grace to us. In him alone the holiness and mercy of God are perfectly reconciled. He alone is the key to all God's plans for his people and for the world.

When added together these four 'Songs' speak of comfort, healing, hope, obedience, and love for all people which are surely the real messages of Christmas. So, who is the servant of Isaiah's songs? He is of course God's perfect Christmas gift to all of us. He is the Messiah, Jesus, the babe of Bethlehem in whom all of these messages become instead promises fulfilled.

So why not join me in exploring the richness of God's promises to us all. Take a moment amidst all the Christmas preparations to stop and reflect on the messages of Christmas and the real gift of Christmas that is Christ. I have always enjoyed just looking at wrapped gifts as they lay under the tree. Wondering what they are, thinking about what they may be. For me, it only adds to the joy of finally tearing off the paper to reveal the gift. And that is how it should be with the best Christmas gift of all. Just thinking about the coming of Christ and what his coming means for us and for those we love and for the entire world helps us to appreciate God's greatest gift even more.

With my prayers and best wishes for a Happy Advent and a peaceful and joy filled Christmas! And of course, for a very happy New Year.



Services in DECEMBER 2022

'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, and forever.' (Hebrews 13: 8) *In the season of Advent we remember Christ's Incarnation over two thousand years ago. We yearn for and welcome Christ's presence in our lives today. And we look forward to the future coming of Christ in glory.*

Saturday 3rd December Carols and Christingle

5. 30pm

A service for all held around the oak tree in the village with Christmas music and carols, and the story of Christmas told through the CHRISTINGLE.

Sunday 4th December THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am

Isaiah 11: 1 - 10; Matthew 3: 1 - 12

Holy Communion [BCP]

10.30am

Isaiah 11: 1 - 10; Matthew 3: 1 - 12

Morning Praise

4.45pm

Open to God: Darkness to Light

A service of Evening Prayer, and quiet reflection to celebrate the season of Advent.

Sunday 11th December THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am

Isaiah 35: 1- 10; Matthew 11: 2 - 11

Holy Communion [BCP]

10.30am

Isaiah 35: 1- 10; Matthew 11: 2 - 11

Holy Communion [CW]

Sunday 18th December THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.00am

Isaiah 7: 10 - 16; Matthew 1: 18 - 25

Holy Communion [BCP]

10.30am

Isaiah 7: 10 - 16; Matthew 1: 18 - 25

Morning Praise

6.30pm

Carols by Candlelight

A traditional service of readings, words, music, and carols for Christmas presented in a beautiful candle-lit church and followed by mince pies and mulled wine

Saturday 24th December CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm A Crib and Carol service for all the family
The message and meaning of Christmas, favourite carols, candles, and fun!

11.00pm A Christmas Celebration of Holy Communion
Holy Communion [CW]
A quiet and reflective candle-lit service for the beginning of Christmas

Sunday 25th December CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00am Isaiah 9: 2 - 7: John 1: 1 - 14
Holy Communion [BCP]
A traditional service of Holy Communion for Christmas Morning

10.30am **Christmas Morning Praise**
Morning Praise
A service of Christmas Carols and Christmas Praise to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Saviour and Lord

"Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us....Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives." [Benedict XVI]



St Peter's Church sketched by Kier Hett Winter 1972

Services in JANUARY 2023

Sunday 1st January

Welcome to the New Year!

9.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

Isaiah 40: 27 - 31; Luke 2: 16 - 21

God's Greatness, Our Renewal

Sunday 8th January

The Epiphany

9.00am

Morning Prayer [BCP]

Ephesians 3: 1 - 12; Matthew 2: 1 - 12

10.30am

Morning Praise

Ephesians 3: 1 - 12; Matthew 2: 1 - 12

Sunday 15th January

The Second Sunday of Epiphany

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

1 Corinthians 1: 1 - 9; John 1: 29 - 42

10.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

1 Corinthians 1: 1 - 9; John 1: 29 - 42

Sunday 22nd January

The Third Sunday of Epiphany

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18; Matthew 4: 12-23

10.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

With prayer for healing and wholeness

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18; Matthew 4: 12-23

Sunday 29th January

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

9.00am

Holy Communion [BCP]

1 Corinthians 1: 18 - 31; John 2: 1- 11

10.30am

Morning Praise

1 Corinthians 1: 18 - 31; John 2: 1- 11

NOTICES FOR DECEMBER and JANUARY

Meeting Point Coffee Mornings

The Meeting Point Christmas Party will take place in Hapstead Hall on 12th December from 10.15 to 11.30. The next Meeting Point dates will be 9th and 23rd January 2023. All are welcome.



Angels & Urchins dates

Our last morning before the Christmas holidays will be on Thursday 15th December. We'll meet again on Thursday 12th January 2023. Happy Christmas!

Jill Veasey

FSW – TOYS FOR CHILDREN

Once again we will be collecting presents/toys/vouchers for the children of families being supported by the Cuckfield Deanery support worker. Wrapping paper and sellotape are also very welcome.

Please bring items to the services on **Sunday 4th December**.

Many thanks, Deb Ruse - FSW Cuckfield Deanery Rep.

Link to Hope Shoeboxes



A very big 'Thank You' to all who supported the Link to Hope Shoebox appeal this Autumn. We sent a total of 25 shoeboxes to the collection centre (compared with 19 last year). The boxes are now on their way to Romania, Ukraine, Bulgaria and Moldova.

Sue Laker

POSTBOX in Church



As in previous years, we will have our Christmas Postbox in church on 4th, 11th and 18th December. You are welcome to post in it your Ardingly village cards but please no cards for outside the village! There will be a small box for donations towards this service and the total raised will be given to a local charity. Deliveries will be made on Monday 19th December, and help with this will be much appreciated! Sorting will begin at 10.00am in the Church Centre that day. Please let me know if you can help. Thank you!

Jill Veasey (892442)

Advent in Ardingly

This year we will be marking Advent with a special Advent Tree. This tree will be placed in church by the font and every day during December a piece of the Christmas story will be unveiled, and an ornament added to the tree. By Christmas Eve, the story will be complete and the tree will be adorned with all of the figures from the Nativity. Follow the wondrous story as it unfolds daily by visiting the church to see the tree or follow Ardingly Church on Facebook for updates on the Advent Tree.



Advent
in
Ardingly

St. Peter's Church
The Advent Tree

Follow the telling of the Christmas Story
during Advent as a new ornament is added
daily to The Advent Tree



Music & Mince Pies

An event for the senior citizens of Ardingly with the Prep School Choir & individual & group performances

Thursday 8th December at 11am

Recital Room, Music Department,
Ardingly College, RH17 6SQ

Transport at 10:45am from the Village
Hall & Priceholme by arrangement

Please contact Debbie Nicholson for
attendance & transport

debbie.nicholson@ardingly.com or
phone **01444 893000**

Admission free

NEW YEAR WALK AND LUNCH

To mark the start of 2023 we are planning to have a meal at St Peter's Centre on Sunday 1st January, as we have done in previous years. George Ruse will lead a walk (weather permitting) for those who would like to work up an appetite. This will begin at 11.30 from the Centre [the morning service is at 9.30] and the walkers will join the rest of us for a meal at about 1.00pm. Coffee will be available before and after lunch, and we will pack up at about 3.30. The meal is free but donations are welcomed and the proceeds will be shared between Old Jeshwang and IMARA.

If you would like to come to the meal please contact Deb Ruse (892717) – preferably *before* Christmas! We look forward to seeing you there.

Deb and George Ruse (deb_ruse@hotmail.co.uk)

ARDINGLY CHORAL SOCIETY

Advent Carol Concert

At 8.00pm in the College Chapel

On Thursday 15th December 2022

Entry free. Donations invited in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2023

Firstly a very big 'thank you' to the many people who contribute to, and help with, the parish magazine during the year – to the team at Ardingly College who print it for us, to Ann Phillipson who proof reads it each month, to Glynis Doerr who bundles and distributes all the magazines each month, and to all the deliverers who put them through our doors! **THANK YOU!**

Now it's the time of year when annual subscriptions become due. If you would like to have the magazine delivered to your door (in Ardingly) the minimum subscription will be £3 (and grateful thanks go to all those who round it up to £5!). For those people who receive it by post, the subscription for 2023 will be £13.00.



Subscriptions can be delivered or posted to Sue Laker at 19 Ardings Close, Ardingly RH17 6AN or to Michael Denman at 35 High Street, Ardingly RH17 6TB. Cheques should be made payable to "St Peter's Church, Ardingly" please.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas, and God's blessing in the New Year,

Sue Laker

SAMARAS AID NEWS

Samara writes: Our “**regreening the desert**” project is going well. We have established panicum virgatum grass in specific locations, and the team have planted 3,600 olive trees there. They are currently planting 6,000 pine trees. Some of the proceeds of *Rebuilding the Ruins* have been channelled into buying these pine trees, which will form a pivotal part of protecting and regenerating this land, to make it useable for growing food for generations to come. Next the team will plant pomegranate and figs which, along with the olives, will provide food for the poor and for our outreach centres for many years to come, once established. This picture is of Pine saplings in the desert. Their fine needles collect moisture in the air, which helps them to tolerate dry conditions



Medical Centres

I am thrilled to announce that we are getting ready to open one of our new medical centres! We have had the inspections from the Ministry of Health and have the final approval for its full registration, and will shortly have the final stamped papers. I hope to have news about the original medical centre very soon. It has been an extremely difficult journey with that centre, but we have good reason to believe that it will also be open very soon.



This newly registered centre, which is about to start seeing patients, will serve many rural communities which suffered deeply shocking massacres at the start of the war. It may be rural, but there are tens of thousands in need in this area. There are so many orphans and widows there, left in the wake of these and many other traumatic events since. The poverty levels are so significant that the poor are unable even to travel into the nearest city, for any reason, which is only around half an hour's drive. This has been exacerbated significantly by the lack of fuel and its cost, even when it is available.

We know that there are remarkable numbers in these poor villages living with undiagnosed diabetes, heart disease and other life threatening medical conditions. The most disheartening thing is that so many of these conditions could be treated and managed well if they had access to investigations, diagnosis and ongoing medical care.

It is our goal to stop this becoming the reality for as many people as God gives us the ability to serve. If we save the life of just one breadwinning father or one loving mother, it makes *everything* we do worthwhile.

Dr A is now flat out learning to use the new equipment and devices we have for the new centre, as well as planning each of the different specialist areas which need their own specific registrations and compliance, ie the laboratory and pharmacy.

Ardingly Old Jeshwang Association



We held our Annual General Meeting in the Church Centre on Sunday 25th September, where, being an open meeting, we were able to welcome friends and sponsors to hear at first hand how the Clinic in The Gambia was managing during these difficult times. Once the formal business was over, we enjoyed splendid refreshments and could chat and share the progress being made, despite a long period of COVID-related restrictions and worldwide concerns about inflation and more scarce resources.

Since of course it has not been possible to visit the Clinic for the last few years, we asked the new General Administrator, Chernoh Yaddeh, to provide a Situation Report and this can now be viewed on our website. This website has recently been refreshed, thanks to Mark Wigmore, and now contains much more up-to-date information and photographs and is well worth a re-visit (www.aoja.org).

His report contains this telling sentence:

"The Ardingly Old Jeshwang Association has been our most outstanding support partners and has maintained a monthly subvention package to complement salaries, and maintains collaboration through the effective communication chain. The work done to maintain this project has been quite phenomenal. "

Thank you to all our sponsors and donors – it really has made a difference!

Lynn Wilson

ACT

We are all aware of the pressure on cost of living and the associated pressure on family budgets. So many of us are struggling to make ends meet and Ardingly Connected Together is hoping to do everything that we can to help people in the village at this difficult time.



In the Hub at the back of Hapstead Hall, alongside the books and games, there is a small stock of basic food and household items available, free of charge, for people who are in need of some support. We are also planning food delivery boxes for those that would appreciate this support. This is a confidential service and, if you would like to avail yourself of this offer of support, please contact either Kathy James (07703 295081) or Jim Sloane (07785 287454).

On a brighter note, we are thinking about what we can do to add some joy to the village as we approach the Christmas season. If you have any ideas that you think would be useful, let us know! We have organised things like carol singing, best decorated house competition in previous years. Should we do those things again? What else would be good? Let us have your ideas!

TEA'N CHAT AND YUMMY CAKES! COURTESY OF ARDINGLY COLLEGE!

What a lovely afternoon we had the other day at Priceholme! So nice to chat to the College pupils and discover more of what they get up to! A very pleasant couple of hours were spent supping tea and indulging in the delicious selection of cakes that the pupils had made that very morning! It was a lovely atmosphere; a few of the visitors were entertained by playing scrabble, chess or jenga and we were even treated to some musical accompaniment on the piano!! Well done College team - more please!



Adele

[The next *Ardingly Meetsis* on 21st January]

A Christmas Mistake

Each December, I vowed to make Christmas a calm and peaceful experience. I had cut back on non-essential obligations - extensive card writing, endless baking, decorating, and even over-spending. Yet I still found myself exhausted, unable to appreciate the precious family moments, and of course, the true meaning of Christmas.

My son Nicholas was in his first year at school. It was an exciting season for a six year old. For weeks he'd been memorising songs for his school's "Winter Pageant." I didn't have the heart to tell him I'd be working the night of the production. Unwilling to miss his shining moment, I spoke with his teacher. She assured me there'd be a dress rehearsal on the morning of the presentation. All parents unable to attend that evening were welcome to come then. Fortunately, Nicholas seemed happy with the compromise.

So, on the morning of the dress rehearsal, I duly arrived ten minutes early and found a spot to sit down. Around the room I saw several other parents quietly scampering to their seats.

As I waited, the pupils were led into the room. Each class, accompanied by their teacher, sat cross-legged on the floor. Then, each group, one by one, rose to perform their song.

Because the school had long stopped referring to the holiday as "Christmas," I didn't expect anything other than fun, commercial entertainment - songs of reindeer, Santa Claus, snowflakes and good cheer. So when my son's class rose to sing, "Christmas Love," I was slightly taken aback by its bold title.

Nicholas was aglow, as were all of his classmates, adorned in fluffy mittens, red sweaters, and with bright white caps upon their heads. Those in the front row - centre stage - held up large letters, one by one, to spell out the title of the song. As the class sang "C is for Christmas," a child would hold up the letter C. Then, "H is for Happy," and so on, until each child holding up his portion had presented the complete message, "Christmas Love."

The performance was going smoothly until suddenly we noticed her; a small, quiet girl in the front row holding the letter "M" upside down - totally unaware her letter "M" appeared as a "W". The audience snickered at this little one's mistake. But she had no idea they were laughing at her, so she stood tall, proudly holding her "W".

Although many teachers tried to shush the children, the laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and we all saw it together. A hush came over the audience and eyes began to widen.

In that instant, we understood - the reason we were there, why we celebrated the holiday in the first place, why even in the chaos, there was a purpose for our festivities. For when the last letter was held high, the message read loud and clear:

CHRIST WAS LOVE

And He still is.



"I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings and to put my trust in God..... I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian Gospel."

Queen Elizabeth II , Christmas 2002

NEXT DATE FOR ARDINGLY MEETS:

Ardingly Meets - a place for the older residents of the village to enjoy tea, coffee and cake whilst listening to live music, chatting or playing games in the company of Ardingly College students.

Saturday 21st January

2:30pm - 4pm

**Priceholme social lounge, Munnion Road,
Ardingly, RH17 6RU**



For further information contact: debbie.nicholson@ardingly.com or phone 01444 893000

JOSEPH *By Ron Klug*

Sleep little one.

I will watch while you and your mother sleep.

I wish I could do more.

This straw is not good enough for you.

Back in Nazareth I'll make a proper bed for you

Of seasoned wood, smooth – strong – well pegged.

A bed fit for a carpenter's son.

Just wait 'til we get back to Nazareth.

I'll teach you everything I know.

You'll learn to use cedar wood, eucalyptus and fir.

You'll learn to use the drawshave, the axe and the saw.

Your arms will grow strong. Your hands, rough like these.

You will bear the pungent smell of new wood

And wear shavings and sawdust in your hair.

You'll be a man whose life centres on

Hammer Nails and Wood.

But for now, sleep little Jesus, sleep.



St Peter's C.E. Primary



Life is always busy at St Peter's, with lots of enjoyable things on the menu. This has been particularly true for Swallow Class (years 5 and 6) – singing, cooking AND time away on the school residential, as well as normal things like learning!! First of all, the pupils had the opportunity to go to Oathall Community College and join with other schools in 'The Big Sing' – such fun. Then, later in the same week, Swallow Class were looking at World War 11 and rationing. Being able to cook and taste some of the recipes from that time really helped bring things to life for all concerned. And then came the residential.....!



Swallow Class went to Hindleap Warren on 7 November for a whole week away – look, no parents! It is quite an adventure for the children and staff alike. Climbing, abseiling, spending the week with friends and away from home – what's not to like?

Of course, it's not only Swallow Class that have been enjoying themselves. All of our classes have been busy! Our wonderful new library is being well used as the children develop further their love of reading. We have recently successfully secured over 100 additional books, following an application to Penguin Books.



These books will add to the diversity of our whole library stock and aid the pupils as they grow up in our richly diverse society.

Kathy James

RECYCLING OF BOTTLE TOPS

Colin McFarlin, the Waste Prevention Advisor at WSCC advises:



Councils are now recycling plastic bottles with the tops on. By making the tops the same colour as the container it makes it easier to recycle and we do not get lots of colour mixes, just one colour.

Up to 1st September this year we have always asked you to remove all plastic tops before recycling the plastic bottle. But now we have improved our recycling plant and we can accept any plastic bottle with its top on.

All we ask is you rinse out the bottle, make sure it is dry, squeeze some of the air out and put the top back on.

This applies to all tops, including pump sprays, trigger sprays and tetrapacks.

So whatever container you recycled before without a top, they can now be recycled with the top on, or without the top.

However we still do not want tops loose in the bin.

BROTHER INKJET CARTRIDGES

It's now possible to recycle your Brother inkjet cartridges free of charge. Just go to the Brother website (www.brother.co.uk/recycling) and request a pre-paid envelope to post them in.



MID SUSSEX RECYCLING COLLECTIONS 2022-2023

Rubbish and recycling collection days will change for one week over the Christmas and New Year period. Your festive collections are as follows:

Normal collection date	Festive collection date
Monday 19 December	No change
Tuesday 20 December	No change
Wednesday 21 December	No change
Thursday 22 December	No change
Friday 23 December	No change
Monday 26 December	Tuesday 27 December
Tuesday 27 December	Wednesday 28 December
Wednesday 28 December	Thursday 29 December
Thursday 29 December	Friday 30 December
Friday 30 December	Saturday 31 December
Monday 2 January onwards	No change

All rubbish and recycling collections will return to normal from Monday 2nd January 2023.



"It's easy to tell when it's Nativity Play time - I can never find a tea-towel!"



NOT TOO SERIOUSLY ...

A little boy was taken Christmas shopping by his mother. He watched the escalator going down for several minutes, and then asked with concern: "What happens when the ground floor gets full of steps?"



Why can't Christmas trees knit?
Because they are always dropping their needles.

What's the best Christmas present?
A broken drum – you just can't beat it.

Why is it not advisable to invite a team of footballers to Christmas dinner?
Because they dribble a lot.

Why has Santa been banned from chimneys?
Because of his carbon footprint.

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



A teacher asked her class to draw a scene from the Bible. One child drew 4 people in an aeroplane. The teacher was a little perplexed and asked the child to explain his drawing. The pupil explained that this was the Flight to Egypt.

The teacher realised who 3 of the characters were - Mary, Joseph and Jesus - but was baffled by the 4th occupant.

The pupil had the answer: it was the pilot, of course.



AROUND THE VILLAGE

WARM SPACE

There has been much talk about energy costs and the need to save energy as much as possible. To help with this, we are delighted to announce that *Ardingly Warm Space* will be open as of 6th December.

The warm space will be in the Reading Room, Hapstead Hall and will be open on the following days and times:

Tuesdays 2pm – 5pm
Wednesdays 10am – 4pm
Thursdays 10am – 4pm
Fridays 2pm – 5pm

We plan to have tea and coffee available, together with magazines, books, games, jigsaws...and warmth, both in terms of actual heat and convivial company! Please do come and join us for as short or as long a time as you want.

Of course, to provide this service, we need help. If you have any time to offer, whether on a regular basis or a one-off, 'stand in' helper, we would really appreciate hearing from you. Please contact Roy Simmonds on 01444 892064 or via email sbhd.roy@gmail.com

FSW November 2022 update

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of the year. It really has flown by, as our work has totally returned to pre-Covid levels. Sadly the call on our work is increasing weekly as more and more referrals are coming through – almost 3 times as many as we were getting just before the pandemic took hold. Nearly all of our practitioners have full caseloads as well as full waiting lists, but we are doing our very best to support as many families as possible without asking them to wait too long.

Financial concerns as well as parenting issues continue to be the main reasons for referral, and our practitioners are spending most of their time helping families navigate increasingly complex forms, advocating for specialist school support for children with additional needs and providing a source of comfort and a safe space to let off steam.



We are busy preparing for Christmas parties and giving our children a day to remember. Parties are happening across Sussex, supported by local groups and of course our wonderful FSW volunteers. Thank you to anybody who is getting involved in this way.

We are also looking forward to our Candlelit Carol Service, which this year is taking place at St Peter's Church, Ashburnham on Thursday 8 December. All are welcome and details of the event are on our website.

With many thanks for your continued support of FSW's work in so many ways.

Nikki Kerr, FSW Director of Fundraising and Marketing



Parish Register

There are no entries in the parish Register this month



Wonderful Saviour,
You loved us so much that instead of leaving the world in a place of brokenness, you came down into human history as a baby. Thank you for exchanging your throne for a manger so that we could be saved by your precious blood. Amen.

(seen in a Church Army magazine)

Flower Rota

2 December: Pam (Advent)

12 December: All flower arrangers and as many helpers as possible please for candle decorations.
Holly and foliage is needed.

19 December: All flower arrangers please (Christmas)

6 January: All flower arrangers please

20 January: Belinda

Meeting Point Rota

12 December: Christmas party. All helpers please

9 January: Adele and Diana

23 January: Jill, Alison and Deb

Brass Cleaning Rota

17 December: Rosemary Hodgson and Rowena Chalk



General Information

ANGELS & URCHINS: At St Peter's Centre on Thursdays, 9-11.00 during term time. Contact Jill Veasey (892442).

BELL RINGING: If you are interested in joining the team of bell ringers please contact Lynn Wilson (892113)

BIBLE READING NOTES: Regular reading helps us to grow as Christians. Bible Reading Fellowship notes are available from Glynis Doerr (892431). Email: glynismdoerr@gmail.com

BOOKS can be borrowed from the back of church, free of charge

BRASS CLEANING: Help with brass cleaning is always welcome. Contact Adele Collins (892189)

BRASS RUBBING: Appointments may be made via the Churchwardens (John 892277 or Nigel 892769). Fee: £10.00

FLOWERS: Belinda Maclean (892368) is always glad to hear from anyone who would like to arrange/give flowers for the decoration of the church.

GIVING: Special weekly or monthly envelopes or bankers' order forms are available from Jean Jeffery (415317). It is also possible to donate on our website. Anyone paying income tax or capital gains tax is encouraged to sign a Gift Aid declaration which would enable the church to claim tax (currently 25 %) on all their giving. Please make cheques out to *St Peter's Church, Ardingly*.

HOME GROUPS meet for bible study, prayer and fellowship on various afternoons/nights of the week. New members are always very welcome. Contact: John Witherington (892277)

MAGAZINE: Annual Subscription £3.00. Can be delivered or posted (if posted the cost is £13.00 per annum). **MAGAZINE EDITOR:** Sue Laker, 19 Ardings Close, Ardingly RH17 6AN (892117). Please submit items for inclusion by Friday before the penultimate Sunday in the month. Email to: emails4sue@gmail.com

ST PETER'S CENTRE: Hire of Centre, crockery, cutlery and chairs: contact Carol Grossman 416707

TRANSPORT: If you require transport to church, or if you could provide it for others, please contact Jill Veasey on 892442 or Jonathan Summers on 892307.

PRAYER DIARY DECEMBER 2022

*"This is how God showed his love among us:
He sent his one and only Son into the world
that we might live through him." (1 John 4 v 9)*



- 1 John and Sally Crutchley and their family
- 2 Our Prime Minister and government and all MP's
- 3 The PCC meeting today. The Christmas Fair & Carols under the tree
- 4** Our services today: pray God's blessing on Ardingly
- 5 Those affected by rising energy prices and the cost of living
- 6 The "Warm Space" in Hapstead Hall and all volunteer helpers
- 7 King Charles and all the Royal family
- 8 Prison Fellowship & Angel Tree Project (gifts for prisoners' children)
- 9 Heather Johnstone and her work in Tanzania
- 10 The NHS and its staff, under such pressure at the moment
- 11** Our services today: pray that many may find peace and healing
- 12 Meeting Point. Pray for Belinda and all that she does
- 13 The situation in Ukraine and all Ukrainian families living abroad
- 14 Open House and Off the Fence; all who are homeless
- 15 Foodbanks and other organisations which are helping people in need
- 16 The IMARA-Uganda team and all the sponsored children
- 17 All teachers and pupils beginning their Christmas holidays
- 18** Our worship today and the Carol Service this evening
- 19 All missionaries who will spend Christmas in a foreign culture
- 20 All who find the Christmas season difficult. Those who are grieving
- 21 Salvation Army, Samaritans and Crisis – so busy at this time of year
- 22 FSW and other organisations supporting families at Christmas
- 23 All who will spend Christmas away from home
- 24 All the Christmas services and those who lead them
- 25 The Saviour is born!** Give thanks and praise
- 26 Safety for all who are travelling, by land, air or sea
- 27 Countries where there are food shortages and poor healthcare
- 28 Samara's Aid: the 2 new Medical Centres and plans for a bakery
- 29 All Bishops and clergy – refreshment and renewal after the busy Christmas period
- 30 Bambi and Andreas, in S.E. Asia, and their children
- 31 Praise God for his love and for helping us through the past year

PRAYER DIARY JANUARY 2023



*“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness”
(Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV)*

- 1 Our church services at the start of a new year
- 2 Commit the year ahead to God’s care and guidance
- 3 John and Sally Crutchley and their family
- 4 Pray for opportunities to share Jesus this year
- 5 Staff & pupils at our village schools as the new term begins
- 6 Pray for peace wherever there is conflict
- 7 AOJA and its work in the Gambia
- 8 Our worship today and our witness in 2023
- 9 Our church wardens John and Nigel
- 10 All in the Police Force and justice system
- 11 The Children’s Society, supporting refugee & other UK children
- 12 Meeting Point: all who help and attend
- 13 Give thanks and pray for all who volunteer in Ardingly
- 14 Those who suffer from poor mental health or addiction
- 15 Our church services today. Pray for Renewal
- 16 Journalists and all who work in the media
- 17 Tearfund, working to alleviate poverty around the world
- 18 John Witherington and all the Home Group leaders
- 19 All refugees and migrants, at home and abroad
- 20 The NHS, our local Care Homes and Hospices
- 21 The Parish Council – for wisdom, guidance and unity
- 22 Our services today: may faith and love grow
- 23 Children with special needs and those who care for them
- 24 CPAS, supporting UK churches and clergy with training & resources
- 25 Our church finances and St Peter’s Centre
- 26 All who clean the church, arrange flowers & help in other ways
- 27 The elderly, infirm and all who are housebound
- 28 Milan & Shusma and the work of the Aanandit Church in Nepal
- 29 Pray God’s blessing on our worship and fellowship today
- 30 All young people and youth workers
- 31 Praise God for his promises and help in difficult times

**The deadline for the February magazine
is Friday 20th January**