

News from St Peter's



St Peter's Church Hartshorne

Sunday 28th December
First Sunday of Christmas

Archbishop of Canterbury on hunger in Britain

Mail on Sunday, 7th December 2014

In one corner of a refugee camp in the Democratic Republic of Congo was a large marquee. Inside were children, all ill. They had been separated from family, friends, those who looked after them. Perhaps, mostly having disabilities, they had been abandoned in the panic of the militia attack that drove them from their homes. Now they were hungry. It was deeply shocking but, tragically, expected.

A few weeks later in England, I was talking to some people - a mum, dad and one child - in a food bank. They were ashamed to be there. The dad talked miserably. He said they had each been skipping a day's meals once a week in order to have more for the child, but then they needed new tyres for the car so they could get to work at night, and just could not make ends meet. So they had to come to a food bank.

They were treated with respect, love even, by the volunteers from local churches. But they were hungry, and ashamed to be hungry. I found their plight more shocking. It was less serious, but it was here. And they weren't careless with what they had - they were just up against it. It shocked me that being up against it at the wrong time brought them to this stage.

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January is our month to donate food for Swadlincote's Food Bank. Please see the poster on the notice board at the back of church for information on what food is needed and bring your donations to church throughout January.

Contact details

Rev Graham Rutter
Tel: 01283 214583
Email gprutter@gmail.com

Rev Dr David de Pomerai
Tel: 01283 225846 or email
ddepomerai@aol.com



Please have a look at our website for more information.

www.hartshornechurch.org.uk



St Peter's Church Hartshorne

Sunday 28th December
First Sunday of Christmas

Welcome to our service today.
Tea and coffee will be served after the service.
Everyone is welcome to join us.

10:45am Holy Communion
Led by Rev Graham Rutter

Prayer for today

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Services next Sunday

10:45 **Morning Worship**
Led by Sandra O'Toole

New Year by Mary Fairchild

Instead of making a New Year's resolution
Consider committing to a biblical solution
Your promises are easily broken
Empty words, though earnestly spoken
But God's Word transforms the soul
By His Holy Spirit making you whole
As you spend time alone with Him
He will change you from within!

The Tree

by Faith Forster

The room lay still and silent, only
the sweet high tinkling music of
innumerable fragile spheres
rang out their joyful message
from the tree ...
which winked and glowed in
radiancy
its branches heavy with the
weight of light
and deeper gift-wrapped burdens
in its heart ...

And one small child
crept softly into the darkened
room
to stand apart
and gaze in silence at the sight,
speechless in awe and wonder at
this alien tree
that fruited light and splendid
mystery ...

As long ago
another child
first opened wide His eyes in
gloom
and saw a light no other eyes
could see,
He also was transfixed in heart
long long before His body knew
that rooting to the ground ...

The Word was silent then
as down the years
the distant hidden music reached
His infant ears,
and by the shining of His natal
star

in that dim corner of the
world's own night
He saw a tree all radiant with
light,
its dark, moist branches
glistening from afar,
and He Himself the red-
wrapped gift
that hung there heavily ...

Yet on that still and holy night
when first He looked upon the
sight

He did not turn his face away
from his own Christmas tree,
that waited
for His gift to you and me ...



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Diary for January

Sunday 4th January
10:45 Morning Worship
Led by Sandra O'Toole

Sunday 11th January
10:45 All-age Worship
Led by the All-age Worship team

Wednesday 14th January
7.30pm Worship
Sub-committee meeting

Sunday 18th January
8.30 Holy Communion
Traditional service
led by Rev Dr David de Pomerai

10:45 Holy Communion
Led by Rev Graham Rutter

Tuesday 20th January
2pm A band of ringers from
North Staffordshire will be
ringing at our tower

Friday 23rd January
6pm 1st Hartshorne Cub
Pack are visiting church as
part of their Faith badge

Sunday 25th January
10:45 Morning Worship
Led by Sean O'Toole

Wednesday 28th January
7.30pm PCC meeting
in the Church Hall

CHURCH CLEANING

Nigel and Deb will be cleaning the church this week ready for next Sunday's service. Please help to keep the church tidy by leaving your row of seats clear of clutter at the end of the service.

If you would like to serve your church by going on the cleaning rota please speak to Nigel.
THANK YOU



**DON'T FORGET
TO BRING ITEMS
FOR THE FOOD BANK
TO CHURCH
NEXT WEEK**

Newsletter

If you have any notices to include in the newsletter and/or website www.hartshornechurch.org.uk please speak to Jane Horan 07966194954 or 211333 or email jane.horan52@gmail.com by Thursday evening each week.