

# News from St Peter's



# St Peter's Church Hartshorne

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:gprutter@gmail.com)

Rev Dr David de Pomerai  
Tel: 01283 225846 or email  
[ddepomerai@aol.com](mailto:ddepomerai@aol.com)



Please have a look at our website for more information.

[www.hartshornechurch.org.uk](http://www.hartshornechurch.org.uk)



# St Peter's Church Hartshorne

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> January**  
**10:45 Morning Worship**  
Led by Sandra O'Toole

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January**  
**10:45 All-age Worship**  
Led by the All-age Worship team

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January**  
**7.30pm Worship**  
**Sub-committee meeting**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**  
**8.30 Holy Communion**  
Traditional service  
led by Rev Dr David de Pomerai

**10:45 Holy Communion**  
Led by Rev Graham Rutter

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January**  
**2pm A band of ringers** from  
North Staffordshire will be  
ringing at our tower

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

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January**  
**10:45 Morning Worship**  
Led by Sean O'Toole

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.hartshornechurch.org.uk) please speak to Jane Horan 07966194954 or 211333 or email [jane.horan52@gmail.com](mailto:jane.horan52@gmail.com) by Thursday evening each week.