



Hartshorne St Peter's

www.hartshornechurch.org.uk



Sunday 15th December 2024

This week's services

10:45 Holy Communion
with Rev Mike Firbank

7pm Sunday Night Live
Informal Christmas Music



This week's reading



Isaiah 35

A thought from Mike

In Isaiah 35 we learn about Joy,

Biblical Joy... not the joy which the world speaks of or the plastic 'joy' of Christmas commercialisation.

Isaiah speaks of true and genuine Joy. But how we do find it and where does it come from?

Prayer for the week

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist
to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord .
Amen

Coffee and Conversation at Garden King

On Thursday seven of us met at Garden King in Newhall to have a festive get-together instead of our usual venue (Goseley Community Centre).

We enjoyed light meal and coffee in the restaurant and spent an enjoyable time browsing the seasonal displays.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 9th January 2025.

**NEXT
SUNDAY**

Traditional CAROL SERVICE

With force 10 big band
Sunday 22nd December at 4pm

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with our
enchanting
Carol Service.

Gather with
family and
friends to enjoy
the timeless
melodies that
echo the joy,
warmth, and
love of Christmas



Recycling stamps for Alzheimer's Society



Don't forget to save your
used postage stamps – especially any
Christmas ones. Please leave at least 1/2
inch around each one so the backing
can be removed.

There's a box on the table at the back of
church to put your stamps in.

Thank you. Gwen

Church diary

Thursday 19th December

Friday 20th December

2pm Hartshorne Primary School

Nativity Service

Sunday 22nd December

4pm Carol Service

Storm 10 playing traditional carols

Christmas Eve 24th December

11.30pm Midnight Communion

led by Rev Mike Firbank

Christmas Day 25th December

10am Short Family Service

led by Sean and Sandra O'Toole

Sunday 29th December

10:00 Joint Minster Service at

Church Gresley Indoor service OR

"Forest Church" and walk

followed by a soup lunch

Sunday 5th January

10:45 Holy Communion

with Rev Patrick Douglas

Sunday 12th January

led by Nigel Worth with

Mike Duff from CPAS preaching

Cleaning Rota

Dec 22 nd	Deb & Nige	Whole church
Dec 29 th	Brian Redfern	Main body, kitchen & N. Aisle
" "	Bill	Brasses
Jan 5 th	Christine G	Main body, vestry & bell tower, sweeping porch
Jan 12 th	Friday house group	Whole church, including brasses
Jan 19 th	Jeff	Main body
" "	Brian A	Sweeping porch

Reading, Intercessions & Refreshments Rota

	Reading	Intercessions	Tea / Coffee
Dec 15 th	Alison	Brian R	Carol
Dec 22 nd	CAROL SERVICE		
Dec 29 th	JOINT MINSTER SERVICE AT GRESLEY		
Jan 5 th	John	Brian R	Gwen
Jan 12 th	Brian R	Christine	Deb W
Jan 19 th	Paul	Brian R	James
Jan 26 th	Alison	Sean	Maxine & Jane
Feb 2 nd	Christine	Nigel	Carol

Christmas by John Betjeman

The bells of waiting Advent ring,
The Tortoise stove is lit again
And lamp-oil light across the night
Has caught the streaks of winter rain
In many a stained-glass window sheen
From Crimson Lake to Hookers Green.

The holly in the windy hedge
And round the Manor House the yew
Will soon be stripped to deck the ledge,
The altar, font and arch and pew,
So that the villagers can say
'The church looks nice' on Christmas Day.

Provincial Public Houses blaze,
Corporation tramcars clang,
On lighted tenements I gaze,
Where paper decorations hang,
And bunting in the red Town Hall
Says 'Merry Christmas to you all'.

And London shops on Christmas Eve
Are strung with silver bells and flowers
As hurrying clerks the City leave
To pigeon-haunted classic towers,
And marbled clouds go scudding by
The many-steepled London sky.

And girls in slacks remember Dad,
And oafish louts remember Mum,
And sleepless children's hearts are glad.
And Christmas-morning bells say 'Come!'
Even to shining ones who dwell
Safe in the Dorchester Hotel.

And is it true,
This most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,
A Baby in an ox's stall ?
The Maker of the stars and sea
Become a Child on earth for me ?

And is it true ? For if it is,
No loving fingers tying strings
Around those tissued fripperies,
The sweet and silly Christmas things,
Bath salts and inexpensive scent
And hideous tie so kindly meant,

No love that in a family dwells,
No carolling in frosty air,
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells
Can with this single Truth compare -
That God was man in Palestine
And lives today in Bread and Wine.