

# Priority News

*The magazine of Lancaster Priory  
with S George, Marsh (at S Thomas More)*

December 2006

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Priory Vicarage  
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CHRISTMAS 2006

There's a fairy-tale – almost soap-opera side to the Christmas story. All the necessary ingredients are there: the romance of an unmarried mum and her loyal consort; the intrigue of Herod, clearly up to no good; and lashings of royalty – Herod himself and those kings from lands afar and, above all, the new-born king himself. Many people like it exactly that way – set in a safe framework of candles and carols.



But there is another side to Christmas. Last year I was sent a card with these words by Howard Thurnam:



*When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,  
 When the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks – then the work of Christmas begins:*

*To find the lost, to heal the broken,  
 To feed the hungry, to release the prisoner.  
 To rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people.  
 To make music in the heart.*



And it's true that when we think of Christmas we often get stuck in the nostalgic or the romantic and people who like the fairy-tale side get cross when others inject a sense of realism. On the other hand people who regularly face the plight of the homeless and hungry get cross when Christmas is trivialised into romantic escapism. So we often end up with the worst of both worlds; a vaguely religious glow that lasts for a few hours, and a political conscience that hurts.

Christmas actually announces that God wants the best of both worlds. The romantic approach, at its best, is a way of saying that there's more to reality than meets the eye. The political approach is a way of saying that religion isn't much use if it doesn't work down at street level. And, of course, they are both true. But perhaps the wider and better way is to see the God of Christmas who loved, and loves, and goes on loving is not an escapist God who merely produces the occasional rosy glow – nor does he want his people to be escapist either.

To illustrate the first part – about God loving us – consider the flowery language of the season. How often do any of us say that we 'adore' somebody or something and really mean it? Yet we've already invited each other to come and 'adore him' quite a few times. The danger is that we think this language is cosy and romantic – in reality it's the language of passion. Christmas invites us to be passionate about God because Christmas tells us that God is passionate about us. And if that sounds over-the-top, then we need to let God break through to the real people that we are, not the screens put up to protect us against the various

slings and arrows we encounter in life, but the real us. That's what God loves, the real us – everything that we have and are – not just the sanitised veneer we put on for others – but us – warts and all ! Christmas invites us to love him in return and the reality of that is the deepest and richest reality there is.

Once we are honest, and truly in touch with that reality, then we are free to serve him by giving that same love to other people who, like Jesus himself, on that day he was born, was helpless and totally dependent on other people and God.


God's Christmas love reaches out to all through those who adore the Child of Bethlehem. That's not politics – it's love. It is reality – the Word made Flesh and dwelling among us.

Have a wonderful Christmas and new year,  
With my love and prayers,



Vicar of Lancaster

*Parish Diary*  *December 2006*

Fri 1st	1.00 pm	World Aids Day Events (See page 9)	
	7.00 pm	Fauré's Requiem	
	7.45 am	Men & Boys' Choir practice	
<b>Sunday 3rd - ADVENT SUNDAY</b>			
	8.00 am	Holy Communion	
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Priory Eucharist</b>	
	11.00 am	Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More	
	11.30 am	Choral Matins	
	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>Advent Carol Service</b>	
Mon 4th	12.30 pm	Eucharist	
	6.30 pm	Boys' Choir Practice	
Tues 5th	10.15 am	Holy Communion	
	7.30 pm	Tuesday Group	
Wed 6th	2.30 pm	Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More	
Thurs 7th	10.30 am	Eucharist, Penny's Hospital	
	12.30 pm	Eucharist	
Fri 8th	7.00 pm	MAP Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More	
	7.15 pm	Great Choir Practice in Ashton Memorial	
Sat 9th	10.00 am	Advent Quiet Morning - St George at St Thomas More	
	10.30 am	LRGS Carol Service	
	7.30 pm	Christmas Chestnuts - Vicarage	

**Sunday 10th - Advent 2**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
**10.00 am Priory Eucharist**  
 11.00 am Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More  
 11.30 am MYP Nativity  
 6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Mon 11th 12.30 pm Eucharist  
 7.30 pm Christian Union Carol Service

Tues 12th 10.15 am Holy Communion

Wed 13th 10.00 am LRGS Carol Service  
 2.30 pm Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More  
 7.30 pm Carols in the Park - Priory Choir

Thurs 14th 12.30 pm Eucharist *Deadline for copy for Priory News*

Fri 15th 7.15 pm Men & Boys' Choir Practice

**Sunday 17th - Advent 3**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
**10.00 am Priory Eucharist**  
 11.00 am Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More  
 6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Mon 18th 12.30 pm Eucharist  
 1.45 pm LGGGS Carol Service  
 7.30 pm Hospitals' Carol Service

Tues 19th 9.00 am Ripley School Eucharist \*

Wed 20th 2.30 pm Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More

Thurs 21st 12.30 pm Eucharist

Fri 22nd 7.15 pm Full Choir Practice

Sat 23rd **6.30 pm Nine Lessons & Carols**

**Sunday 24th - Advent 4**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
**10.00 am Priory Eucharist**  
 11.00 am Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

3.00 pm Christingle Service  
 4.00 pm Evening Prayer  
 4.15 pm Confession (or by appointment)

**11.55 pm Midnight Mass**

**Mon 25th CHRISTMAS DAY**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
**10.00 am Priory Eucharist**  
 11.00 am Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More

**Tues 26th St Stephen**

10.15 am Holy Communion



**\*Please note  
 there will  
 be no Holy  
 Communion  
 at 10.15 am**



**Wed 27th St John**

10.30 am Sung Eucharist at St John's Church

2.30 pm Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More

**Thurs 28th Holy Innocents**

12.30 pm Eucharist

**Fri 29th St Thomas Becket**

12.30 pm Eucharist

Sat 30th 12.30 pm Eucharist

**Sunday 31st - Christmas 1**

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am **Priory Eucharist**

11.00 am Eucharist, St George at St Thomas More

4.00 pm Evening Prayer (said)



***VISITING ADVENT PREACHERS at the 10am  
PRIORY EUCHARIST***

3rd December - Advent Sunday:

Sister Zela Proctor - St.Thomas More Church

10th December - Advent 2:

The Reverend Dr Steven Shakespeare -

Chaplain Liverpool Hope University

17th December - Advent 3:

The Reverend Julian Hollywell -

Assistant Priest, St.Christopher, Withington, Manchester.

## **Alf Gardner**

Stephen and Barbara Gardner and family wish to express their deep appreciation to all the members of the congregation for their kind expressions of sympathy and their prayers following the death of Alf on 5 November. Special thanks to Fathers Peter, Paul & Steve, Lay Readers and the 'Refectory Team'

The Priory Church was a very special place in Alf's long life of dedication, service and faith. He joined the electoral roll in 1929, and was married at the Priory in 1938. He served the church as a sidesman, Superintendent of the Sunday School, PCC member and Churchwarden. He had a great passion for the wider work of the Church in India, Pakistan and South Africa. This was greatly influenced by his experience of these countries in WWII. In his later years due to a significant loss of hearing his often late and loud 'Amen' became a part of the Parish Eucharist.

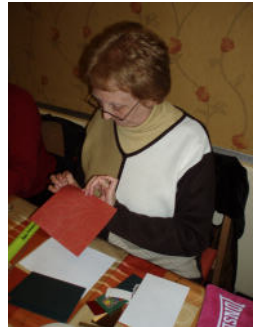
May he rest in peace and be raised in glory.

## TUESDAY GROUP

The Tuesday Group met in the Refectory on 7<sup>th</sup> November for a craft workshop led by Karen Ashton and helpers from Cakes 'n' Cutters of Morecambe.

Beverley reminded us that she is now collecting contributions to the Shoe Box Appeal. These can be handed directly to her or left at the back of the church on Sunday mornings until Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The final opportunity for Tuesday Group contributions is at the Christmas party (see below).

Having remembered to bring along a pair of scissors, a ruler and pencil most of us felt we had successfully passed the first challenge of the evening and waited to begin our Christmas card making with varying degrees of confidence. Whatever confidence we started with was rather dented as we examined the contents of our packs and wondered how on earth we were going to assemble the apparently random little bits of coloured card and sparkly bits into something resembling a



Christmas card. Those of us with experience of double sided sticky tape viewed the rolls on our tables with grave misgivings (the answer is tweezers!).

Karen showed us the finished product we were aiming at and led us through the construction step by step and then we all began measuring and

sticking, more in the spirit of hope than expectation. Amazingly the card began to take shape, thanks to Karen's patience and even to resemble an embryo version of the finished article. Time just flew by, but at the end of the evening we all had made a





professional looking Christmas card worthy of any mantelpiece and had had a lot of fun helping and encouraging each other in the process.



*The Tuesday Group Christmas party will take place in the Refectory on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. Please bring a photo of a close relative from either the past or your own generation e.g. parent, grandparent or sibling (not children or grandchildren please) in an envelope clearly marked with your name.*

Liz Bagley (Magazine Secretary)



**December 10**

**At 11:45**



At our November meeting, some of the mysteries and intricacies of ‘Hatches, Matches and Dispatches’ were opened up to us when Rev Steve McMahon was our speaker. We were, as always, informed and entertained by his talk. No matter how long we have been part of the Church, we keep on learning!

At the time of going to press, some of our members are looking forward to a trip to York for the Provincial Service - more of that next month.

On Friday 1 December there will be the Quiet Day led by Pat Pinder. This will be at St Stephen’s Church, Preston and is always an excellent day with plenty of opportunity for reflection before the Christmas rush begins in earnest. St Stephen’s is easy to reach from the railway station (if you would like details on how to get there, contact Christine on 69872). You need to take a packed lunch - drinks are provided.

Our December meeting will focus on Advent and Christmas and we will be enjoying mince pies with our tea.

Our Deanery Carol Service takes place on Monday 11 December at Dolphinholme. If anyone would like to go, please contact a member of the committee and we will try to arrange transport.

Our Deanery Prayer Diary focuses on the Season of Advent - the season of waiting in patient hope.

Lord of the universe,  
 creator of each one of us,  
 you became human and weak  
 yet remained God.  
 Help us in our weaknesses,  
 give us strength,  
 give us hope  
 until  
 from the darkness of our sins  
 we walk into glory with Christ Jesus.  
 Eternal God,  
 your purpose will not fail,  
 your promise will not be broken,  
 let your Hope take hold of us  
 now in Advent and for ever.



This month we pray for the Branch of Ellel, St John and Enrolling Member Winifred Dillon.

*Diary for December:*

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 pm	Deanery Carol Service
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 pm	Branch meeting
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Corporate Communion (with readings & intercessions) and coffee.



## **World AIDS Day**



December 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 at Lancaster Priory

### Programme of Events

(You are welcome to attend all or part of the programme)

#### • **Afternoon Conference (No booking required)**

- 1.00pm Arrival and Refreshments
- 1.15pm Welcome & Introduction  
Fr.Paul Payton Assistant Curate Lancaster Priory
- 1.30pm ***Blackburn Diocesan Pilgrimage 2005 :  
HIV/AIDS Insights***  
Helen Leathard St.Martin's College
- 2.30pm Coffee
- 2.45pm ***Africa – Faith, Hope and Despair in the face of HIV***  
Ben Humphries Christian Aid Area Organiser, NW
- 4.00pm Evening Prayer
- 4.15pm Conference Ends

#### • **Candlelit Silent Vigil and Reflection @ 6.15pm**

#### • **Performance of Faure's Requiem @ 7.00pm**

by

Lancaster Priory Choir and Friends

Retiring Collection in aid of AIDS charities

\*\*\*\*\*

Contact : Fr.Paul Payton Tel:844672

email: [paytonpj@hotmail.com](mailto:paytonpj@hotmail.com)

## EAST MEETS WEST

On Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> November ladies from the Priory met at Lancaster Boys Club on Dallas Rd. for an Eid party organised by Ruksana Munshi and friends. It was a gathering of ladies from the local Muslim and Hindu communities with a number of Quaker ladies, as well as the Priory contingent.

Everyone was met at the door and given a number - Ruksana had said it was to help everyone to mingle but hadn't elaborated, so we just went with the flow. When everyone had assembled in the sports hall the plan became apparent. We were to divide into groups according to the number we had chosen but Ruksana had failed to take into account the lure of tables full of delicious food. Rizwana made a valiant attempt to explain about her work for Beyond Face Value based at S. Martin's; I tried to thank Ruksana for the invitation; Ruksana tried to explain about the groups and quiz designed to help us talk to new people and make new friends but we failed to stem the inevitable flow towards the food, so graciously accepted defeat and headed for the feast.

In the relaxed, informal atmosphere we found ourselves mingling quite naturally; new contacts were made and friendships were renewed. It was lovely to see so many women and children chatting, enjoying each others company and eager to learn more about each other. Much interest was shown in the aims and ethos of East Meets West and strong support was expressed for future events in which the different strands of our community could meet and socialise.

A vote of thanks must go to Ruksana and friends for having organised such a lovely evening.

Look for details of future events on the yellow notices in the Priory porch, the parish magazine and on the service sheets.

Are you sure you'll be ready for Christmas? And not exhausted?  
How can you be sure all the effort you put in will not be wasted?

# ADVENT

## AN ADVENT QUIET MORNING

TO HELP US PREPARE FOR A  
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR.

**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**  
**STARTS AT 10.15 am – CONCLUDES AT 12.30 pm**

The comfortable surroundings of the lounge and chapel at  
St George's at St Thomas More on the Marsh  
Tea, coffee and biscuits provided  
Phone 841621 if you would like a lift

To aid us in our thinking:

**The poetry** of R. S. Thomas and James Montgomery

The music and text of the Great 'O' advent antiphons

The insights of Isaiah and John and the Book of Exodus

The wonder of the stable

The time is to be led by Hermione Roff, Canon John Roff,  
the Revd Paul Payton, and Christine Mullineaux.

All members of the Priory and St George's and friends are welcome.  
**THIS MORNING IS FOR YOU!**

**'O COME, O COME .....**

**Our new organ scholar  
David Stokes  
introduces himself**

I was born in Liverpool in 1985 and grew up in West Derby Village.

I have been involved in church music from the age of 13 by singing in the choir and playing the organ at St. James West Derby. I started to learn the organ at [Liverpool Cathedral](#)'s annual organ course with Ian Wells, and then I started to have private lessons with Colin Porter at Mossley Hill Parish Church. I became organ scholar at Mossley Hill and helped out by playing the organ and singing Tenor and Bass in the choir.

I attended St. Margaret's C of E High School in Aigburth where I got my GCSE's, and then went into full time employment as an organ builder for the firm of Henry Willis & Sons Ltd. I worked for Willis's for a year visiting different churches around the country and maintaining and looking after their organs.

I then left and did my A-levels at Liverpool Community College, I passed them and then went on to do a Higher National Diploma in Music Performance. I graduated this year (2006) which has led me on to study here at Lancaster University.

My last organist's post was at [St. Paul's Stoneycroft](#), which was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott.

As well as being the organist at St. Paul's I was also a member of the choir at the parish church of [St. Anne Stanley](#). (Your very own Father Peter was curate at St. Anne's from 1976-1979.) I helped out by singing bass and doing most of the organ accompaniment for the choir there. The choir is 35 strong, with a big repertoire! They have done a tour at the Czech Republic in 2004, and have sung both morning and evening services at Liverpool Cathedral this year and last during the summer. I have also given a half hour organ recital at Liverpool Cathedral this year during the summer in which Ian Wells (Assistant organist of the Cathedral) was giving me his expert tuition and advice and prepared me for the recital.

I am currently in my 1<sup>st</sup> year of a music degree at Lancaster University and I am hoping to work in education afterwards.

I am already enjoying my scholarship at Lancaster priory, and I hope I can gain lots of professional experience in the field of church music from Jeremy Truslove & Ian Pattinson. I'm looking forward to helping out with the music here as much as I can! Come and say hello to me at church or E-mail at: [david.a.stokes@merseymail.com](mailto:david.a.stokes@merseymail.com)



## Music List December 2006

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> 7.00 Performance of Fauré's Requiem** (part of vigil for world aids day)

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Advent Sunday**

**10a.m. Eucharist:** Howells Collegium regale **Men and Girls**

**Introit:** Advent Prose **Anthem:** Hosanna to the son - Weelkes

**Organ Voluntary:** Chorale Prelude on 'Wachet auf' – Karg-Elert

**11.30a.m. Matins:** Stanford in B flat Te Deum **Youth Choir**

**Responses:** Wishart-Hodgson **Benedictus:** Chant 18

**Anthem:** Rejoice in the Lord – anon.

**Organ Voluntary:** Toccata – Mushel (David Stokes)



### **6.30p.m Advent Carol Service**

**Men and Boys**

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Advent 2**

**10a.m. Eucharist:** Wood in the Phrygian Mode **Men & Boys**

**Introit:** The Advent Prose

**Anthem:** How beauteous are their feet - Stanford

**Organ Voluntary:** Prelude on 'Veni Emmanuel' – Gordon Philips

**6.30p.m. Evensong:** Dyson in F **Men & Girls**

**Anthem:** O thou the central orb - Wood

**Organ Voluntary:** Elegy – Thalben-Ball (David Stokes)



### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Advent 3**

**10a.m. Eucharist:** Sumsion in F **Men & Girls**

**Introit:** The Advent Prose

**Anthem:** This is the record of John - Gibbons

**Organ Voluntary:** Wachet auf - Bach

**6.30p.m. Evensong:** Aston F **Men & Boys**

**Anthem:** For Lo I raise up - Stanford

**Organ Voluntary:** Prelude on 'Veni Emmanuel' - Bairstow

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 6.30 NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS** **Full Choir**

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Advent 4**

**10a.m. Eucharist:** Leighton in D **Men & Girls**

**11.45 MIDNIGHT MASS:** Mozart – Orgelsolo Mass

**Introit:** Adam lay ybounden - Ord

**Anthems:** In dulci jubilo – Pearsall, Lully lulla - Leighton

**Organ Voluntaries:** In dulci jubilo – Bach & Toccata - Gigout



### **Monday 25 CHRISTMAS DAY**

**10.00 Eucharist** Haydn – Little Organ Mass **Full Choir**

**Introit:** Ding – dong merrily on high – Wood (vs. 1)

**Anthem:** Away in a manger – Willcocks, Mary's Lullaby - Rutter

**Organ Voluntary:** Toccata - Widor

December Music continued

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec – Saint John's Day 10.30am**    **The Occasional Singers**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Christmas 1**

**The Occasional Singers**

**10am Eucharist:** Bertalot Johannesburg Service

**Anthem:** O my dear heart – Colin Brumby

**Organ Voluntary:** Postlude on 'Adeste Fideles' - Thiman

## ADVENT

The Advent wind begins to stir  
 With sea-like sounds in our Scotch fir,  
 It's dark at breakfast, dark at tea,  
 And in between we only see  
 Clouds hurrying across the sky  
 And rain-wet roads the wind blows dry  
 And branches bending to the gale  
 Against great skies all silver pale  
 The world seems travelling into space,  
 And travelling at a faster pace  
 Than in the leisured summer weather  
 When we and it sit out together,  
 For now we feel the world spin round  
 On some momentous journey bound –  
 Journey to what? to whom? to where?  
 The Advent bells call out 'Prepare,  
 Your world is journeying to the birth  
 Of God made Man for us on earth'.

And how, in fact, do we prepare  
 The great day that waits us there –  
 For the twenty-fifth day of December,  
 The birth of Christ? For some it means  
 An interchange of hunting scenes  
 On coloured cards. And I remember  
 Last year I sent out twenty yards,  
 Laid end to end, of Christmas cards  
 To people that I scarcely know –  
 They'd send a card to me, and so  
 I had to send one back. O dear!  
 Is this a form of Christmas cheer?  
 Or is it, which is less surprising,  
 My pride gone in for advertising?  
 The only cards that really count  
 Are that extremely small amount  
 From real friends who keep in touch

And are not rich but love us much  
 Some ways indeed are very odd  
 By which we hail the birth of God.

We raise the price of things in shops,  
 We give plain boxes fancy tops  
 And lines which traders cannot sell  
 Thus parcel'd go extremely well  
 We dole out bribes we call a present  
 To those to whom we must be pleasant  
 For business reasons. Our defence is  
 These bribes are charged against expenses  
 And bring relief in Income Tax  
 Enough of these unworthy cracks!  
 'The time draws near the birth of Christ'  
 A present that cannot be priced  
 Given two thousand years ago  
 Yet if God had not given so  
 He still would be a distant stranger  
 And not the Baby in the manger.



John Betjeman

Holy Jesus, to deliver us from  
 the power of darkness  
 you humbled yourself to be born  
 among us  
 and laid in a manger.  
 Let the light of your love  
 always shine in our hearts,  
 and bring us at last  
 to the joyful vision of your beauty,  
 for you are now alive and reign  
 with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
 God for ever and ever.

CELEBRATE CHRISTINGLE WITH THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

“In a darkened church the lit candles shine the Light of Jesus  
over all present.”



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE 2006

We look forward to welcoming you at our

CHRISTINGLE CAROL SERVICE

on  
SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER  
at  
3.00 pm



Join us for this friendly and family occasion when we celebrate  
Christmas whilst supporting The Children's Society.

We must remember, especially at Christmas, those children left out of  
the celebrations or disadvantaged by poverty and homelessness.

Please bring your Christingle Collecting Candle or donation, so that we  
may continue to support the Society's valuable work.

There will be a Christingle gift for every young person in the  
congregation at the end of the service.

Last year we donated the sum of £534.45. Please help us to equal  
this amount in our 2006 collection.

Thank you.

We will be making the Christingles in the Refectory at 2.00 pm on  
Saturday 23 December. We would welcome the help of anyone from the  
congregation in the preparation of these delightful gifts. It's fun, and it  
only takes an hour, or even less, if we have plenty of willing helpers!

Linda Altham



**PCC DIGEST**

Meeting held on Monday 23rd October 2006

**“Chairman’s Items”**

- In the absence of a Head Verger, and until further notice, on Sundays the Priory will be open from 7.00am to 1.00pm, closed until 5.00pm, then open until after evensong. Thanks were expressed to the Assistant Vergers for the extra duties undertaken by them.
- Dr Jo Drew is to be included in those able to administer communion at the Priory, and Ms Marjorie Greenwood and Mrs Kath Ralph at St George’s.

**“Safe from Harm” Matters.**

- Eleven people have submitted themselves for CRB clearance.
- Risk assessments, particularly involving the Priory Hall kitchen and storage areas, were discussed.

**Financial Matters.**

- Income from church collecting boxes is well down compared to 2005. Security of these boxes, and other monetary safekeeping in the Priory was discussed.
- 2007 budget will be presented at the November meeting. It is anticipated there will be a shortfall of income compared to expenditure. There will be increases in the cost of heating, lighting and water, the Parish Share and salaries.

**WORKING GROUPS****St George's:**

- Rev Paul Payton commenced his duties on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2006. Services and administration are to be brought more into line with those at the Priory. Mr John Manderson is stepping down from his duties at St George’s, but will continue covering financial matters until the next AGM. Money in St George’s bank account will remain for the use of St George’s. Mr Manderson was thanked for his hard work and time given to St George’s.
- Church contacts with Willow Lane Primary School and the Apple Tree Nursery are being fostered, particularly involving children, young people and parents.

**Property :**

- The centre gate pillar at the entrance to the main drive will not be re-installed as fire tenders cannot enter the driveway with the pillar in position. A removable steel post will be installed in its place to restrict entry to the drive, if required.
- Memorial Garden – a third tablet will be added to the two vertical “In Memoriam” tablets installed at the northern side of the garden, on the refectory side of the inscribed tablet.
- The stone pillar from the entrance to the drive is to be relocated to the Memorial garden boundary to form a corner return to the Priory tower. As from 23<sup>rd</sup> October, interment of ashes in the Memorial garden will be on the following basis :
  - Ashes only, without any urn or box, will be interred.
 Marking of new interments with a small memorial tablet will cease.

- The name of the person, and relevant dates, whose ashes are interred will be inscribed on the 'In Memoriam' tablets at the north wall.
- Existing small tablets marking interments can have a full name and dates inscribed, if required.
- Plots which have already been reserved and paid for can be marked with a small tablet as previously arranged.

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Minutes of future PCC meetings will be distributed via e-mail, commencing with the November minutes. Members without an e-mail account will receive their minutes in the normal way.

## Reading Group



At our November meeting, we introduced

favourite books to each other – among them 'Dunster' by John Mortimer; 'A short history of myth' by Karen Armstrong; 'Beloved' by Toni Morrison; 'Thud' by Terry Pratchett and 'Men & Women' by Robert Browning. An excellent discussion developed from this very varied collection!

There will be no Reading Group meeting in December, when everyone is so busy, but on 15 January 2007 we will discuss 'Going Postal' by Terry Pratchett.\* As usual, we meet at 25 Goodwood Road at 7.30 pm. (Ring Lois Kirtley on 64321 for more information.

\*Copies (in paperback) are available from most bookshops.

**CHRISTMAS CHESTNUTS**

An evening of Christmas  
Songs and Readings

at Lancaster Priory Vicarage  
Saturday 9 December  
7.30 pm

**Tickets: £5 (including first glass of wine  
& mince pies)**



### BLUE PETER SHOE BIZ APPEAL



Dispose of your unwanted shoes and help Blue Peter

raise money for needy children in Malawi, many of whom are orphans. The shoes should be in reasonable condition. Please see the poster at the back of the Church for details.

Shoes can be left in the box provided.





## A Count Down to Christmas

*The summer hols are over  
And the kids are back at school  
The suntan's going fallow  
And the days are turning cool*

*It's time to start preparing  
For that very special day  
Though it's far off in December  
Subtle plans are underway*

*The house is looking dingy  
So it's out with brush and paint*

*The kids are so exited  
It's enough to try a saint*



*The shopping gets quite frantic  
As the fever starts to mount  
Train sets, teddy's, bikes and skateboards  
Oh that wilting bank account*

*There's a trip to see a panto  
Sticky fingers pop and crisps  
Our Freddie's dropped his icecream ugh!!  
Your hair hangs down in wisps*

*The children act as shepherds  
Dressed in curtains loaned by mum  
They fight to steal the limelight  
From the wise men, what a scrum!*

*Now Christmas Eve is with us  
Secret smiles, a nod of head*

*The little ones can't wait  
Until it's time for bed*

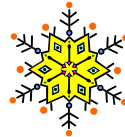


*The household now is silent  
Did they hear the reindeer sleigh  
May joy and love surround them  
On this wondrous Christmas day*

.....  
*Sheila Watkinson*

## CHRISTMAS DAY

**MORNING** – Archdeacon Peter Ballard will be preaching on Christmas morning and he has asked if there are any couples in the Priory or men and women who could make couples who would be prepared to dance a waltz or a tango or a samba or a foxtrot as part of the Sermon. For further information please give him a ring either on 01524 32897 or 01254 503070 ext 220 or if he's not there, his P.A. Val knows all about it! Or you could tell the Vicar. . . .



## Over 60's Club

Another happy and successful year is passing and we have kept a steady number of members. We have lost some through illness and we remember Joan Simpson and Alf Gardner (our Chairman for many years).

Our Christmas Lunch this year is on 5 December and our Carol Service on 12 December. We then have a break until Tuesday 7 January 2007. We will always welcome new members.

# For Younger Readers



\* find out in Church on Sunday !

Here's an Advent ring for you to colour in. Do you know what colour the candles should be? \*



**Q** What did Mary christen the mouse she saw in the stable?

**A** Manger Mouse!

These nine words fit in the grid, reading downwards.

CHRISTMAS

EVE

CENSUS

TRAVEL

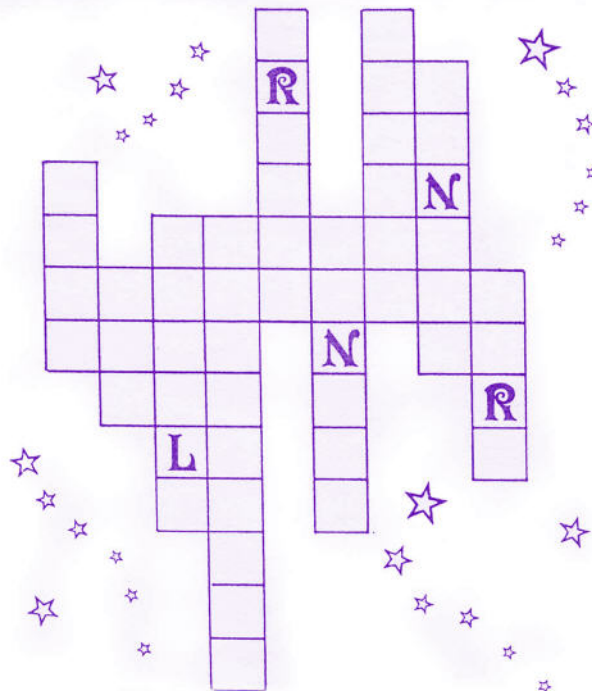
DONKEY

STABLE

JOSEPH

MARY

BABY



Read across one line of the grid - where do you find yourself?

# THE PARISH REGISTERS



## Funerals

*O spread thy covering wings around till all our wanderings cease, and at our Father's loved abode our souls Arrive in Peace.*

Mabel Lillian Hedley  
Jean Jones  
Alf Gardner



## Weddings

*Those whom God has joined together*

John Stuart Loat and Nicola Jayne Barton



## Baptisms

*We welcome into our Church family the newly baptised:*

Aimee Elizabeth Burrow  
Jack Benjamin Maudsley  
Alice Amelia Jane Mackay  
Karl Steven Clement Simpson  
James Laurance Mackay



Lancaster Priory is participating in the

## CharityDAYS

**Donate As You Surf**

Internet Service Provider scheme

If you'd like to help Lancaster Priory financially by making a small donation automatically, every time you surf the Web, **without it costing you any more**, then please have a look at the **CharityDAYS** scheme.

As a charitable institution, Lancaster Priory can benefit from CharityDAYS when you use them to access the Internet. With a historic Grade 1 listed building to maintain, and no government funding, we need all the help we can get !

It's easy to sign up - just go to <http://www.charitydays.net> to find out all about it !

Charitydays have been taken over by their ISP - [Webmaster](#).

For your information, the Churchwardens' account - used for the day-to-day expenses of keeping the Priory running - is registered with the UK Government's Inland Revenue Department as a charitable institution with exemption number X 82432. This is the account which will benefit when you register with CharityDAYS and quote Lancaster Priory as your preferred charity. Then, depending on your choice of package, a percentage will go to keep the Priory operational every time you surf the Web.