



CONTACT

December 2011

Parish Magazine

St Mary's Church, Cubbington

Issue 295

HOWEVER YOU DRESS IT UP



CHRISTMAS
STARTS
WITH
CHRIST

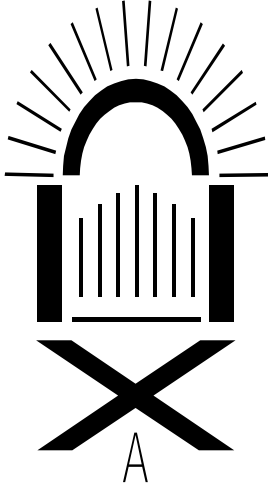
Services for December 2011

Day	Date	Time	Service
Sunday 2nd Advent	4 th	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Family Communion
		6pm	Healing Service
Wednesday	7 th	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 3rd Advent	11 th	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Parish Communion
		6pm	Evensong
Wednesday	14 th	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 4th Advent	18 th	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Parish Communion
		6pm	Carol Service
Wednesday	21 st	10am	Holy Communion
Christmas Eve	24 th	5.30pm	Christingle
		11.30pm	Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	25 th	8am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Friendly Service
Wednesday	28 th	10am	No Service



“Spare a thought this Christmas”

FOR A
CHILD
HAS BEEN
BORN
FOR US,



SON
GIVEN
TO US...
ISAIAH 9:6

What would it be like not to have Christmas? Last year I found that out, to some degree, as I was ill with flu for 10 days either side of Christmas. Of course I did get presents, albeit they were opened a few days late. Several Christmas cards were not written or sent. I was very grateful to friends who did food shopping for me and members of my family who cooked and prepared it for me. I missed singing Christmas Carols, attending the church services at Christmas and wishing people “Happy Christmas”. I missed having a Christmas tree – I was too ill to get it out the loft – and seeing the Christmas lights on people’s houses.



*Sharing
Christmas*

But most of all I missed the whole feeling of celebrating the birthday of Jesus our Saviour.

Hopefully this year I shall be fit and well. Of course there are many both locally and around the world for whom Christmas this year will be a very difficult time. They may be alone with no-one visiting them, homeless or trapped in war zones or prisons far from home.

Last year I was warm and well-fed. These people may well not be. We need to spare a thought and a prayer for those this Christmas who are in difficult situations. The ministry of Jesus, some thirty years after his birth that we celebrate at Christmas, was based around working with poor people and social outcasts, helping them and healing them, giving them hope. Ian Watson, the Archdeacon of Coventry, when preaching at St Mary’s Cubbington recently, commented about the “Occupy London Stock Exchange” protest outside St Paul’s Cathedral. He said that Jesus, were he there, would have been outside the Cathedral talking with and ministering to the protesters.

I wish you all a very “Happy Christmas”. In our celebrations let us please remember those who are in need and help them as Jesus did nearly 2000 years ago.

*Richard Spicer, Lay Minister (Reader), St. Mary’s Church, Cubbington
and part-time Honorary Chaplain at Coventry Cathedral*



Countryside Notes



I have taken great delight recently in viewing the weekly 'Autumnwatch' series on TV, during which we receive updates of the arrival of migrant birds, among other items. The dates when our winter visitors touch down on our shores seems to depend largely on weather and prevailing winds at any one time, so can be difficult to forecast.

Yet again, there has been a bumper crop of berries to keep our birds going through the winter. I am rather annoyed with our local blackbirds, which devoured most of my grapes before I had time to pick them for jelly. I suppose their need is greater than mine! This week I saw my first large flock of fieldfares, quite large grey and brown thrushes, which come to us from Scandinavia. They are often to be seen feeding in fields with a flock of redwings, yet another type of thrush – quite a sight if they all take off together. However, what I am really looking forward to, as winter draws on, are the aerial displays put on towards sunset by the local flocks of starlings.



Another sighting this week was of a sparrow hawk flying very close to the ground. When



hunting, they usually 'hedge-hop' in search of smaller birds as prey, so a change of tactics on the part of this one.

Another hard winter has been forecast by some, perhaps borne out by the berry crop. We shall have to wait and see. I hope for plenty of clear, crisp days and the opportunity to go out walking. Whatever the weather, I wish you all a safe winter season and a happy and peaceful Christmas.

With the decision on HS2 yet to be announced, Cubbington Action Group against HS2 is still raising funds by selling its packs of notelets showing the area which would be ruined if it went ahead. These are ideal small gifts and have been especially well received by ex-Cubbingtonians. You can buy them at Cubbington General Store and also direct from us at our stalls at the Cubbington School and St Mary's Church Christmas Fairs.

Rosemary Guiot



Parish Council News



Cubbington Web Site

The new web site for the Cubbington community is www.cubbington.org.uk and has been developed through Cubbington Parish Council. Do have a look and tell us what you think!

Parish Plan

A few years ago we tried to get this off the ground but there appeared not to be sufficient public interest. We are now dipping our feet in the water again! Later this month a working party from the Parish Council are meeting to discuss embarking on a Parish Plan prior to organising a public meeting to hear residents views early in the new year.

Sensory Garden



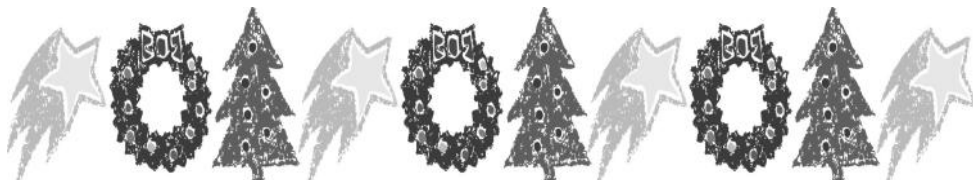
Cubbington C of E Primary School have developed a sensory and quiet garden on their site. We have all been to visit it and have been most impressed with it and the children who showed us around were full of pride and keen to articulate what has been achieved and were full of ideas on developing it further. The Parish Council has given the school a grant for a story telling chair for their garden.

Policing Priorities

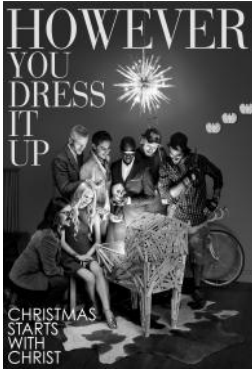
Over the next three months the police will provide a minimum of 15 dedicated patrols at the village hall, recreational area, shops on Queen Street and surrounding areas in Cubbington. This is resulting from anti social behaviour and nuisance drinking being reported in our village.

Festive Greetings

May we wish all our Cubbington residents a happy and joyful Christmas.



Christmas Starts with Christ



Front cover explained...

ChurchAds.net, in association with Premier Christian Media, has launched its new poster campaign for Christmas 2011. The focus, as always with the ChurchAds Poster Campaigns, is make the Christmas story relevant to those outside the Church's conversations at Christmas, and ultimately, to put Christ at the focus...

This year the 2011 Christmas poster re-casts the nativity scene with trendy twenty somethings, designer fashions and luxury gifts. In the poster the shepherds are represented by a cycle courier and plasterer. The Wise men are shown as three successful entrepreneurs and their gifts are iconic 'treasures' of modern culture: a Swarovski crystal perfume bottle, a Faberge egg and a replica Damian Hirst skull. All are 'sharply dressed'. But the traditional nativity arrangement is unchanged, with Jesus as its clear focus. And the message is 'However you dress it up.... Christmas Starts with Christ'. The image, which features clothing from shops including Topman, Zara and Donna Karan, was photographed by Max Oppenheim, a prominent London based photographer who has shot campaigns for clients such as Max Mara and Virgin. The poster already has the support of key church leaders, including the Archbishop of York, and partners such as Premier Christian Media and The Jerusalem Trust. Mike Elms, from ChurchAds.net, said: "This year we have a very simple but dramatic idea by showing the meeting of Christianity and high street consumerism, with Christ in the middle. With recent events in the UK and with millions of people heading for shopping centres in the final few days before Christmas there will be no better time to remind people that, behind all the consumerism, Christmas Starts with Christ."

Extract from ChurchAds.net



Still Time!

There is still time to offer a night's lodging to
Mary, Joseph and their Donkey
as they make their way to Bethlehem.

Please contact Anne on 01926 832252. Thank you

The 1 Corinthians 13 of Christmas



If I decorate my house with beautiful bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny baubles, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of mince pies, roasting a perfect turkey, and lay a magnificent table, but have no love for my guests, I am just another cook.



If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not have compassion in my heart for those in need, I am just another social service; it profits me nothing.

If I decorate the tree with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes and attend a myriad of holiday parties but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to help one's wife with boring housework. Love puts the Christmas present shopping on hold in order to run the elderly neighbour to the doctor. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another's home that has more expensive presents, or even coordinated Christmas china and table linen. Love doesn't yell at the children to get out of the way; love is glad that they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, even irritating relatives. It believes all things, and encourages teenagers to aim high for their future. It hopes all things, endures all things, even a spouse who is depressed about their job prospects. Love never fails other people. Computer games will crash, even cashmere jumpers will wear out, and golf clubs will get lost. But the gift of love will endure forever. Happy Christmas!

LOVE

Love is *patient,*
love is *kind.*

It does not *envy,*
it does not *boast,*
it is not *proud.*

1 C O R I N T H I A N S 1 3 : 4



Everyone's welcome to
celebrate **Christingle** with us!

on **Saturday 24th December - Christmas Eve**

at **St Mary's Church, Cubbington**

All Welcome

Donation Purses available at the door.

All funds go to The Children's Society

time **5.30pm**

Help raise vital funds for The Children's Society's work with vulnerable children in the community.

For further information, please call: **0845 300 1128**

Charity Registration No. 221124 | Christingle originated in the Moravian Church in 1747
Photograph © Anthony Wallace | 7549 | X0410



A better childhood. For every child.

www.christingle.org



St Mary's Church, Cubbington

Christmas Fair

Saturday 3rd December 2011

2.30pm start

Loads to do and enjoy for all ages!



**Candlelight
Service**



**Carols
by
Candlelight**

Sunday

**18th December
at 6pm**

All Welcome

Special Services at Christmas Time



4th Advent Sunday
18th December at 6pm
Come join us for carols,
candles and readings.
A truly joyous service!

Christingle Service 24th December 5.30pm

The story of the Christingle

The word 'Christingle' actually means 'Christ Light', and celebrates the light of Jesus coming into the world. Stories of how the Christingle began look back to the Moravian Church, which is found in the Czech Republic. The Moravians have held Christingle services for more than 200 years, and according to them, this is how the first Christingle might have been made:

Many years ago the children in a village were asked to bring a Christmas gift to put beside the crib in the church. One family was very poor, and had no money for gifts, but the three children were still determined to take something. The only nice thing they had was an orange, so they decided to give the Christ-child that. But then they discovered the top was going green, so the eldest cut it out, and put a candle in the hole. To add some colour, one of the girls took a red ribbon from her hair and tied it around the middle of the orange. It was hard to make the ribbon stay still, so they fastened it in place with toothpicks. The toothpicks looked a bit bare, so the youngest child added some raisins to them. The children took their decorated orange lantern to the church for the Christmas Mass. The other children sneered at their meagre gift, but the priest seized upon it with joy. He held it up as an example of the true understanding of the meaning of Christmas, for the following reasons: the orange is round, like the world; the candle gives love of God; the red ribbon goes round the 'world', as a symbol of Christ's blood, given for everyone; the four sticks point in all directions, and symbolise that God is over all: North, South, East and West; and the fruit and nuts remind us of God's blessings.



Special Services at Christmas Time



Midnight Mass

Christmas Eve 11.30pm

All Welcome to this most special of Services

Where we welcome our

Lord Jesus

and sing our loudest.

As usual, we shall be singing the final verse of the carol "O come, All ye faithful" which is never sung until the Midnight Service.



Christmas Communion

Christmas Day

25th December 2011

8am

Christmas Day 25th December 2011

Family Friendly Service - 10.30am

Come celebrate Jesus' birth and bring your toys too!



Cubbington
Silver
Band's
Annual
Christmas
Concert

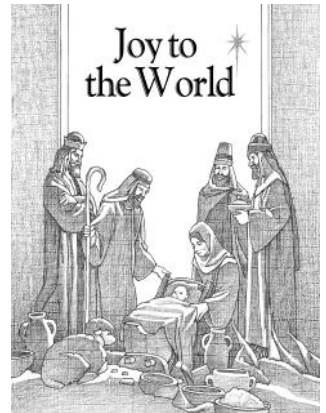


Sunday 11th December 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Methodist Church Hall, Queen Street
Tickets £4 (£3 concessions)

The Cubbington Silver Band are always interested to hear from brass players who might like to join us. We rehearse every Friday at The Band Factory in Althorpe Street in Leamington Spa from 7.30pm. For more information please see our website www.cubbingtonsilverband.com, email us at: cubbingtonsilverband@gmail.com, or telephone us: 0771 722 1281.



The Sunday School
are putting on a
Nativity Play (with a twist)
on Sunday 18th December
during the
9.30am Church Service.
We look forward to seeing
you all!
Love from Sunday School



*Thank
You!* 

HS2 CRAFT FAIR

A big thank you to all those who supported us on Saturday November 5th at Our Lady & St Theresa's School. We raised £416.50 towards the ongoing action against HS2 in the village. Support is still needed for this cause. Anyone interested please contact Peter Dellow on Tel: 01926 336838



**RAINBOW
TIME**

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY 2012

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM - MONDAY 13TH TO FRIDAY 17TH

Look out for more details in next month's contact.



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Kids (of all ages) Page



CHRISTMAS BEGINS

When does Christmas start? Does it start when the shops begin playing Christmas carols and putting up decorations?

Or is it at the beginning of Advent which starts 4 weeks before the 25th December and is a special time for us to use to get ready for the birth of Jesus?



The word Advent means 'coming' and the season of Advent before Christmas, like Lent before Easter, is a time to get ready. A time to look forward and prepare, not just by writing Christmas cards and wrapping presents, but by inviting Jesus into our hearts and lives today.

So perhaps the question isn't when does your Christmas start, but when does it finish?

CHRISTMAS EVE

24th December is Christmas Eve and the answer to each of these questions starts with the letters EVE. Answers below.

1. What EVE is equal?
2. What EVE is a swamp in Florida?
3. What EVE is a happening?
4. What EVE is a dried flower?
5. What EVE is the end of the day?
6. What EVE is the world's highest mountain?
7. What EVE never loses its leaves?

**What goes red, white, red,
white, red, white?**

Santa rolling down a hill.

**What did the snowman and
his wife hang over their baby's
cot?**

A snow mobile.

**What's brown and sneaks
round the kitchen?**

Mince pies.

Answers: 1 even 2 Everglades 3 event
4 everlasting 5 evening 6 Everest
7 evergreen

Traditional Farm Fresh Christmas Turkeys

To make your Christmas dinner one to remember and for guaranteed satisfaction choose a local producer who cares about your day as much as you! Ole Gronning, owner of Heart of England Farms, Claverdon, Warwickshire has been rearing Christmas poultry for over 20 years. Beginning in mid summer, dedicated staff carefully rear the birds on a specially prepared GM and drug free diet. From an early age the birds are allowed free range in woods and fields by day and to roost safely in straw yards by night. Providing the birds with this relaxed, natural life ensures a succulent flavour at maturity unlike many others, which may be mass-produced. With importance being placed on the source of our food today you can view the free range KellyBronze birds & geese as you drive past the farm on the A4189 between Warwick and Henley in Arden.

As the festive season approaches the birds are gathered from their fields to be traditionally hand plucked and hung in a maturation chamber, an essential part of the process which guarantees that each bird is tender and full of flavour.

Year after year Warwickshire families return for the melt in the mouth taste of the traditional free range KellyBronze turkey, barn reared white turkey, our succulent geese or the time honoured cockerel or duck. All birds are supplied oven ready in a sturdy carry home box complete with cooking tips and recipe ideas for those of you seeking inspiration.

Heart of England Farms, Henley Road, Claverdon, Warwickshire CV35 8PS. Tel: 01926 843460 Fax: 01926 843281

Email: info@heartofenglandfarms.com. www.heartofenglandfarms.com



Traditional Farm Fresh Christmas Turkeys

Our local farm fresh free range KellyBronze turkeys and barn reared white turkeys, geese, roasters and ducks are guaranteed to delight!



For our no obligation Christmas information pack and order form

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For more information visit
LANDGIRLGARDENER.VPWEB.CO.UK

Cubbington Women's Institute

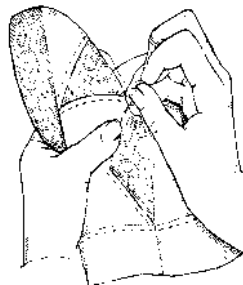
The Institute meets in the Village Hall, Broadway, on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm.

Programme 2011

OPEN MEETING

Dec 1st Xmas Goodies, Patchwork, Quilting
Embroidery

(Margaret Hudson & E Gamble)



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BodyCise
Fitness

Get fit for Christmas!

BodyCise Fitness 
classes in your area

- **Little Black Dress Club** - starts w/o 9th November
Small group personal training sessions, nutrition advice, at home exercise programmes and much more...
- **Pilates classes** in Cublington, Weston under Wetherley and Easthorpe - find your inner core strength.
- **Total Body Conditioning class** - Forget legs, bums and tums, work out the whole body and see results quicker.
- **Still going strong ZUMBA** - every Tuesday night, 6.45pm, Weston under Wetherley - Party yourself into shape!

For more information call Karen on 07908807558 or email mail@bodycisefitness.co.uk or visit www.bodycisefitness.co.uk

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St. Mary's Cubbington

Services for January 2012

Day	Date	Time	Service
Sunday	1 st	10.30am	Family Communion (Just one Service today)
Wednesday	4 th	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday	8 th	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Parish Communion
		6pm	Evensong
Wednesday	11 th	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday	15 th	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Parish Communion
		6pm	Evening Worship
Wednesday	18 th	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday	22 nd	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Parish Communion
		6pm	Evensong
Wednesday	25 th	10am	No Service
Sunday	29 th	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Parish Communion



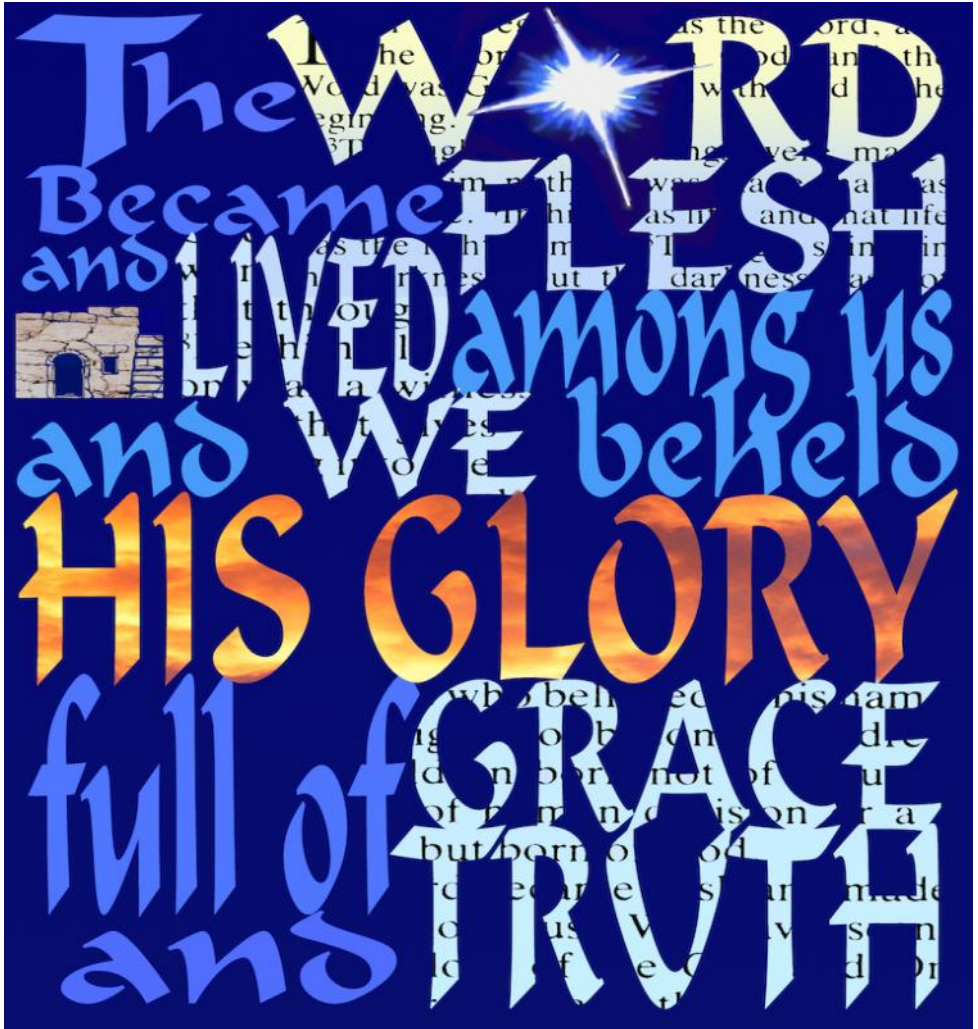


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