



Seeking to live out the love of God
– in all we do



November 21st News and Worship

Welcome

To this week's newsletter: it carries all the news and notices of upcoming events, a first look ahead to Christmas as well as prayer and worship resources for Sunday.

Vicar's Thoughts

Last Sunday we gathered for our wonderful Remembrance Sunday service at St Peter's. (The many positive comments from across the community about the service have been a source of huge encouragement, a special well done to Xander who read so bravely!). It wasn't just at St Peter's that things were different: at the service at the Cenotaph, HRH Queen Elizabeth was unable to attend due to ill health. No doubt the newspapers and broadcasters checked they had their biographies, film reels and photos ready for special editions and broadcasts in the event of the Monarch's death.

This coming Sunday, in recent years, has been labelled *Christ the King* - it's a bit of a strange change as we celebrate Christ being King at Ascension and it's an unnecessary doubling up. The traditional "Stir up Sunday" has much to be said for it, as we move into Advent and Christmas.

In prayers, sermons and Bible readings these days, you may notice that we often speak of *King Jesus* rather than *Jesus Christ*. This is because 'Christ' is not an everyday word today, unless it's used as a swear word. We almost unconsciously hear Jesus as the first name and Christ as the Surname. Saying King Jesus reminds us that 'King', 'Christ' and 'Messiah' are titles like 'Queen'. When Queen Elizabeth dies, the expectation is that Charles will become King Charles. In royal lineages that's what happens: the title passes to children, grandchildren or siblings.

With King Jesus that didn't happen - Jesus had no wife or children but he had brothers, one of whom, James, we read about in the Acts of the Apostles helping lead the Church in Jerusalem - but James *doesn't* pick up the title 'King' after Jesus' death. This is because Jesus is the risen and ascended King: his reign has not ended and his kingdom has not been passed on to successors.

Jesus is King which means in our worship, in our prayers, in our conversations, in our lifestyle and in all that we do, we have two choices: we can proclaim Jesus is King, or not.

Church News

Advent Reflections

In this year's *Advent Reflections* we are drawing of the Archbishop of York's Advent book for 2021 'Music of Eternity meditations for Advent with Evelyn Underhill' by Robyn Wrigley Carr. We will gather on:

Tuesday 30th November at 1.30pm

Tuesday 7th December at 1.30pm

Tuesday 14th December at 1.30pm

Tuesday 21st December at 1.30pm

In St Peter's Rooms. Reflections will last an hour with refreshments afterwards. All are very welcome and we will be finished in time for School pick-up.

St Peter's Church Nativity

St Peter's Church Nativity is delighted to be back this year on Sunday 12th December during the 10:30 service.

All families are invited to the service to share and celebrate in the story of the birth of Jesus... and we need recruits!

If you would like your child to take part, we are looking for older children for the narration parts and little ones for angels, sheep, shepherds and Kings!

So if you are available and you would like your child/children to join in, please get in touch with either Kathryn Lappin on 07859049586 or Sian Rourke on 07738627084. It's always such a magical tradition in St Peter's and after missing it last year, we are hoping to bring that magic back. Thank you.

Kat & Sian

Nativity Costume Amnesty

"Where are the shepherds? Two Angels are missing as well and wasn't there a bigger King's costume?" Do you have a church nativity costume tucked away in a wardrobe or dressing up box? Were you thinking it's too late to bring it back now especially as your little shepherd, Angel, Inn Keeper...(delete to fit) has now gone to university. As the Angel says "Fear Not!!" Its never too late to return a nativity costume and if you're not sure where it came from we will happily give it a new home at St Peter's. Costumes can be returned anonymously by leaving at the back of Church or give them to Kat or Sian who will be delighted to receive them.

Gospel Choir Advent Praise

Sunday morning worship on 5th December at 10.30am will have a different feel - we are delighted and excited that our sung worship will be lead by a Gospel Choir. This will be a wonderful service with a mixture of familiar and 'new to some' hymns and worship songs. It's a great opportunity to invite guests, friends, neighbours and work colleagues to Church. There will be more information in next week's newsletter and invitation cards available soon at the back of church to give to guests.

Christingle Making

Christmas is getting nearer when it's time to make Christingles. Saturday morning 4th December in St Peter's Rooms will be the great *Christingle construction* event. It's always fun, all ages can participate. We start at 10.00am and finish when they all are finished, which is usually about an hour.

Daytime Church Opening

Church is now open for visitors and for private prayer Monday to Saturday 9.00am to 3.00pm. On Sundays the Norman Chapel is open from 8.15am to 4.00pm for Prayer and for those wanting to see the Saxon Cross. Do take the opportunity to drop in and pray, light a votive candle or just be still in these Holy Space.

Mike Cheetham Retirement

There will be a special farewell service of Evensong on 28th November at 4.30pm followed by refreshments and a presentation in St Peter's Rooms afterwards. If you would like to make a donation towards a gift, please hand in to the office in an appropriately labelled, sealed envelope.

Visit the Amazing Knitted Bible this Advent

26th November - 6th December 2021

St. Catherine's Church, Birtles Lane, Over Alderley, SK10 4RX

After a wait of almost two years, St. Catherine's church is pleased to announce that we will be hosting the Knitted Bible exhibition this advent.

- All your favourite bible scenes in a very special setting
- Seasonal refreshments and carols
- Games and quizzes for young visitors
- Wear something knitted

Times that it will be open to the public are below. There is no need to book at these times, just call in. For daytime openings tea, coffee and cakes will be on offer. In the evening there will also be the option of a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. Visiting the Knitted Bible is free

Opening times

Friday 26th November 10.00 Grand Opening of the Knitted Bible by Bishop Mark, the Bishop of Chester

Saturday 27th November: 10am – 12noon; 2pm – 4pm.

Sunday 28th November: 1.15pm – 2.30pm

Thursday 2nd December: 4pm – 7pm.

Friday 3rd December: 4pm – 7pm.

Saturday 4th December: 10am – 12noon; 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 5th December: 11.15am Family Service to 1pm; 4pm – 7pm with a closing by Bishop Sam, the Bishop of Stockport.



ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH INVITES YOU TO

THE KNITTED BIBLE

26TH NOVEMBER - 6TH DECEMBER 2021

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, BIRTLES LANE, OVER ALDERLEY, SK10 4RX

- All your favourite bible scenes in a very special setting
- Seasonal refreshments and carols
- Games and quizzes for young visitors
- Wear something knitted!

Call to make a group booking on 01625 860 815 / 01625 861 310
Open to the public on selected days (including weekends) more info on Facebook and in the November Messenger.

Visiting the Knitted Bible is free. For anyone who is able, a £2 donation on the door would be most welcome

You might wonder what on earth the knitted bible is! Here is a brief explanation from its creators:

Parishioners at St George's United Reformed Church created the exhibition, The Knitted Bible, which consists of 33 knitted Biblical scenes. The project incorporates hundreds of knitted figures which feature in knitted scenes depicting stories such as Adam and Eve, The Last Supper, Noah's Ark and of course, The Nativity. It has been touring the country for number of years with the aim of engaging school children and members of the public. The knitted figures present well known stories in another way. Some of the stories we know and some of them are less obvious, but even if you are not very religious the amount of work and craftsmanship is unbelievable. It is accessible for all ages and even nursery children visit the Knitted Bible.

After St. Catherine's, the Knitted Bible will continue its national tour, so catch it while you can!

WHAM

Since the churches founded it, numbers of St Peter's congregation have volunteered to help at the **WHAM** Nightshelter.

We (*members of the core team and church coordinators*) have started to be asked about the arrangements for this year, as we enter winter with COVID-19 still a threat and affecting the activities of all of our churches as we grapple with new complexities in use of our buildings.

In order to both explain the situation for this winter (2021-22), to gather your thoughts and wisdom about the coming years and to celebrate all that we have been able to do since WHAM first opened the doors of most of the Town Centre church buildings, we are inviting you to come and gather at the United Reformed Church for an eat and update evening.

WHAM 2021 Eat and update

Friday 19th November

7:30pm until 9:00pm prompt finish

URC building, Park Green, Macclesfield

RSVP maccnightshelter@gmail.com so that we can order the right amount of delicious food.

If you are interested and able to get to the event please let them know. If you want to help with **WHAM** speak to David Hawkins or Kate Collins after a service.

The Church Diary

The Church Office is open Monday to Friday 9.00am to 12noon

Mondays

9.00am **Morning Prayer** St Peter's Rooms all welcome

Tuesdays

9.00am **Morning Prayer** Zoom Code 503 346 024, Password 793684

Wednesdays

10.30am **Holy Communion**, St Peter's followed by refreshments

Thursdays

9.00am **Morning Prayer**, Zoom Code 859 930 994

10.15am (25th November) **Pram Service**

11.30am **Holy Dusters**, St Peter's (*If interested please call the Parish Office as in the run up to Christmas, times may vary*)

3.15pm **Voice** Children's Choir St Peter's Rooms

Fridays

7.45pm **Choir practice**

Worship Resources

Worship Services for the Sunday Next before Advent

	8.30am St Peter's	10.00am Core	9.30am St Peter's	10.30am St Peter's <i>Streamed</i>	4.30pm St Peter's
November 21st	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Breakfast Church	Holy Communion	Sung Evensong

November 21st Sunday next Before Advent Readings and Collects

Bible Readings

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14

Revelation 1:4-8

John 18:33-37

Psalms 93

Collects

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit

and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

(or)

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Prayers

Prayer focus this week

As winter draws closer we pray for those who are homeless and sleeping rough: for those who provide accommodation and food particularly for WHAM run by Hope in Macclesfield. With the lifting of the moratorium on evictions we pray for families who are and have been evicted from their homes for local authorities and housing associations to have the resources to provide for their needs.

Those who have asked for prayer

Tony Mackenzie
Graham Lewis
Keith Ravenscroft
Geraldine Collins
Mike Thompson
Linda



Those who have died

Roger Partridge (Funeral St Peter's 2.00pm 24th Nov)
Judith Bentley (Funeral St Peters 12noon 25th Nov)
Ian Northcott (Funeral St Peters 1.00pm 29th Nov)
Malcolm Cooper (Funeral St Peter's 12noon 2nd Dec)
Marjorie Jackson (Funeral St Peter's 2.00pm 6th Dec)
Eric Bolam (Funeral St Peter's 1.00pm 9th Dec)
Mick Barton (Funeral St Peter's 1.00pm 10th Dec)