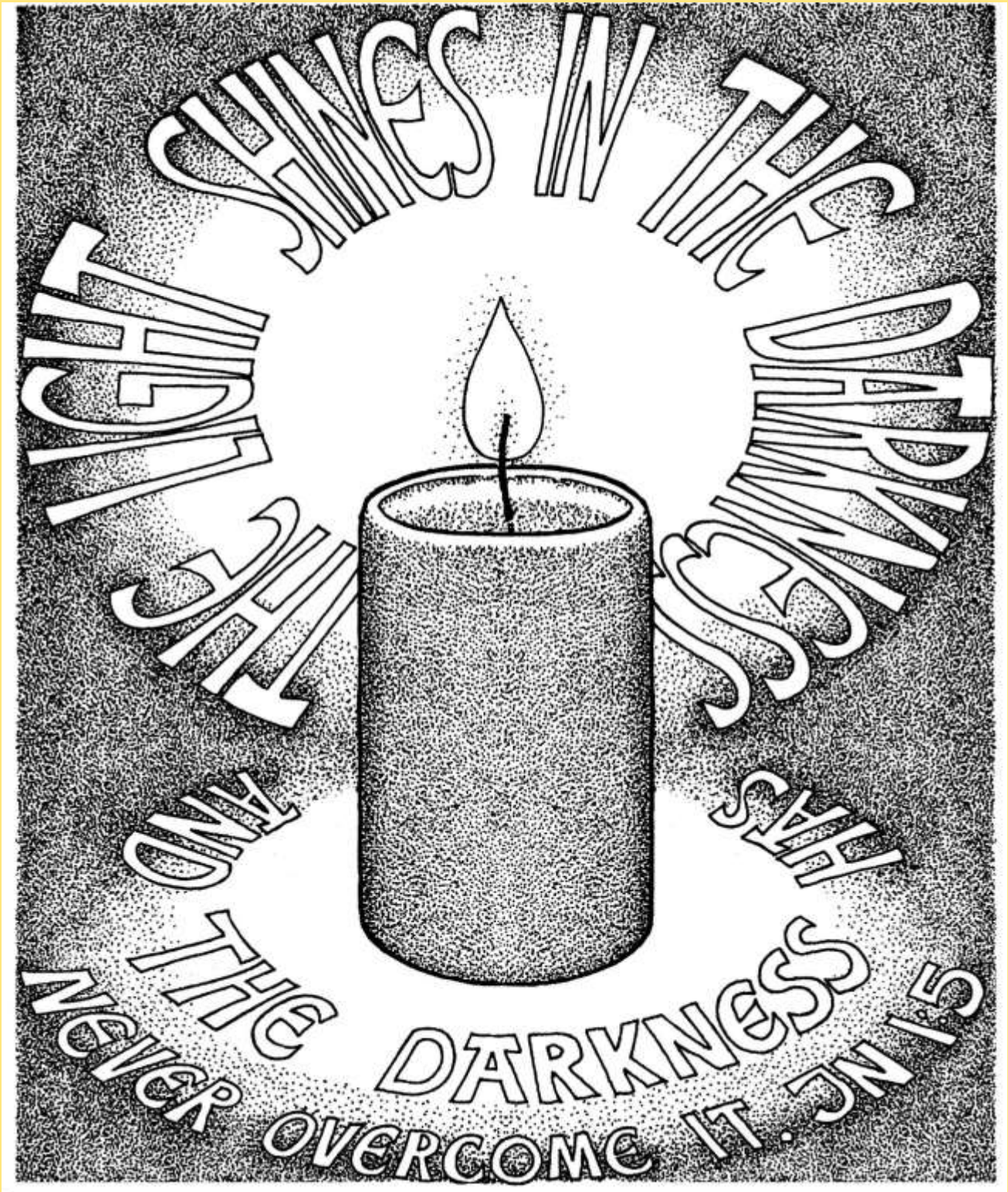


All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine

December 2023





All Saints' Croxley Green

Sunday Worship in Church

8am Holy Communion BCP
(First Sunday of the Month)

9.45am Parish Communion

12-12.45pm Family Service
(First Sunday of the Month)

Weekdays

Morning Prayers 8am in Church
Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion

The Church is Open Daily for private prayer and meditation.

The Parish Office is open for enquiries from 9am to 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday. Answerphone available outside these hours. Tel: 772109

Parish Administrator: Judith Man

Website: www.croxleygreenallsaints.org

Email: office@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Magazine

magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org

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The Vicarage WD3 3HJ Tel: 772109

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Assistant Curate:

Revd. Paul Palmer Tel: 07740871289

Churchwardens

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Assistant Churchwardens:

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Sacristan:

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Chris Fagan Tel: 720319

Parochial Church Council:

Secretary: Chris Fagan

Tel: 720319

Treasurer: Andrew Nobbs

Tel: 770039

Hall hire email;

hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org

December 2023



Revd. Canon Miriam writes:

Dear Friends,

We enjoyed an excellent evening of entertainment and good food on Saturday 11th November when Steve Martin and his band, Eleventh Hour, played music from the 60s, 70s and beyond and Wendy and her team cooked a lovely curry for us all to enjoy. This fantastic event raised just under £1,800 for the Hall Refurbishment Fund. This will be used to decorate the entrance lobby to the Hall. Thank you so much to Steve and his band and Wendy and her team.

The following week we had our annual Christmas Market, an event not to be missed. As always, people come in droves to get those early Christmas gifts, treat themselves to mulled wine and enjoy the lovely seasonal food from the kitchen. Thank you to Ann and Lyndon Palmer who led the organisation of this event and the team that supported them in so many essential ways...setting up and clearing away stalls, helping on our Church stalls, beavering away in the kitchen and on the refreshments, selling prize draw tickets and generally helping out. Without you, this would not be the fantastic event that it always is so thank you so much. Thank you also to the generous sponsors of the main prizes, and donations for the other prizes. We raised an amazing £6,620

At this time of year, I love to read and reflect on the poem Advent 1955 by John Betjeman. The words written in 1955 still ring true for us today.

*The Advent wind begins to stir
With sea-like sounds in our Scotch fir,
It's dark at breakfast, dark at tea.....

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.'*

Advent is a time of preparation and whilst the secular drive over the coming weeks is about preparing for a “perfect” Christmas Day with lots of presents, food and goodwill (which we know in reality brings more stress than good cheer) we, as followers of Jesus Christ, are called to a more focussed even sombre time of reflection.

The Advent bells call out 'Prepare, Your world is journeying to the birth Of God made Man for us on earth.'

We are encouraged to use the time of Advent (which in the church calendar is a penitential season which is why the altar covering, vestments etc. are purple) to reflect on where we are in our spiritual journey and in our preparation for meeting Jesus when he comes again. It can be very challenging living with both the secular and spiritual demands of the Advent season, but I do hope that you will be able to set time aside to journey with God to the sacred and joyful celebration of Christmas. To help you with this, on pages 8 and 9, there are some ideas of books that you might find helpful. They all have a daily reading, reflection and prayer.

As we turn our focus to Advent there are a number of events that you might want to make a note of in your diary....

2nd December 3pm	Watford Orchestra Christmas Concert
3rd December 6pm	Welcoming Advent A Service of advent readings, poems and hymns
7th December 7.30pm	Advent Quiet Church
10th December 5pm	Christingle
16th December 3pm	Churches Together Christmas Walk of Witness (see details on page 4)
17th December 6pm	Carol Service
21st December 2pm	Christmas Afternoon Tea
24th December 9.45am	Christmas Eve Parish Communion
4pm	Crib Service
11.30pm	Midnight Service
25th December 9.45am	Christmas Day Service

It would be wonderful to see you, your families, friends and neighbours at any or all of these events.

As always, the Croxley Mummers will be performing in the Hall after the 9.45am service on Christmas Eve.

In the busyness of this Advent season may you find space to sit with God and in the celebrations of the birth of Jesus our Saviour may you be filled with God's love and peace.

I leave you with the closing words of John Betjeman's poem to reflect on:

*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.*

With my love and prayers for a blessed and Holy Advent, a joyful Christmas and a peaceful, and hope filled New Year.

Miriam

December Readings

Sunday 3rd December Advent Sunday	Isaiah 64 v 1-9
Sunday 10th December Advent 2	Isaiah 40 v 1-11
Sunday 17th December Advent 3	Isaiah 61 v 1-4, 8-end
Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve	2 Samual 7 v 1-11, 16
Sunday 31st December Christmas 1	Isaiah 61 v 10-Chap 62 v 3

Christmas Walk Of Witness!

Saturday 16th December

Churches Together in Croxley are organising a Christmas Walk of Witness, similar to the one we traditionally do on Good Friday but with carols and a (very) short thought to reflect on at each station. Starting at 3pm outside the Tattoo Shop in Watford Road and traveling to the underground station, the library, and Methodist Church and finishing on The Green (by the Artichoke pub) for a carol singalong with mulled wine and mince pies (or warm blackcurrant juice and biscuits).

It will be a great event so come along and bring your friends too.

Feel free to dress 'in character' if you would like to.

The event is suitable for adults and children. Look forward to seeing you there!

Christmas Post Box

The Christmas Post Box (for Croxley Green addresses only!) will be at the back of the Church from Sunday 26th November to Sunday 17th December.

The suggested donation is 30p per card and all proceeds will be donated to Crisis.

As always, please ensure that all cards have the correct name (including surname) and full postal address including post code.

Please note we will not be able to deliver any cards which are not correctly addressed.

If you are able to help with delivering the cards, please use the sign up sheet at the back of the Church.

Ann Palmer



Social & Fundraising Committee Diary

December Events and Services

As usual there are a lot of special services and events taking place in December in the lead up to Christmas.

2nd December : Christmas Concert

The Watford Community Orchestra Christmas Concert at 3pm. Entry is free and will be followed by tea and cake.

3rd December : Advent Service

Advent service at 6pm followed by wine and nibbles.

9th December : Parish Council Christmas Market

We will be having a stall selling mulled wine at the Parish Council Christmas Market from 2.30pm to 6pm. The Market takes place outside the Library by the Christmas tree. This is a lovely community event and we would be really grateful for help to man the stall, even if for only half an hour!

If you are able to help please put your name down on the sign up sheet at the back of the Church or speak to Ann Palmer.

10th December : Christingle Service

The Christingle Service will take place on Sunday 11th December from 4pm. There will be an opportunity for children to make their Christingles in the Hall first. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served followed by a short service in the Church.

17th December : Carol Service

The Carol service will take place at 6pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

7th January : Carols and Christmas Cocktails

After the success of Hymns and Pimm's in the summer, we thought it would be nice to bring the Christmas season to a close with a celebration of favourite Carols followed by Christmas Cocktails at 4pm on Sunday 7th January.

Ann Palmer

The Earthworm's Christmas

It was just before midnight and silent the house.
The cockroach was snoring and so was the mouse.
An earthworm appeared and stood on its tail.
It looked oh so charming in string vest and pink veil.
It spoke rather quietly but rapidly said
‘The Christ child is here, so whip out of bed.
He is here in this house, he is here in our hall,
So come quickly, come quietly, and try not to fall!
For I am a herald, a herald of joy.
I may be a worm, but I herald a boy.
The boy that is born is the gift of God's Son,
For this is the way that God's work will be done.’
The mouse and the cockroach went down to the hall,
They saw a bright light there, there in that hall.
They saw a small person enclosed in a beam,
A beam so brilliant, so piercing, so clean.
As they looked at the bright light the small person rose,
He came to the cockroach, the mouse and the worm;
He said nothing but looked at each one in their turn,
His deep eyes conveying a truth they must learn,
Of a love so forgiving a love that must burn,
Deep in their own hearts was this love they must learn.
The cockroach, the mouse and the worm then arose,
They turned and they knelt to that LOVE so unearned.

Revd. Anne Shaw



Wishing everyone
a very happy
Christmas
from
All Saints'
Monday Toddlers



Some Suggested Reading Material for Advent



Sinclair B Ferguson

Love Came Down at Christmas: A Daily Advent Devotional (Devotions on 1 Corinthians 13 reflecting on Jesus: the source of authentic, divine, transforming love)

Advent devotional on 1 Corinthians 13, reflecting on Jesus—the source of authentic, divine, transforming love. It contains 24 daily readings from 1 Corinthians 13. Sinclair B Ferguson brings the rich theology of the incarnation to life with his trademark

warmth and clarity. We'll see what “love” looked like in the life of Christ and be challenged to love like him.

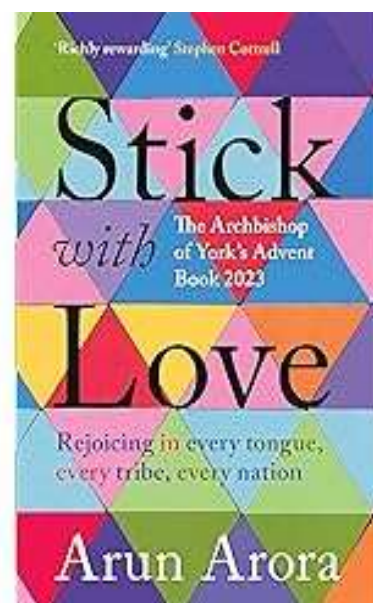
Each day's reading finishes with a question for reflection and a prayer.

Arun Arora

Stick with Love: Rejoicing in Every Tongue, Every Tribe, Every Nation The Archbishop of York's Advent Book 2023

Martin Luther King famously declared that 'I have decided to stick with love... Hate is too great a burden to bear'. In these luminous daily readings, Arun Arora helps us consider the biblical picture of the Church as the people of God, drawn from every tribe, every tongue and every nation.

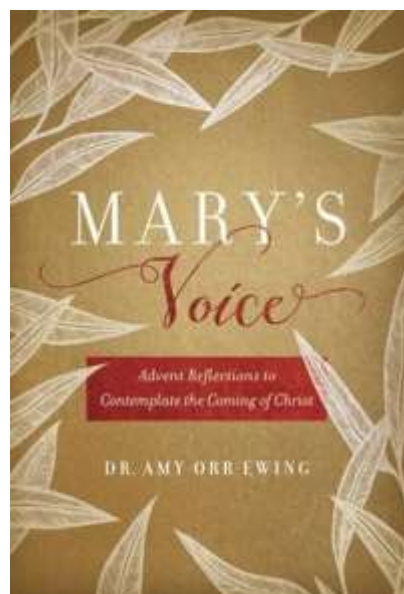
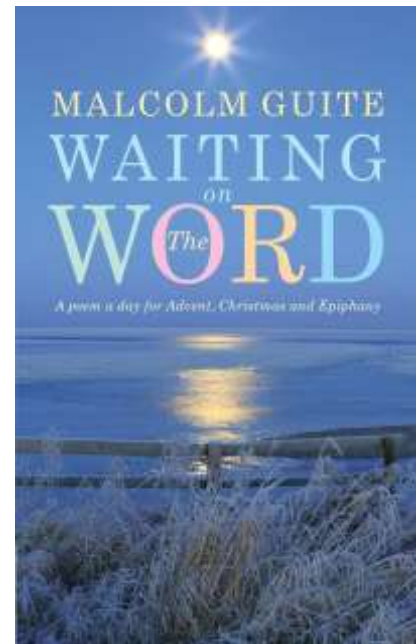
Themes of racial justice, hospitality and welcome are explored alongside the stories of saints from across the globe. Beginning with reflections from Isaiah and Revelation, the meditations lead us on to consider the missionaries, martyrs and mystics who light our Advent way.



Malcolm Guite

Waiting on the Word: A poem a day for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany

Advent is a season of waiting and anticipation in which the waiting itself is strangely rich and fulfilling. Poetry can help us fathom the depths of Advent's many paradoxes: dark and light, emptiness and fulfilment, ancient and ever new. For every day from Advent Sunday to Christmas Day and beyond, the bestselling poet Malcolm Guite chooses a favourite poem from across the Christian spiritual and English literary traditions and offers incisive seasonal reflections on it. In the spirit of the season, he blends the familiar and the new, ranging from spiritual classics such as Edmund Spenser, John Donne, George Herbert and Christina Rossetti, to contemporary voices Luci Shaw and Scott Cairns. His own acclaimed sequence of sonnets for the great Advent antiphons are also included.



Amy Orr-Ewing

Mary's Voice: Advent Reflections to Contemplate the Coming of Christ

At Christmastime we remember that an ordinary, young, poor, oppressed woman was chosen to play a significant and breakthrough role in the redemption of the world. It is no mistake that a woman gets to be a part of all this, and that her voice, her questions, her fears, and her actions matter.

Mary's faith and her wisdom form an astonishing aspect of the story of how God became a person for the love of this world. And in our weary world that is waiting and longing for light, meaning, peace, and love, we can do as Mary did when she "treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart."

Notes from the PCC Meeting : 1st November 2023

Membership

Wendy Shafe was co-opted onto the PCC to fill a vacancy for a lay member. Wendy is also Chair of the Hall Committee.

Hall Refurbishment

The PCC was informed that the planned works had been completed within the available funding. They therefore accepted quotations for additional works to redecorate the entrance hallway with new lighting and replacement of radiators in the hallway and the ladies' toilets. The stage carpeting is in poor condition and is a trip hazard. It was agreed to post a notice that anyone using the stage does so at their own risk. The Hall Committee is investigating possible replacement surfacing.

Beer Festival, 20-22 November

This had been very successful in terms of visitor numbers and a good atmosphere during all three days. Many favourable comments had been received from visitors, with particular praise for the quality of the food supplied by a team led by Wendy Shafe. The Church had made nearly £1,000 profit from food sales, more than £1,400 from Prize Draw ticket sales and received a generous donation of £700 from the organiser, Scott McGarvey of the Anchor, Tap and Bottle. Church members had worked hard, being involved in planning the event, food preparation and serving, staffing the bar, and preparing the Church and re-ordering the Church after the Festival.

Finance Report

Latest figures for October showed deficits of £4,535 on the Church account and £845.70 on the Hall account. Although a year-end deficit of £11,000 was allowed for, it was desirable to seek to reduce this in order to safeguard the parish's financial reserves. The Christmas Market and Prize Draw ticket sales would be crucial for improving the finances for 2023.

Safeguarding

The PCC adopted a safeguarding protocol for signature by all users of Church premises for non-church purposes involving children or vulnerable adults. Hall hirers must either submit their own organisation's safeguarding policy or adhere to All Saints' policy

which requires at least two adults to be present throughout the event. The policy will be reviewed every two years.

Financial Assistance for All Saints' Church, Chedgrave, Norfolk

Following a request made to all churches dedicated to All Saints, the PCC donated £50 to the church at Chedgrave to assist with the costs of repairing and protecting vandalised historic stained glass window panels.

Charities to be supported during 2024

The PCC will decide at its December meeting which four charities to support, using donations for after-service refreshments. If you have any suggestions please talk to Miriam or Fran Bennett, who is drawing up a list.

Sanctuary Carpet

The PCC was informed that the carpet is in a very poor condition. It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of a new carpet of the same colour using money held in the Legacy Fund.

Floor Cleaning

Some minor damage and wear to the Hall flooring is being repaired free of charge by the installer. The PCC is investigating the purchase of a new cleaning machine to clean the Church and the Hall floors without making them too wet.

All-Age Communion Services

The PCC supported Miriam's proposal for an all-age service on Sunday 5th November involving a substantial involvement of young people, including the option of receiving the communion chalice from a young person on a trial basis.

Other Church Matters

The PCC received reports on a further intruder into the Church, without any thefts so far, on the discovery of a glis-glis in the kitchen which had led to the appointment of a pest controller and ingress of water into the boiler room after heavy rainfall. The Church insurance policy might cover an inspection of the drains for tree root damage.

Chris Fagan
PCC Secretary

December Prayer Diary

Date	In our Church Family
1st	Margaret and Dick Paddick
2nd	Paul Siu and Kelly Palmer
3rd	Lyndon and Ann Palmer
4th	Wendy and Peter Rennoldson
5th	Francesca Sams
6th	Cathy Scarborough
7th	Sarah and Cameron Selleck
8th	Wendy Shafe
9th	Revd. Anne and Don Shaw
10th	Dorothy Sims
11th	Anthony and Mary Smith
12th	Marjorie and Tommy Stevenson
13th	Alice Tims
14th	Lilian and Jenson Tsang
15th	Vicky, Katherine, William and James Vandy

16th	Derek Wakefield
17th	Katie, Martin and Scott Wakefield
18th	Mary Wong
19th	Michael Adam
20th	Shirley Barnes
21st	Jane Bates
22nd	Sam Beard
23rd	Nik and Fran Bennett
24th	Mary Bittles
25th	Shelagh and Tony Booth
26th	Rae Bowyer
27th	Ben, Michelle, Sanna and Sophie Brogden
28th	Kelly Buckle
29th	Alick and Hazel Burge
30th	Carole Chesterfield
31st	Brian and Jennifer Clemow



12th November

Remembrance Sunday

During the morning service, the children made poppy wreaths out of paper and laid them on the Memorial at the back of Church during the Act of Remembrance at the end of the service.

There was a Civic Service in the Church at 2.30pm after which a procession made its way up The Green to the War Memorial where wreaths were laid during a short service.





Service of Remembrance for those who have died 14th November

This was a wonderful service with over 100 people attending. Flower arrangements were created as part of the service as each person in the congregation was invited to add a rose to remember their loved ones. Candles were also lit and will be used again over the Christmas season.

Most of those attending stayed on for refreshments afterwards and there were many comments on how lovely the cakes were. It is a very special ministry we collectively offer at this service and in conversation afterwards for those who have been bereaved. It is a ministry provided not only by the clergy but by all of you who helped in any way or took time to chat to people afterwards. Thank you to Fran for organising the refreshments and to everyone who baked cakes and helped set up, serve and clear away afterwards.

Do you enjoy singing at Christmas ?

Christmas is such a special time and Christmas Carols are a wonderful way of telling the Christmas Story.

The choir will also be singing some additional carols at the Carol Service at 6pm on 17th December.

We would love to have some extra voices, and we welcome you to come and learn these with us.

Our practices will be on *Monday 4th December and Wednesday 13th December - come to either or both!*

We start at 7pm, but if that is too early for you, come along as soon as you can.

Please speak to Sam Beard or Anne Oke if you have any queries.

Eleventh Hour Gig



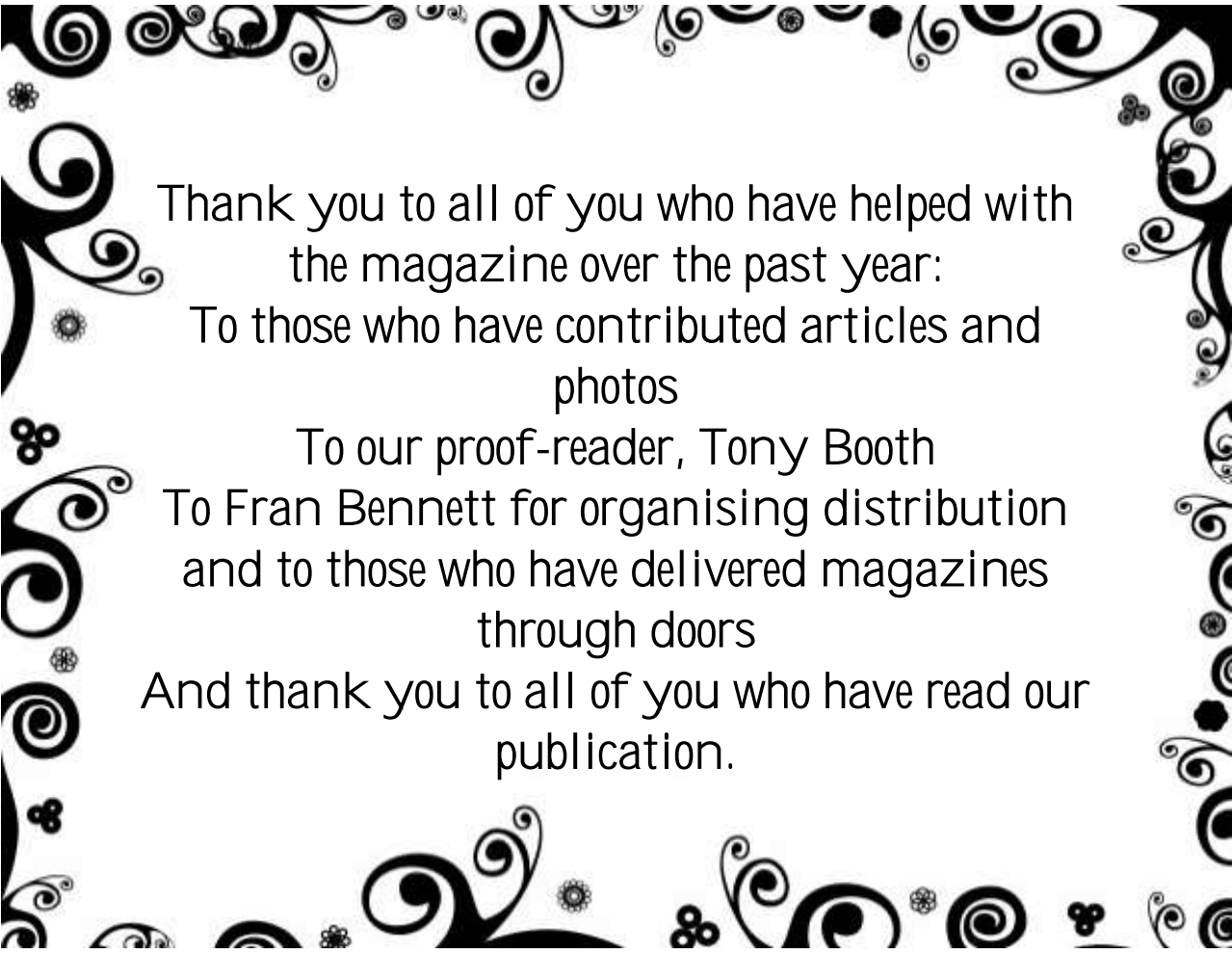
Local band, Eleventh Hour, played to a packed audience in the Church Hall on Saturday 11th November. Music from the 60s, 70s, 80s and beyond rang out as people sang along to their favourite tunes or just soaked up the amazing atmosphere that is created by live music.

Curry was served at the start of the evening and then the band played until it was time for ice-creams and for the Raffle to be drawn. A big thank you to everybody who generously donated a prize.



Thank you to Steve Martin who offered to organise this event to raise money towards the Hall Refurbishment Fund. Not only was it enjoyed by everybody there, it also raised an amazing £1816 towards further work in the Hall entrance lobby.





Thank you to all of you who have helped with
the magazine over the past year:
To those who have contributed articles and
photos
To our proof-reader, Tony Booth
To Fran Bennett for organising distribution
and to those who have delivered magazines
through doors
And thank you to all of you who have read our
publication.

Smile Lines *from Parish Pump*

Church rules

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel sat together for the Christmas concert in church. Joel kept giggling and whispering until his big sister had had enough. “Be quiet in church!” “Why?” Joel demanded. “Who is going to make me?” Angie pointed to the back of the church and said: “See those two big men standing at the door? They’re hushers.”

Mother in a storm

One cold winter night, during a violent storm, a mother was tucking her small, frightened little boy into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he said with a tremor in his voice: “Mummy, will you stay with me tonight?” Mummy smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. “I can’t, dear,” she said, “I have to sleep with Daddy.” A long silence – and then came his shaky reply: “The big coward!”

Christmas Market Saturday 18th November

The weather did not dampen the Christmas spirit at this year's Christmas Market. Although it was raining and windy, the gazebos were erected and weighted down and the show went ahead as usual.



The Church and Hall were filled with stalls selling beautifully crafted goods, home-made cakes and the usual popular tombolas.

The Committee Room was set up with activities for our younger visitors for when shopping became too much.

Refreshments were available in the Church and the ever-popular mulled wine was served by the Church door. Festive fare was available from the kitchen which was kept very busy as you can see.





The market was buzzing all day as customers came to buy and enjoy a catch-up with friends. Father Christmas and an Elf popped in to see us too!

There was also live entertainment in Church throughout the day. Thank you to 'Night Train' and George Ritchie. Thank you also to the children from Centre Stars who came and sang for us. This all added to the wonderful atmosphere of the Market.



A huge thank you to everybody who helped to make the Market possible: for donating prizes, baking cakes, setting up, clearing away, serving on the stalls, serving refreshments, working in the kitchen and all the planning beforehand...and, of course, thank you for coming along to buy. We raised a fantastic £6,620.



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Beer Festival Update

The finances of the Beer Festival have now been finalised. Anchor, Tap and Bottle have made a donation of £700 and we are pleased to announce that Church made over £3,000 over the weekend. The breakdown is as follows:



Food	993.93
Prize draw	1,432.45
Donations (collections)	88.17
ATB donation	700.00
Less: other Church costs	(172.85)
	£ 3,041.70

Friday Cafe Remembrance Collection



The money collected at Friday Cafe on Friday 10th November was donated to the Royal British Legion. This collection was separate from the money being collected in the box.



All Saints' Church
CHURCH

You are warmly invited to join us for...

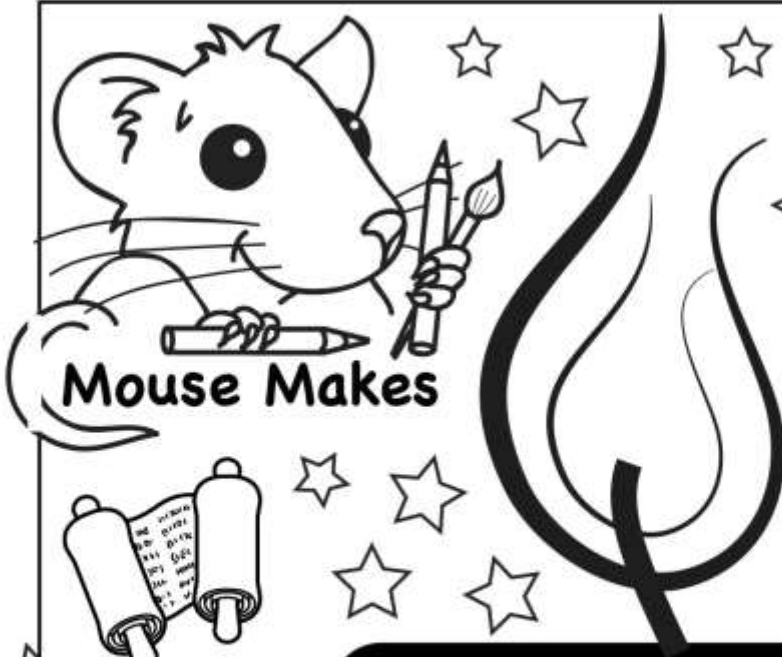
Afternoon Tea

on Thursday
21st December at 2.00pm in
the Church Hall



Do join us for a catch-up and Carol singing

Please contact Jude in the Parish Office (mornings only Tuesday-Friday)
in person or call 01923 772109 to let her know that you will be coming.



Mouse Makes



GOD'S PROMISE

Isaiah 9:6-7

CHILD • BORN • SON
GIVEN • WONDERFUL
COUNCELLOR
MIGHTY • GOD
EVERLASTING
FATHER • PRINCE
PEACE • LORD



AN ANGEL MESSENGER

Luke 1:26-38

ANGEL • GABRIEL
JOSEPH • MARY
FAVOUR • SON
JESUS • GREAT
THRONE • REIGN
FOREVER • HOLY
SERVANT • WORD

ADVENT
comes from
the Latin
'AD VENTO'
which means
ARRIVAL

In Advent we
celebrate Jesus' birth
and look forward to
the time when Jesus
will come again.



A LONG JOURNEY

Luke 2:1-20

BETHLEHEM
REGISTER • BIRTH
MANGER • INN
SHEPHERDS • FLOCK
ANGELS • JOY
GOOD NEWS • PRAISE
SAVIOUR • CHRIST



THE BEST GIFT OF ALL

John 3:16

GOD • SO • LOVED
WORLD • HE • GAVE
ONLY • SON
WHOEVER • BELIEVES
ETERNAL • LIFE

V	R	P	R	I	N	C	E	L	R	O	D
W	O	R	D	C	F	A	T	H	E	R	E
J	A	G	M	A	N	G	E	R	G	E	B
O	W	H	O	E	V	E	R	W	I	I	J
S	J	O	Y	B	O	R	N	O	S	G	E
E	S	L	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	N	S
P	P	Y	J	C	H	I	L	D	E	P	U
H	R	O	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S
F	A	V	O	U	R	E	F	R	W	S	O
B	I	R	T	H	S	W	O	F	O	D	L
I	S	A	V	I	O	U	R	U	R	L	O
F	E	C	O	U	N	C	E	L	L	O	R
A	N	G	E	L	B	J	V	K	D	V	D
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I	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	T	D	S	M
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S	A	E	G	R	E	A	T	O	N	L	Y
O	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	N	J	O
N	E	O	G	O	O	D	N	E	W	S	N
F	L	O	C	K	M	I	G	H	T	Y	B

Smile Lines for Christmas

from Parish Pump

Stronger

Statistics prove we're all getting stronger. Fifty years ago, you needed an estate car to hold £50 worth of Christmas presents. Twenty-five years ago, it took two people to carry £30 worth of Christmas groceries - now a five-year-old can do it.

Runs over

A father gave his daughter a young puppy for Christmas. An hour later, he found her in the kitchen, looking sadly at a puddle in the centre of the floor. "Look Dad," she said, "My pup runneth over!"

What would you like for Christmas?

A little girl went to visit Father Christmas in the local garden centre grotto. He welcomed her with a smile and the question of what she would like for Christmas.

The little girl gasped and stared up at him in horror. "Didn't you get my email?!"

What do you get Dad?

December is the month when the family begins to discuss what to get Dad for Christmas. Some argue for a shirt; others hold out for a pair of socks. But the argument usually ends in a tie.

Christmas gifts

Grandfather was talking to his granddaughter, "When I was a child all we got for Christmas was an apple and an orange."

The little girl clapped her hands in joy. "Brilliant! I'd love a new computer and a mobile!"

Father Christmas

Of course, I had expected that by the age of seven it was inevitable that my son would begin to have serious thoughts about Father Christmas. Sure enough, one day near Christmas he suddenly said: "Mum, I know something about Father Christmas, the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy." Taking a deep breath, I asked him what that might be. "Easy," he said, "They are all nocturnal."

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Rainbow Cottage Catering

Do you need catering for a party?

Hot or cold meals prepared for you for any occasion including birthdays, Christenings, weddings, funerals, afternoon tea or just a 'get together'

Great food, good prices, friendly service!

...and Cakes too !

Large and small cakes for all occasions,
including gluten-free or dairy-free.

Also a wide range of homemade jams, chutneys and other preserves.

Call Janet Martin on 01923 774514

for more details

The Everlasting Turkey

On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me
I've bought a big fresh turkey and a proper Christmas tree.

On the second day of Christmas much laughter could be heard
As we tucked into our turkey – a most delicious bird.

On the third day of Christmas people came from just next door,
The turkey tasted just as good as it had done before.

On the fourth day of Christmas came relations young and old
We finished up the Christmas pud and had the turkey cold.

On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snowflakes scurried,
But we were nice and warm inside, and had the turkey curried.

On the sixth day of Christmas, the Christmas spirit died.
The children fought and bickered – we had the turkey rissoles fried.

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love he did wince
When he sat down at table - and was offered turkey mince.

On the eighth day of Christmas, the dog had run for shelter,
For he'd seen our turkey pancakes and the glass of alka-seltzer.

On the ninth day of Christmas, by lunchtime dad was blotto,
He knew that bird was back again, this time as a risotto.

On the tenth day of Christmas we were drinking home-made brew,
Anything to help us face that steaming turkey stew.

On the eleventh day of Christmas our lovely tree was moulting,
And with chilli, soy and oyster sauce, the turkey was revolting.

On the twelfth day of Christmas we had smiles back on our lips,
The guests had gone, the turkey too – WE DINED ON FISH AND
CHIPS.

From Parish Pump



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Croxley Parish Nurse
Ruth Owusu-Ansah
Registered Mental Health Nurse
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Could a Personal Assistant make life a little easier?



Hub Care Support is an introductory service (we are not an agency)!

We help you find the best care and support by introducing you to high quality, fully vetted QCAS approved Personal Assistants.

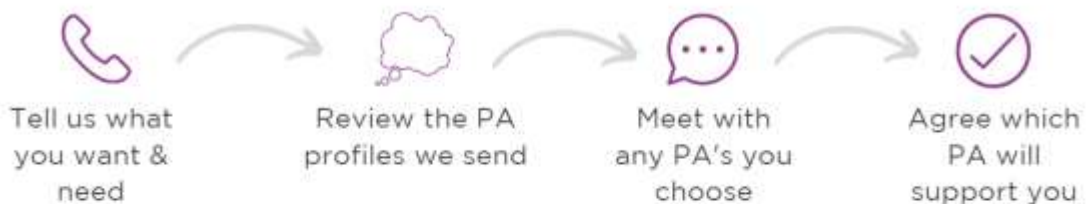
With total control over the support you receive, you choose your PA and what support they provide.



Hub Personal Assistants can help with:

- Domestic tasks
- Meal preparation
- Personal care
- Social support / companionship
- Shopping
- Respite
- Live-in care
- Assistance to appointments

Your Care | Your Choice | Your Hub



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www.hubcaresupport.co.uk

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This month's cover is a design *from Parish Pump*

Acknowledgement

Unless otherwise stated, pictures are taken from Parish Pump or else they are produced by members of the magazine team.

We encourage articles from a wide range of contributors and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors.



The Magazine Team
would like to wish you all a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New 2024

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The
Croxley Mummers
present
St George and the Dragon

Traditional Christmas entertainment for all the family

Sunday
24th December
2023



11.00 All Saints Church
12.00 Dickinson Square
12.45 The Red House
1.45 The Sportsman
2.15 The Artichoke
3.00 Guild of Sport



All Proceeds to
The Watford Peace Hospice



The Croxley Mummers