



On Stream

**The Magazine of
the Trent and Derwent Churches**

www.trentderwentparishes.org



A packed congregation for Elvaston's Carol Service last month
More pictures on pages 10 and 11

January 2024

£1.30p

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For Weddings and Baptisms in any of our churches Please contact Rev'd. Tony Luke

Prayer Diary

For your prayers in January

Aston The residents of Chellaston Lane, Holden Avenue and Compton Avenue. Also the Aston Community Choir.

Barrow The residents of Beaumont Close and Chapel Lane.

Elvaston The residents of Yew Tree Close, Thulston.

Shardlow The residents of London Road, Netherfields Lane and Cheal Close.

Swarkestone The residents of Church Lane.

Twyford The residents of Twyford.

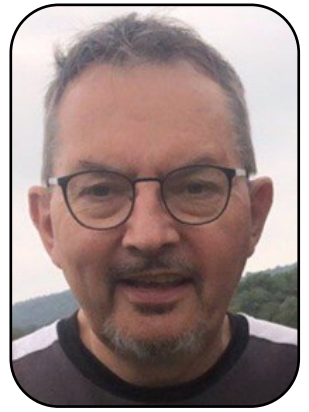
Weston The residents of Main Street and Weston Court.

The Community The mentally disabled.

The Diocese The Bishops of Derby and Repton.

The Worldwide Church The Provinces of New Zealand, Polynesia, Australia and Bangladesh.

Tony writes:



Dear friends,

Celebrating Epiphany is a great way to begin a New Year, because the story of Epiphany is about people going on a journey to see Jesus, which is a great metaphor for all people of faith. We are all on a journey. Life is a journey. In fact, we are on this journey together to find Jesus, and to worship him.

The Bible offers us many important journey stories, from Abraham being told to go to the land that God will show him to the Israelites traveling through the wilderness on their way to the promised land. Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem before the birth of their son. Life really is a journey, and we are on this journey together, like the Magi before us, to find and worship the Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. So, with that in mind, what can we learn from the Magi that will help us on our journey? Let's take a "journey" through this Epiphany story to see what we can learn from these wise men, who travelled to find the newborn king.

Jerusalem

The story begins by telling us that the magi came to Jerusalem, looking for the child who had been born King of the Jews. They begin this journey by going to the wrong place. Jerusalem is the logical place, for where else would the king of the Jews be born? However, it is actually the wrong place.

Even at his birth, Jesus is showing us that he will be a very different kind of king and he is going to be full of surprises. We therefore should expect surprises along the way. As we think of our journey through this life, it is worth remembering that the magi needed more than a star to lead them to Jesus. Wise men still seek him, but they cannot find him with wisdom alone. The stars alone will not lead you to Jesus, no matter how knowledgeable you are. The magi needed God's Word to find the newborn king and they needed the chief priests and scribes, people who knew God's Word, to help them. So do we. If we want to find the Christ child, we need God's Word and we need each other. It's true that the magi are first led by a star. I love that, because it teaches us that God starts with people where they are. The magi were people who studied the stars, so God sent them a new star. I believe that God can use almost any event in life, good or bad, to get us launched on our way, in search of our Saviour. Why not a star?

They Kneel Down and Paid Him Homage

The Magi leave Jerusalem and follow the star once again to Bethlehem, where they find Jesus with his mother Mary. Immediately they kneel down and pay him homage. They have come all this way for one reason, and one reason only, to worship the newborn King of the Jews. They didn't come with any kind of agenda. They weren't looking for the answer to the meaning of life or anything like that. They weren't trying to get in the king's good books early in his reign. They simply came to pay homage to him and to offer him gifts. It's a beautiful description of worship, when you think about it. We come without any kind of agenda. We come simply to worship Jesus, and to offer him gifts.

They Left for Their Own Country by Another Road

When the magi leave Bethlehem, we read that they return home by a different road. They were warned in a dream not to return to Herod and for this reason they leave for their own country by another road. I don't know how much trouble it caused them to leave by another road. When we try that without the benefit of a sat-nav, we usually get lost!

The magi returned home by another road, because they were warned not to return to Herod. However, I think that their returning home by another road also has a symbolic significance. The magi, after all, are forever changed by their encounter with the Christ child. They will never be the same. As T.S. Eliot writes in his poem "The Journey of the Magi": (*see next page*)

"Were we led all that way for Birth or Death?

There was a Birth, certainly, We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death, But had thought they were different; this Birth was Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death, We returned to our places, these Kingdoms, But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation, With an alien people clutching their gods. I should be glad of another death. "

They return home different people, and so it is only fitting that they go by another road.

What about us? When we encounter Christ, are our lives not forever changed? Surely, when we first encounter Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism, our lives are forever changed. Young or old, we go home with a whole new identity and mission, for we are now children of God, citizens of another kingdom and our journey will forever take us by another road. Perhaps, every time we come to church we are changed too. Our sins are forgiven, our souls are nurtured with the word and sacrament, our priorities are re-arranged. We are changed whenever we spend time in God's presence, just as the magi were changed when they encountered the Christ child.

A New Year lies before us and what a blessing it is to begin this new year together. If we're honest, none of us knows what this year holds for us or for our world. We don't have to know. We know that wherever this year takes us, Jesus will be with us on the way. We have found him. We have worshiped him. Now we travel on our way by new and unexpected roads, but always with our Emmanuel alongside us. God is with us on the journey.

Happy New Year to you all.



A Message from Rev John Lear

A SINCERE "THANK YOU"

May I take this opportunity to "THANK YOU ALL" for your support, love and prayers over the last twenty years as I have led worship in the seven churches of the Benefice. I have counted it a privilege to proclaim The Gospel and to share the Sacrament. "Thank You", too, for your kind gift which I have already enjoyed reading.

My last service was quite an emotional experience, but I know that I have made the right decision. After nearly sixty years as a preacher, I can now relax as I sit in the pew each Sunday!

With every blessing,

John

Benefice News

If you would like to receive a copy of the magazine by email rather than in a hard copy please contact me on the email address below and I will send you one. (There is no charge for this, but a donation to your local church would be appreciated)

Please inform me of any detail changes for contacts that are listed on pages 16 and 17

All material for the **February 2024** edition of the magazine to be sent to Joe Nutman at jnutman@btinternet.com by **January 20** please.

On Line Services We are continuing to record services in advance and post them on-line on both the Aston and the Benefice websites. You just need to go to the page entitled "Online worship and prayer." They are also be made available via the Facebook groups and, if you let me know you would like to receive it, a link can be sent to your email address too.

Facebook. Growing numbers of people are now joining our Public Groups on Facebook for All Saints' (172 members) and for the Trent and Derwent Benefice (84 members). Swarkestone (216 followers), Barrow (423 followers) and the Friends of St.Mary's, Weston (119 followers) also have their own Facebook pages. They are a very convenient way of keeping in touch and of letting everyone know what is happening around the Benefice. If you are not on Facebook or are unfamiliar with or are not used to social media, do contact Tony for advice, if you would like to be able to access the church Facebook groups.

BENEFICE 200 CLUB

The winning numbers for the December draw were: 1st - 186 (Weston), 2nd – 57 (Aston), 3rd – 10 (Aston).

The next draw will be on 3rd January 2024 at Cameo.

From the Registers

Elvaston

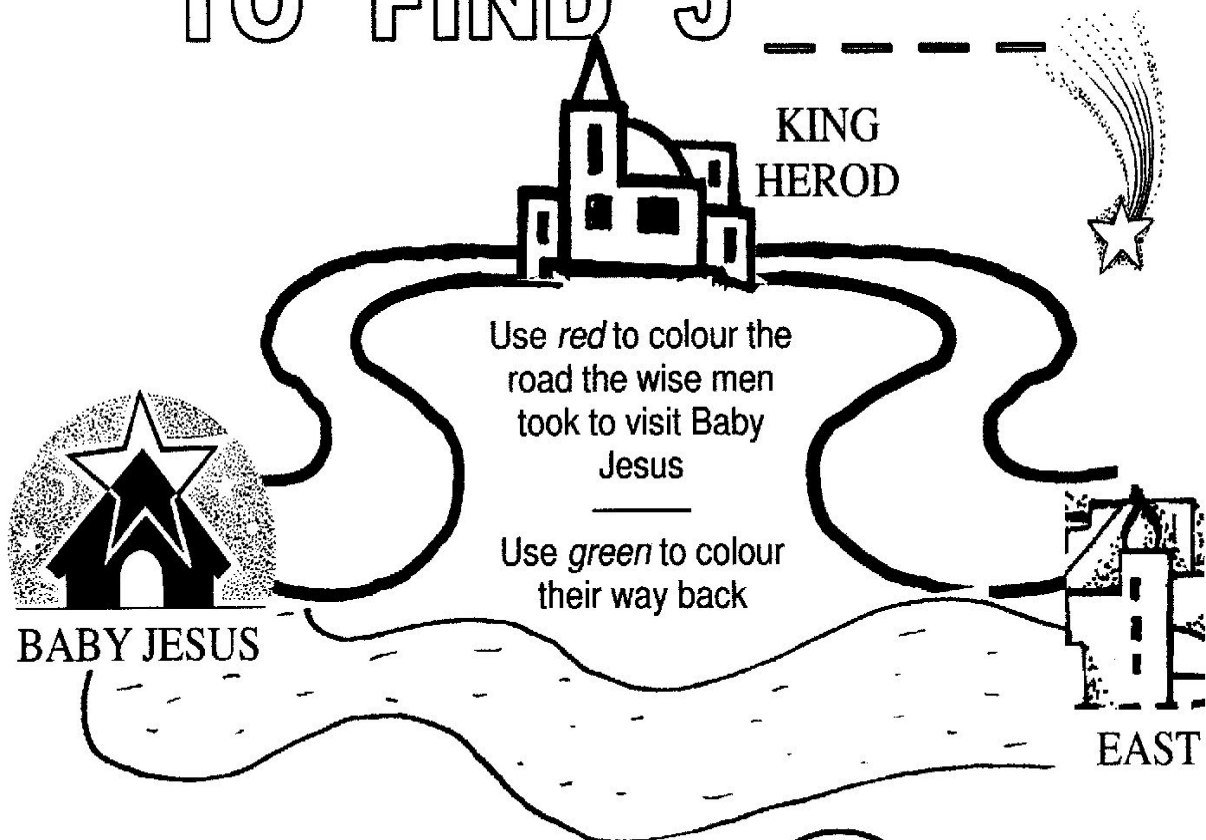
Funeral:

21st December – John Katinas (67 yrs)

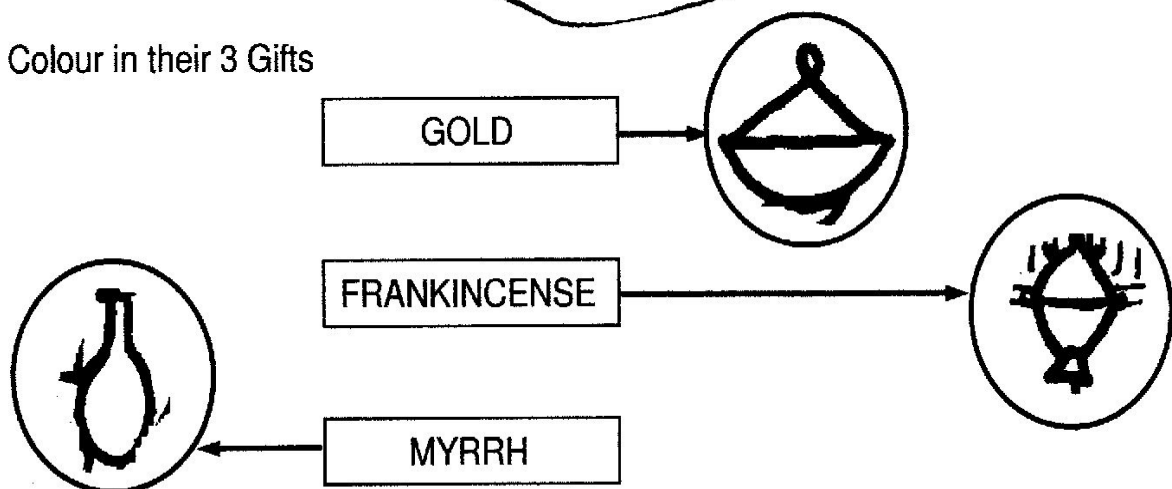


CHILDREN'S PAGE

THE WISE MEN
FOLLOWED THE S _ _ _
TO FIND J _ _ _ _



Colour in their 3 Gifts





Thank you to everyone, who worked so hard to ensure that Christmas at All Saints' was as memorable as always. Special thanks to the Social Group and the Nurture Group for the Coffee and Crafts morning and for rehearsing the children for the Nativity. Thanks also to those who cleaned and decorated the church during the festive season.

Wednesday Hub group meetings in January will be as follows:

3rd January from 10.00 am: Open Café – Social.

10th January at 10.30 am: Open Book – Bible Exploration.

17th January from 10.00 am: Open Café – Social.

24th January at 10.30 am: Open Book – Bible Exploration.

Aston Community Choir meets on Monday evenings at 7.00 pm in the Heritage Centre.

The Bellringers meet on Monday evenings at 8.00 pm.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 3rd January – 7.30 pm CAMEO meeting
Thursday 25th January at 2.30 pm MU meeting
Monday 5th February – 7.30 pm PCC Meeting.

We are pleased to report that our Christmas Coffee morning on 9th December raised the wonderful total of £641.65. Thank you to everyone who donated hamper items, gifts for the Gift Bags and cakes. Despite the very wet weather we had a good turn out so thank you to everyone who attended, it was a very enjoyable morning.
Thanks again, The Social Group.

The Derwent Singers Christmas Concert was a great success again this year with approximately 100 people present to see and hear the choir. There was plenty of opportunity for joining in too!



“Books in the Belfry” – the All Saints’ Community Library is open for everyone in Aston to use free of charge. We are grateful for gifts of books, but we would prefer not to receive non-fiction books.

Keep up with news by joining the All Saints’, Aston on Trent public group on Facebook.
Or visit our website: www.astonontrentchurch.org

Aston on Trent Women's Institute.

Happy New Year!

We had a busy 2023, not only with activities but also raising funds for our Charity, "Derby Women's Centre". Thank you to everyone that has supported the events over the year thus enabling us to hand over a cheque of over £1000 at either the January or February meeting.

We start fundraising again in 2024, with our first Coffee and Chat event in February, date to be confirmed. The new charity will be voted for by our members very soon.

2024 marks 95 years of WI in Aston on Trent, so there will be lots of celebrating and fundraising, see below for details - with more to follow. It's a perfect year to join your local WI.

We meet at the Memorial Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM. New members and guests are always welcome and it's free for your first 3 meetings. Our members Craft and Dabble meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the month in the Heritage Centre.

Dates for your diary: -

Tuesday 30th January 2024: Fish & Chip supper and kurling, members social event. The War Memorial Hall.

Tuesday February TBA 10:30-12:00: Coffee & Chat in the Heritage Centre

Saturday 2nd March 12:00-2pm: Soup & Pud Lunch in The War Memorial Hall.

Aston and Weston Mother's Union

It was very special to have Tony to lead our December meeting because we knew it would be his last Christmas in Aston. He chose some favourite carols with a short meditation, and he read two Russian Folk tales, one about Baboushka, always looking for Jesus, and one by Leo Tolstoy about Papa Panov a shoemaker, both with the message that we must be ready to notice Jesus and invite him into our lives.

Admission Service.

After another carol came a very important part of the afternoon.

Mothers' Union is a worldwide organisation with over four million members who support families worldwide. It was a pleasure to welcome a new member. Mary read out the Aims and Objects of the Mothers' Union, then Tony welcomed and admitted Janet Ryles to membership of the MU. The whole group stood and reaffirmed their membership promises together with Tony, and welcomed her as a member of our Branch.

The first meeting of the New Year will be on Thursday 25th January 2024 when Rev. Paul Hygate will be the speaker. There will be a short AGM at the beginning. Meetings take place in All Saints' Heritage Centre at 2.30pm on the 4th Thursday in the month and everyone is always welcome.

DONATIONS FOR THE PADLEY CENTRE

A big thank you to all the folk who have made donations in the box at the back of the church for the Padley Centre. This was originally for harvest gifts but has continued to attract donations. I have taken three lots and they are extremely grateful, and ask me to pass on their best wishes for the New Year. It's a very pleasant job delivering your gifts as the helpers there are such a pleasant band of people looking after some very unfortunate customers. Thank you again. Mike Edge



A Happy and Peaceful New Year from all at St. Wilfrid's

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE (by bus)

Below is an extract from the Trent Motor Traction Co. Ltd. Timetable for All Routes.

This will look very familiar.....but can you guess which year it was published?

Some Clues:

In those days, Trent buses carried parcels as well as passengers. Most villages served by the bus routes had local Parcel Agents. These included :

Aston on Trent: Mr. Berresford – Grocer

Weston on Trent: Mr. Hunt
– Grocer

Shardlow (Derby end): Mr.
Ward – Sweet Shop

Shardlow (Canal end): Mrs.
Hutchinson – General
Stores

Swarkestone: Crewe and
Harpur Inn

Melbourne: Mr. Brookes –
Newsagent (The timetable
also noted that Melbourne
had Saturday as its Market
Day and Thursday as Early
Closing Day. Derby's were
Friday and Wednesday re-
spectively)

Parcels could also be left at
the Cloakroom Facilities for
Luggage and Parcels at the
Trent Offices of the towns
served by Trent buses : Fee
– 4d per parcel.

The All Routes Timetable
(208 pages plus full routes
map) cost 6d.

Service No. 40 DERBY AND WESTON-ON-TRENT, via Aston													
MONDAY TO SATURDAY.													
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	n.	p.m.			p.m.	p.m.
DERBY (Bus Station).....	6 20	7 35	8 45	9 35	10 35	11 35	12 0	12 35			And every hour until	4 35	5 40
Derby (Midland Station)	6 22	7 37	8 47	9 37	10 37	11 37	12 2	12 37				4 37	5 42
Alvaston (Coronation Avenue).....	6 35	7 50	9 0	9 50	10 50	11 50	12 15	12 50				4 50	5 55
Thulston Lane End.....	6 40	7 55	9 5	9 55	10 55	11 55	12 20	12 55				4 55	6 0
Aston (White Hart).....	6 45	8 0	10 10	10 11	11 0	12 0	12 25	1 0				5 0	6 5
WESTON (Co-op. Stores).....	6 50	8 5	10 15	10 5	11 5	12 5	12 30	1 5				5 5	6 10
MONDAY TO SATURDAY—cont.													
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.				p.m.	p.m.
WESTON (Co-op. Stores).....	7 0	8 10	9 25	10 25	11 25	12 25	12 45	1 25			And every hour until	5 25	6 30
Aston (White Hart).....	7 5	8 15	9 30	10 30	11 30	12 30	12 50	1 30				5 30	6 35
Thulston Lane End.....	7 10	8 20	9 35	10 35	11 35	12 35	12 55	1 35				5 35	6 40
Alvaston (Coronation Avenue).....	7 15	8 25	9 40	10 40	11 40	12 40	1 0	1 40				5 40	6 45
Derby (Midland Station)	7 20	8 30	9 45	10 45	11 45	12 45	1 10	1 50				5 50	6 55
DERBY (Bus Station).....	7 30	8 40	9 55	10 55	11 55	12 55	1 15	1 55				5 55	7 0
SUNDAY.													
	NS	D	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.				p.m.	p.m.
DERBY (Bus Station)	6 5	6 5	35	7 35	8 35	9 35	10 45	11 35			And every hour until	9 35	10 40
Derby (Midland Station)	6 10	6 10	37	7 37	8 37	9 37	10 47	11 37				9 37	10 42
Alvaston (Coronation Avenue).....	6 20	6 20	50	7 50	8 50	9 50	11 0	12 0				9 50	10 55
Thulston Lane End.....	6 24	6 24	55	7 55	8 55	9 55	11 5	12 5				10 0	11 0
Aston (White Hart).....	6 28	6 28	0	8 0	9 0	10 0	11 10	12 0				10 5	11 10
WESTON (Co-op. Stores).....	—	7 5	8 5	9 5	10 5	11 5	12 10	1 5				10 5	11 10
C—Runs to and from Weston Camp.													
	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.		a.m.	p.m.				p.m.	p.m.
WESTON (Co-op. Stores).....	7 25	8 25	9 5	10 5	11 20		10 15	1 25			And every hour until	9 25	10 30
Aston (White Hart)	7 30	8 30	9 10	10 10	11 25		10 20	1 30				9 30	10 35
Thulston Lane End.....	7 35	8 35	9 15	10 15	11 30		10 25	1 35				9 35	10 40
Alvaston (Coronation Avenue).....	7 40	8 40	9 20	10 20	11 35		10 30	1 40				9 40	10 45
Derby (Midland Station)	7 53	8 53	9 33	10 33	11 48		10 43	1 53				9 53	10 58
DERBY (Bus Station)	7 55	8 55	9 35	10 35	11 50		10 45	1 55				9 55	11 0
D—This bus operates under Service No. 34, Derby—Castle Donington.													
The last picking up point on inward journeys to Derby and the first setting down point on outward journeys from Derby is Nunsfield Drive, Alvaston.													
FOR LIST OF SYMBOLS SEE INSIDE FRONT COVER.													
For Additional Buses between Derby and Aston Lane End, see Service No. 34.													



Prayers

We remember all who are sick or troubled at this time, especially we pray for Iris Campbell, Terry Marshall, Jack Smith and Karen Walters.

Services

For January services please see Shardlow page.

Christmas tree festival

We would like to thank all those who visited our Christmas tree festival held on the first weekend in December, particularly those who did not let a blanket of snow put them off on the Sunday! To those community groups, businesses and individuals who have exhibited trees each year since our festival began, our heartfelt appreciation for your amazing creativity and continued support. To those who submitted a tree for the first time, it was lovely to meet you, and we hope to see you all again next year. To our volunteers, thanks, as always, for your invaluable help.

Carol Service

It was lovely to see our church full to overflowing at the Carol service held on December 17th, we had people sitting in the choir stalls and had to put extra chairs out at the back! Our thanks go to the Safeguarding choir who sang their two carols beautifully and got us all joining in on the second one, and to Tony for his lovely solo carols. The children who came to the front to sing Away in a Manger are surely choristers of the future! Most people stayed for refreshments and a chat afterwards - thank you all for coming and making it such a joyous occasion.

PCC meeting

There will be a PCC meeting on Wednesday January 10th at 7pm.

St Bartholomew's Facebook page

Our Facebook page has up to date information on church services and all other events.





Shardlow

PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers, Molly Keogh, Sarah Simpson, Mavis Foster, Christine and John Wharton, Iris Campbell and Brodie Price.

SERVICES

Sunday 7th January 10-30am Morning Prayer with Bruce

Sunday 21st January 9-00am Holy Communion with Tony

PCC

There will be a meeting of Shardlow PCC on Monday 15th January at 10-30am in the Hayward Room.

Many thanks to Bruce for taking our Carol Service and Christmas Day Communion.

Although not many people attended the Carol Service it was a lovely occasion and the choir sang the New Zealand Carol 'The Star Child'. After the Carol Service ten of the congregation enjoyed lunch together at 'The Shakespeare'.

It was nice to welcome some visitors to the Christmas Morning Communion. Some from Felixtowe, and Steve and Susan who were married at St. James' in 2005, along with their son and daughter. Thanks to Jack and Steve's son for doing Christmas readings.

A big thank you to Evadne for working so hard in decorating the church so beautifully for Christmas.

COFFEE MORNING

The next Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 27th January from 10-00am to 11-30am. Everyone very welcome to come along for a chat and to renew your books and jigsaws.

The PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard all year especially in keeping the churchyard tidy.

A VERY HAPPY, PEACEFUL AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE.

Shardlow's Christmas Coffee morning took place towards the end of November. As usual a good time was had by all! Pictures show the event and Sophie, Jane William's grand daughter who always comes along to help. Also included some pics of the church at Christmas



Swarkestone

Next service – [Sunday 14th January – 10.30 am](#)

Minister:- Paul

Readers:- Dominic Clarke & Susan Smith

Church Cleaning:- Pauline Sims, Pat Taylor & Ann Worrall

Welcomers/Sidespersons:- Emma & Dominic Clarke



Christmas Services

It was wonderful to welcome so many to our Christmas services. A willing team of volunteers made the church look stunning once again, with greenery donated by Swarkestone Nurseries and Christmas tree by Tricia Longson. Nick Osborne braved the tower to position the shining Advent Star. We hope you managed to join us to see how fabulous everything looked. Our Carol Service was a triumph, with Melbourne Town Band inspiring us with their marvellous music. Thank you to everyone involved for making a huge success of the Christmas season in Swarkestone.



Swarkestone PCC

Ted Lawrence has loyally served as our PCC secretary for many years and at our last PCC meeting he told us that he had decided it was time to pass on the baton to a new secretary. We are immensely grateful to Ted for his knowledgeable and tireless service and commitment to the PCC. Ted will be continuing as a valuable member of the PCC so we wish him well and look forward to seeing him at future meetings.

This does mean that we now have a vacancy for PCC Secretary. We only meet four times per year and this volunteer position includes attending meetings, taking minutes, handling correspondence and working with other PCC members to ensure the smooth running of the parish. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact any of the Swarkestone contacts listed at the back of the magazine or speak to Tony or Paul.

If you want to keep up with our news more regularly, please look for and like our Facebook page – you'll find photos and snippets about happenings at St James' and Swarkestone are added most weeks. <https://www.facebook.com/StJamesChurchSwarkestone>

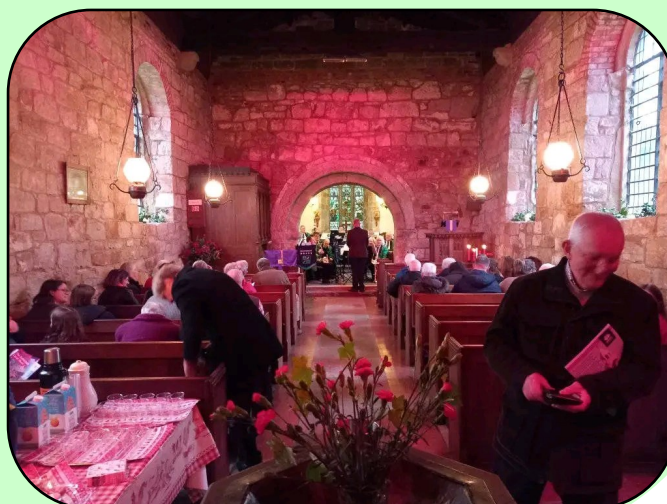
Twyford

Services: Please see the back of the magazine

Flowers: Mrs J Jackson and Mr P Woodward



After uncertainty of whether the Carol Service could go ahead due to the flooding of the previous two weeks, St. Andrew's were fortunate that the access road to the Church was clear on Sunday, 17th December. The Newmount Brass Band arrived at about 2.30pm and the service started at 3.00pm, led by Rev'd Paul Hygate. The Church was full and the music amazing. Singing carols in the fading light to such wonderful music was quite atmospheric. A glass of mulled wine and a mince pie finished the afternoon off with a flourish and so a lovely beginning for Christmas celebrations 2023 was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the Newmount Brass Band for giving us such a special and memorable Carol Service.



May we wish everyone a happy and peaceful
New Year.



St Mary the Virgin.

Weston on Trent



Left: The school's carol concert showing Mr Hibbert, the headteacher at his first such event and behind, Tony, at his last Christmas in Weston.

Below: The band of cleaners, making sure everything was ready for the carol service which was packed!



Find us on facebook: Friends of St Mary the Virgin Church –
Weston on Trent. Email Stmarysweston@gmail.com

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let our family take
care of yours*



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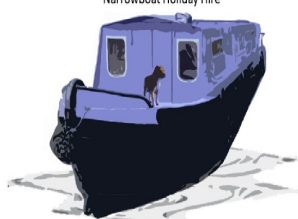
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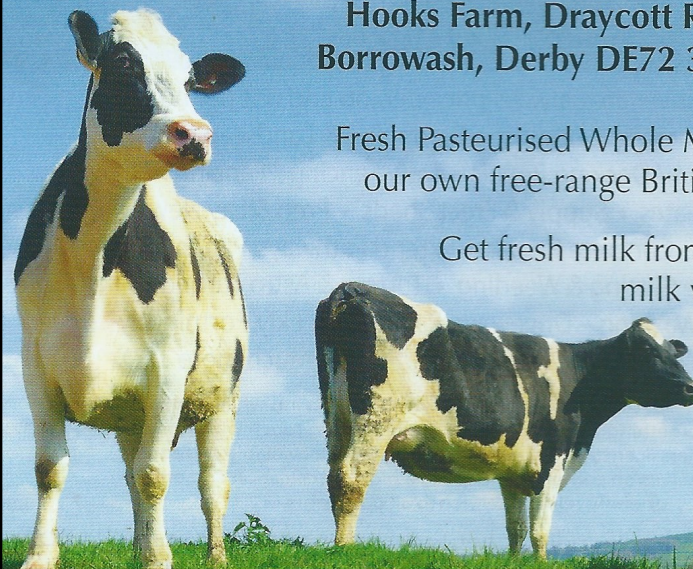
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SERVICES IN JANUARY

	<i>Readings</i>	Aston	Barrow	Elvaston	Shardlow	Swarkestone	Twyford	Weston
Wed. 3 rd Jan.		9.30 HC Tony 6.45 Evensong						
7 th January	Isaiah 60. 1-6 Matt. 2. 1-12	10.30 FC Paul 3.00 Richmond V. Tony		Service at Shardlow	10.30 MP Bruce		10.30 HC Tony	
The Epiphany Wed. 10 th Jan.		6.45 Compline					9.30 HC Tony	
14 th January	1 Sam 3. 1-10 John 1. 43-51	10.30 FW Tony	10.30 MP Barrow Team			10.30 HC Paul		
Epiphany 2 Wed. 17 th Jan.		9.30 HC Paul 6.45 Compline						
21 st January	Gen. 14. 17-20 John 2. 1-11	10.30 FC & Baptism Tony	10.30 HC Paul	Service at Shardlow	9.00 HC Tony		3.00 ES Paul	
Epiphany 3 Wed. 24 th Jan.		6.45 Compline						9.30 HC Paul
28 th January	Deut 18. 15-20 Mark 1. 21-28	10.30 FW Tony						
Epiphany 4 4 th February	Prov 8.1, 22-31 Mark 9. 2-9	10.30 HC Paul		Service at Shardlow	10.30 HC Tony		10.30 MP Bruce	
2nd before Lent								

HC = Holy Communion, FC=Family Communion, MP=Morning Prayer, ES=Evensong, FW=Family Worship,

Ext. HC = Holy Communion by Extension, UBS = United Benefice Service