



# NEWSLETTER

## Sunday 13 December - Advent 3



Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end; 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-8, 19-28

### Today

Online [Benefice service of Holy Communion](#)

Revd Nick Bird & Revd Mark Poole

Phone 899433 to listen to the audio (cost of local call)

11.30am [Post-service coffee & chat via Zoom](#)

#### Methodist Church, Dunnington

10.30 am Morning Worship†

#### Holy Trinity, Stockton

10.30 am Morning Worship\*

1—4pm Holy Trinity Holtby open for private prayer

1—4pm St Mary Warthill open for private prayer

1—4pm Holy Trinity Stockton open for private prayer

2—4pm St Nicholas open for private prayer

### This week

#### Monday 14 December

9.00am Morning Prayer : Holy Trinity, Holtby

7.00pm Informal Prayer with Revd Mark via Zoom

#### Tuesday 15 December

9.00am Morning Prayer : St Mary, Warthill

#### Wednesday 16 December

9.00am Morning Prayer : Holy Trinity, Stockton

1—4pm Holy Trinity Stockton open for private prayer

7.00pm [Compline via Zoom](#)

#### Thursday 17 December

9.00am Morning Prayer : St Nicholas, Dunnington

10am—12 St Nicholas open for private prayer

1—4pm Holy Trinity Holtby open for private prayer

1—4pm St Mary Warthill open for private prayer

### Sunday 20 December: Advent 4

2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16; Romans 16.25-end; Luke 1.26-38

Online [Benefice Carol Service](#)

11.30am [Post-service coffee & chat via Zoom](#)

#### Holy Trinity, Stockton

4.00pm Family Carol Service : Holy Trinity, Stockton\*

6.00pm Carol Service : Holy Trinity, Stockton\*

1—4pm Holy Trinity Holtby open for private prayer

1—4pm St Mary Warthill open for private prayer

1—4pm Holy Trinity Stockton open for private prayer

2—4pm St Nicholas open for private prayer

† Places must be reserved by calling Anne Castle 481656 or Diane Conway 489495. Please leave a message.

\* Places must be reserved by contacting Ennis Tweddle (Churchwarden) 400364/[ennisjacksonuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ennisjacksonuk@yahoo.co.uk).

For all services in the church buildings, please wear a face covering, sanitise your hands, sit in designated seats only, and take your service sheet home afterwards.

### Crisis at Christmas - a poem by Cyril Bulley

shared by Revd Canon Terry Joyce

*I recently unearthed a poem I was given as a young curate by its author, Cyril Bulley, who had been the Vicar of the Church in Mansfield where I was Curate and later became Bishop of Carlisle. It seems an appropriate time to share it.*

No room, no room, no room for Christ in Bethlehem that night,  
No room for Beauty, Goodness, Truth, no room for Love and Light.  
But 'twas no calculated bar of colour, class or creed,  
No cryptic, callous, cautious, cold, premeditated deed –  
It was not these which kept him out, nor sophistry nor pride,  
It was in fact in ignorance they pushed the Christ outside.

So huddling in that stable mean there lay the pregnant maid,  
And jostling in that lively inn the happy revelers played.  
Within, all noise and busy-ness, with drink and talk and fun;  
Without, a mystic silence reigned as God's great deed was done.  
A woman groaned, a baby cried, Eternity pierced Time,  
And Christendom began its life in backyard muck and grime.

Though entry on the stage of life was simple, poor and mean,  
He moved among people, rich and poor, commanding and serene;  
He talked of human rights and worth, and love was his refrain,  
He demonstrated selflessness, shared sorrow, suffering, pain.  
Though great crowds listened eagerly few took him as their guide;  
Once more, and this time willfully, the Christ was pushed aside.

Rejected yes, but still he lives, his message spans the world,  
In every continent and clime his banner stands unfurled.  
His stigmata illuminate our history's darkest page,  
His law of love draws golden deeds from dross in every age.  
He's Christ the King, the Way, the Truth, the Life, the Living Lord,  
The One for others, vocal still, who may not be ignored.

He looked upon a city once, discerning its malaise,  
He touched the core of crisis there and blamed its selfish ways.  
Come quickly, Lord, and save us from our crass stupidity;  
Our selfishness, our turpitude, our cruel cupidity,  
Our blindness, our indiscipline, our hatreds and our pride;  
Speak now to our condition, Lord, come quickly, come inside.

**FAMILY NATIVITY TRAIL**  
IN THE VILLAGES OF DUNNINGTON, STOCKTON ON THE FOREST, WARTHILL & HOLTBY  
FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2020

FOLLOW THE TRAILS AROUND THE VILLAGES AND READ THE STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS.  
POSTERS WILL BE VISIBLE ON FENCES, LAMP-POSTS, GATES ETC.

A TRAIL MAP WILL BE AVAILABLE ON ST NICHOLAS CHURCH WEBSITE.

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE A LITTLE BIT OF A CHALLENGE FIND THE WORDS HIDDEN ON THE POSTERS AND PUT THEM TOGETHER TO MAKE A VERSE FROM THE BIBLE. THE FIRST TEN PEOPLE TO MESSAGE (Horton2517@sky.com) WITH THE BIBLE VERSE AND THE BOOK IT IS FROM WILL GET A SMALL PRIZE.

CRAFT PACKS ARE AVAILABLE-PLEASE MESSAGE ME ON THE ABOVE EMAIL TO REGISTER.

PLEASE REMEMBER SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES AT ALL TIMES.

## Parish Churches News & Events

### St Nicholas Church Christmas Experience

The Nativity figures will begin their journey to Bethlehem on **Thursday 17th December**. Do visit the church and come and find them!

The church is open Thursdays 9.30am—12.00 and Sundays 2.00—4.00pm, and will also be open after the Christmas morning services (at 9.30am and 10.30am) until mid-afternoon. The Christmas Tree will be up, the church decorated with Christmas lights, and there will be carols playing. There will be a one-way system and people to direct you and manage numbers, to help ensure safety. Please wear a mask (unless you are exempt) and sanitise your hands.



### Carol Singing in Dunnington.

We are planning to sing Carols in

- The Glebe car park on Monday 21st December at 4.00pm
- The Green, near Greenside, on Wednesday 23rd December 6.00pm



Please keep in groups of 6 and 2 metres apart. Carol sheets will be provided but you will also (soon) be able to download one to your phone from [stnicholasdunnington.org.uk](http://stnicholasdunnington.org.uk). Do check the website for any last minute changes, or contact Judith [judithmhewitt@btinternet.com](mailto:judithmhewitt@btinternet.com). We are not going house to house Carol Singing as we want to keep those we visit safe.

**Nativity Trail.** A Nativity Trail is now in place in each of the four villages. [Nativity Trail maps and details](#).

### Informal time of prayer via Zoom

Monday 14 December 7—8pm. An opportunity to pray together for the needs of our communities, our nation and our world. All welcome. [Email Revd Mark Poole](#) for an invitation.

**Christingle and Children's Society.** It's not too late to enjoy last Sunday's online [Christingle service](#) or to donate to The Children's Society, either via a our [Christingle fundraising page](#), or by leaving a donation at The Rectory in Dunnington or with Ennis Tweddle in Stockton in a marked envelope.



**Delivering Christmas Cards & Grapevine.** If you are able to deliver a street of cards and Grapevines in any of the villages **from Thursday 17th December** that will be very helpful, thank you. The ones for Dunnington will be in Church ready for collection from 9.30 to 12.00 on Thursday 17th.



**Lectionary Corner** [This week's lectionary info and prayers](#).

14 Dec: John of the Cross, Poet, Teacher of the Faith 1591

## Christmas Services in our church buildings

### Sunday 20 December

4.00pm Family Carol Service at Holy Trinity, Stockton

6.00pm Carol Service at Holy Trinity, Stockton

### Thursday 24 December - Christmas Eve

7.00pm Christmas Eve Communion Service at St Nicholas

### Friday 25 December - Christmas Day

9.30am Christmas Day Communion Service at St Nicholas

10.30am Christmas Day Communion Service at St Nicholas

10.30am Christmas Day Communion Service in Stockton

Booking essential. Contact Nick Bird [revnickbird@gmail.com](mailto:revnickbird@gmail.com) or 489349 or (Stockton only) Ennis Tweddle 400364

## Dunnington Methodist Church

Friends.

We look forward to seeing all who have booked a place at this weeks service, 10.30 Sunday 13th December.

Please do not arrive before 10.20, and remember to bring your mask, any Christmas cards you would like delivered in the village, your warm coat, and a drink if you think you will need one. The event has been risk assessed and every effort has been made to keep you all safe, but it depends on your taking all the advice given by the stewards very seriously. There will be a printed service sheet for each of you to take away. We will not be using hymn books.

Please pray that we can enjoy this precious time together safely.

### Fareshare

We are involved with collections for Fareshare from Tesco and Waitrose and deliver to Lydgett Grove Methodist Church who do a food share in the grounds of the Church. When shopping in a supermarket there is an opportunity to donate items to food distribution outlets. For those who shop online the opportunity has not been there. So, If you would like to donate a special treat this Christmas to the Fareshare distribution at Lidgett Grove of selection boxes, chocolates, biscuits etc, please leave at 2 Greenside Close, Dunnington by 4pm on Thursday 17th December. Thank you.

## News from the Methodist Circuit

### Warning- scam emails which purport to come from Methodist Ministers

Please refer to information regarding scam emails in last weeks newsletter. Do not respond to or buy anything without checking the identity of the person the sender claims to be.

### Worship resources

We have a new website page with a summary of online worship around the Circuit: find a service at [www.yorkmethodist.org.uk/coronavirus-information/online-services.html](http://www.yorkmethodist.org.uk/coronavirus-information/online-services.html). Services can be viewed on the [Circuit YouTube channel](#).

### Haxby and Wigginton present a Nativity Service with a difference!

We were determined to have a Nativity 'By Hook or by Crook' and suddenly that became the title, written by our Panto script writer, Andrew Storr. Join us on Youtube at 4pm on Christmas Eve on Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church's You Tube Channel. We will get together after for a drink and a chat over zoom. Contact Lorraine on [families@hwmc.org.uk](mailto:families@hwmc.org.uk) if you would like the zoom link.

### Christmas quiz

A Christmas quiz can be obtained from Frances Priestnall at :- [davidpriestnall@hotmail.com](mailto:davidpriestnall@hotmail.com) or in printed form by ringing 01904 793229.

### Praying for our Circuit

The church on the Circuit Prayer Rota for 13 December is **Holgate** Let us thank God for the work of God in that place, and pray for the church as they consider how best to respond to God's call in this time.



Please note that Lois and Angie will not be working from Christmas Eve until 4th January 2021. Please check [www.yorkmethodist.org.uk](http://www.yorkmethodist.org.uk) for information on services and Covid guidance or contact Revd Keith Albans.

To receive this newsletter by email, [email Victoria](#). It is also available to download from the [St Nicholas Church website](#).

To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please [email the Circuit office](#) or phone 07984 019995.

**DOUBLE NEWSLETTER for Sundays 20 & 27 December. [Email items to grapevine.rev@gmail.com](mailto:email_items_to_grapevine.rev@gmail.com) by 9.00 am on Thur 17 Dec.**