

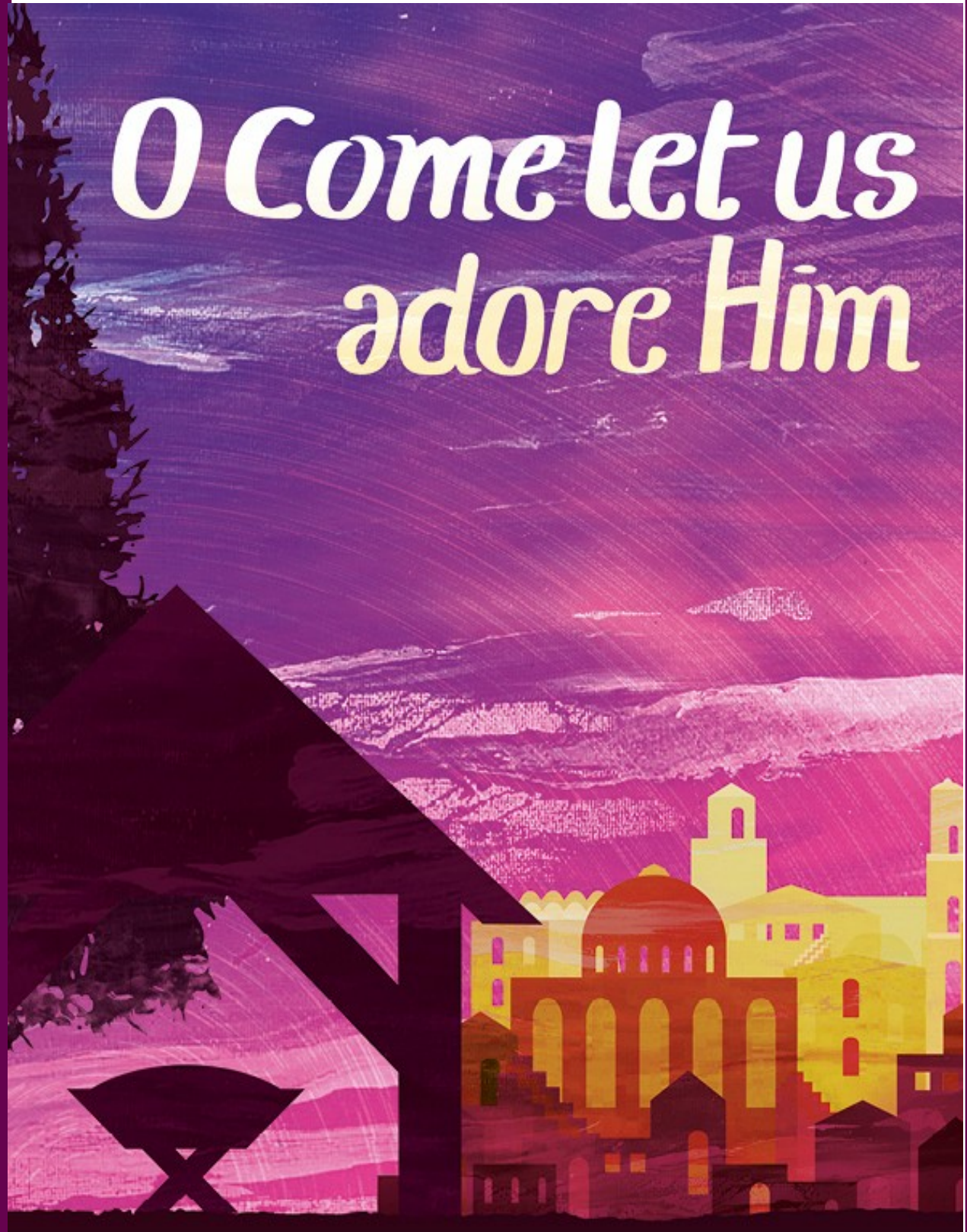


**St Andrew's Church
Parish of Killyman
Magazine**

December 2020-January 2021

Digital Edition

*O Come let us
adore Him*



The Rector writes....



No one quite knows what Christmas is going to be like this year. However, one thing is for sure, it will be very different, just like everything else this year has been very different. As we navigate through what is described as 'the most wonderful time of the year' we hold tight to memories from the past.

One of my most favourite services in the Church's year is the 11:30pm Service of Holy Communion on Christmas Eve. Of course this year, it will be very different, and please keep an eye on our Social Media Outlets for updates as to what will happen this year. In normal times, at that service I enjoy the dramatic feeling of entering Church in total darkness, and how that during the reading of the Christmas Gospel, the lights are switched on and the Church illuminates with the brightness of the lights. At this point in the service the figure of the Baby Jesus is placed in our Nativity Scene and Centre Candle on the Advent Wreath is lit with the other four being extinguished. For me, this does two things:

Firstly - there is a real sense of joy that Christmas is now upon us. The celebrations begin and all has been made ready. There is no more rushing about, no more preparing, no more shopping, no more panic and mayhem that this time of the year can bring.

Secondly - Advent is over, the season of darkness has passed and we are now in the Season of Light. This reminds us that the darkness of sin no longer has dominion over us. The Baby of Bethlehem - the Christ Child, entered the world for one purpose, to die for our sins.

In one Church building I have seen the nativity scene placed below the Christmas Tree, thus reminding us that Jesus is the greatest gift that has been given to us. In another I saw the nativity scene placed in front of a Cross, encouraging us to consider the purpose for which Jesus came - to die for the sins of the world. The Gospel of Matthew points us to this. *"She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins"*.

As you celebrate Christmas, and get involved in all the festivities that it brings, do you consider what this one day is all about? Is it really just about the Turkey, the Presents, the Cards, the Decorations, etc? For me, No, it is about far more than that. It is a day set aside to allow me to celebrate the wonderful miracle of knowing that my sins are forgiven, and that when Jesus comes again, I can be sure that I will be with Him in Heaven.

Christmas is all about Love. The Love of God towards us, the Love of God in us, and the Love of God working through us, as we reach out to a broken world. As the hymn states:

*Love came down at Christmas,
love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.*

As I have said, this year Christmas is going to be very different for all of us. Why not make the point of keeping in touch with each other during this festive season? Perhaps you could phone someone who you know may be on their own this year, or do some other Act of Random Kindness.

Let the Love of Christ be seen in our lives.

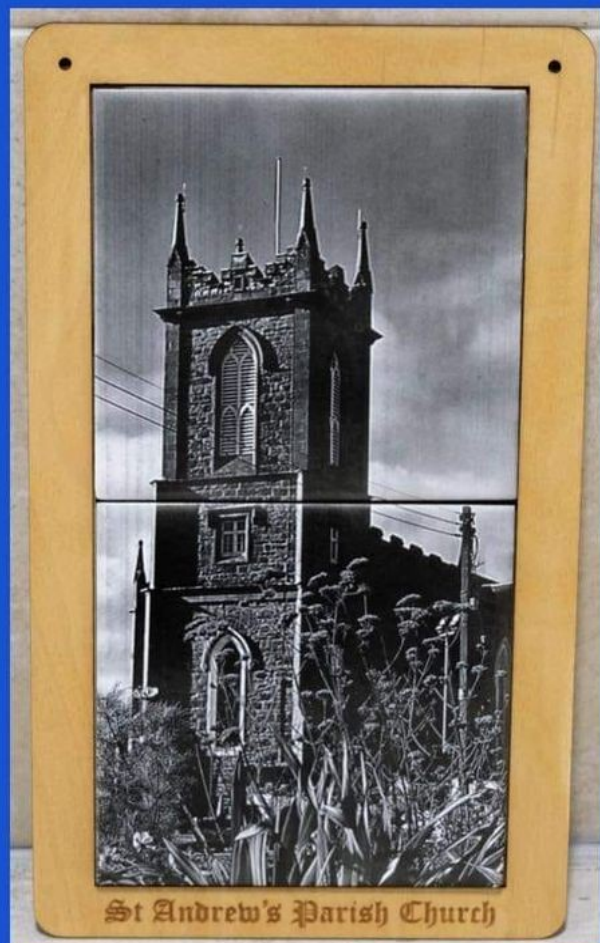
May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy and Christ-filled Christmas.



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Rev Mark Lennox

Telephone 028 87725099

Mr Gareth Lucas

028 87724261

Mrs Alison McMullan

028 87752128

Or any of the following statutory agencies:

PSNI, NSPCC, Local Health Trust Child Protection/Gateway Team

DVD MINISTRY



DVD's of weekly services are available from Killyman Post Office each week. If you know someone who does not see the services online and would benefit from the DVD, please collect one for them.



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A Prayer for the Parish

Heavenly Father,
pour out your Spirit upon the people of our parish
and upon those who are in positions of leadership and ministry.
Forgive us our many sins and draw us nearer to you.
Grant us a new awareness of your Presence,
a new experience of your Power, a new understanding of your Word,
and a new commitment to your Service.
Open our eyes to the opportunities you give us,
open our ears to hear your call,
open our hearts to your love that we may serve you.
Grant us faith to believe,
and strength to do your will now and always.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Rector would like to thank Rev. Canon Neville Hughes for leading our 'In-building' Service on Sunday 22nd November and our Drive-in Service on Sunday 29th November. As was announced, during the Rector's absence, all emergencies are covered by Rev. Henry Blair 07842070152.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and the on-going restrictions which are in place there will be no Mid-Week Advent Services this year. Instead on Wednesday evenings let me encourage you to read the Service of Compline (page 154 in your Prayer Books) at home, or download it from the Daily Prayer section of the Church of Ireland Website.



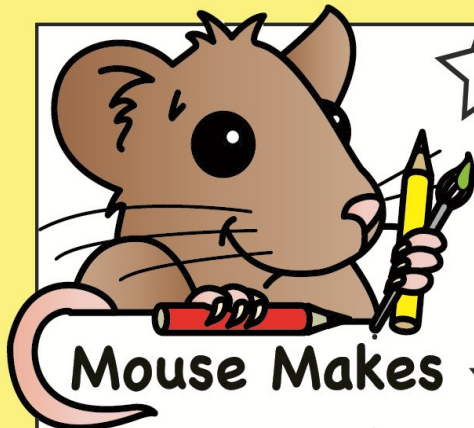
From the Parish Registers

Burials

10th October 2020 Thomas Herbert (Bertie) Coleman

1st November 2020 James Gallagher





"I bring you **good news** that will bring great **joy** to all people. The **Saviour** has been born today! ...

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased".

from Luke 2 vs. 10,11,14

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Read the Christmas story in Luke 1:1 - 2:21



A picture to colour for Christmas. Colour in one star each day as you count down to Christmas!



f	q	z	u	c	s	d	k	w	v	o	n	o
j	f	t	m	d	n	r	t	g	o	d	c	l
p	r	o	p	h	e	t	h	a	f	r	v	f
p	r	a	y	i	n	g	n	s	f	i	l	q
l	w	a	i	t	i	n	g	a	e	s	j	d
a	i	t	i	b	a	b	y	v	r	r	e	n
l	n	f	t	s	m	u	y	i	i	a	s	b
n	s	j	e	v	e	r	y	o	n	e	u	o
d	i	o	m	t	a	d	h	u	g	l	s	p
a	d	s	p	m	i	u	p	r	s	d	i	e
n	e	e	l	f	a	m	i	l	y	c	t	a
n	u	p	e	o	p	l	e	a	d	e	r	c
a	j	h	p	i	n	c	o	u	p	l	e	e

Temple
praised
peace
Jesus
Anna
Israel

baby
offerings
inside
everyone
people
Saviour

Anna
prophet
couple
God
Joseph
leader

family
lifetime
Mary
praying
waiting
world



Mrs Claus was busy making some Gingerbread Men for Santa as a special treat. Poor Mrs Claus took them out of the oven and set them to one side to cool as she started making her Christmas Cake, (she left it a bit late so she just made the boiled cake from our recipe page!), when she turned round all the Gingerbread men were gone! I'm pretty sure they have been running through this magazine. How many can you find?

Eritrea—more Christians arrested as others released

Release International can confirm a total of 69 Christian prisoners of faith have now been released in Eritrea – while five more have been arrested.

Release partners say that many have been long-term prisoners. One has been behind bars for 16 years. None has ever been sent to trial.



When news of their release broke in Eritrea, many Christians took to the streets to celebrate – prompting another round of arrests. The authorities seized five women who stepped outside to pray and rejoice at the news.

“These were mothers,” says Release International’s Eritrean partner, Dr Berhane Asmelash. “One is a mother of five. They were cheering from the roadside – and arrested on the spot.”

Dr Berhane estimates some 300 Christian prisoners of faith remain in the country – held indefinitely without charge or ever having been sent for trial. Prisoners face hardship, illness and malnutrition. Most of the prisons don’t even have toilet facilities.

“Eritrea has been likened to the North Korea of Africa,” says Release International CEO Paul Robinson. “It began its crackdown on churches in 2002.”

How many Christians are there in Eritrea? (Open Doors)

Christians make up almost half the population in Eritrea – 2.5 million from a population of 5.3 million. Muslims make up approximately the same percentage.

Why are Christians persecuted in Eritrea? (Open Doors)

Christians who aren’t members of state-approved churches are considered agents of the West and a threat to the state. That means some denominations are recognised by the government, including the Eritrean Orthodox Church (EOC) – but these are tightly controlled by the government. The EOC sees the growing number of evangelicals as a threat, and Christians face severe consequences if they criticise President Isayas Afewerki or his party.

Please continue to pray for the persecuted church. If you want to learn more please go online to Open Doors or Release International where you will find a great wealth of information.

Bible Readings for December & January

The Bible is
meant to be
bread for daily use.
NOT **CAKE**
for special occasions.



1	Amos 1:1-8	1	Ecclesiastes 3:1-22
2	Amos 1:9-15	2	Ecclesiastes 1:1-11
3	Amos 2:1-5	3	Ecclesiastes 1:12-18
4	Amos 2:6-9	4	Ecclesiastes 2:1-11
5	Amos 2:10-16	5	Ecclesiastes 2:12-16
6	Amos 3:1-7	6	Matthew 2:1-12
7	Amos 3:8-10	7	Matthew 2:13-18
8	Amos 3:11-15	8	Matthew 2:19-23
9	Amos 4:1-6	9	Ecclesiastes 2:17-26
10	Amos 4:7-11	10	Ecclesiastes 4:1-12
11	Amos 4:12-13	11	Ecclesiastes 4:13-16
12	Amos 5:1-6	12	Ecclesiastes 5:1-7
13	Amos 5:7-13	13	Ecclesiastes 5:8-20
14	Amos 5:14-17	14	Ecclesiastes 6:1-12
15	Amos 5:18-27	15	Ecclesiastes 7:1-12
16	Amos 6:1-7	16	Ecclesiastes 7:13-22
17	Amos 6:8-14	17	Ecclesiastes 7:23-29
18	Amos 7:1-9	18	Ecclesiastes 8:1-8
19	Amos 7:10-17	19	Ecclesiastes 8:9-17
20	Amos 8:1-8	20	Ecclesiastes 9:1-6
21	Amos 8:9-14	21	Ecclesiastes 9:7-18
22	Amos 9:1-10	22	Ecclesiastes 10:1-11
23	Amos 9:11-15	23	Ecclesiastes 10:12-20
24	Luke 1:26-38	24	Ecclesiastes 11:1-6
25	Luke 2:1-7	25	Ecclesiastes 11:7-10
26	Luke 2:8-20	26	Ecclesiastes 12:1-8
27	Matthew 1:18-25	27	Ecclesiastes 12:9-14
28	Isaiah 9:2-7	28	2 Peter 1:1-11
29	Micah 5:2-5	29	2 Peter 1:12-21
30	1st John 4:7-21	30	2 Peter 2:1-12
31	John 1:1-18	31	2 Peter 2:13-22

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Harvest Thanksgiving With a difference

Harvest weekend in Killyman was celebrated with a Drive-In Sunday morning Harvest Thanksgiving Service. The trailer was suitably decorated for the occasion and those attending also decorated their cars for Harvest. In the evening there was a special radio broadcast with hymns, Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Harvest Food Bank Appeal. A large donation of food was delivered to BCM in Dungannon.



Mary & Joseph and Covid-19

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world... And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David. (Luke 2 1-4)



What a year we have had! But I suppose you could say Joseph had a strangely demanding year as well. Having learning that his betrothed was pregnant due to divine intervention, he then learned of the Roman government's demand for a census.

These Bible verses show Joseph being a good citizen. Leaving home for a long journey in order to please the government would not have been welcome, but Joseph complied and obeyed the law.

This year the situation is reversed. Millions of us *want* to make a long journey, to visit our loved ones across the UK. But this year, because of the covid-19 virus, the Government is asking us to stay at home.

The Romans had censuses for a good reason: to help them run the business of the empire. This Government has restrictions in place for a good reason: to help the slow the spread of a deadly virus.

Following government rules and laws it not always easy or pleasant but as Christians we should be good citizens. This is a light-hearted guide to a complicated subject. If you are going home for Christmas, get proper advice – and have a Merry one.





Remembrance Sunday

Our Remembrance Service was different this year. We missed our normal Act of Remembrance with the youth organisations attending in uniform. We missed being in our Church Building, however, we were able to hold our service in the Parish Hall and Kenny Armstrong had the beautiful poppy arrangements on display. Even though we have to improvise we are thankful for the fact that we are still able to worship as a community.



Ian Stewart
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028 8775 2556

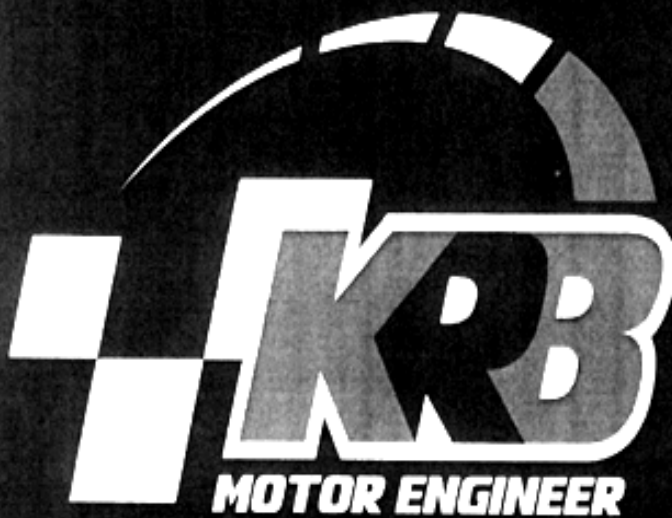
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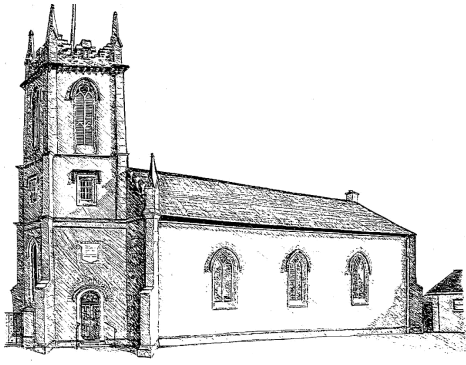
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Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm



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Requirements for In-Building Worship Services when Lockdown ends again.

Each week you must book online or phone the Parish Office, Tue - Thurs 10.30am-1pm, and Heather will book you in. This is essential as unfortunately if you haven't booked in you won't be able to enter the building.

Online Booking opens at 10.30am each Tuesday.

Watch Social Media for current updates and guidelines.

Social Distancing – We are required to stay at a social distance of 2 meters from each other while at “In-Building” worship.

Seat Allocation – Pews/ Seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The Church has to fill from the front and empty from the back, row by row. Once all available seats are used then no one else is permitted to enter. We are temporarily making our services a ticket only event – meaning that those who wish to come need to book online or phone the Parish Office and reserve a place each week.

Track and Trace – As with Drive-In Church, a list of everyone in attendance needs to be kept for the purposes of Track and Trace.

Hand Sanitizing and Covid-19 checks – Before you enter the Church you will be requested to use Hand Sanitizer.

Face Masks – Face coverings are recommended for all in attendance.

No Books – While you are welcome to bring your own books, no books will be available to borrow. Everything you need will be on the screen.

Shorter Services – In order to keep close contact with other people to a minimum, the Services will be noticeably shorter.

Sacramental Worship – The Administration of the Sacraments will be very different from what we are used to.

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Killyman Radio 106.5FM

Live Services will be broadcast on 106.5 FM on the radio at 11am on a Sunday morning, which you are very welcome to come along and listen to while remaining in your car. This is a great alternative for those who are wary of coming into the building for the time being.

Come to the Church Car Park and tune in. Watch social media for updates.





12 ways to avoid stress this Christmas

Change your expectations this Christmas. Don't waste time lamenting what should have been. Instead, try and enjoy whatever is possible this year.

Make a list. Include sending cards, buying presents and organising food for the big day. Having a lists helps keep you in control of your life.

Set a reduced budget this year. With a pandemic raging, this no time to take on Christmas debt. If you can't pay for it this month, probably best not to buy it.

Exercise each day - it releases happiness-inducing serotonin. That will help you to keep calm and positive over the festive period.

Don't overindulge. Too much alcohol and rich food won't improve your life.

Keep calm and keep kind – urge your family members to try and avoid any flare up of family tensions. If you need to cry, cry, but then, keep on keeping on.

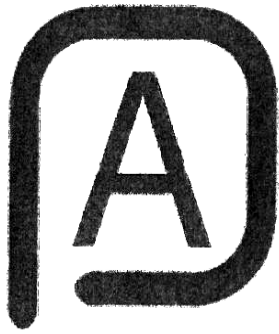
Remember those everyday essentials: batteries for new toys, toilet paper, milk, paper towel. Those things you never think about – until they are gone.

Entertain the kids: plan ahead various films, games and whatever it takes to give them a memorable Christmas.

Make the most of Zoom this year with far-flung relatives and friends.

Most of all, include God in your Christmas! This is His Son's birthday - include Bible readings and carols in your family routine over the festive period.





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St. Andrew's Advent Calendar


A COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

As the countdown gets underway to Christmas, I invite you to have some fun with us and get involved in the St. Andrew's Advent Calendar Challenge. I hope you have fun getting to Christmas Day...

Date	Challenge/ Task
1 Dec	Watch on YouTube 'Charlie Brown and the True meaning of Christmas' (length 1:50).
2 Dec	Watch on YouTube 'Muppet's Christmas Carol Thankful Heart' (length 3:01). Now list 3 things you are thankful for.
3 Dec	Get your Bible and read Isaiah 7:14 and 9:6-7
4 Dec	Take a few minutes today to write a letter, or send an email or text, to someone who has made a difference in your life this year.
5 Dec	Get your Bible and read Luke 1:1-25.
6 Dec	Buy someone you know a bar of chocolate and tell them how much their friendship means to you.
7 Dec	Watch on YouTube 'The True Story of Christmas – Funny' (3:46). What does Christmas mean to you?
8 Dec	Write a Christmas card for someone who has been important to you this year. Thank them and wish them a Merry Christmas.
9 Dec	Get your Bible and read Luke 1:26-38
10 Dec	Watch on YouTube 'Social Network Christmas' (3:59). If you can share the Christmas Story on Social media.
11 Dec	When it is dark, make a hot drink and go outside and read Genesis 1:16. Spend some time looking up at the stars and thank God.
12 Dec	Take some time and read Luke 1:39-45
13 Dec	Pray for 3 people who are going through a difficult time this Christmas, ask God to be with them.
14 Dec	Take some time to write out 3 prayer requests of your own. Underneath these write Luke 1:37.

Continued over

15 Dec	Watch on YouTube 'Surprise Secret Santa will leave you in tears – giving money to strangers' (2:23). Be a Secret Santa to someone.
16 Dec	Get your Bible and read Luke 2:1-21
17 Dec	Just for a bit of fun, take a Christmas Jumper selfie of yourself or with your family and email it to: standrewskillyman@gmail.com.
18 Dec	Get your Bible and read Matthew 2:1-12
19 Dec	Please pray for the children of the Parish who get their school holidays this week.
20 Dec	Watch on YouTube ' The Spirit of Giving Mini Movie' (2:29). Now give someone a surprise gift.
21 Dec	Get your Bible and read Matthew 2:13-21.
22 Dec	Get your Bible and read John 8:12.
23 Dec	Here is a challenge: Why not spend some time learning the words to traditional carols this year? Polls have found that too many of us know the title of a carol and the tune and the opening line or so, but then we have to make it up. This year you probably have more time at home, so get going!
24 Dec	Telephone someone who lives on his or her own and wish them a Merry Christmas.
25 Dec	MERRY CHRISTMAS Say a prayer of thanksgiving before your Christmas dinner.


 For
 unto
 us a
 CHILD
 is born
 unto us a SON
 is given and the
 government shall be
 upon his shoulders,
 and his name shall be called
 Wonderful, Counselor,
 Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
 PRINCE OF PEACE!
 Isaiah 9:6

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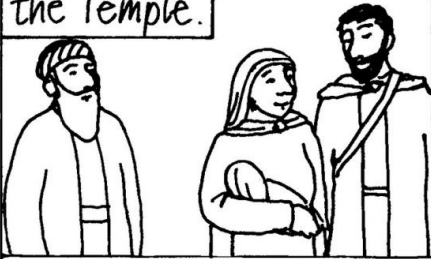
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Luke 2 verses 22-38

God promised the Jews that when times were bad, He would send a Leader to save them. He told Simeon it would happen in his lifetime.

God told Simeon to go to the Temple.



He saw a couple with a baby.

Mary and Joseph had come to give their offerings for their first-born, Jesus, and for child birth.



Simeon held Jesus and praised God.



I can now die in peace because You have kept Your promise.



I have seen the one You have sent to save Your people and all the world!



Mary and Joseph were amazed! Simeon blessed them, but said..



This child will show what people are really like inside and this will mean pain for you as well.



Anna the prophet was also in the Temple.

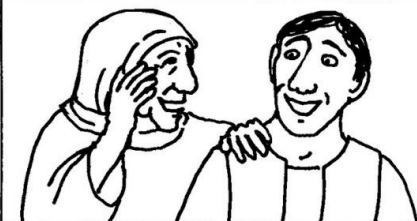


Her family was from the north of Israel and she was very old.



She spent every day praying in the Temple.

When she saw Jesus she praised God.



Anna spoke about Jesus to everyone who was waiting for God's Saviour.



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6th DECEMBER — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Archbishop John McDowell

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The Rt Revd Collins Andaku

The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury) The Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano - Bishop of Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church

13th DECEMBER — THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Archbishop John McDowell

PRAY for those who serve on Select Vestries and work for the good of the local parish

.Pray for the Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury) The Rt Revd Timothy

Thornton - Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands

20th DECEMBER — FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT(26th December - Saint Stephen)

Archbishop John McDowell

Pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world.

24th DECEMBER — - CHRISTMAS EVE

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ; Grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Ezo (South Sudan), The Rt Revd John Kereboro Zawo, Faisalabad (Pakistan), The Rt Revd John Samuel, Falkland Islands (Parish of) (Falkland Islands), The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton (Diocesan Bishop)

25th DECEMBER — CHRISTMAS DAY - THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night you sent your almighty Word to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation: Give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen
Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon Him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin; Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Continued over..

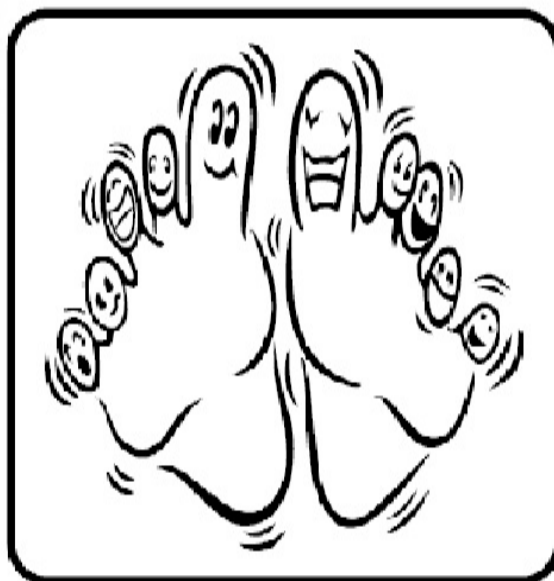
Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and the People of Bethlehem

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3rd JANUARY — THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS (Epiphany - 6th January)

Archbishop John McDowell

Pray for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

The Most Revd Philip Richardson - Bishop of Taranaki and

Primate The Most Revd Don Tamihere - Pihopa o Aotearora and

Primate The Most Revd Fereimi Cama - Bishop of Polynesia and Primate

10th JANUARY — FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Archbishop John McDowell

Acton, Drumbanagher and Loughgilly Rector: Graham Spence

PRAY for those who serve on Select Vestries and work for the good of the local parish

Pray for the Anglican Church of Australia The Most Revd Philip Leslie Freier -

Archbishop of Melbourne & Primate of Australia

17th JANUARY — SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY (25th January - Conversion of Saint Paul)

Archbishop John McDowell

Annaghmore, Rector: Dorothy McVeigh Diocesan Reader: David Parker

Pray for the united Church of Bangladesh, Most Revd Samuel Sunil Mankhin -

Moderator, Church of Bangladesh & Bishop of Kushtia

24th JANUARY — THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY(1st Feb – Saint Brigid)

Archbishop John McDowell

Ardrea and DesertcreatRector: David Bell

Pray for the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil, The Most Revd Naudal Alves Gomes -

Primate of Brazil & Bishop of Curitiba

30th JANUARY

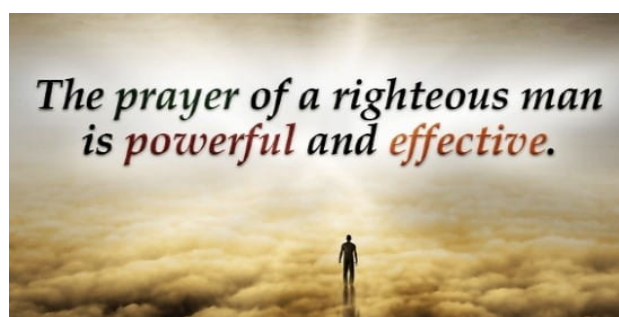
Archbishop John McDowell

Armagh, St Mark's Rector: Malcolm Kingston Curate: Geoff Hamilton

Diocese of Cashel, Waterford, Lismore and Ossary and the Rt Rev Michael Burrows

Pray for the Anglican Church of BurundiThe Most Revd Martin Blaise Nyaboho -

Archbishop of Burundi & Bishop of Makamba





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Parish Giving

A number of people have been asking about their Free Will Offering Envelopes and the finances of the Church.

The majority of our financial support comes through what is put on the collection plate at Sunday Worship. As you know, we have only had the opportunity to collect this at Drive In Church services. Our Financial obligations still have to be met, so let us encourage you to consider one of the following options.

- 1) Standing Order Giving – you can set up a Standing Order by simply completing a Standing Order Form and sending it to your Bank. Or if you use online banking you can set it up yourself. This can be cancelled at anytime by contacting your bank.**
- 2) One off Donation – Simply post a cheque to the Rectory and mark the envelope for the Treasurer.
- 3) Envelope giving – Continue to fill your Free Will Offering envelopes at home and give them at the first available opportunity.
- 4) If you are interested in Option 1 or have any questions regarding Financial Giving please contact either the Rector, Treasurer or send an email to standrewskillyman@gmail.com

Finally let me thank you for your continued financial support for the Parish. We understand that these are uncertain times, and we appreciate you giving these suggestions your prayerful consideration.

**One of the reasons for people not signing up to Standing Order is that they wouldn't want anyone to see them not putting anything on the Collection Plate on a Sunday Morning.

Before lockdown the Select Vestry had agreed to "Giving Tokens", which each Standing Order Parishioner would place on the Collection Plate instead.

Thank you to all those who have signed up for Standing Order payments and to those who called at the Parish Hall during the times of special collection.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Financial report has not been distributed this year, however if you require one please contact the Parish Office and one will be emailed to you.

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People's Churchwarden:	Mrs R. Patterson	07921 063 829
Hon. Treasurer:	Mr. P. Annesley	(028) 8772 4539
Hon. Asst. Treasurer:	Mrs R. Patterson	07921 063 829
Hon. Secretary:	Miss. J. Winslow	(028) 8772 5009
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Parish Administrator:	Mrs. H. Stewart	
killymancoi@outlook.com		
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Please inform the Rector if someone is ill, going into or in hospital as he doesn't always receive this information.

It would also be helpful if you could let him know if someone has been discharged from hospital.



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Thanks to those who use the bins at the gate and top of the graveyard. Parking continues to be restricted in line with Insurance advice from the Church and Hall insurers.

On Sundays when Church Services take place, the Graveyard is closed from 9:00am-1:30pm. Thank you for adhering to the rules.



Connected



The youth leaders of Connected and Bible Class have embraced Zoom and managed to get a weekly meeting started with our young people. Approximately 20 teenagers 'jump on' on a Sunday night for a fun half hour. The format is a quiz, an interview and a short bible study. We have looked at Elijah and Joshua as role-models. There is a tin of chocolates for whoever wins the quiz and they are very competitive! It is very different from how we would normally meet but it has been really special to reconnect with our people and they seem to be enjoying it! A big thank-you to the leaders who have adapted so well too!

Jayne Jackson.

ZOOM *Life*

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Picture This!

The teacher asked her Sunday School class to draw a picture of a Bible story with a Christmas theme. She was puzzled by Kate's picture, which showed four people on an airplane. She asked her which story it was meant to represent. 'The Flight to Egypt,' was the reply.

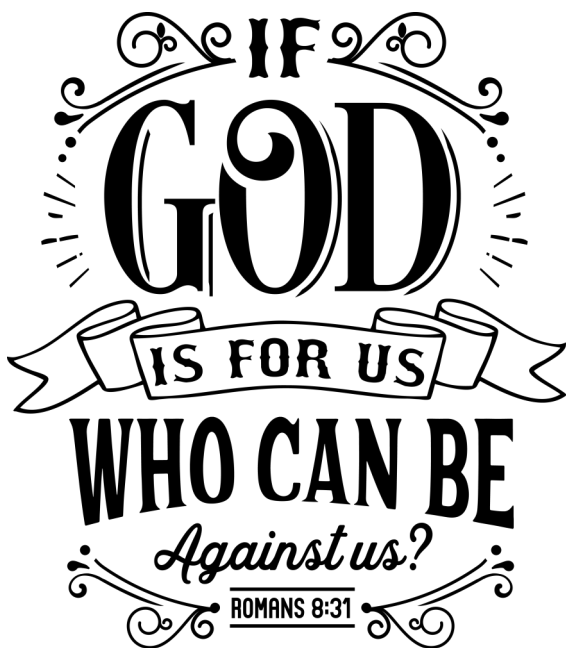
Pointing at each figure, the teacher ventured: 'That must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. But who's the fourth person?'"

'Oh,' explained Kate happily, 'that's Pontius – the pilot!'

Hope amidst the chaos

‘Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and will call Him Immanuel.’ (Isaiah 7:14)

This promise to King Ahaz in 8th century Judah is fulfilled in the coming of Jesus at the first Christmas: ‘God with Us’ (Matthew 1:23). Ahaz faced the military threat of Syria invading Israel, but Isaiah tells him not to panic. He can trust God, who is in control of the nation.



For us, Covid 19 brings deep uncertainty as we come to another New Year. We live with the threat from the virus, economic uncertainty, separation from family and friends, the loss of loved ones and the anxiety that isolation brings. Yet the message of Immanuel brings hope, for us, as it did for Ahaz! Christmas changes everything forever! God has declared in Christ that He is with us and for us, not absent from or against us. His love is larger than our sin, fears or guilt: ‘If God is for us, who can be against us?’ (Romans 8:31).

As we prepare for the most unusual Christmas ever, let’s not forget:

God with us means that He is on my side and by my side. In the uncertainties of life I am never alone.

God with us means that everything will work out according to His plan. My life isn’t just a series of meaningless occasions or mistakes.

God with us means that even when others show they are not there for me, God is.

God with us means when circumstances change, He will give me the strength I need.

6	1			7				
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		3			2		8	
4				5				
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				4			9	7

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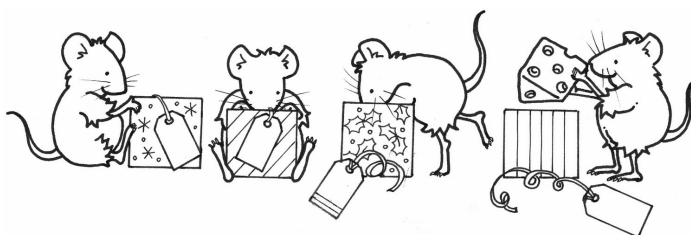
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8	5	7	2	1	4	3	6	9
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3	6	1	9	8	5	4	2	7
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9	4	8	3	7	2	5	1	6



Solution to this month's puzzle

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Are Christmas Cards a thing of the past?

Why not reach out to someone this year with a card they can enjoy, let them know you're thinking of them. In these uncertain times there are many lonely people around, people for whom the lockdown has had an immense affect. They used to have visitors calling in to say hello, now they sit alone in their houses, maybe seeing nobody at all. Spread some happiness this season.

Let's hear it for the Christmas card

A folded piece of Christmas cheer
Came through the post today!
I love it when those cards appear
I love the things they say!

And at this busy Christmas time
I'm always glad to see
The Christmas scene or Christmas rhyme
That you have sent to me.

The trouble that good people take
Is really, really kind –
Some people even sit and make
A card for me to find!

And in our virtual world of text
And pictures on a screen
These bits and bytes leave me perplexed
If you know what I mean?

And so I think that it is fine
To see your kind regard
I can admire this Christmas time

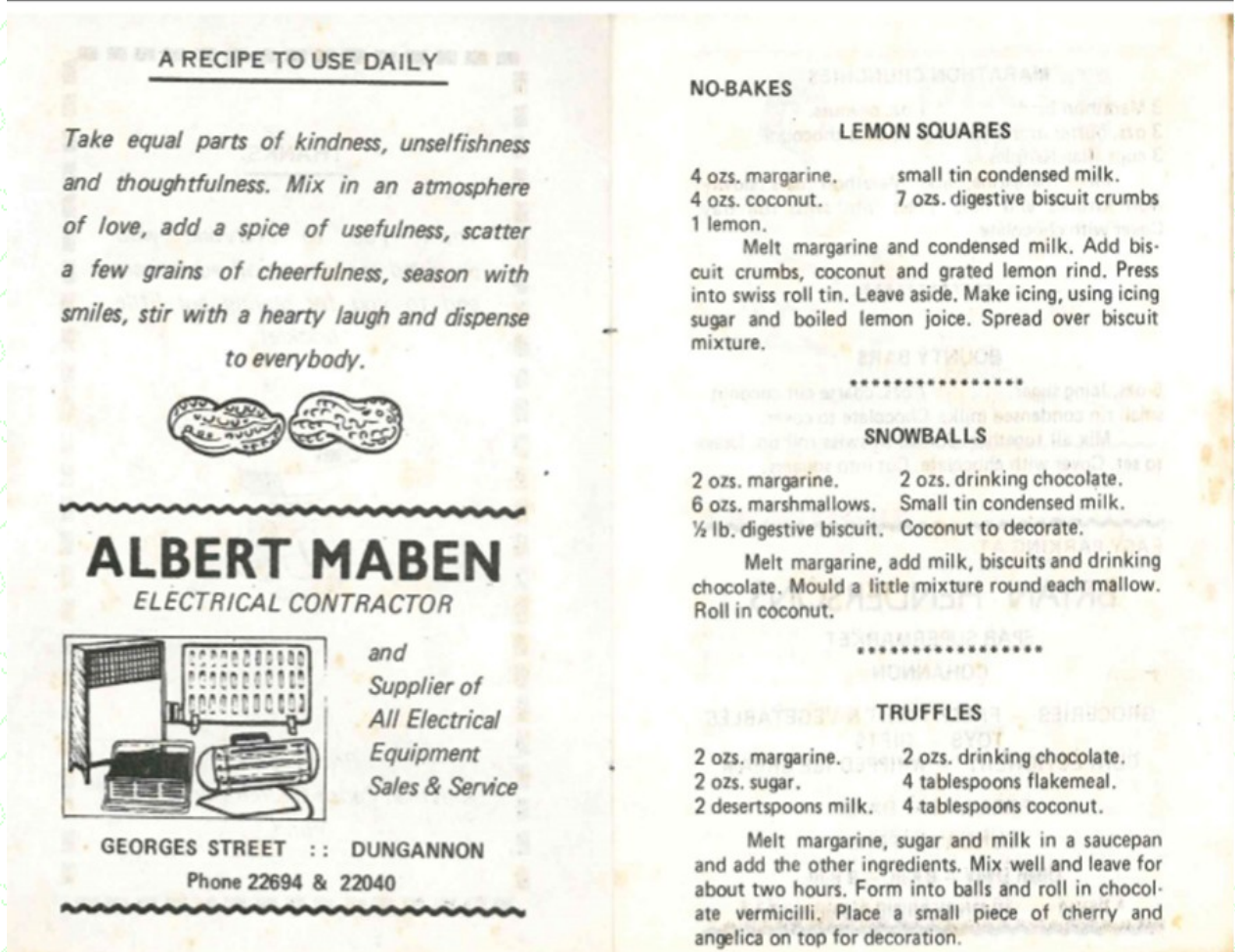
Your real Christmas card!

By Nigel Beeton



Last posting days for Christmas delivery (UK)

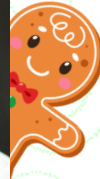
Friday 18 December	2nd Class and 2nd Class Signed For
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A couple of little snippets from a lovely little recipe book that was sold a long time ago to raise funds for Church Renovation.

There have been many changes since this little book was published! Unfortunately there is no date to say when it was available. If anyone knows can you email the office. killymancoi@outlook.com?

This book was kindly donated for our Parish Archives.



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COFFEE CAKE

4 ozs. soft margarine.	1 tablespoon milk.
6 ozs. caster sugar.	1 tablespoon coffee essence.
7 ozs. plain flour.	3 large eggs.
Pinch salt.	2 teaspoons B.P.

Place all except B.P. in bowl and beat until light and creamy. Then add B.P. Bake at 7, 375 or 200 degrees.

This recipe can be used for an ordinary sandwich cake by omitting coffee and adding 2 tablespoons of milk. A chocolate cake can be made by dissolving $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. chocolate powder in 2 tablespoons milk and adding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. less flour. It will also make 2 dozen plain buns.

CHERRY CAKE

4 ozs. butter.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ level teaspoon B.P.
4 ozs. caster sugar.	pinch salt.
7 ozs. plain flour.	8 ozs. cherries.
2 eggs.	1 dessertspoon milk.

Wash cherries in warm water, dry carefully. Line 6" tin with greaseproof paper. Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs. Sift flour, B.P. and salt. Cut cherries in half and stir a tablespoon of flour into them to coat thoroughly. Stir flour lightly into mixture with the milk, then stir in cherries. Do not beat at this stage. Put in tin and bake in centre of oven. 350 degrees for 1 hour, 40 minutes.



BOILED CAKE (Sufficient for 2 Loaf tins)

10 ozs. sugar.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ teacups water.
4 ozs. margarine.	2 eggs.
12-14 ozs. flour.	1 heaped teaspoon B. Soda
10-12 ozs. mixed fruit.	1 heaped teaspoon Ground
1 heaped teaspoon	Ginger.
Mixed Spice.	$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt.

Simmer margarine, sugar, water and fruit for 5 minutes. Cool slightly. Sieve dry ingredients. Beat eggs and add with dry ingredients to cooled mixture. Mix well. Divide into 2 tins. Bake at 325 degrees for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour, 300 degrees for another $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Switch off oven and leave for 15 minutes. Cool in tin.

Let us know if you make any of our recipes and send us some pictures.

If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please feel free to pass it along.



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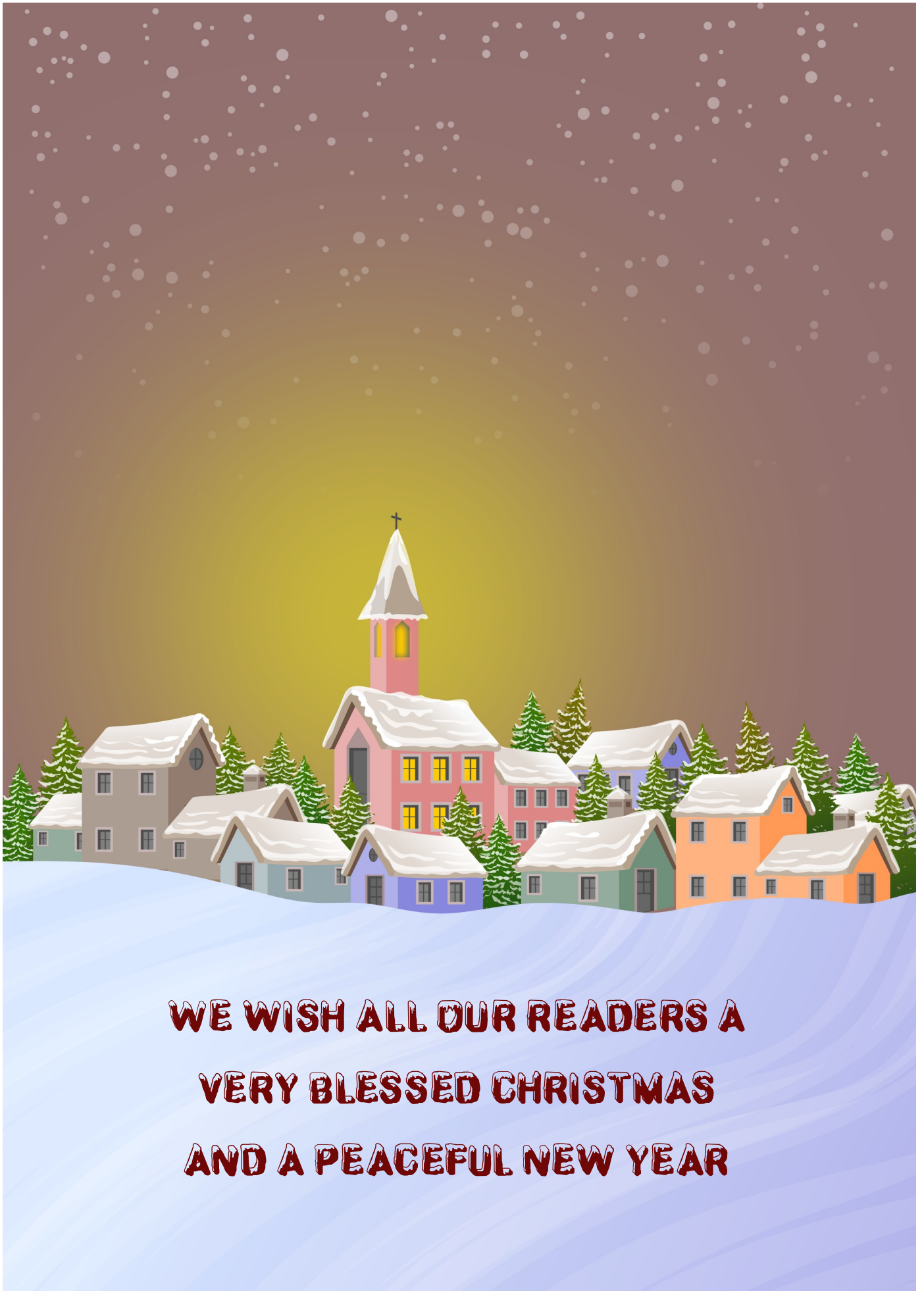
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