



MAGAZINE FOR DECEMBER 2022



BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY OF
CHRISTIAN LOVE, FAITH, WITNESS AND ACTION

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in darkness”**

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the Advent season

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Carol Services
Christmas**

All the month's news
and how the children
are involved!



HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH

[Registered Charity No. 1129264]

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Website: hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk /

Facebook: Hampstead Parish Church / Twitter: Hampstead_PC /

Instagram: @HampsteadPC

Youtube: youtube.com/c/hampsteadparishchurch

Sundays:

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30am Choral Holy Communion (Common Worship)

5.00pm Choral Evensong (BCP)

(All these services can be found on Facebook live and Zoom)

Weekdays:

please check the weekly email—sometimes we have to make changes to this pattern*

Wednesdays at 10.15am Holy Communion in church

Mon – Fri 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

Thursdays at 8.30am Rosary prayer on Zoom

Saturday 9.00am Morning Prayer in church

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact the Vicar

Jeremy Fletcher 0207 435 0553

vicar@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

* to be added to the emailing list please contact the parish office—

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(*This and some graphics from Parish Pump)	

Diary for December

- Thu 1st 8.30am–4pm Edmonton Area Clergy Quiet Day in church
8.30am Rosary Prayer on zoom
7.45pm Community choir
Sat 3rd 4.00 pm Marie Curie Service of Remembrance

Sunday 4th – Advent 2

- 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Communion & Christingle
followed by Traidcraft Stall
5.00pm Choral Evensong followed by sherry with the
choir



- Mon 5th 7.00pm Hampstead Collective concert in church
Tue 6th St Christopher's School Carol service
Wed 7th 10.15am Holy Communion
Thu 8th 8.30am Rosary Prayer on zoom
Heath Side School Carol Service
7.45pm Community Choir
Fri 9th 7.00pm Christmas Lights Concert – see page...
Sat 10th 11.00am Wedding of Tolu Eletu and Sebastian Sundvik
2.30pm Memorial Service for Nick Hobson

Sunday 11th – Advent 3

- 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Choral Holy Communion
5.00pm Choral Evensong



- Mon 12th SHHS Carol Service
Tue 13th St Anthony's School Carol Service
Community Choir carol singing at Henderson Court
Wed 14th 10.15am Holy Communion
Maggie's Royal Free Hospital Christmas Concert
Thu 15th 8.30am Rosary prayer on zoom
Devonshire House School Carol Service
HPS Carol Service

Sat 17th 10.00am Church cleaning and decorating

Sunday 18th Advent 4

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion with Confirmation
5.00pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols



Mon 19th Community Choir carol singing at Swiss Cottage

Wed 21st 10.15am Holy Communion
3.00pm Creative Community meets in the Crypt.
Why not join us for a mince pie and a chat
about what we might do in 2023?

Fri 23rd 8.00pm A Jazzy Christmas – see page

Sat 24th CHRISTMAS EVE

4.30pm Children's Crib Service
11.30pm Midnight Mass



Sunday 25th CHRISTMAS DAY



8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Choral Holy Communion

Week beginning 26th – no services in church

Mon 26th *St Stephen*

Tue 27th *St John*

Wed 28th *Holy Innocents*

Thu 29th *Thomas Becket*

Sunday 1st January – The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

One service only today

10.30am Congregational Holy Communion (choir holiday)

Sunday 8th January - Epiphany

10.30am All Age Communion with the
Blessing of the Chalks



The Vicar writes

The working diary for Hampstead Parish Church is very full indeed for the first three weeks of December. It is a joy and privilege to host a series of school carol services and events for organisations. December also sees a wedding and a memorial service, as well as our own service of Confirmation, reminding us that our regular ministry continues even in a busy season. And the World Cup Final is at the same time as our service of Nine Lessons and Carols. There may just be a dilemma for some!

I write this in the week leading up to Advent Sunday. The busy-ness of December is a good context to reflect on the coming of Christ for which Advent is a preparation. We must be ready to celebrate Christ's birth, and be ready to meet Christ in today's world, and be ready for Christ's coming again. Readiness does not mean stopping doing everything else, but having an eye and an ear for the presence and voice of God in the frantic nature of the everyday.

So, our life of prayer continues, our warm welcome continues, our support of the refugee continues, our provision of shelter continues, our striving to reduce our carbon footprint continues, and listening to the Word of God continues. There will be many opportunities to worship and reflect in this special season, and I pray you will be able to join in as we look for light in darkness, the Word made Flesh. It was busy in Bethlehem that night too.

A personal note: the Diocese of London has granted me a sabbatical, and I'll be away from ministry here from late January to late April 2023. It is a testament to the team here that I am confident you won't notice, too much!

May God bless you all

Jeremy

December

Judy East

“Christmas comes but once a year”¹

Without wishing to sound too Scrooge-like, it's just as well it does because it seems to last longer, or rather start earlier, every year. A well-known chain store in Hampstead, mentioning no names, had their Christmas Garlands up in time for Harvest – I wasn't sure what I was seeing as, getting off the bus laden with berries and greenery, I was confronted with pine and baubles. But now it is nearly upon us – so it's timely to read the sermon Graham preached last Advent Sunday reminding us that there's still a lot of important preparation to go through – and I'm not talking about cakes and puddings or even shopping, though that's all part of it too, and we're grateful to all the people who made things for our Craft Fair, and the ones who came and shopped. “An enjoyable time was had by all” is the stock phrase on these occasions but really, I think, we did all have an enjoyable time and if it wasn't quite the Christmas Market of former days it was near enough and raised over £2,000 for charity.

Looking at the diary December seems to be entirely taken up with carol services. If you want carols this is the place to come. The standard of some of the school choirs is astonishing and although meant mainly for the schools they are all public services so you can pop in to any of them. But whilst they're fun to listen to once, they're a lot of work for the staff, and as Jeremy has said, there are lots of other things happening as well, so if you find it difficult to contact the clergy or the office bear in mind they're probably knee-deep in instruments and costumes, a hundred variations on safe candles, and deafened by a constant background of Christmas music.

But we have our own music too. Sandwiched between the Advent Carol service on 27th November and Christmas Day is a range of the best the church has to offer – read Geoffrey Webber's run down of the month's music further on in this issue.

¹ At Christmas play and make good cheer for Christmas comes but once a year. Thomas Tusser 16th century poet

Book reviews: I sometimes use book reviews made available to parish magazine editors and hope the books will live up to the reviews. This month is something entirely different! No less than four reviews of books written by members of the congregation. And on the widest range of subjects – surely something for everyone. Christmas shopping starts here!

But amidst the carols and the candles, the shopping and the cooking, spare a thought for charities like the Trussell Trust that provide our Foodbanks :

APRIL 2022 - SEPTEMBER 2022

1.3 MILLION

**EMERGENCY FOOD PARCELS
WERE GIVEN TO PEOPLE IN
CRISIS BY TRUSSELL TRUST
FOOD BANKS**



We'll be making another delivery on 19th December. Please help us help them make Christmas less difficult.

On Advent

Graham Dunn

From a sermon preached for Advent 2021

“Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

May I speak in the name of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Of all the seasons in the church's year, perhaps Advent is the one which often proves the hardest to explain to people who aren't familiar with it. Even in a context in which most people don't go to church, large numbers of people will be familiar with a few details of Easter.

Many will be able to identify Lent as a period of fasting and giving things up and of course, Christmas is one of the greatest examples of a religious festival cutting through to the popular imagination that the world has ever seen.

What then of Advent?

Seen by so many as the starting gun for the Christmas season and therefore caught up with many of the traditions associated with that festival rather than retaining a distinctive character in its own right.

There is of course a deeply rich well of theology, tradition and liturgy springing from this period in the church's year. Advent is at its heart about expectation and awaiting. About anticipating that which is to come. Anticipating that which is to come can of course carry a number of different emotional responses. Set in its context at this time of year, Advent most obviously anticipated Christmas bringing with it all its light and joy.

Advent is also often used a way to anticipate the eventual coming again of Christ at the end of time, of the point in history where God gathers all things to himself. The time with which Jesus is engaging in our Gospel reading today. There is a clear sense in which some of the things which are to come, bring with them challenge and turmoil. "There will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves."

Standing as we do in a world in which global leaders are struggling to come to terms with the damage we are doing to our planet and a moment in which desperate people are risking and indeed forfeiting their lives in the hope of a better future on the waters of the English channel, we cannot help but be brought to attention by these words.

Whether it is having to wait for things we want or being forced to anxiously anticipate things we fear; waiting can often be a struggle.

For many people, waiting doesn't feel like a natural resting state, even though it is often the situation in which we find ourselves.

As Christians, though, this season of Advent gives us a different context for our waiting. It sets all of our need to wait in the context of the hope which is to come. The hope of the coming of Christ at Christmas and the hope of the coming once again of Christ as the final fulfilment of all that God has for his kingdom.

“Now, when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Your redemption is drawing near.

The original Greek that is translated as 'redemption' is APOLUTROSIS and it carries with it a broader sense of being released, being set free.

Stand up, raise your heads, because your release is drawing near. The time is coming when you will be set free from the things that bind you, the burdens you are carrying, the anxieties with which you are wrestling. The time is coming. No matter how difficult it may be, God's light shines in the darkness, even if it only appears to be a tiny flicker.

So what do we do while we wait?

It's interesting isn't it that, Jesus doesn't say to his disciples: don't worry, everything is going to be completely plain sailing just sit tight and keep your heads down. Jesus calls them to a much more active stance as they wait expectantly for what is to come. Stand up. Raise your heads. They are assured that their redemption is drawing near but they are called to engage actively in the world while they wait for it. So we're not being called to a complacent state in which we simply say, I know that I'm going to be ok so therefore I can put my feet up even though there is turmoil all around me. Equally the assurance we have in the coming of Christ means we can carry hope with us through the times when waiting is tough.

Many of you will be familiar with the work of the theologian Paula Gooder who is currently Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral. In her book *The Meaning is In the Waiting*, she explores the spirit of advent and talks a lot about times in which we find ourselves between one thing and another, waiting for what God has next for us. The book explores this through the lens of four sets of characters from the Bible whose journeys involved waiting, from Abraham and Sarah through to Mary. It's an excellent read and if you haven't already found something to look at during Advent, I would highly recommend it.

In the book, Gooder writes a lot about the nature of waiting and in particular this more engaged form of waiting. She writes "Advent calls us into a state of active waiting: a state that recognises and embraces the glimmers of God's presence in the world and that speaks the truth about the almost-but-not-quite nature of our Christian living. Advent summons us to the present moment, to a still yet active commitment to the life we live now."

As in so many other areas of our life of faith, we are not expected to do any of this alone. One of the great things about Advent is that it gives us the opportunity to wait together, to be expectant together, to embrace the glimmers of God's presence in the world together.

So as we enter this season of expectation, anticipation and waiting. I wonder if there are things with which God is calling each of us to engage with a little more. I wonder if there are opportunities, even amongst the business of the coming weeks, for us to carve out some space to wait with God, to discern what he might be saying to us in this "in between" time as we look forward to the joy of his coming at Christmas, knowing that as we wait we do so in the hope of his coming again to gather all things to him.

Let us stand up, raise our heads because the God who made us and loves us, is drawing near to us to set us free, this Advent and always.
Amen

Do you visit the church website? You'll find sermons there, you'll find articles on Church Chat, you'll find information about a range of parish related groups – and you'll find the orders of service for Sundays.....

Saving the planet one page at a time

Do you ever use our orders of service on your phone or tablet?

Whilst we all appreciate having a dedicated booklet every week – more variety of prayers, hymns that aren't in the hymn book, fewer bits of paper being thrust at us – there's no doubt we are getting through a lot of paper.

If more of us went over to paperless you can see what a saving that would be.

There's a QR link in the church which takes you to the website, or enter hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk or follow the link in the emails. Why not give it a go? Let's make less paper waste our Christmas present to the world.

PCC REPORT

Nick Walser PCC Secretary

New Website – Welcome and Inclusion – Children's and Young People's Groups – Social Justice Group - Charity Champions

The latest meeting of the PCC took place on 14 November. Jeremy shared with the PCC a preview of our new Website, which is almost ready to go "live", with our enormous thanks for many months of detailed work by Margaret Willmer and Courtney Terwilliger, in particular, alongside our professional web designers.

The new site should be more informative and easier to navigate than the old one, and has been designed for ease of use on tablets and mobile phones, as well as for use by people with visual impairments. Leading on from this, Jeremy invited us to reflect on what our church's message is (and what it ought to be) about welcome and inclusion. We may feel that we are open and welcoming to all, but some people new to our church may still feel like outsiders. We discussed some practical ways of responding to this challenge.

Jessica Mathur updated us on recent developments in the Junior Church, where the numbers of children attending regularly are now almost back to pre-pandemic levels, and there is a great team of enthusiastic volunteer helpers. We also heard that Jan and Graham have re-established the youth group, meeting on a weekday evening. Although the pattern of volunteer-led activities is working well, there is a need for extra administrative support, and we agreed on a proposal that instead of a full-time Youth Worker we should recruit a part-time co-ordinator/administrator to fulfil that role.

Sheena Ginnings reported on a recent meeting of the Social Justice Group, including plans to increase donations to the Food Bank and to form a group to undertake a disability audit of the church building. Sheena also reminded us that each of the external charities supported by the church should have a "Champion" – a member of the congregation acting as a point of contact with the charity and providing us with information via the parish magazine and in other ways. We need more people to volunteer for that role, and anyone interested should speak to Sheena.

The PCC will be holding its annual informal "Away-day" in January, when we plan to review the results of the recent Parish Survey and begin work on our Mission Action Plan for the next five years. The next formal PCC meeting will be on 6 February 2023.



A Thank You from a member of the congregation

Dear Everyone who has been praying for me since last Christmas. Well, I expect you all thought that I should have died or got better by now. Unfortunately I have done neither completely. Well I certainly have not died, though apparently I have had near misses a couple of times.

First blacking out and running into the back of a stationary bus, writing off my car. Then, after being taken into hospital with a broken hip, where they found I had COVID and a lung infection. Finally two weeks later I got over the lung infection, and was given a brand new hip. I was on my way to recovery. David and my four children, who the good Lord in his wisdom was able to provide for me, have been fantastic.

The endometrial cancer metastasised to my lungs, but I am lucky enough to have been taken onto a clinical trial. This may be of use to the next generation and to society in general, which is a huge comfort to me.

I'm telling you this to show that all your prayers have been such a help, and even though not answered in the way we all hoped, they have been in lots of small ways. I was feeling very frightened at one point and one of the nurses came and held my hand - it made such a difference.

I'm still on the trail and hoping for the best. My son says that if you enjoy one thing every day, life is worth living. I have had a whole year of one days, where I have enjoyed lots of things.

I hope I'm not asking for too much by saying that I still need your prayers.

With many thanks,
Penny Lyndon-Stanford

Living Christmas in Bethlehem

Bill Risebero



In the 1st century, Bethlehem, like all of Palestine, was under military occupation. We get a sense of this from the Christmas story, with the Romans reportedly uprooting the local population to make them take part in a census. But the Christmas story, of course, does much more. It challenges repressiveness with a gospel of love and compassion, so that the world can never be the same again.

Yet 21st century Bethlehem is also under military occupation, by a regime which insists that all of Palestine, up to the Jordan river and beyond, is theirs. Local people live their lives within a framework of violence: barriers to movement, the denial of rights, house demolitions, the bulldozing of olive groves, extra-judicial imprisonment or killings.

There have been many different responses to this desperate situation, both conciliatory and violent. But one powerful way of responding has been to cut across the violence and bad faith by treating everyone with love and compassion. There are many such people, on both sides of the Green Line, but the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation (BASR) is one which has struck a chord with the people of Hampstead Parish Church. Several of us have visited BASR, in its modern white buildings in Bethlehem, and come away inspired.

BASR was founded in 1960 as a Leonard Cheshire charity home in the centre of Bethlehem, catering for children with poliomyelitis. Working with very modest resources, it grew in scope and soon had an excellent reputation as a leading provider of rehabilitation services to all persons with physical disabilities.

By 1979, BASR's home in Bethlehem had become too small to accommodate its increasing work, and the Cheshire Foundation

helped it to move to a larger site in the Bethlehem suburb of Beit Jala. Around 2000, the Apartheid Wall was constructed, cutting off Gaza and the West Bank, including Bethlehem, from specialised hospitals in Jerusalem. BASR's response was to expand its own range of specialised rehab, medical and surgical services.

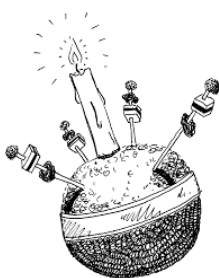
BASR now provides a range of such services as ophthalmic surgery, orthopaedic surgery, neurosurgery and ENT surgery. This is in addition to the multi-disciplinary rehabilitation services it provides, which includes physiotherapy, occupational therapy, audiology and speech and language therapy, vision rehabilitation, mental health and psychosocial support, neuropsychological interventions, as well as the provision of assistive devices for different types of disability.

BASR is supported by voluntary funding. Key to its success, and a creative response to the shortness of money, has been to involve patients' families in their recovery. Its connection with the community goes further, with education and outreach programmes to improve people's living standards in their very difficult circumstances.

Despite limitations on funds, BASR has a policy of not turning anyone away, irrespective of their race and creed, or their ability to pay. It would be difficult to find a better illustration of the principles which the Christmas story brought to the world.

The Parish supports BASR through its annual giving programme. If however you would like to make your own contribution, please visit <https://basr.org> to find out more.

This Month in Junior Church



A packed month of activities for children and young people kicks off with an **All Age Christingle service** on Sunday 4th of December. This special service will raise money for the Children's Society, a brilliant charity which advocates for marginalised or

struggling young people (see below). We anticipate that older people enjoy a bit of creative orange decorating just as much as our younger members, and we will make sure we have plenty of kits ready. Our Youth Group will be heading up a baked goods sale after the service to boost our donation to the charity so please do feast and give generously!

The end of a brilliant first proper term back will be marked by our **Junior Church Christmas party** during the service on the 18th December.

The much-anticipated **Crib Service** will be on 24th December at 5.30pm. This is a short service during which the children act out the nativity story, interspersed with well-known carols. If your child would like to join in please come ready dressed as an angel, a king (3 is only a tradition - there could have been any number of them), shepherds or sheep. The service is very popular so arrive early to ensure a good seat!



Our Sunday Groups

A reminder about our Sunday groups available for children and young people during term time:

Under 5s - a fun and relaxed group in the crypt for parents and young children with playtime, stories and music. A lovely way to build friendships with other families

Over 5s - Older children can graduate to this more advanced but still fun group with stories and crafts and an introduction to the bible stories from the lectionary. Younger children from the Junior Choir also join this group. See the term card for details of the theme each week.

St John's group - is back! All children in year 7 or above are welcome to join this short discussion group lead by members of the clergy and parent leaders during the morning service. Please join the

group in the choir vestry when the junior choir goes out for their break during the service.

Youth Group - An informal group for young people in year 9 and above. Held on alternate Sunday evenings at Jan's flat. Please [email jan.rushton5@gmail.com](mailto:jan.rushton5@gmail.com) if you would like to join.

The Children's Society

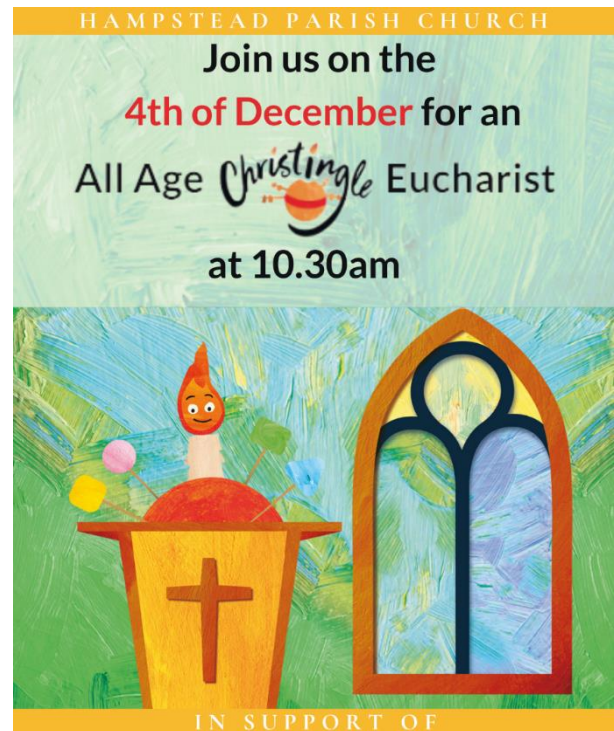
We are delighted to be supporting the Children's Society again with our Christingle service.

The charity take on issues affecting young people which are often overlooked in the press and society generally. As well as working directly with the young people through specialist support and therapy, the charity also campaigns and lobbies government to end child poverty, something which affects 3 in 10 children in this country.

"Young people come to us when they have low self-esteem. When they're living in families who can't afford the next meal, the next size up in school uniform. Or when there's no one else to lean on.

Refugee and migrant children land in this country alone and look to us for guidance to achieve the life they dreamed of. To have a settled home, a secure job and starting a family. They're not asking for too much.

We see teenagers in our services who want to quit using drugs or alcohol. Who are looking after mum, dad, or their siblings more than they bargained for. Or who have been taken advantage of and find themselves carrying drugs to far away towns, or having sex with strangers.



The
Children's
Society

CHURCH ROW, NW3 6UU
WWW.HAMPSTEADPARISHCHURCH.ORG.UK

We counsel, support and campaign for the young people whose hopes and happiness are the most threatened by abuse, exploitation and neglect. Our impact on a young person's life is all driven by you.” The Children's Society

Please give generously

Can you help us solve a mystery?

Sometime in the last couple of years a small box containing some medals, photos, a menu - in English and a language possibly Arabic - Kilindini , Mombasa, and Abbasia mentioned.

“Orders for Drivers of mechanical vehicles in the British Expeditionary Force January 1940; Headquarters Cairo Area Staff Dinner December 1941” signed by lots of people, and a tie.

The tie is Royal Artillery, the medals are

- 1939-45 Star
- Defence Medal
- War Medal 39-45
- Africa Star
- Imperial Service Medal (ISM) – presented to selected civil servants on retirement.



This last medal has the name Albert Edward Thompson engraved on it.

Are you missing such a collection? Do you know Albert Edward Thompson?

The last thing we want to do is dispose of anyone's treasured memories but unless we can trace someone with a connection we may have to.

If any of this rings any bells with you please let me know

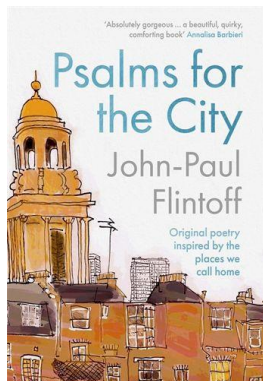
judy.east@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Book Reviews for Christmas

A rather special selection this month as all the authors are members of our congregation

Psalms for the City John-Paul Flintoff

“The whole of life can be found in the psalms. It can also be found in our cities.”



Psalms for the City is a beautifully illustrated book of poetry that offers comfort, inspiration and encouragement for the heart and soul, as John-Paul Flintoff puts into vibrant, captivating and sometimes heart-wrenching words the pockets of peace he has found in the midst of the non-stop noise and colourful chaos of the city.

Inspired by the psalms – some of the oldest and most soul-stirring poetry in the world – Flintoff’s fluid style and technical skills take us on a private tour of our most-loved urban landscapes and reveal the spiritual nourishment in some of its most famous sights. In countless churches and sacred spaces, he shows us locations to lament; he teaches us to discover joy in crowded marketplaces; and shares how he found hope searching the horizon atop Hampstead Heath.

With his own hand-drawn illustrations to accompany the poems, *Psalms for the City* is a book that poetry lovers will treasure and is perfect for fans of Charlie Mackesy. Presented in a beautiful hardback format, it will also make a wonderful gift for friends and family, and for those who love the diversity of city life.

Open and honest, these are modern day psalms that chart John-Paul’s discovery that the extraordinary places welcomed the ordinary, and that when we’re looking closely, the ordinary places can become extraordinary.

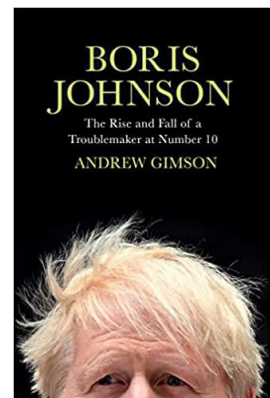
Psalms for the City is an invitation to take your imagination on a pilgrimage across the city, experiencing the full depths of what it means to be human today.

Psalms for the City by John-Paul Flintoff is a beautiful collection of original poetry and stunning illustrations inspired by both the psalms and the scenery and sounds of urban life.

SPCK £12.99



In **Boris Johnson: The Rise and Fall of a Troublemaker at Number 10**, Andrew Gimson sets out to discover how a man dismissed as a liar, charlatan and tasteless joke was able, despite being written off more frequently than any other British politician of the twenty-first century, to become prime minister. During his ascent, Johnson benefited from being regarded as a clown, for this meant his opponents failed to take him seriously, while his supporters delighted in his ability to shock and enrage the Establishment. He even changed the language of politics; a new word, 'cakeism', entered the English lexicon to describe his implausible but seductive claim during the Brexit negotiations that it was possible to have one's cake and eat it.



In a series of brilliant vignettes, Gimson sheds light on the parts played by sex, greed, boredom and low seriousness in Johnson's rise and fall, describes how Partygate fatally imperilled his prime ministership, and places him in a line of Tory adventurers stretching back to Benjamin Disraeli: disreputable figures who often blew themselves up, but who also could display an astonishing ability to connect with the British public.

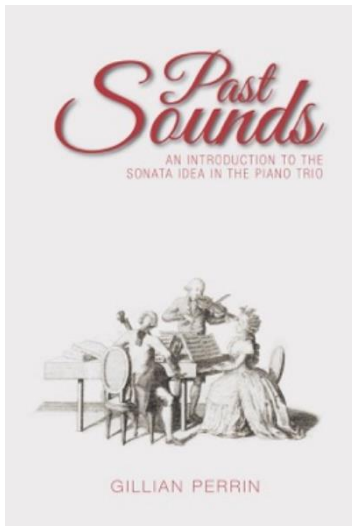
What kind of a person is Johnson? What kind of a country would dream of making him its prime minister? And why did he fall? Nobody

has got closer than Gimson to finding out the answers.

Simon & Schuster UK £25



Past Sounds: An Introduction to the Sonata Idea in the Piano Trio – Gillian Perrin



Don't be put off by the serious title - this is a book about classical music for people who say they love music "but don't understand how it works", as well as for performers and music students of all ages. It traces the development of the "sonata" idea in music for instruments. The sonata is one of the most popular frameworks of classical music: in symphonies, concertos, chamber music and solo sonatas, it dominated concert music for some 250 years - yet it is little understood by many music-lovers. To simplify this vast field, the book singles out for study "sonatas" for piano trio - piano, violin and 'cello. These instruments have well-contrasted and easily-identifiable sounds, and as the story unfolds the reader is introduced to many rarely-heard but beautiful works for piano trio.

This is a lively, clearly-written narrative as well as a handbook for subsequent listening. The book has two distinctive features: firstly, technical terms are carefully explained, and for those not familiar with music notation, audio clips in the accompanying website reproduce the actual sound of the music described. Secondly, in a broad historical sweep from mid-18th to 20th centuries, the development of the sonata is followed in its context of contemporary arts and literature - demonstrating how the sonata idea deserves to be better understood and valued as a western cultural archetype alongside other great artistic and literary forms.

“... enthralling ... no more suitable guide can be sought than in the pages of this well-produced book, and the informative text of its gifted author.”
Robert Matthew-Walker, Musical Opinion

More reviews - <https://www.gillianmargaretperrin.ampbk.com>

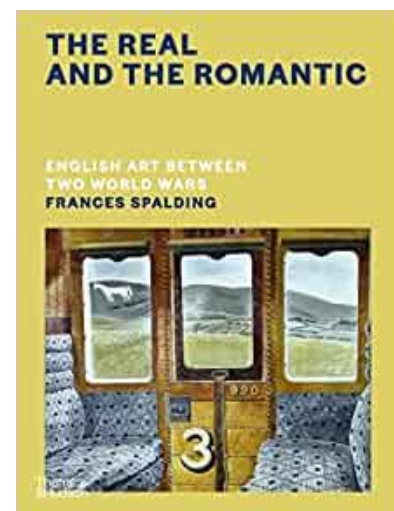
Austin Macauley Publishers: Paperback RRP £25.99 - Hardback RRP £31.99 - eBook RRP £3.50



The Real and the Romantic – Frances Spalding

A fresh look at a period of English art that has surged in interest and popularity in recent years, authored by one of Britain's leading art historians and critics.

The 21st century has seen a surge of interest in English art of the interwar years. Women artists, such as Winifred Knights, Frances Hodgkins and Evelyn Dunbar, have come to the fore, while familiar names – Paul Nash, Eric Ravilious and Stanley Spencer – have reached new audiences. High-profile exhibitions have attracted recordbreaking visitor numbers and challenged received opinion. In *The Real and the Romantic*, Frances Spalding, one of Britain's leading art historians and critics, takes a fresh and timely look at this rich period in English art.



The devastation of the First World War left the art world decentred and directionless. This book is about its recovery. Spalding explores how exciting new ideas co-existed with a desire for continuity and a renewed interest in the past. We see the challenge to English artists represented by Cézanne and Picasso, and the role played by museums and galleries in this period. Women artists, writers and curators contributed to the emergence of a new avant-garde. The English landscape was revisited in modern terms. The 1930s marked

a high point in the history of modernism in Britain, but the mood darkened with the prospect of a return to war. The former advance towards abstraction and internationalism was replaced by a renewed concern with history, place, memory and a sense of belonging. Native traditions were revived in modern terms but in ways that also let in the past. Surrealism further disturbed the ascetic purity of high modernism and fed into the British love of the strange.

Throughout these years, the pursuit of ‘the real’ was set against, and sometimes merged with, an inclination towards the ‘romantic’, as English artists sought to respond to their subjects and their times.

Thames & Hudson £25.35

Music Section

Mozart Requiem Review

Suzanne Pinkerton

To start this review on what might be a completely frivolous note this was described as an “Informal Performance”, which led to Christine Buras wearing a gown in dark green, my favourite colour, and Ruairi Bowen wearing a sweater made by his grandmother. Quite true – I had to from the man himself.

But now to musical matters. It’s amazing what can be done with four hands on one piano and you don’t even have to wear a tie to do it, on this occasion. William Vann and Joshua Ryan accomplished wonders but what were they going to do about “Tuba minim”? Not a problem – Joshua leapt up, dashed to the organ and provided a suitable sound. He then dashed back to the piano again. Apparently there was to have been more organ, but it would have clashed for tuning with the piano.

It has, of course, been much debated as to how much Mozart actually wrote of the Requiem before his tragic early death, and whether Franz Xavier Süssmayer wrote parts of it, all by himself, or using sketches by Mozart. He was Mozart’s pupil, after all. Whatever is

true, I felt you could hear echoes of Mozart's best-loved operas here and there in the music – Susanna singing in the garden in *Figaro*, the Commendatore's statue admonishing Don Giovanni or Sarastro's grave pronouncements in *Magic Flute*.

Quite a large choir was on hand, with many more ladies than men. This score really needs more men, which is no criticism of the ladies, who did an excellent job, particularly as they only got one rehearsal, fortified by some very nice sandwiches, if what we had after morning church next day was a sample.

Geoffrey Webber was a delight to watch when conducting, with his almost balletic arm movements, and you always get the feeling he so enjoys his job, which makes the performers and the audience enjoy it too. It is a short work, and only lasts about one hour.

The soloists do not get a great deal to sing and Christine Buras got most of the solo work, in the literal sense. Catherine Backhouse, who is leaving us soon, was not able to sing and Helene Cooke replaced her. Ruairi Bowen, well known to us, and Irish Eoghan Desmond, who is new to us, as far as I know, provided a stylish quartet, what was what was needed.

An A star for the printed programme. Not only was it useful for those who had small Latin and less Greek (as I believe Shakespeare said) but it had proper biographies of the soloists. Not long ago, I went to a lunchtime recital in the Wigmore Hall, and the programme had absolutely no information about the singer's or the pianist's careers at all. I slightly knew the singer, but I knew nothing about the pianist.

In a complete contrast, I then went home and watched the Remembrance event at the Royal Albert Hall. It was a reminder of the very high standard of playing in military bands, and a complete contrast. And a chance to get used to singing "God save the KING"!



Music for December

Geoffrey Webber

The music at Evensong on December 4th is mostly from the Restoration period, though unlike our recent 'Symphony Evensong', without string accompaniment. William Turner was the most famous countertenor of his day, who sang in the first performances of many of Henry Purcell's works. He was also a more than competent composer himself, gaining a doctorate from the University of Cambridge, and his *Evening Service in A*, as you might expect, has particularly intricate parts for the 2 countertenors. Purcell's *O Lord God of hosts* is one his finest full anthems, with a notably effective change of mood between the second full section which ends with 'and our enemies laugh us to scorn' and the ensuing verse section 'Turn us again, O God of hosts'. The Introit is by the musician-priest Robert Creighton, who was Precentor at Wells Cathedral. The Preces and Responses are by the Winchester Cathedral organist John Reading. The music only survives in an organ-book copied by him which is now at the University of California at Berkeley. It only contains the top and bottom lines of the musical texture, so the middle parts are supplied editorially.

On Sunday 11th we have Spanish polyphony at the Communion Service by Victoria and Guerrero (for SSATB), and at Evensong we sing the substantial anthem *Vox dicentis* by Edward Naylor composed in 1911. Naylor was Organist at Emmanuel College but composed his piece for the choir at King's College. His anthem is like a mini-cantata containing several highly contrasted sections including a fugue and a slow final section with a notable soprano melody. The music for the rest of the service is more austere, the *Short Service* by Thomas Weelkes and the Introit *Let thy merciful ears, O Lord*, once thought to be by Weelkes but now attributed to Thomas Mudd.

The music for our Confirmation Service on the 18th contains the *Missa Portae Honoris* by Charles Wood who was Organist at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge, at the turn of the twentieth century. The name of the Mass refers to the Gate of Honour designed by Dr

Caius, through which graduating students of the College process to be admitted to their degrees in the University's Senate House next door (as experienced by both Aidan Coburn and Malachy Frame). Two versions of the piece were published in his lifetime, the original one in Latin, and one in English, since Latin was rarely sung in Church of England services at that time. The mood of the work is suitably grave and serious throughout, though a ray of light enters for the delightful trio section at the Benedictus. The anthem is an anonymous 16th-century setting of part of the Epistle for the 4th Sunday of Advent in the first Prayerbook of Edward VI (from Philippians 4).

Our Christmas music this year includes two particularly joyful settings of the Mass, the *Mass in G* by Franz Schubert which we sing quite often here at Hampstead, and the less familiar *Messe solennelle Sainte Cécile* by Charles Gounod. The work is in a similar style to Rossini's *Petite messe solennelle* in that its idioms are perhaps more readily associated with the opera house than with the church. The start of the Gloria, the first we'll hear after the Advent season, brings us close to the shepherds on the hillside, with a solo soprano floating on high like an angel above the humming voices below. The work dates from 1855 and was originally scored for large orchestra including 6 harps. Some unusual elements include a few passages of extra text: in the Agnus Dei, the text 'Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say a word and I shall be healed' is sung between the three traditional phrases of the liturgy. Our anthem at midnight was composed by new bass choir member Eoghan Desmond. Based on a 15th-century text, this joyful carol was written for Christmas in 2020.

Music list

Sunday 4th December – Advent II

10.30 am. All-age Christingle Service

Organ Prelude *Improvisation* (Suite médiévale) Jean Langlais

Opening Hymn 'Lord, the light of your love'

Mass setting (K, S&B, AD) *Communion Service in the Ionian Mode*
Charles Wood

Communion Motet *Prayer for the blessing of light* Malcolm Archer

Post-communion Hymn 12

Organ Postlude *Es ist das Heil uns kommen her* (BuxWV 186)
Dieterich Buxtehude

5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her* Johann Pachelbel

Introit *I will arise and go to my Father* Robert Creighton

Preces & Responses John Reading (ed. Webber)

Psalm 11 William Boyce

Canticles *Evening Service in A* William Turner

Anthem *O Lord God of hosts* Henry Purcell

Hymn 500

Final Amen William Mundy

Organ Postlude *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* (Op. 122) Johannes Brahms

Sunday 11th December – Advent III

10.30 am. Holy Communion

Organ Prelude *Cantabile* César Franck

Opening Hymn 5

Mass setting (K/S&B/AD) *Missa Quarti toni* T. L. da Victoria

Gradual Psalm Psalm 146. 4 – 10 Tone viii/2

Offertory Hymn 3

Communion Motet *Veni Domine* Francisco Guerrero

Post-communion Hymn 6

Organ Postlude *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (BWV 663) J. S. Bach

5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Largo* (Serse, HWV 40) G. F. Handel

Introit *Let thy merciful ears* Thomas Mudd

Preces & Responses John Reading (ed. Webber)

Psalm 12 Samuel Wesley

Canticles *The Short Service* Thomas Weelkes

Anthem *Vox dicentis* Edward Naylor

Hymn 443

Final Amen William Mundy

Organ Postlude *Gottes Sohn ist kommen* (BWV 600) J. S. Bach

Sunday 18th December – Advent IV

10.30 am. Holy Communion with Confirmation

Organ Prelude *Herr Gott, nun sei gepreiset* (BWV 601) J. S. Bach

Opening Hymn 137

Mass setting (K/S&B/AD) *Missa Portae honoris* Charles Wood

Gradual Psalm 80. 1 – 8 Tone iv/4

Offertory Hymn 272

Communion Motet *Rejoice in the Lord alway* 16th-C. English

Post-communion Hymn 286

Organ Postlude *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* (BWV 645) J. S. Bach

5 pm. Carol Service

Saturday 24th December – Christmas Eve

11.30 pm. Midnight Holy Communion

Organ Prelude *Desseins éternels* Olivier Messiaen

Opening Hymn 32

Mass setting (G/S&B/AD) *Messe solennelle Sainte Cécile*
Charles Gounod

Gradual Hymn 29

Offertory Hymn 42

Communion Motet *Make good cheer!* Eoghan Desmond

Post-communion Hymn 26

Organ postlude *Dieu parmi nous* Olivier Messiaen

Sunday 25th December – Christmas Day

10.30 am Holy Communion

Organ prelude *Les Bergers* Olivier Messiaen

Opening Hymn 26

Mass setting (G/S&B/AD) *Mass in G major* Franz Schubert

Gradual Hymn 34

Offertory Hymn 28

Communion Motet *I saw three ships come sailing in*
arr. Martindale Sidwell

Post-communion Hymn 30

Organ postlude *Final* (Symphonie No. 1) Louis Vierne

Joe Hyam *Organ Scholar*

Aidan Coburn *Director of the Junior & Community Choirs*

Joshua Ryan *Organist & Assistant Director of Music*

Geoffrey Webber *Director of Music*

The Hampstead Collective

Monday 5th December

Emotionally volatile – a recital of songs by women

Catherine Backhouse (mezzo-soprano) and Elspeth
Wyllie (piano) present a rare chance to enjoy an entire
programme of music written by women

Including Clara Schumann, Rebecca Clarke, Amy Beach,
Thea Musgrave and Pauline Viardot



Monday 2nd January at 7pm

“New Beginnings”

Rebecca Hardwick (soprano)

Exsultate Jubilate by Mozart

Ruairi Bowen (tenor)

Dies Natalis by Finzi

with orchestra conducted by

Aidan Coburn

Tickets from hampsteadcollective.com

Or at the door

Christmas Lights

A Community Concert

Hampstead Community Choir
The Junior Choir
and
The Hampstead Players

There will be a retiring collection for
St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity



Friday 9th December 2022 at 7.30pm

HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH
CHURCH ROW, NW3 6UU

Tube: Hampstead (Northern Line) Buses: 46, 268
Parking is difficult in the immediate vicinity



**A JAZZY CHRISTMAS
CONCERT AT HAMPSTEAD
PARISH CHURCH**

Friday 23rd December 2022

Hampstead Jazz Club in association with Hampstead Parish Church proudly present a very special Jazzy Christmas evening. With Jo Harrop and Paul Edis featuring a 9 piece

band with Alan Barnes, Paul Booth & Gareth Lockrane.

Venue – The Parish Church of St John-at-Hampstead, Church Row, London, NW3 6UU

Tickets: £20

Doors open: 7.00pm / Show Time: 8.00pm

Featuring new arrangements of festive favourites penned by ‘brilliant young pianist’ Paul Edis and performed by some of the leading lights on the UK jazz scene including ‘velvet-voiced’ Jo Harrop.

Fr xmas txt msg

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describe. mrsx
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u in egypt. mrsx
2moro i sack rudolph. frx
i give dinner to elves. mrsx
i is sorry. frx
not half as sorry as u will be!!! Mrsx



Mike Harding

Readings for December

10.30am Choral Holy Communion

Sunday 4th – Advent 2

Isaiah 11. 1 – 10

Matthew 3. 1 – 12

Sunday 11th – Advent 3

Isaiah 35. 1 – 10

Matthew 11. 2 – 11

Sunday 18th – Advent 4

Isaiah 7. 10 – 16

Matthew 1. 18 – end

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Isaiah 9. 2 – 7; Luke 2. 1 – 14

Sunday 25th – 10.30am Christmas Day

Hebrews 1. 1 – 4; John 1. 1 – 14

5pm Choral Evensong

1 Kings 18. 17 – 39

John 1. 19 – 28

Isaiah 5. 8 – end

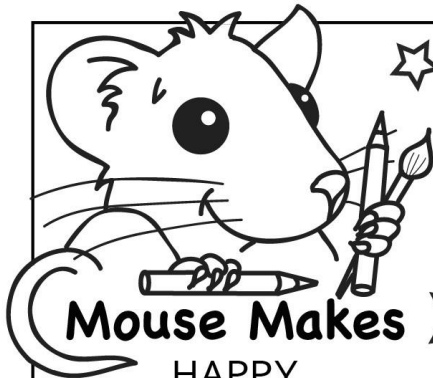
Acts 13. 13-41

Carol Service

Kneeling

Moments of great calm,
Kneeling before an altar
Of wood in a stone church
In summer, waiting for the God
To speak; the air a staircase
For silence; the sun's light
Ringing me, as though I acted
A great role. And the audiences
Still; all that close throug
Of spirits waiting, as I,
For the message.
Prompt me, God;
But not yet. When I speak
Though it be you who speak
Through me, something is lost.
The meaning is in the waiting.

R S Thomas (in *The Meaning is in the Waiting* – Paula Gooder's
Advent book mentioned in Fr Graham's sermon)



Mouse Makes

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

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

Answer the questions, colour the picture and colour one star each day until Christmas.

Where was Mary's baby born?
Why were Joseph and Mary there?

What did Mary dress her baby in?

Where did Mary lay her baby and why?

Why were the shepherds afraid?

What good news did the angel tell?

What did the shepherds do after they had seen the baby?

Who appeared praising God, what did they say?



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ALL • DECREE • JOSEPH • DAVID • BETHLEHEM • MARY • BIRTH • SON • LAID • MANGER
INN • SHEPHERDS • FLOCK • NIGHT • LORD • GLORY • GOOD NEWS • JOY • DAY
SAVIOUR • CHRIST • SIGN • BABY • GOD • PEACE • ANGELS • GO • SEE • TOLD • PRAISE