

# HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH

# MAGAZINE FOR

# DECEMBER 2024

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

## Expectation and Preparation

The Vicar considers  
the Advent season

## What does the Second Coming mean?

Andrew Penny's

## PCC Report



## Charity News

An update on the  
Bethlehem Arab  
Society for  
Reconciliation  
From Bill Risebero



جمعية بيت لحم العربية للتأهيل  
"المستشفى التخصصي للتأهيل والجراحة"

## Musical Notes

Services and Concerts  
for Advent and  
Christmas

# **HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH**

[Registered Charity No. 1129264]

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## **Sunday worship:**

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30am Choral Holy Communion (Common Worship)

5.00pm Choral Evensong (BCP)

## **Weekday worship:**

*Mon – Thu:* Morning Prayer at 9.00am, Evening Prayer at 5.00pm

*Wednesdays* Holy Communion at 10.15am

*Thursdays* Rosary prayer on Zoom at 8.30am

*Saturday* Evening Prayer at 5.00pm

But please check the weekly email—sometimes we have to make changes to our pattern of worship\*

For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Communion and Home Visits

please contact The Vicar

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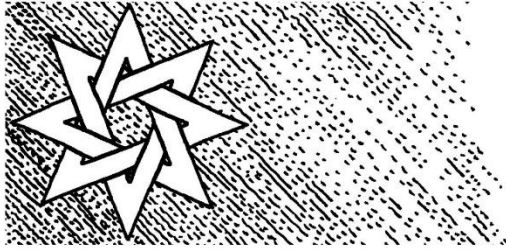
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December  
2024

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## Contents

Diary for December	5
The Vicar writes	7
December – <i>Judy East</i>	8
Children’s Crib Service	9
Mark 13 and the Second Coming: sermon <i>Andrew Penny</i>	10
PCC Report – <i>Nick Walser</i>	13
Stephen Clarke: a personal tribute – <i>David Gardner</i>	14
Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation – <i>Bill Risebero</i>	15
<b>MUSIC SECTION</b>	
Notes for December – <i>Geoffrey Webber</i>	17
Music List	19
Martindale Sidwell Carols	22
Organ Recitals	22
Christmas Lights	23
Handel’s Messiah	24
Jazzy Christmas Concert	25
Hampstead Collective	26
Christmas Gifting	26
Some books for children	27*
Readings for December	29
Roti Sans Pareil	30
Don’t forget the washing up – Nigel Beaton	30*
Children’s Page	31*

*\*From Parish Pump*

# Diary for December

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>



8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am All Age Service and Admission to communion  
 5.00pm Advent Carol Service

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.00pm Hampstead Collective concert – see page 26  
 Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> 6.00pm St Christopher's School Carol concert  
 Wed 4<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion  
 Fri 6<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Christmas Lights Concert – see page 23  
 Sat 7<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Gardening morning  
 4.30pm A seasonal Organ Recital with Joshua Ryan – Details page 22

## Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>



8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Choral Holy Communion (Christingle-making in Junior Church)  
 5.00pm Choral Evensong

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm SHHS Carol Service  
 Tue 10<sup>th</sup> time tbc St Mary's Carol Service  
 Wed 11<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion  
 1.30pm Heathside School Carol Service  
 7.00pm Maggie's, Royal Free, Concert  
 Thu 12<sup>th</sup> time tbc St Anthony's Carol Service  
 Fri 13<sup>th</sup> time tbc Devonshire House Carol Service  
 Sat 14<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Church Cleaning  
 Jazzy Christmas Concert – see page 25

## Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>



8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Choral Holy Communion  
 5.00pm Said Evening Prayer  
 7.30pm Handel's Messiah – see page 24

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion  
time tbc Hampstead Parochial School Christmas Service

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>**



8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Choral Holy Communion  
5.00pm Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

**Tue 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve**

4.30pm Children's Crib Service  
11.30pm Midnight Mass

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Choral Holy Communion



*Thu 26<sup>th</sup> St Stephen*

*Fri 27<sup>th</sup> St John*

*Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Holy Innocents*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> – Christmas I**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion  
5.00pm Said Evening Prayer

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Epiphany**

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



At this feast of the nativity  
let each person wreathe the door of his heart  
so that the Holy Spirit may delight in that door,  
enter in and take up residence there;  
Then by the Spirit we will be made holy.  
*Ephrem of Syria*

## The Vicar writes

As a Christmas baby (my birthday being 23 December), I have always seen the season of Advent from a dual perspective. Firstly, it was the serious business of planning and organising Christmas in a working class household without credit cards. Everything had to be saved for, and if my Dad happened to get some extra shifts at the factory then there would be a bit more to go around that year. Secondly, there was the spiritual preparation of watching each of the Advent candles being lit on the huge wreath at the church. We listened carefully to the readings at Holy Communion each Sunday, we practised the carols in school, we longed for those four weeks to hurry by so that we could get to Christmas. As an adult I have a little more patience, and as I have grown older I have begun to appreciate Advent for what it is—a proper time of preparation for the coming of the Christ-child, born afresh in our hearts each year.

The Church approaches Advent from the following perspective: ‘Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (*adventus*) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time. The readings and liturgies not only direct us towards Christ’s birth, they also challenge the modern reluctance to confront the theme of divine judgement.’ (*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*). This explains why some of the readings each Sunday in Advent might feel a bit ‘dour’. In the liturgical cycle for this year we are working through the Gospel according to St Luke. On Advent Sunday we hear Jesus tell us to be alert at all times (Luke 21: 25-36). On the second Sunday we hear St John the Baptist proclaiming that we must be ready for the one who will come after him (Luke 3: 1-6). On the third Sunday we hear from St John the Baptist again, as he admonishes the crowd to repent (Luke 3: 7-18). The fourth Sunday is more joyful as we hear of Mary’s visit to her cousin Elizabeth (Luke 1: 39-55).

As we reflect on these readings it is clear that we are called to self-examination and preparation, which runs counter to the heavily

commercialised run-up to Christmas in our modern world. The symbol of the light shining in the darkness—which we see so clearly on our Advent wreath—is a useful way of anchoring us in the realisation that preparation always takes a bit of effort, but is worth it in the end. Advent is a time to say our daily prayers—these are the fresh linen and the beautiful fragrant straw that will line the ‘manger of our hearts’ for the advent of the Christ-child. Have a blessed and fruitful Advent season

## *Mthr Carol*

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## **December**

*Judy East*

Chill December brings the sleet,  
Blazing fire and Christmas treat.

*Sara Coleridge*

We all need treats during the shortest days. 1750 years ago, on 25 Dec 274, the Roman Emperor Aurelian founded the cult of Sol Invictus as an official religion. He erected a temple and declared 25<sup>th</sup> December a national holiday, to be known as the Feast of the Unconquered Sun. Only 62 years later, in 336, after the conversion of the Emperor Constantine, 25<sup>th</sup> December began to be celebrated by the church in Rome as the birthday of God’s Son. Neither of these should, of course, be confused with Saturnalia, another mid-winter festival with feasting, gift-giving, decorating, merry-making and such jollity. And then there was Yule. You can’t have too many excuses to party in the middle of winter! And no doubt the Romans would recognise and approve of many of our traditions today.

But we’re not there yet and Advent is busy enough. A glance at the diary will show we’re hosting a number of local schools for their Christmas end-of-term services and concerts. And there’s the **Hampstead Collective**, the **Community Choir Christmas**



**Lights**, a yearly delight, the **Hampstead Jazz Club** concert, **Handel's Messiah** performed by our Choir, the Junior Choir and period instruments, and then on 22nd our own **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**. Christmas services follow the traditional pattern – **Children's Crib Service** at 4.30pm on Christmas Eve, followed by **Midnight Mass** at 11.30 and then the usual Sunday morning service times on **Christmas Day**, after which the clergy take a well-earned break and there are no services till 29<sup>th</sup>, although we will try to make sure the church is open for some of each day for visitors and private prayer. And do say a special prayer for the church on the Feast of St John the Evangelist (27<sup>th</sup>) – our patronal festival (maybe, maybe not – see June issue).

So if your heart is sinking at the prospect of another festive season blame the Romans and take courage from the thought that it will all be over soon.

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## Mainly for Children



The ever-popular **Crib Service** will be held on 24th December at 4.30pm. 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!

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## Afterthought

I am constantly astonished at the ease with which Google can trace a quotation from the sketchiest of remembered phrases but I seem to have defeated it with this one:

“I hope they swept the stable clean / those little boys in Bethlehem”  
I don't recall how it went on but I think it was in a book of ideas for children's nativity plays. I wonder if anyone else has ever come across it? Ed.



# Mark 13 and the Second Coming

A sermon preached on the second Sunday before Advent

*Andrew Penny*

I am much puzzled by Time in the New Testament. The Gospel announces the arrival of a new world order and a new Creation, both in the ministry of Jesus, healing and heralding the Kingdom of God and in the Resurrection. And yet there are also passages such as that we just heard from St Mark's Gospel which suggest the kingdom and the Resurrected world are not the last word, but that perfection, along with final judgement, are yet to come and come soon.

In our Gospel Jesus is clearly talking about a future event. He is talking about the warnings and dangers which will be experienced before a critical moment, a judgement and a turning point. The world will not be the same place or indeed a place at all, after the Second Coming, the Last Judgement and perhaps the End of Time.

What then can a Second Coming mean? Or how is it compatible with the new order which Jesus promises, indeed ushers in, that is the Kingdom of God or Heaven? Why would the perfection of earthly life to such an extent that it can be called the Kingdom of Heaven, need to end?

It's plain, of course, to us, that the New Creation or the Kingdom of Heaven as we experience them are very far from perfect. The terrible events which Jesus predicts are all too obvious now and, depressing although the state of the world seems right now, there has scarcely ever been a time when man's greed or fear has not generated the hatred needed for war and oppression. I believe the gift of the Kingdom is essentially that love can overcome human wickedness; it is the promise that the work we undertake to bring about justice and generosity is worthwhile; it is the promise that righteous living is a possibility. How well we have achieved that potential is something on which we shall be or are judged, but it seems unnecessary and inappropriate that the judgment should be delayed and bring with it the end of that heavenly world.

Perhaps Jesus' meaning in chapter 13 of Mark's Gospel is a literal prediction of the destruction of the Temple and the crushing of the Jewish revolt some 40 years after Jesus spoke these words. That disaster had almost certainly happened when St Mark's Gospel was written. Jesus' words are not however unremittingly threatening; terrible although they are, they include some glimmer of hope; a woman's birth pangs should result in a baby and new life and joy. Later in the chapter Jesus will compare the portents to a fig tree putting forth new shoots with the promise of Summer and fruitfulness.

The disaster that was the destruction of the Temple could, however, be seen by both Jew and Christian as having a positive consequence; the old ritualistic and sacrificial religion based in the Temple was finished for good to be replaced by the Rabbinical emphasis on righteous living, a shift very similar to Jesus's teaching which coalesces service of God as service, and love, of our fellow men.

John's Gospel makes it clear early on that Jesus saw the place of the Temple in religious observance as similar to his own body; it would be destroyed but raised again transformed in three days. The words spoken in Mark's chapter 13 immediately precede the final narrative leading to the crucifixion and there is a sense, perceptible only with our hindsight, that the portents predicted allude in a symbolic way to the crucifixion the outcome of which, after all the pain, will be the joyous new birth of resurrection, the opposite of death.

But interpreting Jesus' words as referring however obliquely to the crucifixion and resurrection, rather slides over the distinctly temporal and cosmic imagery used. I suggest there is little avoiding the puzzling fact that Jesus is apparently predicting an event in the near future and appears to have miscalculated by something over two thousand years, so far. There have been countless famines, genocides and savage wars but we are still waiting for a second coming. Either, it seems, we are misunderstanding the nature of the Second Coming or the nature of Time - or, of course both.

It is perhaps itself the idea of a Second Coming that has helped to give western thought the fixation with time as a continuum; one thing – one damn thing - after another. The writers of the Hebrew Bible and perhaps Jesus himself, did not see time in this way; for them events were continually repeating themselves in a cycle - most notably of exile, transition and return. On this basis the second coming was not in the future in our two-dimensional sense, but could be seen as ever present, or at least ever approaching on the cycle of existence. In a similar way our liturgical year returns again and again to the story of our redemption, the events of which we experience through remembrance with joy and sorrow.

It helps to see the implications of this way of looking at history, and life, in the Second Coming as the Last Judgement. The Greek for judgment is *Krisis*, from which derive both *critical* and *crisis*. The Second Coming is an ever-present turning point; an evaluation and judgement of individual's and society's behaviour, final in the sense that it will be about the things which ultimately matter. That judgement is now and takes account of the wars and famines and other disasters listed by Mark but which resonate so terribly today. They are disasters for which man is ultimately responsible and the consequences of which he faces now.

Chapter 13 ends with the famous passage in which Jesus urges us to be ever vigilant like the servants of an absent proprietor “because we do not know when the master of the house is coming” The fear of judgement can be judgement itself; waiting for punishment can be as bad as the thing itself. But equally the promise of the kingdom of Heaven should make us as joyous - and as industrious for it - as the delight in its achievement. A delight we may see only fleetingly and occasionally but which is nevertheless as comforting and reassuring as the shoots of the fig tree presaging spring.

Amen

*This and other sermons can be found on the parish website – [hampstgeadparishchurch.org.uk/what-we-do/sermons](http://hampstgeadparishchurch.org.uk/what-we-do/sermons)*

# **PCC REPORT**

*Nick Walser (PCC Secretary)*

## **WELCOME TO Fr YIN-AN – JUNIOR CHURCH UPDATE - STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN – NEW OFFICE PRINTER/COPIER**

There was a meeting of the PCC on 11 November.

We welcomed Fr Yin-An Chen, who has become a PCC member 'ex officio' following his licensing as our Curate on 6 November. Mthr Carol reported on the successful series of sermons from visiting preachers at Evensong, and told us of her plan to arrange a similar series in 2025.

We approved a proposal to recruit a young administrative assistant to help with the logistics of organising the growing numbers of children attending our Junior Church groups in the crypt rooms every Sunday morning, and heard about the special All Age Eucharist service planned for Sunday 1 December, when several of the children will be admitted to Holy Communion.

In his regular financial update, Inigo Woolf reported that we are still expecting a deficit of around £30,000 at the year end. The 2024 stewardship campaign remains open during December, and we hope more people will be able to pledge additional regular giving, so that we can plan our activities for 2025 with greater confidence.

The PCC has also approved the purchase of a new copier / printer for the parish office to replace the existing machine which was 6 years old and increasingly unreliable. This will enable printed materials to be produced more economically and sustainably, such as re-usable seasonal service booklets to replace the 'throw-away' weekly orders of service.

The PCC's next scheduled meeting will be on Monday 3 March 2025.



In amongst your other Christmas shopping don't forget that the C4WS Homeless Project has an Amazon wishlist

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## **Stephen Clarke – A personal tribute**

*David Gardner*

Stephen Clarke passed away peacefully aged 86 on Sunday 3rd November surrounded by his family. He was a very active member of The Hampstead Players, serving for many years on The Drama Committee.

In articles in the Hampstead Parish Church Magazine this year Stephen wrote: "I got a good degree at Oxford and later worked for The Times and various television companies as a reporter. In South Africa I met a missionary who converted me to Christianity. I came to worship at Hampstead Parish Church by complete chance... There followed what was maybe the happiest period of my life, as an amateur actor with the Hampstead Players... [In 2006] I took part in a play-reading in the Crypt Room. Afterwards David Gardner came up to me and said, 'Stephen, we have a vacancy in the cast of Julius Caesar but it would mean going to France.' Later I found myself in the Lauzerte area playing the role of Casca, the chief assassin in Julius Caesar." His wife, Sheila, joined him on the tour.

My late mother Pat, a Hampstead Player from 1980, certainly took to Stephen from the moment he auditioned for Julius Caesar along with Simon Malpas, writing in her diary: "Two rather nice & very acceptable middle-age+ chaps, Stephen & Simon, turned up" and later, on Stephen: "What a delightful person ... and wonderful diction."

Stephen was in seventeen Hampstead Player productions from 2006, including Antony and Cleopatra (2010) which also travelled to France, Fiddler on the Roof (2012) as the "evil Russian" Constable, and The Man Born to be King (2014), until "retiring" in 2018 when "I even got a part in Euripides' Bacchae at the age of 80!" Looking back at his acting career with us, he commented "I specialised in 'bad' guys".

Besides the plays, Stephen lent his talents to a good many Players' events over the years: Poetry evenings, Play readings, Literary Hours (ten of which he "arranged with meticulous care & flare" as my mother recorded), Twelfth Night & AGM entertainments, Burns Night evenings, Holiday in Hampstead entertainments, Zoom events. He Also took part in the Hampstead Parish Church "Community@War" project with local schoolchildren in 2014.

In HP's 40th anniversary year 2016, Stephen directed a terrific production of Alan Bennett's *Forty Years On* in the Crypt Room, with a cast of 13 led by Bill Fry as the Headmaster.

In 2018 he organised a touching Hampstead Players tribute to Doris Asher, *Remembering Doris*, and the following year Stephen read at Bill Fry's funeral. Another beautiful occasion was an evening presented by Stephen and Sheila Clarke in the Crypt Room in March 2020 - "Ballads of Love and Loss sung by the amazing Jenny Lupa and friends".

Stephen's many and varied contributions to Hampstead Players productions continued into this year, performing at our 5th Burns Night in January, and reading at the International Women's Day - *Celebrating Women Writers* event and the *Town and Country Poetry* afternoon in March.

We shall miss his enthusiasm, intelligence and loyalty to The Hampstead Players, and his contributions to our Hampstead Parish Church community. May he Rest in Peace.



جمعية بيت لحم العربية للتأهيل  
"المستشفى التخصصي للتأهيل والجراحة"  
Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation  
"Specialized Rehabilitation and Surgery Hospital"

## Places of Healing

Bill Risebero

Bethlehem PA, the 'Christmas City' in Pennsylvania, will celebrate this year with trees, lights, markets, parades, band concerts and song. In Jesus' birthplace, Bethlehem in West Bank Palestine, there will be no such public celebrations. A recent posting by the Friends of the Holy

Land organisation said, 'This Christmas, children in the Holy Land aren't dreaming of gifts, nativity plays, or decorations - but rather roadblocks and bombs'. Nevertheless the Bethlehem churches - the Catholics and Lutherans in December, the Copts, Greeks and Armenians in January - will still pray for God's mercy on Palestine and Israel, and peace for all people.

With our attention drawn to Gaza, we have tended to lose sight of the West Bank. Since October 2023 there have been some 1300 settler attacks on West Bank property, mostly on houses, crops and livestock. Farmers this year are forcibly being prevented from taking in their olive harvest, their economic lifeline. Water supplies are being diverted from Palestinian villages to settlements. Seventy or so attacks have been made on West Bank schools. Even young children are traumatised and endangered. In the last year, in the West Bank, an average of five children a day have been killed or injured.

Hampstead Parish Church has long supported a hospital in the West Bank. This is BASR (the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation) at Beit Jala near Bethlehem, with outposts at various community hubs in the West Bank. BASR is a Christian organisation founded in 1960, originally for child victims of polio. Over time, responding to the violent circumstances, it has developed much-valued specialisms in acute trauma surgery, rehabilitation and mental health services.

Part of its success is its involvement of the patients' families in the recovery process. Another is that it goes out into the community to develop people's knowledge of health issues. Another is that it does not turn anyone away, whatever their race or social class, and whether or not they can pay. Its work is collaborative, accommodating and unconditional, a potent response to violence and destructiveness. If you are interested in finding out more, or donating, you can access the website at [basr.org](http://basr.org).

Palestinian Christians say they are used to being ignored by the rest of the Church. The Lutheran Pastor Munther Isaac, who has become a spokesperson for them, says 'we are tormented by the silence of the



world'. It is easy for us to turn away in frustration or despair. But consider the medical staff, the aid workers, the diggers of the rubble, in both Gaza and the West Bank. They have done, and still are doing, all they can, in the face of acute need. This is a powerful challenge to all that destruction.

If we ask the question: 'Where was God at Auschwitz?' the answer has to be 'Suffering along with his People'. In the same vein Pastor Isaac tells us:

*If Jesus were to be born today, he would be born under the rubble in Gaza. When we glorify pride and richness, Jesus is under the rubble. When we rely on power, might and weapons, Jesus is under the rubble. When we justify, rationalise and theologise the bombing of children, Jesus is under the rubble.*

By all means let's celebrate Christmas with food and gifts and songs, but let's not forget its challenge to us: its demand of unconditional love and support for those most in need.

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## **MUSIC SECTION**

### **Music for December**

*Geoffrey Webber*

At the licensing of Fr Yin-An it was a pleasure to perform Victoria's *Missa O quam gloriosum* (O how glorious [are the Saints]...) for a celebration of Holy Communion within the octave of the Feast of All Saints. It is one of the most perfect of all Renaissance mass settings, and one that younger singers enjoy due to its concise tunefulness. We sang the Gloria at the licensing but in Advent we sing the Kyrie instead, and both choirs will be taking part in the performance at the All-Age service on Sunday 1st. At the Advent Carol Service in the evening the main choral item will be Edward Naylor's dramatic motet *Vox dicentis*, setting verses from Isaiah 40. Other items will include Ravenscroft's haunting *Remember, o thou man* and John Rutter's *There is a flower*, together with pieces to match the theme of the readings: 'The King

and his kingdom'. Before the service we hear one of the movements in the *O Antiphon* sequence composed by Cecilia MacDowall in 2018. These elaborate on the Magnificat antiphons used at Vespers at the end of Advent.

At Communion on the 8th we hear music by the great Portuguese polyphonist Duarte Lobo as well as a motet by the 18th-century Italian composer Giovanni Martini, often known as 'Padre Martini' as he was a Franciscan friar. At Evensong the choir sings one of J. S. Bach's finest motets *Komm, Jesu, komm*, a work that changes style and mood several times, matching the changing sentiments of the text which examines both the trials and tribulations of normal life and the comfort offered by the expected Jesus, 'the way, the truth and the life'. The voluntary in the morning is a setting by Samuel Scheidt of verses from the great Advent hymn *Veni redemptor gentium* (O come, Redeemer of the earth) and for the Introit at Evensong we sing the German Lutheran version of the same hymn in the form of a simple setting of *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* by the 16th-century composer Johannes Eccard.

The Communion motet on Sunday 15th is the wonderful *Audivi vocem de caelo* by Thomas Tallis. The text of this, referencing the story of the wise and foolish virgins, was sung in the Use of Sarum on the Feast of All Saints and for the Common of Virgins, but it is most often used today for Advent as it anticipates the arrival of the bridegroom that is Christ. Gentle polyphony alternates with the beauty of Sarum plainsong. In the evening we perform Handel's *Messiah*, singing all of Part One, most of which concerns Advent and Christmas, and then highlights from Parts Two and Three. Cellist Jacob Garside of the Hampstead Collective has put together an orchestra using period instruments, and our regular professional singers will be joined by the Junior Choir for some items. Thanks to the Hampstead Church Music Trust the performance is with free admission, so it's a great opportunity to bring along friends and family.

Our Mass setting on Christmas Eve is the powerful and joyful *Messe solennelle* by the great early-20th-century French organist Louis Vierne, and Joshua will be playing his popular *Final* from the first symphony at

the conclusion of the service. On Christmas Day we will sing three separate settings instead of a single Mass setting. This allows us to bring more variety into the occasion with music by a famous modern Anglican composer, Herbert Howells, as well as an increasingly recognised Afro-Brazilian composer of the early 19th century, José Maurício Nunes Garcia. We will also sing a single movement from one of the greatest of all polyphonic Christmas works, the *Missa Puer natus* by Thomas Tallis. The work is too long for us to sing liturgically in the normal manner, but just one movement will be a treat: the *Agnus Dei*, which we will sing during the distribution of Communion.

## Music List

### **Sunday 1st December – Advent Sunday**

#### **10.30 am. All-Age Holy Communion**

Introit Hymn 12

Mass setting (K/S&B/AD) *Missa O quam gloriosum* T. L. da Victoria

Gradual Psalm 25. 1-9 Tone i/I

Offertory Hymn 'Kum ba yah'

Communion Anthem *The truth from above*

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Post-Communion Hymn 'This little light of mine'

Organ Voluntary *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (BWV 659)

J. S. Bach

#### **5 pm. Advent Carol Service**

Organ Prelude *O Oriens* Cecilia McDowall

Organ Postlude *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* (BuxWV 223)

Dieterich Buxtehude

### **Sunday 8th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent**

#### **10.30 am. Holy Communion**

Introit Hymn 6

Mass setting (K/S&B/AD) *Missa Sancta Maria* Duarte Lobo

Gradual Benedictus Martin How

Offertory Hymn 7

Communion Motet *Jerusalem surge* G. B. Martini

Post-Communion Hymn 18

Organ Voluntary *Veni Redemptor gentium* (vv. 1 & 5) Samuel Scheidt

**5 pm. Evensong**

Organ Prelude *Vom Himmel hoch* (BWV 606) J. S. Bach

Introit *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland* Johannes Eccard

Preces & Responses Plainchant

Psalm 75 Tone vi

Canticles *Fauxbourdon Service* H. Walford Davies

Anthem *Komm, Jesu, komm* (BWV 229) J. S. Bach

Hymn 494

Final Amen Johann Naumann

Organ Postlude *Sleepers Wake* Miles l'A. Martin

**Sunday 15th December – Third Sunday of Advent**

**10.30 am. Holy Communion**

Introit Hymn 499

Mass setting (K/S&B/AD) *Mass in A minor* (Op. 197)

Josef Rheinberger

Gradual Psalm 146. 4-end Joseph Barnby

Offertory Hymn 280

Communion Motet *Audivi vocem de caelo* Thomas Tallis

Post-Communion Hymn 500

Organ Voluntary *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* (Op. 122/7)

Johannes Brahms

**7.30 pm Handel's MESSIAH**

**Sunday 22nd December – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**10.30 am. Holy Communion with Baptism**

Introit Hymn 5

Mass setting (K/S&B/AD) *Communion Service in G*

Francis Jackson

Gradual Psalm 80. 1-8 William Croft

Offertory Hymn 11

Communion Motet *Benedixisti Domine* (Advent-Motetten, Op. 176)

Josef Rheinberger

Post-Communion Hymn 15  
Organ Voluntary *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* (BWV 645)  
J. S. Bach

**5 pm. Christmas Carol Service**

Organ Prelude *La Vierge et l'Enfant* (La Nativité du Seigneur)  
Olivier Messiaen

Organ Postlude *In dulci jubilo* (BWV 729) J. S. Bach

**Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve**

**11.30 pm. Holy Communion**

Introit Hymn 29

Mass setting (G/S/AD) *Messe solennelle* Louis Vierne

Gradual Hymn 31

Offertory Hymn 42

Communion Anthem *Wither's Rocking Hymn*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Post-Communion Hymn 30 (omit vv. 3-5)

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

**Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day**

**10.30 am. Holy Communion**

Introit Hymn 26 (omit \*)

Gloria in excelsis *Communion Service* (*Collegium Regale*)

Herbert Howells

Gradual Hymn 22

Offertory Hymn 36

Sanctus *Mass of St Cecilia* José Nunes Garcia

Agnus Dei *Missa Puer natus est nobis* Thomas Tallis

Post-Communion Hymn 32 (omit \*)

Organ Voluntary *Dieu parmi nous* (La Nativité du Seigneur)

Olivier Messiaen

Louis Horsman Carpenter *Organ Scholar*

Aidan Coburn *Director of the Junior & Community Choirs*

Joshua Ryan *Organist & Assistant Director of Music*

Geoffrey Webber *Director of Music*

## New publication of carols arranged by Martindale Sidwell

Martindale Sidwell was Organist and Director of Music at Hampstead Parish Church from 1946 till his retirement in 1992, and also, from 1958 onwards, Organist and Director of Music at St Clement Danes Church, the Central Church of the Royal Air Force. Initially the Hampstead choir sang Evensong at St Clement Danes, but Sidwell soon founded a mixed professional octet to sing there, contrasting with the traditional choir of men and boys at Hampstead. The Church Music Society has now published three of his carol arrangements which were sung both at both churches, and Sidwell made a recording of *I saw three ships* and *Stille Nacht* with the 'St Clement Danes Chorale' in 1986. One of three is likely to feature in our carol service on Sunday 22nd at 5 pm.

CHURCH MUSIC SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS 0854  
General Editor: Geoffrey Webber



MARTINDALE SIDWELL

### *Three Carol Arrangements*

*I Saw Three Ships*  
SATB and organ

*Stille Nacht*  
*The Holly and the Ivy*  
SATB

CHURCH MUSIC SOCIETY

## Saturday Organ Recitals

December 7th at **4.30pm**

**Joshua Ryan**

*Messiaen's La Nativité du  
Seigneur*

a set of nine beautiful  
meditations on the Christmas  
story, from his divine  
conception to birth

Interspersed with readings to  
enrich and unfold the narrative  
*A seasonal afternoon with mulled  
wine and mince pies*

February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4.00pm

**Hugh Rowlands**

22<sup>nd</sup> March at 4.00pm

**Geoffrey Webber**

12<sup>th</sup> April at 4.00pm

**Ivan Leung**

24<sup>th</sup> May at 4.00pm

**Mitchell Miller**

There is no charge for these organ recitals but we invite donations  
to help cover costs

# Christmas Lights

## A Community Concert

Hampstead Community Choir  
The Junior Choir  
and  
The Hampstead Players

There will be a retiring collection for

***Everyone Matters***

Taking live music into the community



Friday 6th December 2024 at 7.30pm

**HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH  
CHURCH ROW, NW3 6UU**

Tube: Hampstead (Northern Line) Buses: 46, 268

Parking is difficult in the immediate vicinity

# HANDEL MESSIAH

**The Choir of Hampstead Parish Church**  
with the Junior Choir

Orchestra with period instruments  
Conducted by Geoffrey Webber

**Sunday 15th December 2024 at 7.30pm**

**HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH  
CHURCH ROW, NW3 6UU**

Admission Free  
with a  
retiring collection  
for the  
Ministry & Mission  
of the Church

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





# **A Soulful Jazzy Christmas with Jordan Jackson**

Saturday 14th December 2024

8.00pm (doors open 7.00pm)

**Hampstead Jazz Club proudly presents a Christmas show like no other in association with Hampstead Parish Church.**

Tickets: £20 (last year tickets sold out, so grab yours now)

This ***Soulful Jazzy Christmas Evening***, will undoubtedly be one of the musical highlights of the year and the perfect way to celebrate this most special time of year.

## **JORDAN JACKSON**

*“One of the finest soul singers to have emerged from these shores in years.”* **Jazz FM**

Fast becoming one of the most talked about soul singers in Europe, Jordan Jackson has cooked up a very special feast of festive songs paying tribute to a galaxy of iconic stars including Ella Fitzgerald, Aretha Franklin and the Ronettes.

Together with her superb band and a four-piece brass section, she'll be taking the audience on a musical sleigh ride that goes from Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas and Winter Wonderland to traditional carols and feelgood soul classics.

Stirring up an ear-watering cocktail of vintage soul and jazz, Jackson effortlessly blurs the boundaries between Sade and Corrine Bailey Rae.

## **Line-Up**

**Piano and Vocals** – Jordan Jackson

**Guitar** – Claudio Suriano

**Drums** – Juan Jacinto

**Bass** – Santi Viale

# The Hampstead Collective

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

7.00 – 8.30pm

**Schubert's Piano Quintet in A Major D.667 alongside  
Auf dem Strom D.943 and selected Lieder**

The Players of the Hampstead Collective,

Steven Devine (fortepiano). Christine Buras (soprano)

This concert is supported by a grant from the Continuo Foundatoon

Tickets £15 from [thehampsteadcollective.com](http://thehampsteadcollective.com)

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January (**at St Peter's Belsize Park**)

In this earthly Paradise: Monteverdi and Purcell

7.00 – 8.30pm

Rebecca Hardwick (soprano), Christine Buras (soprano), Malachy

Frame (director) the Players of the Hampstead Collective

Tickets £15 from [thehampstgeadcollective.com](http://thehampstgeadcollective.com)



## Christmas Gifting

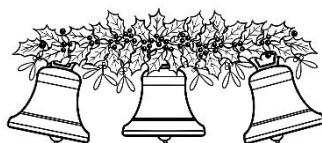
“And when we give each other Christmas gifts in His name, let us remember that He has given us the sun and the moon and the stars, and the earth with its forests and mountains and oceans--and all that lives and move upon them. He has given us all green things and everything that blossoms and bears fruit and all that we quarrel about and all that we have misused--and to save us from our foolishness, from all our sins, He came down to earth and gave us Himself.”

— *Sigrid Undset* )a Norwegian writer who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1928. Submitted by Janet Farrington

Over the swinging parapet of my arm  
Your sentinel eyes lean gazing. Hugely alert  
In the pale unfinished clay of your infant face,  
They drink light from this candle on the tree.  
Drinking not pondering, each bright thing you see,  
You make it yours without analysis  
And, stopping down the aperture of thought  
To a fine pinhole, you are filled with flame.

Give me for Christmas, then, your kind of seeing,  
Not studying candles – angel, manger, star –  
But staring as at a portrait, God’s I guess,  
That shocks and holds the eye, till all my being,  
Gathered, intent and still, as now you are,  
Breathes out its wonder in a wordless yes.

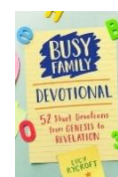
*John V Taylor (Bishop of Winchester '74 -'85)*



## Some books for our younger members

### **Busy Family Devotional - 52 Short Devotions from Genesis to Revelation** By Lucy Rycroft, SPCK, £9.99

*The Busy Family Devotional* is a short and simple way of leading your children through Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation. It is a resource that can help them grow in relationship with the God who created and loves them. Each of the 52 devotionals include a Bible reading, some questions to consider, a prayer and a Bible verse to memorise.



### **The Nativity Story** By Juliet David, SPCK, £4.99

This sturdy and colourful little board book is just right for little ones starting to learn about Mary and Joseph's



journey to Bethlehem, the shepherds and the wise men who came to meet Baby Jesus. It would make a good stocking filler.

**The Extra Special Baby - Story of the Christmas Promise** By Antonia Woodward, SPCK, £10.99

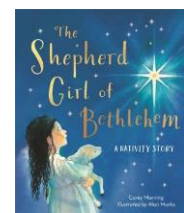
A long time ago, a long way away, some very clever men discovered an exciting promise! For in Bethlehem one night, under the quiet starry sky, an Extra Special Baby was born.



This beautiful retelling of the Nativity story will take children back to the excitement of that very first Christmas night, when life on earth would change forever. A helpful picture book to share with a child at bedtime, or with a group of children during the Christmas season.

**The Shepherd Girl of Bethlehem - a Nativity story** By Carey Morning, SPCK £5.99

A little shepherd girl loves her father greatly, and adores spending time with him on the hillside, tending his flocks. But one night, he is called away and she can't find him. She anxiously searches high and low, eventually finding him at a stable in Bethlehem, where her journey ends with a most glorious discovery.



**Wow! Christmas - Creatively explore stories in the Bible** by Martha Shrimpton. SPCK 10.99

Here is a well designed and colourful Christmas activity book for children.



The stories cover the birth of Jesus, the shepherds, the journey of the Wise Men, and the giving of gifts. With each story there is a prayer, a craft, and a chance to act out the story, followed by a time for reflection, discussion, and creative praise.

**The Big Big Big Christmas - (That Was Also Very Small)** By Emma Randall and Mei Shan Dibble, 10Publishing, £4.99

The wonder of the Incarnation is told here in a fresh, funny and child-friendly way. The book offers a hilarious series of zany comparisons that get bigger and bigger until they help children discover just how



big God is and how completely mind-blowingly amazing it is that He became a tiny baby at Christmas.

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## Readings for Sundays in December

10.30am	5.00pm
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> – Advent 1</b> Jeremiah 33.14-16 Luke 21.25-36	Advent Carol Service
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> – Advent 2</b> Malachi 3.1-4 Luke 3.1-6	Isaiah 40.1-11 Luke 1.1-25
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> – Advent 3</b> Zephaniah 3.14-end Luke 3. 7-18	Isaiah 35 Luke 1.57-66
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Advent 4</b> Micah 5.2-5a Luke 1.39-45	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> – Christmas I</b> 1 Samuel 2.18-20 Luke 2.41-end	Isaiah 61 Galatians 3.27 – 4.7

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## Roti Sans Pareil

*Traditional dish, circa 1807 attributed to Grimod de la Reynière*

Take a large olive, stone it and then stuff it with a paste made of anchovy, capers, and oil.

Put the olive inside a trussed and boned bec-figue.

Put the bec-figue inside a fat ortolan.

Put the ortolan inside a boned lark.

Put the stuffed lark inside a boned thrush.

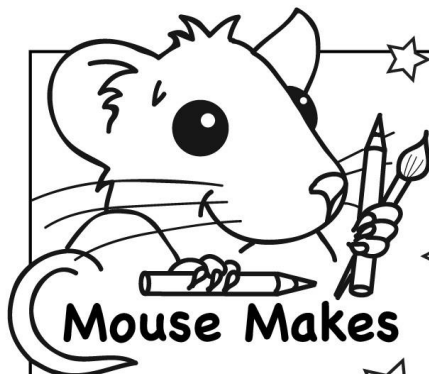
Put the thrush inside a fat quail.

Put the quail, wrapped in vine leaves, inside a boned lapwing.  
Put the lapwing inside a boned golden plover.  
Put the plover inside a fat, boned, red-legged partridge.  
Put the partridge inside a young, boned, and well-hung woodcock.  
Put the woodcock, rolled in breadcrumbs, inside a boned teal.  
Put the teal inside a boned guinea-fowl.  
Put the guinea-fowl, well larded, inside a young boned tame duck.  
Put the duck inside a boned and fat fowl.  
Put the fowl inside a well-hung pheasant.  
Put the pheasant inside a boned and fat wild goose.  
Put the goose inside a fine turkey.  
Put the turkey inside a boned bustard.

Having arranged your roast after this fashion, place in a large saucepan with onions stuffed with cloves, carrots, small squares of ham, celery, mignonette, several strips of bacon well-seasoned, pepper, salt, spice, coriander seeds, and two cloves of garlic. Seal the saucepan by closing it with pastry. Then put it for ten hours over a gentle fire, and arrange it so that the heat can penetrate evenly. An oven moderately heated will suit better than the hearth. Before serving, remove the pastry, put the roast on a hot dish after removing the grease, if there is any, and serve.

Not all of us have such a feast as that, or indeed any feast at all, but if you do, if you're with family or friends, this next may be a timely suggestion....

The dinner's on the table  
We gather round and eat,  
But someone has to wash the pots  
And make the kitchen neat.  
So have a happy Christmas,  
Enjoy the festive fare,  
But grab a towel and help the cook,  
And show them that you care!  
*By Nigel Beeton*



**Mouse Makes**

★ "Jesus said,  
I am the \_\_\_ Y  
and the \_\_\_ U \_\_\_  
and the \_\_\_ I \_\_\_ .  
No one comes to the Father  
except through me."  
*John 14:6*

"The child to be born  
will be called  
H \_\_\_ , the  
\_\_\_ of \_\_\_ "  
*Luke 1:35*

"For unto you is born  
this day a  
S \_\_\_  
who is  
\_\_\_ R \_\_\_  
the \_\_\_ R \_\_\_ "  
*Luke 2:11*

**THE GREATEST GIFT**

"She will bear a son,  
and shall call his name  
\_\_\_  
for he will save his  
people from their sins."  
*Matthew 1:21*

"Jesus said,  
I am the  
\_\_\_  
and the life."  
*John 11:25*

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

O H O L Y O R C R T U  
S O N O F M A N H A R T  
N L S H E P H E R D U  
O Y A E P E R G I F T G  
C H R I S T M A S T H S  
R E S U R R E C T I O N



P R O P H E T I  
R E D E E M E R  
I E M I L I G  
E M E S S I A H  
S R M E G F T  
T E A C H E R E

E V E R L A S T I N G  
K I N G O F K I N G S  
I N K I G W F D O U  
S E S O N O F G O D D  
S E W O C O U W O R D  
C O U N S E L L O R U

EMMANUEL • MESSIAH REDEEMER • KING OF KINGS • WORD  
SON OF MAN • EVERLASTING • SHEPHERD • PRIEST • PROPHET • TEACHER  
LIGHT • BREAD • VINE • DOOR • LAMB • COUNSELLOR • CHRISTMAS • GIFT

*Find the words from the Bible verses too!*

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