



From the Vicarage

I'll be honest with you, I tend to find Winter to be a season of mystery. Perhaps it's the chill in the air upon which one's breath lingers evocatively. Perhaps it's the way the darkness encroaches on the day's activities, such that roads around the village are illuminated by torch light as people walk their dogs, head home from the bus, or make their way out to the pub. Perhaps it's the sense that everything is winding down into a kind of hibernation. The garden has been put to bed. Most building projects are on pause, or have refocused on being indoors. It's not that life doesn't carry on, but somehow we are confined to our bubbles of light; whether in our homes or with our torches, or even by our phones and devices. Gone are the bright open skies of summer and in draws the blankets of morning mists and early dusks, with evenings which seem to linger.



This atmosphere of mystery can lead to us to reflect on things in a way which we might not ordinarily. We can find ourselves drawn to old memories of years gone by, or acutely aware of those who are not going to be with us for Christmas this year - or, for better or worse, of those who are going to be coming for Christmas! We may wonder where the year disappeared to, or have our own hopes and fears of what the future may hold for us. We find our thoughts in the realms of recollection and imagination, of what was or might have been and of what may or may not come to pass. This is a natural part of the human experience, which is why Dickens' A Christmas Carol has resonated these last two hundred years.

Yet for all that winter has a mysterious aesthetic, there is at Christmas time another kind of mystery. A true mystery found within the story of the nativity; it's a mystery of which the unfolding is often somewhat spoiled, just as finding out the who or how of an Agatha Christie novel at the start dispels the intrigue and robs the joy of piecing it together one's self. (I have often enjoyed Agatha Christie novels, yet have only twice been correct in my guess before the reveal!) We can all too often find that the Nativity story at Christmas is over commercialised, or made 'cute' by Children's performances, or worse yet that it is politicised for various different causes. However if we allow ourselves to slow down and not jump ahead to the conclusion, we can find ourselves engaging in a surprisingly tangible and all too human mystery.

When we imagine Mary and her pregnancy we find an experience which we all have encountered, for even if we have not been pregnant ourselves we have all been born of pregnant women and through family, friends, coworkers, and neighbours have witnessed the changes pregnancy brings about and the hope that everything will go well for both mother and child. Where pregnancy now is surrounded by ultrasounds and appointments with midwives, Mary's pregnancy was heralded by a stranger with a prophecy. She had to travel with her Fiancé to his hometown, and at every step the ordinary experience of being an expectant Mum was accompanied by mysterious coincidences and happenings. When we step out of the carols and into the stable we are presented with the greatest mystery of all; that somehow the vast and incomprehensible divine being we call God lies wrapped in swaddling cloths as a baby in the arms of Mary. That which is beyond our imagination has become something, someone, which we can recognise, grasp, and understand.

In the darkness of winter we live in our bubbles of light, whether at home or illuminated by torches. In the darkness of the world and our hearts, at Christmas the light of the world steps into our lives as a baby boy called Jesus.

This is the true mystery of the season. It's a moment which lingers and we would love to share and explore that mystery together; whether that be at our Christingle service, a Crib service, tree festival, evenings singing carols or that ancient and noble tradition of the midnight mass, you are all most warmly invited to wrap up, brave the cold dark winter and step into the light of Christ in our Churches this Christmas.

Every blessing,
Revd. Samuel S. Thorp
Vicar of Penn and Tylers Green

Holy Trinity Heritage Weekend

As it has been for a good number of years Holy Trinity Church Penn was opened as part of Heritage Open Days for the weekend of 8th - 10th September. Sadly we did not have as many visitors as usual I think partly due to the fact that there were quite a few other events happening that weekend locally. However those that did come were very pleased to hear talks by Miles Green and Jane White, who were as usual full of interesting information. Visitors were also able to see the brasses which are normally covered by a carpet and several took the opportunity to go up to see the bells in the bell tower guided by some of the bell ringers. Most of the visitors rounded off their visit with tea and cakes which were served at the back of church.



The locked safe in Penn's Parish Room

We decided to hold the 1994 centenary celebration for Penn Parish Council in the old Parish Room on Paul's Hill, which we had not used for 20 years, and there we found a locked wall safe but could discover no key. A quote of at least £200 from a locksmith was thought to be too much for opening a probably empty safe. We appealed in Village Voice, 'Wanted - Local safebreaker', expressing the hope

In the event, it took two experts only a few minutes and we waited until the camera was rolling, before swinging open the heavy door to reveal a safe crammed full of old documents. There were all the early Parish Council records back to 1894, an 1838 Penn Parish Tithe map, various property deeds and the records of parish administration by the Vestry for a century before the Parish Council was set up.



Michael Bayley (Chairman) and Miles Green (Clerk) with his son Thomas examine a hoard of lost records found in the safe of the old Parish Room while being filmed by ITN on 14 November 1994

Until 1834, parishes were almost entirely self-contained, setting and collecting rates to cover everything we now expect from central and local government: poor relief, care for the elderly, the sick, orphans and unemployed, immigration and emigration, repair of the highways, law and order, and of course, the church. In fact, the Vestry ran a parish-sized welfare state and there in the safe we found all the details of it with the earliest reference as far back as 1698. For a local historian, it was a once in a lifetime, manna from heaven, and has provided a wealth of information.

This marvellous surprise was duly shown to the world on ITN's lunch-time news. It was picked up by CNN and my next-door neighbour, dining that night in a hotel in Brussels, was astonished to see two very familiar faces appear on her screen.

that someone with the appropriate experience could be found in our respectable community. The story found its way into the Daily Telegraph. Independent Television News spotted it and rang offering to pay for opening the safe if they could film it.

The safe was taken out of the wall and moved to Penn Church Hall from where, not long afterwards, it was stolen by thieves, presumably assuming it must contain valuable contents. I remember my feeling of panic when I heard the news until I remembered that I had already removed all the documents. A few days later, the empty safe was found, abandoned by the roadside the other side of Beaconsfield.

Miles Green
September 2023

Memorial Service

On the afternoon of the 29th of October a number of us braved the wind and rain to head to Holy Trinity for our annual Memorial Service where we remember all those whom we love and have died in recent years, or indeed in years long past. Grief is never an easy thing to live with. I've heard it said that in truth it never really goes away, but rather we grow around it and find in so growing the strength to continue on. This occasion is intended to help us acknowledge our grief and in gather in a safe place where we can allow ourselves to engage with it and hold both our grief and the memory of our loved ones before God. We did this by lighting candles from the paschal candle, a reminder that light which shines in the darkness doesn't shine alone but has many fellow pilgrims.

It was ultimately a very positive occasion, and the delicious cakes available in the Church Hall afterwards certainly added to it. Do keep an eye out for this service next year, or feel free to get in touch should you wish to talk about grief you're currently living with.

Samuel



Harvest Supper

It was wonderful to be able to hold our Harvest Supper again after a couple of years break due to Covid. We welcomed over 100 people to the Village Hall where we enjoyed a huge array of home cooked food. Many thanks to all who cooked and baked for us. Between courses, we enjoyed listening to a medley of music sung by the Wycombe Chamber Choir under the direction of Tim Venvell. Thank you to everyone who came. See you next year!



Christmas Tree Festival

Our Annual Christmas Tree festival will be held over the weekend 2-3 December. The church will be open for viewing from 2-6pm on both days and rumour has it that there will be mince pies and mulled punch (non alcoholic so you can drive safely!). Come and see the trees and vote for your favourite. Entry is free but donations are invited to

Myocarditis UK which was formerly called the Alexander Jansons Foundation. The original charity was named after the son of Holy Trinity regular, Andy Jansons, who died from this terrible disease. It is an inflammation of the heart and is usually related to a recent virus infection. Tragically it tends to kill young people and is very hard to diagnose.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS *tree festival*

SAT 2ND & SUN 3RD DECEMBER

**FREE
ENTRY**

DONATIONS TO MYOCARDITIS UK
(FORMERLY ALEXANDER JANSONS
FOUNDATION)
VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE TREE!

**2-6
PM**

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, PENN, HP10 8NY

To enter a tree, contact 01494 813254



A Poem

Fire - Boxing Day

One of the small joys of Christmas
has been tending to the fire.
Adding each new log to the pyre
as it returns to embers.
Thus it continues; the new supplanting
the old, while echoing its pilgrim way.
The rhythm, the cadence, it seems to pray
to the nativity babe.
Murmuring, chanting, light and warmth withstand
the dark,
kindling, enflaming and reassuring faith.

Samuel S. Thorp, from 'Glimpses' (2020)

Deliverers Needed

We have an excellent team of people who deliver our Parish Newsletters every three months to all the houses in the Parish of St. Margarets, Tylers Green and Holy Trinity, Penn. Of course from time to time for various reasons, people can no longer help with the delivery. At the moment we are short of two people, one in the Sandelswood End area and the other in the Forty Green Road area. If anyone feels they could help with other of these deliveries please get in touch with Pat Seddon Tel: 01494 813268.

FREE

Christmas

CRAFTERNOON

CRAFTS, SNACKS & GAMES

JOIN TYGRE CLUB (AGES 3-9)
AND XSTREAM (AGES 10 - 15)

LOTS OF DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS MAKES:
CHRISTINGLES, DECORATIONS, BAUBLES

THURSDAY DECEMBER 7TH

FROM 4.30 - 6.30

AT ST MARGARETS CHURCH PARISH HALL
OPPOSITE THE CHURCH,
TYLERS GREEN, HP10 8EG

Dates for your Diaries

Christmas Tree Festival

Holy Trinity Saturday 02 and Sunday 03 December; 2-5pm

Advent and Christmas Services

Sunday 10 December – 4pm: Christingle at St Margaret's
– 6pm: Carols for All at Holy Trinity

Sunday 17 December – 6pm: Lessons and Carols at Holy Trinity

Christmas Eve (Sunday 24 December) – 3pm: Crib Service at St Margaret's and 5pm Crib Service at Holy Trinity -
11.30pm: Midnight Communion at both Churches

Christmas Day – 8am: Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
– 10.00: Christmas Communion at both Churches

Sunday 31 December – 8am: Holy Communion at Holy Trinity – 9.30am: Holy Communion at St Margaret's

Sunday 31 December – 11.00am: Morning Worship at Holy Trinity

Please check our website for more details:
<https://holyltrinityandstmargarets.co.uk>

Sunday services

Each week – 8am Book of Common Prayer (BCP)
Communion Service at Holy Trinity

26 November – 9.30 Holy Communion at St Margaret's: and
11am – Morning Worship at Holy Trinity

03 December (Advent Sunday) – 9.30am at St Margaret's:
Holy Communion. The Bishop of Oxford Steven Croft will
be officiating and preaching - 11am Holy Trinity – Holy
Communion

10 December – 9.30 St Margaret's and 11am at Holy Trinity
– Holy Communion

17 December – 9.30 St Margaret's and 11am Holy Trinity –
Holy Communion

24 December (Christmas Eve) – 9.30 St Margaret's and
11am Holy Trinity – Morning Worship

31 December – 9.30 St Margaret's: Holy Communion and
11am Holy Trinity – Morning Worship

Weekday services

Monday to Thursday – 8.30am Holy Trinity: Morning Prayer
5.00pm St Margaret's: Evening Prayer

Tuesday 28 November
10.00am Holy Trinity: Holy Communion

Tuesday 12 December
10am St Margaret's: Holy Communion

From the Registers

To end October 2023

St. Margaret's

Baptisms

Isobel Winder 4 September
Jude Christopher William Curtis 23 October

Funerals

Beatrice Wright 15 August
Christine Brown 18 August
Ann Stockwell 30 August
Roy Allen 1 September
Brian Clarke 5 September
Rosina Flower 27 September
Rita Watts 2 October

Burial of Ashes

Margaret Mayo 11 September

Holy Trinity

Baptisms

Finlay Sheridan 11 September
Mabel Sheridan 11 September
Alfred Armitage Parsons 15 October
Flora Ruby Victoria Baldwin 05 November
Alice Rose Dorothea Baldwin 05 November

Funerals

Denit Winterburn (crem) 1 September
Pat Hoare 4 September

Burial of Ashes at Holy Trinity

Den Winterburn 26 October

Who's Who?

Vicar

Rev'd Samuel S Thorp 07713 638917
vicar@holytrinityandstmargarets.co.uk

Associate Priest

Rev'd Graham Summers 07866 920341
gandcsummers@icloud.com

Licensed Lay Minister

Linnea Thorp 813207

Holy Trinity, Penn

Licensed Lay Minister

Mary Lee 07816 441386

Church Wardens

Paul Ricketts 814402

Oliver Heal 673188

PCC Secretary

Gail Wellings 813254

Parish Administrator

Gail Wellings 813254

Treasurer

John Scurrell 813181

Electoral Roll Officer

Hilary Forbes 816438

Parish Archivist

Miles Green 815589

Church Hall Bookings

Gail Wellings 813254

Flower Coordinator

Anna Taylor 815262

Baptism Coordinator

Mary Lee 07816 441386

Chief Bell Ringer

Peter Barrett 07720 594880

Wedding Coordinator

Corrine Summers 814347

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Hilary Forbes 816438

Parish Office for St Margaret's and Holy Trinity

(Monday-Friday 9.00am-2.00pm)

Parish Office, Holy Trinity Church Hall,
Church Road, Penn, HP10 8NY.

Tel: 01494 813254 email:

office@holytrinityandstmargarets.co.uk

www.holytrinityandstmargarets.co.uk

St Margaret's, Tylers Green

Licensed Lay Minister

David Carter 813015

Churchwardens

Kathryn Grudgings 07931 588199

David Winder 07753 162683

PCC Secretary

Gail Wellings 813254

Parish Administrator

Gail Wellings 813254

Treasurer

Alison Bright 819100

Electoral Roll Officer

Jean Stables 712138

Parish Rooms Bookings

Mary Coker 812162

Parish Rooms Treasurer

John Daniell 812117

TYGRE Club

Georgina Newton 715311

Flower Coordinator

Deborah Yeates 445286

Corrine Summers 814347

Baptism Coordinator

David Carter 813015

Wedding Coordinator

Corrine Summers 814347

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Emma Byrne 07554 053860

Editorial content to Gail in the Office on office@holytrinityandstmargarets.co.uk

Advertising to Diane Stewart on dianestewart3@icloud.com

Editorial Assistants

Pat Seddon 813268

Emma Byrne 07554 053860

St Margaret's Distribution

Roger & Christine Edwards 672021

Holy Trinity Distribution

Pat Seddon 813268

Phil & Julia Prestridge 07986 701117

Marcus & Mary Lee 07816 441386

Zoe Clark 671961

HALL HIRE

Penn Church Hall:

Gail Wellings: 813254

St Margaret's Parish Rooms:

Mary Coker: 812162

PARNELL'S EV

Your local village garage

CAR SERVICING AND REPAIRS



Tel: 01494 816114

Email: neville@parnellsev.com

Church Road, Penn, Buckinghamshire, HP10 8LY

www.parnellsev.com

All aspects of Tree Maintenance
and Removal

PENN TREE SERVICES

Tom Hunnings, Cert ARB,
C&G Tree Surgeon

01494 815444

Kats Cuts

Salon Quality • Mobile Hairstylist

Offering ladies, gents and children's
appointments at affordable prices.

Contact Katherine on: 07791 033104

katscuts@hotmail.co.uk www.katscuts.co.uk



Cleaning, Decorating, General Property
Maintenance, Man and Van Services,
Home Moves, Garden Maintenance,
Window Cleaning, Gutter Clean and
Clear, Patio and Driveway Cleaning

www.ar-pc.co.uk 01494 355001 info@ar-pc.co.uk

Fitness Function Penn Street

Live Classes, Virtual Classes
Personal Training &
On Demand Studio

01494 416171

office@thefitnessfunction.com
www.thefitnessfunction.com

Gravity, Yoga, Pilates, Sculpt,
Kettlebells, Indoor Cycling
Free trial to all new clients.



PROFESSIONAL MOBILE FOOT CARE SERVICE

Nail cutting / thickened nail reduction
Corn and callus removal
Hard skin / cracked nails
Athletes foot and fungal nail infections
Nail reconstruction

Contact: Annie Ashworth
Foot Health Practitioner DipFH, RGN, BSc(Nurs)
07513 379111 • annie@pediworx.co.uk
www.pediworx.co.uk



All aspects of
property maintenance

AZTEC SERVICES

Roofing ~ Building
Plumbing ~ Decorating

Home
01494 440219

Mobile
07973 439781

Proprietor: Gary Arnold

BEACON FUNERAL SERVICES Ltd

27 Rose Avenue, Hazlemere
01494 818181 (24 Hrs)

Landscaping,
Garden Maintenance etc.

PENN LANDSCAPES

01494 813225

Mark Page
Tim Kemp



ARNOLD FUNERAL SERVICE
INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS
6 Generations of Service in the Community

Traditional, Alternative & Green Funerals
Pre-Payment Plans ~ Stonemasonry ~ Floristry
24 Hour Service

Beaconsfield | 32 Gregories Road | Tel: 01494 685000
Gerrards Cross | 38 Oak End Way | Tel: 01753 891892
High Wycombe | 891 London Road | Tel: 01494 472572
Marlow | 21-23 Little Marlow Road | Tel: 01628 898866
Slough | 273 Farnham Road | Tel: 01753 535556

PENN PRIVATE HIRE

Airports & Stations, Theatres & Restaurants,
Courier Service, Local & Long Distance

Account Facilities Available
Licensed by Wycombe DC (Tokens Accepted)

Tel/Fax: 01494 814888
Mobile: 07976 835906

HOME VISITING MASSAGE THERAPY

Regular massage can provide huge physical and
mental benefits regardless of age or fitness level

Stuart Cartledge

Sports Massage Therapy VTCT Level 3 Diploma

07515 773 485 smcartledge@hotmail.com
for initial complimentary consultation

MIKES garden services

FOR YOUR GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING NEEDS

Garden tidy ups • Tree Surgery
Fencing • Hedge Cutting

Fast friendly service by local company with
15 years+ experience

CALL MIKE ON:
01494 817441 or 07734 297 136

WORBOYS CLOCK REPAIRS

Free estimates and house visits

Now at: The Old Forge, Silver Hill
Chalfont St. Giles HP8 4PY
Please call: 01494 673055

01494 685588
enquiries@hinesolicitors.com



The art of
talking
sense

Wills and Probate | Residential Property | Family
Personal Injury | Disputes | Motoring Offences | & more

Stephen Goldsmith

Painter and Decorator
30 years experience

Tel: 01494 819143
Mob: 07773 985611



Family and Divorce | Residential Property
Personal Injury | Wills, Trusts and Probate
020 3814 2020 | www.blasermills.co.uk

Full Bathroom Installation
26 years experience

PLUMBING & HEATING

N J Barrett
Tel/Fax 01494 813464 (24 hours)
Mobile 07971 570124

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

H.C. GRIMSTEAD

est 1927
Tilbury House
Shepherds Lane, Beaconsfield
TEL: 01494 672 668

Superb Jaguar Fleet
Pre-paid funeral plans
Monumental Masonry
Home visits by request
www.hcgrimsteadfuneraldirectors.co.uk



Beauty & Holistic Therapy

Champneys trained
therapist providing bespoke,
professional treatments in
Hazlemere including.....

....various types of massages, reflexology,
aromatherapy, facials and more!

Angela Vittle 07785 547753

www.skindeepbeautyandholistic.com



Made To Measure

Curtains, Blinds & Soft Furnishings
Suzanne Haley 07799288352
suzannehaley72@icloud.com



YOUR LOCAL COFFEE ROASTERS!

- FRESH AND DELICIOUS COFFEE
- ROASTED WITH SOLAR POWER
- COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING
- DELIVERED FREE BY CARGO BIKE TO YOU DOORSTEP

www.solarbeancoffee.com

Pet Service how did it go?

Through these pages, we try to ensure we let you know about events or special services ("Specials") that will take place in the weeks ahead, but we realise that we don't always tell you how they went once they are over. So to redress that, this is a follow-up to our Pet Service that took place in September. The exciting and (if I really think about it) unnerving aspect of our Specials is that we rarely know who or how many will turn up! National sporting events, local events or simply the weather can make quite a difference. And the Pet Service is no exception to that general rule and probably not helped by the fact that we have yet to settle on the best Sunday in the Church calendar on which to hold it.



I am pleased to report that the informal service was popular both with pet owners and the curious and a great success. There were lots of waggly tails and happy owners; there was also a sense of the profound vitality our pets provide us and it was entirely appropriate that they should receive a blessing from Revd Samuel in the course of the service.

No Special is complete without refreshments and both humans and pets were appropriately refreshed at the end, whilst

exchanging anecdotes and discovering more about the pets from their owners. Not surprisingly dogs made up 99% of the pets who attended but the presence of a 96 year old tortoise, Violet, certainly gave the event a bit of gravitas!

Mary Lee

WHAT'S ON?

If you are new to the community you may not know yet all that is happening in our churches. The best way is to have a look through our website (www.holytrinityandstmargarets.co.uk) but to summarise events during the week...

MONDAY TO THURSDAY

Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity 8.30am
Evening Prayer at St Margaret's 5.00pm

MONDAYS

Bell Ringing Practice at Holy Trinity 7.45-9.15pm. Ringers meet in the bell tower.
Contact Peter Barrett 07720 594880

TUESDAYS

Coffee in the Sanctuary
Please drop in any week between 10 and midday for coffee at St Margaret's Sanctuary. Everyone welcome!

Bible Study Group every other Tuesday morning at various local venues.
Call Annik Heal (673188)

Afternoon Home Groups

Every 1st and 3rd week, 4.00pm at various venues. Contact Sue Wallace (812879).

SUNDAYS

Service at 8.00am Holy Trinity 9.30am at St Margaret's with TYGRE Club 11.00am at Holy Trinity

COME AND JOIN US AT TYGRE CLUB!

Tygre Club is church for children! We share Bible stories, sing, play games and do crafts. Why not pop into church to see some of our colourful creations? We meet every Sunday during term time, except the first Sunday in the month. We meet in St Margaret's Church at the start of the 9.30am service before going across to The Sanctuary. We come back to rejoin the adults during Communion. If you are very young, we have a creche, with toys for you to play with. Parents are welcome to join us or remain in church during the service. If you are twelve years old or younger, come and join us to find out more!

DEMENTIA CAFE

Come and join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month

Where - The Sanctuary
Time - 2.30 - 4.00pm

To book your place please call Marie on 01494 812074.

SAVE THE DATE

Another hilarious quiz night is planned for 24 February next year. Look out for posters. And don't forget pancakes in the Sanctuary opposite St Margaret's on Shrove Tuesday, 13 February.

