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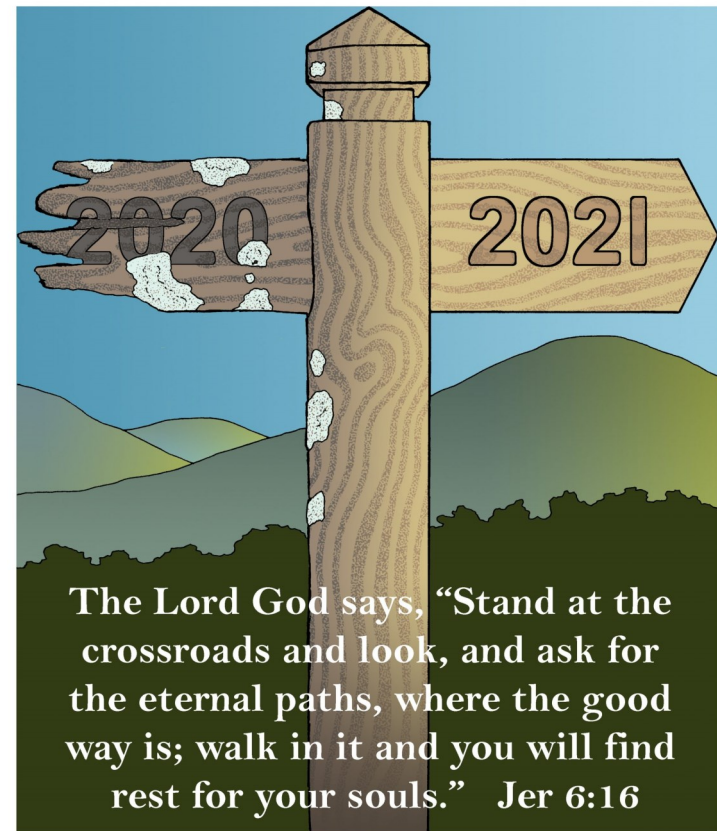
St George's Parish Church Stalybridge

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD



35p



The Lord God says, "Stand at the crossroads and look, and ask for the eternal paths, where the good way is; walk in it and you will find rest for your souls." Jer 6:16

January 2021

St George's Church Stalybridge

Vicar **The Revd Penny Warner**
 revdpennywarner@outlookcom 07393 420763
 (call, text,
 WhatsApp)
 St John's Vicarage,
 Carrhill Road, Mossley,
 OL5 0SA

Wardens Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689

 Mrs Valerie Fallows 0161 304 9522

Deputy Wardens Mrs Rose Hayward 0161 303 1731

 Mrs Gillian Cotton 0161 303 2787

P.C.C. Secretary Mrs Lynn Moon 0161 338 5773

Treasurer Mr Michael Davies 0161 338 5112

Magazine Editor Mrs Linda Hurst 0161 330 0518

Room Hire Mrs Janet Vidler 0161 303 7689
 stgwarden@hotmail.co.uk

www.stg.org.uk

FACEBOOK **TWITTER**
@stgeorgestalybridge **@StGStalybridge**

*For baptisms, marriages or funerals please phone the Vicar on 07393 420763.
 Baptisms are usually conducted at 12.30 pm
 on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month.*

*To receive Communion at home when you are sick or housebound, or to have
 the name of a departed friend or relation entered in the Book of Remembrance,
 please contact the Vicar.*



From Our Book of Remembrance

1 Jan	Ezekiel Lomas	1941	18 Jan	George William Catlow	2000
2 Jan	Edward Cooper	1980		Marian Hulme	2002
	Ernest Bramall	1982		Reginald Hewitt	2008
	Marjorie Day	1982	19 Jan	Mary Eastwood	1989
	David Cotton	2007	20 Jan	Raymond Jack Clarke	1983
3 Jan	Ivy Marshall	2006		Katherine Devlin	1988
4 Jan	William Parkinson	1943		Jean Ollerenshaw	2012
	Phyllis Peck	1981	21 Jan	Heather Alwyn Clarke	2012
	Barry Aldred	1999	22 Jan	Thomas Howard	1964
	Nellie Mellor	1977		Harry Walton	1967
5 Jan	Joseph Hibbert	1957		Eliza Emma Sidebottom	1988
	Hugh Shepley	1987	23 Jan	Jesslyn Tonge	1991
	Gertrude Sullivan	1998		Neil Hadfield	2011
6 Jan	Harry Walton	1988	24 Jan	Henry Howard	1981
	John Barratt	1996		Rhoda Hancock	1989
8 Jan	George Leonard Eakins	1981		Harold Spencer	1962
	James Norman Kelday	2000		Albert Marcel Hough	2017
	Fred Harris	1979	25 Jan	Agnes Smith	1975
9 Jan	Sarah Clews	1994		Carol Hyde	2010
	Susan Ann Maud Barnfield	1953		Joseph Middleton	2019
	Derek Greenwood	2019	26 Jan	Edith Emma Clinton	1987
10 Jan	Tom Sidebottom	1979		Nellie Wood	1987
11 Jan	Jesse Horsefield	1984		Eric James Chorlton	2001
	Drinda Jefferson	1990		Margaret Slack	2007
	Evelyn Barlow	2003	27 Jan	Fred Kay	1968
	James Watson	2014		Bridget Bower	1994
12 Jan	Ethel Battersby	1992		Ronald Bower	2000
13 Jan	Kathleen Thwaites	1992		Geoffrey Phillip Brown	1995
14 Jan	Robert Nicholson	1988		Abraham Newton	1983
	Eva Helen Ollerenshaw	1989		Veronica Quinn	1997
	Kyle Martin Cropper	2004	29 Jan	Fred Holt	1939
	Ramsden			Eddie Holden	1990
15 Jan	Norman Council	2014		Karen Jane Bradbury	2007
	James Ireson	1990		Mildred Bradshaw	2014
16 Jan	William Gudger	1963	30 Jan	Alice Saxon	1997
	Minnie Schofield	2012	31 Jan	Alice Ann Priestley	1955
17 Jan	David Lees	2011		John Robert Stanley	1990
18 Jan	William Frederick Ireson	1962		John Patrick Higgins	2006

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BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

To have the name of a loved one entered into this special book, and remembered in our intercessions for their anniversary please have a word with the vicar or one of the wardens. The cost for the inscription is £10 per entry



A huge thank you to everyone who is making sure that the life and ministry of St George's Church is continuing, albeit in different ways during this time.



We are continuing to collect for **Tameside East Foodbank**. If you'd like to contribute with items, do be in touch with Rev Penny.

We are doing our best to communicate with as many people as possible, by telephone, email, social media, post and running errands. Volunteers are still helping Penny to phone around church members and others who would like contact, so that we can keep in touch. **Please do be in touch if you would like to speak with someone, or you know someone who would (with their permission) or if there is anything we can do to help.**

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Thank you for your continued generosity and giving - to all who have been able to continue to give to church, and to those who have found new ways to do so through standing orders and online donations. Thank you too to all who have been putting collections aside for when you return to church. All your contributions really are a great help. If you would like to discuss your regular giving to St George's or make a one off donation please contact the Treasurer, Mr Michael Davies on 0161 338 5112.

We are trying to get the new envelopes to those who receive them.

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Lots of us are now doing a lot of our shopping online. St George's is registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us to raise money for FREE!

Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE!

These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stgeorgeschurchstalybridge



The Vicar writes...

January 2021 marks my first anniversary as Vicar of the parish of St George's – times flies! The year has flown by and has not at all been the year that any of us hoped for or expected. We have had to get to know one another in vastly different ways in a challenging circumstance. It will still be the case that there are some regular members of St George's

congregation that I simply have not been able to meet in the flesh. It was certainly an unparalleled start, and I hope that as the days go by we are coming ever closer to the day when we will all be able to meet again for worship and celebration.

One of the challenges for everyone over the past year has been the rapidly changing situation and our need to review our practices and respond appropriately. I am grateful to the churchwardens and the PCC for their companionship (from a distance!) and support in this, and all of you who have offered patience, prayers and support throughout this last year.

As we enter another national lockdown, and wait for the distribution of the vaccine, we are reminded again of the words of God to the people exiled in Babylon, written in the letter by the prophet Jeremiah, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

In the midst of this time, when we are frustrated, lonely, fed up, missing loved ones, sick or caring for those who are sick, it can be a real uphill struggle to feel that there is a bright and better future on the horizon but this is God's promise to all – "see I am making all things new".

Please do be in touch if you wish, for prayers, support, a chat or just to say hello.

With prayers and good wishes for the year ahead which we entrust, along with ourselves and our loved ones, into God's hands,

Penny

National Lockdown: Arrangements for Public Worship

You must stay at home as much as possible.

Currently, the law allows places of worship to remain open and for public worship to continue in this lockdown.

Leaving your home to attend worship, should you wish, is permitted by law.



A decision has been made by the PCC, that worship at St George's will continue with all precautions in place.

We will reduce the number of Sunday services to one only.

Our currently worship pattern for the time being therefore is:

Sundays

10.30am Parish Eucharist in church

12.15pm Junior Church (online)

6pm Sanctuary – Evening Prayers

(online and streamed to our Facebook page)

Tuesdays

10.30am Eucharist in church

Funerals in church can continue with a maximum of 30 people (including children) and no congregational singing.

Please be in touch if you need to discuss arrangements for baptisms and weddings.

A full risk assessment is in place and regularly revised.

We continue stringent hygiene and social distancing procedures.

You must not interact with anyone outside of your household/bubble.

Please take your seats immediately as you arrive and leave the building at the end of worship, when directed.

YOU MUST NOT ATTEND if you are unwell, self isolating or showing any symptoms.

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Ridge Hill Lane WMC

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Main room can be booked free of charge for various functions, subject to availability

Free pool table midweek

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07450352283

Parish Magazine Update

We had hoped to begin this year returning to monthly, printed magazines, delivered by our volunteers. However, lockdown means that is now not possible – “the best laid plans of mice and men often go astray”, especially at present!

At the very least, from January to March the Parish Magazine will be published online via our email newsletter, website and “A Church Near You” page. There will be a limited number of paper copies available in church for those who wish to collect them. If you would like a printed copy posted to you, please be in touch. Our magazine distribution list is large – which is wonderful, however it means we cannot post copies out to everyone.

We will keep adverts the same for the time being, with no charge. We will not be asking for or collecting the usual £4.00 subscription, recognising that we have not been able to deliver magazines for most of 2020. *(If, however, you do wish to donate, we would still be very grateful and please do be in touch.)*

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Online Coffee Morning Thursday 14th January at 10am

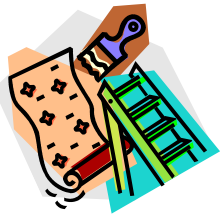
Join together via Zoom for an opportunity to say hello and have a chat with others from the comfort of your own home.

Bring your own refreshments!

Please ask Rev Penny for the Zoom login details and be in touch if you'd like help to set up Zoom and join in!



Need some odd jobs doing?
Can't get round to finishing the decorating?



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Brian Allsopp
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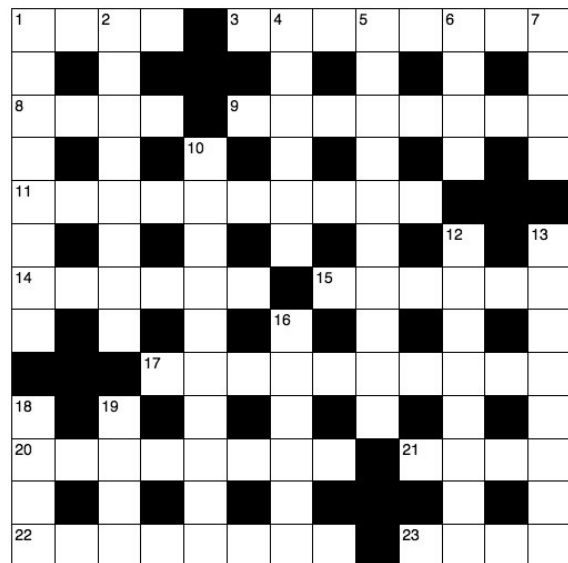
Wordsearch clues and answers - Jan21

The Christmas story carries on into the New Year, with Epiphany and the arrival of the Wise Men, led by the Star in the East. Through the eyes of faith, they saw Messiah in that small baby, and worshipped him, giving gifts that foresaw his life and work. New Year is also a time of new beginnings for us – resolutions about diets and paying the bills and doing better at work... Happy New Year!

- Epiphany
- Wise
- Men
- Camels
- Baby
- Jesus
- Star
- Herod
- Worship
- Gold
- Frankincense
- Myrrh
- New
- Resolutions
- Bills
- Work
- Study
- Running
- Gym



January Crossword



Across

- 1 'Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a — began to crow' (John 18:27) (4)
 3 Fetters (Job 33:11) (8)
 8 Perform on a musical instrument (1 Samuel 16:23) (4)
 9 Paul describes it as 'the third heaven' (2 Corinthians 12:2-4) (8)
 11 Loyally (Deuteronomy 11:13) (10)
 14 Hens? Me? (anag.) (6)
 15 Not visible (Matthew 6:6) (6)
 17 Predicted site of the final great battle (Revelation 16:16) (10)
 20 Jacob's youngest son (Genesis 35:18) (8)
 21 One of Zophar's eleven sons (1 Chronicles 7:36) (4)
 22 For example, London, Paris, Rome (8)
 23 United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (1,1,1,1)

Down

- 1 Favourite church activity: Fellowship round a — — — (3,2,3)
 2 Divinely bestowed powers or talents (8)
 4 Pile together (1 Thessalonians 2:16) (4,2)
 5 Commanded to justify (John 8:13) (10)
 6 Timothy's grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5) (4)
 7 Killed (Psalm 78:34) (4)
 10 One of Graham Kendrick's best-known songs, — — King (3,7)
 12 Indecency (Mark 7:22) (8)
 13 Unceasing (Jeremiah 15:18) (8)
 16 He prophesied 'the abomination that causes desolation' (Matthew 24:15) (6)
 18 British Board of Film Classification (1,1,1,1)
 19 Pans (anag.) (4)

Readings and Psalms for January 2021

- Sun 3rd Epiphany**
9 & 10.30 Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:10-15; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12
- Tues 5th 10.30 1 John 4:7-10, Psalm 72:1-8, Mark 6:34-44
- Sun 10th 1st Sunday of Epiphany - The Baptism of Christ**
9 & 10.30 Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
- Tues 12th 10.30 Hebrews 2:5-12, Psalm 8, Mark 1:21-28
- Sun 17th 2nd Sunday of Epiphany**
9 & 10.30 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Psalm 139:1-5, 12-15; Revelation 5:1-10; John 1:43-end
- Tues 19th 10.30 Hebrews 6:10-end; Psalm 111; Mark 2:23-end
- Sun 24th 3rd Sunday of Epiphany**
9 & 10.30 Genesis 14:17-20; Psalm 128; Revelation 19:6-10; John 2:1-11
- Tues 26th 10.30 2 Timothy 2:1-8, Psalm 100, Luke 10:1-9
- Sun 31st Presentation of Christ in the Temple—Candlemas**
9 & 10.30 Malachi 3:1-5; Psalm 24:7-10; Hebrews 2: 14-18; Luke 2: 22-40

200 Club

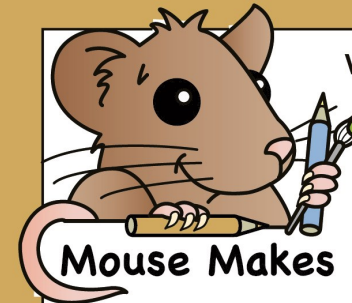
January Winners

1st Prize £25 no 52 Andrew Trudgeon; 2nd Prize /315 no 45 Sharron Billington;
 3rd Prize £10 no 10 Michael Davies

that Slimming World feeling!

**NEW
CONSULTANT:
NATALIE HANEY
07824875230
MONDAY
AFTERNOON/
EVENINGS**

AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, STALYBRIDGE



Mouse Makes

What happened after Jesus had been born in Bethlehem?

READ Matthew 2:1-12

Who came from the East? ☆

Why had they come? ☆

What were they following? ☆

Who was alarmed by their arrival?

Who had the prophet written about?

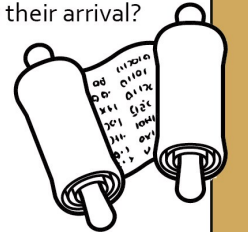
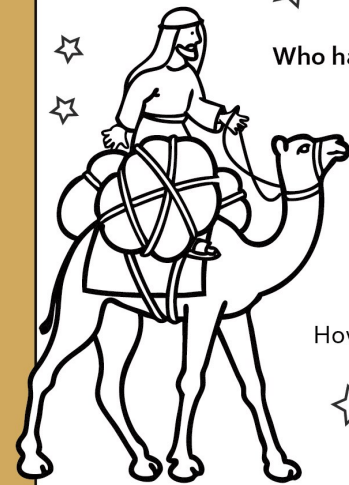
Where were they then sent?

What were they to look for?
..... and why?

Where did the star lead them?

Who did they see? What did they do?

How were they warned to go home another way?



READ Matthew 2:13-23

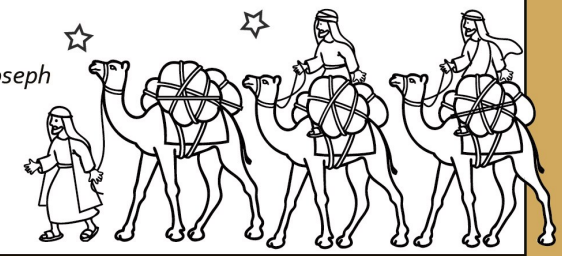
Who appeared to Joseph?

What was he told? Why? What did he do?

Who then became angry?.... and why? What horrible thing did he then do?

When Herod died where was Joseph told to take his family?

Where did Jesus finally grow up?



Paws for thought

Dear friends,

Happy New Year, friends! I hope that despite the continuing human situation you are keeping well and positive. My new calendar is looking pretty empty so far...



In the meantime, with this latest national lockdown, I've now got the two vicars at home more once again and I'm having to spend valuable nap time making sure they keep fit and healthy with long walks and games in the garden. (It is however very convenient having creatures with thumbs around to open my biscuit jar though – there's always a silver lining, or in this case, a biscuit coloured one!) I hope that I can bring you some cheer too as you read this. Here's an interesting story for you about the support of dogs and my patron saint.

St Roch (also known as St Rocco) was the only child of a wealthy French nobleman around the 14th century. He had a birthmark in the shape of a cross on his chest. At age 20, after his mother and father died, Roch renounced his title, giving his inheritance to the poor then on pilgrimage to Rome, he cared people suffering from the plague. Roch eventually contracted the disease and did not want to infect others so he went in to forest alone. He was dying. A hunting dog belonging to a count found him. The dog, who Roch believed was a gift from God, would bring him bread every day and lick his wounds - he made a full recovery. The count, who later discovered what his dog was doing, befriended Roch and let him keep the dog.

Roch, with his dog beside him, returned to France where a civil war was going on. Roch was mistaken as a spy, and instead of revealing his family's nobility he and his dog went to prison. The two spent five years in prison, where Roch died, caring for other prisoners. After his death, people discovered who he was by the birthmark on his chest. Roch was officially declared a Saint 100 years after his death. The dog with a loaf of bread in its mouth has become Saint Roch's emblem, appearing beside him in virtually every picture or statue of the saint.

With love and good cheer to you all,

Buddy

(Thanks to dogs-in-history.blogspot.com for helping me!)

“Sanctuary”

– A 30-minute service of quiet prayer and reflection online via Zoom, every Sunday at 6pm.

We join with the parishes of Mossley & St John the Evangelist, Hurst
All welcome!

There will be a special “Sanctuary” service to mark the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday 17th January at 6pm**

Do join in if you can and encourage friends from other churches to join also. Login details from Rev Penny. The service will also be streamed to our Facebook page.



Daily Hope, offers music, prayers and reflections from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. You can choose which section to listen to, The line is available 24 hours a day and calls are free.

Why not give it a try!

Parish E-Newsletter

To help us keep in touch we have a weekly email parish newsletter with bible readings and prayers for Sundays, information, updates, activities for Junior Church and announcements.

If you don't already receive the e-newsletter and would like to, please email revdpennywarner@outlook.com, send your email address by text or WhatsApp to 07393 420763 or sign up via our church Facebook page or website.



Where do we go from here?

Perhaps this was a question the Wise Men asked after seeing the infant Jesus. They had come from a distant land to Jerusalem. They had followed a star and expected to see a royal child. Now in Bethlehem, they saw things differently. No doubt, Mary and Joseph shared with these men their recent experiences and knew God was with them. Now the Magi had to have eyes of faith to recognise that this child was God in the flesh.

On 6th January many churches will celebrate Epiphany. On this day we remember the Eastern Men bringing their gifts to Jesus. The word 'epiphany' describes their 'revelation' or 'insight' that this was no ordinary baby. Who could they tell? Not King Herod. They had a dream warning them to return home a different way.

Their return to familiar surroundings was going to be different. They couldn't be silent about what they had experienced. Their lives were now changed. On returning home they faced new circumstances and challenges.

Doesn't this sound a bit familiar to us today? The Covid-19 pandemic has affected all of us in one way or another. Where do we go from here? We have celebrated our Lord's birth, but now we are returning to our previous activities. The festive break is over, and we are returning to changed, very difficult circumstances.

We go into a New Year that is so different from this time last year. While we might be downcast with all the upsets around us, there is one thing that has not changed.

It is almighty God! He is our rock. We can look to Him in this world of confusion and uncertainty. Perhaps, from now on, we shall be worshipping and serving Him in different ways. So, with the challenges that lie ahead, let's continually seek His guidance.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding....and He will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Holocaust Memorial Day, 27th January, calls for 'light in the darkness' of today.



It was 25 years ago this month, on 27th January 1996, that the first Holocaust Remembrance Day was observed in Germany. It became International Holocaust Day in 2005 when it was adopted by the United Nations. It marks the day (27th January 1945) when the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration/death camp was liberated.

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) in 2021 is '**Be the light in the darkness**'. The aim is to encourage people to "reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, but also the ways individuals and communities resisted that darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide."

HMD is encouraging people to heed the 'Be the light in the darkness' theme as a call to action. "The utterly unprecedented times through which we are living currently are showing the very best of which humanity is capable but also - in some of the abuse and conspiracy theories being spread on social media - the much darker side of our world as well.

"We can all stand in solidarity. We can choose to '**be the light in the darkness**' in a variety of ways and places – at home, in public, and online."

More at: www.hmd.org.uk