

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

December 2013

January 2014

for the villages of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith, Tholthorpe, Tollerton and Youlton

Rev. Chris Park tel. 01347 838122 [pastaparko@parkfamily.me.uk](mailto:pastaparko@parkfamily.me.uk)



God's blessing and good wishes for peace and joy to you and your families this festive season.



**Sunday 22 December at 6.30pm**

**Sing Your Heart out for the lad!**

**Carol singing on Tollerton Green followed by mulled wine and minced pies.....**

**with**

**Mary Joseph and the Donkey!**



# A Franciscan Blessing for Christmas

A thought for Christmas....

God looks at the world he loves and created and he sees the suffering caused both by human failings, natural disasters, and the fragility of simply being human.....and like any concerned parent.... he decided to do something about it.

That 'something' was that he sent his son Jesus to live among us, – the 'Christ' – in Christmas, to show us what he is like and make a way for us to be re-united with him.....so that we might become part of the answer to the suffering we see around us, and not just part of the problem.

The cost to him was huge and the gift to us priceless. So, to use the Franciscan blessing - this Christmas.....

May God bless you....with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships.....so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you....with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people.....so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with.....tears to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war.....so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain to joy.

AND...may God bless you with.....enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world.....so that you can do what others say cannot be done....to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.

So may God bless you with an urgency to help the people of the Philippines, to support the Hambleton Food Bank and the work of the Salvation Army, and to sign the 'Rewindreframe' petition and make the world a better place this Christmas.

Happy Christmas

Rev Chris Park



## **Christingle 2013. Please Volunteer.**

If anyone would like to volunteer to make Christingles for this year's service at St Mary's Church in Aine, please contact Angela Park. We aim to make 250 Christingles to cater for a full church! That's easy if 25 volunteers make 10 each! We ask you to supply oranges, treats and cocktail sticks; we supply red tape and candles. Thank you! Call 838122 or [ang@parkfamily.me.uk](mailto:ang@parkfamily.me.uk).

## Services in church to celebrate Christmas



### 15 December

Brafferton Carol Service 6.30pm with Easingwold Brass Band.

### 19 December

Brafferton School Christingle 2 pm

### 22 December

Myton Carol Service 4.00pm

Tollerton Carols on the Village Green 6.30pm

Thormanby Carol Service 7.00pm

### 24 December

Alne Christingle 4.00 pm

Alne Midnight Communion 11.30 pm

Brafferton Nativity Service 3.30 pm

Brafferton Midnight Communion 11.30 pm

### 25 December

Aldwark 9.00 am Holy Communion

Alne 10.30 am Holy Communion

Brafferton 9.00 am Holy Communion

Myton 9.00 am Holy Communion

Thormanby 10.30 am Holy Communion

Tollerton 10.30 am All Age Communion



### **St Mary's, Alne and St Michael's, Tollerton Sunday 8th December 2013 Tins and Toys**

Please bring items of tinned food and toys in good quality (including items for teenagers) to the churches in time for the services at 10.30am. All items will be collected by The Salvation Army in York and distributed to needy families during this Christmas Period. Thank you as always for your generosity. Bless you all. Rev Chris Park.

## THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

When the actor Nicolas Cage, was a young boy his father gave him a little Pinocchio for Christmas. Being a boy, he was a little rough with it, and broke its head off. His father suggested they bury Pinocchio. The next morning on the very place where they had buried Pinocchio was a large wooden sculpture of Pinocchio. The next day he then went about burying his match box cars, toy planes, a castle, even his GI Jo doll hoping they too would transform into something larger. Although they didn't transform, to this day Nicolas Cage says that his little Pinocchio gift was one of the best gifts he had received because it gave him the gifts of imagination, hope and inspiration. And these continue to help him through life and in his career as an actor.

So what about you? Are there gifts that have had an influence on your life? Are there gifts that have changed your life?

I love it when people take time to buy or make a gift, not necessarily an expensive gift but a gift that they have put some thought into that will be useful and helpful, because such gifts remind me of the Christmas gift of Jesus. It is easy to hear the Christmas story and think what a wonderful story. However the Christmas story is far more than just a lovely story that happened in the past. The Christmas story is a turning point in your life and my life. When we see it like that we begin to understand that at Christmas, God is announcing to the world that here is a gift that will change your life. The gift of Jesus changes our future, and as a result it impacts our lives now.

If we read Titus 3, verse 4 and 5, it says; "But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy." Jesus didn't come into the world for us because we **deserved** Him. Many of the gifts we give at Christmas are to repay people, or because we feel they deserve something, or it's expected because they're family or friends. But this is not why God gives us the gift of Jesus. It's because we need Jesus. None of us **deserve** the gift of Jesus. As God tells us through Romans 3, we all fail to meet God's expectations. Yet we need Jesus, who encourages us to grab hold and use him and the gifts that come along with him.

God is so generous, He is still willing to give us Jesus as the gift. And Jesus actually mends the problems that stop us having a relationship with God and with others. Without the gift of Jesus, we would have no hope of a future with God. A future that the bible says is a place where nothing will perish, spoil or fade. A future that the bible says is place where there will be no tears and no pain. There is no way of obtaining such a future without belief and trust in Jesus. And God's generous approach means that he freely gives us this precious gift of Jesus, without us needing to earn it. And the gift of Jesus is not just limited to Jesus himself. When we trust Jesus, the gifts for life now and in the future continue to come our way.

The gift of Jesus is a gift for all of us, and a gift freely given, a gift that continues forever, a lifetime with God. Jesus is the gift that you need and the gift that changes your life. Amen

May God Bless you and keep you, may he make His face to shine upon you and bring you His peace now and evermore.  
Carmel Gittens

**St Stephen's, Aldwark**  
**Annual Carol Service**  
**Sunday 15 December, 4.00 pm**

Start your Christmas by coming along to our popular Carol Service which will be led by the **Rev. Chris Park**. The service of carols, interspersed with a variety of readings and poems, caters for all tastes. Children are especially welcome. Afterwards everyone is invited to stay and enjoy a glass of wine and mince pies.

**THOLTHORPE CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**

**Saturday 7 December 10am - 3pm**

Please come to browse our stalls full of unique Christmas Gifts/Cards and enjoy a mince pie and mulled wine to get you in the Xmas spirit. Contact Annie Wing on 01347 838464 or [anniewing123@gmail.com](mailto:anniewing123@gmail.com) for further information.

**EASINGWOLD LIONS SANTA'S SLEIGH**

Tollerton – Tuesday 10 December 6 – 8 pm

Alne – Friday 13 December 6 – 8 pm

Flawith & Tholthorpe – Monday 16 December

Aldwark & Myton – Thursday 19 December

**TOLLERTON CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Sunday 15 Dec** 3-5pm at Tollerton Village Hall

For all Tollerton children up to Year 6 primary school age. There will be a disco and food.

Please offer your assistance if you are able to prepare food and help on the night. Contact Ann Morrison 833129 if able to help. Supported by the Parish Council.

**EASINGWOLD CHARITY CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**Saturday 7 December 2013**

**9.00am to 1.00pm**

Don't miss out on this fantastic Christmas event. Easingwold Charity Christmas Market on Saturday 7 December. There are over 21 stalls represented by 19 charities. There will be Christmas music featuring Easingwold Can Sing and a Saxophone Trio organised by Luke Turnball. Hot drinks, home baked produce, gifts, raffles, tombola, knitted gifts, homemade preserves and many more Christmas gift ideas and decorations. This will be a great morning of Christmas atmosphere and merriment!

Charities include: 1st Easingwold Brownies, Easingwold Parish Church, Easingwold Women's Institute, Huby Playground Appeal, Easingwold Friends of Cancer Research, Easingwold Pre-School Playgroup, Monster Flyball Team, Easingwold & District Flower Club, Action for Children, EDCCA, Macmillan Cancer Support, Easingwold Lions, Kyle Valley Scouts, Friends of Alne Hall Cheshire Home, Autism Plus, Guide Dogs for the Blind, United Response, Children of Lithuania and Friends of Chernobyl Children

Please do come and have some Christmas fun. We may even have a visit from Santa!

## CHRISTMAS THROUGH CAROLS

Looking towards Christmas there will be a short series of discussions in Alne Hall looking at the stories behind some well-known Christmas carols. We will be looking at Christmas through the lens of another well known carol on **Sunday 8 December at 2.30pm in the Ballroom at Alne Hall.**

**Please Act!**

### **Rewind&Reframe**

[www.rewindreframe.org](http://www.rewindreframe.org)

Rewind&Reframe is an online community that calls on our Prime Minister to enact the recommendations of the Bailey Review on the Commercialisation and Sexualisation of Childhood (see [www.gov.uk/government/collections/bailey-review](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bailey-review)). It calls for the introduction of age ratings on music videos. Whilst technology these days makes it pretty nigh on impossible to protect under-18s from viewing and sharing this kind of material it makes it so much more important for us to talk about what's wrong with it! And as a society we need to consider how we've got to a situation where misogyny and racism are so commonplace. Don't miss this opportunity to use your voice and join Annie Lennox, Charlotte Church and many other women in fighting for the dignity of ourselves, our daughters and grand-daughters.

### **'START' the NEW YEAR**

Start is a great course if you would like to explore Christianity or give yourself a spiritual health check. It runs for 6 sessions and is user friendly for anyone no matter where you are in your journey of faith. We will be running two courses in the New Year, one in the evening and one during the day.



What better way to begin 2014! If you would like to know more then please be in touch with either Arthur Harland 01347 823575, or Carmel Gittens 01423 360702. You could also fill in one of the postcards in church and return them to me, Rev Chris Park at the vicarage – Monk Green House, Main Street, Alne. YO61 1TB - Tel 01347 838122.

### **YOUR NEWSLETTER**

Your Parish Newsletter lets you know what is happening in your local churches and villages. So, if there is something going on that **YOU** would like to publicise, then please send it in.

# Family Time

Fun, Faith, Food

## Sunday 26 January 2014

4 – 6 pm

Alne Cricket Club

**Fun: Team Games!**

**Faith: Being Ourselves!**

**Food: Eating Italian!**

**Everyone Welcome Contact: 838122**

### **ALNE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP.**

Many thanks to Olive Davey for hosting last month's meeting and thanks also to Carmel for speaking to us and giving us an insight into her background and her journey into the ministry. Our meeting on Tuesday 3 December will be lunch at the Corner Cupboard at 12 noon. I will be in touch regarding lifts. There will be no meeting in January. Wishing you all a peaceful and happy Christmas. Sue Hufton

### **ALNE GARDENING CLUB**

The Christmas lunch will be held on 4 December at the White Swan Ampleforth. The first meeting of the New Year will be held on Wednesday 22 January in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm when the speaker will be Mr Read of the Northern Branch National Vegetable Society.

### **ALNE BROWNIES**

Our recent jumble sales was well supported. Our profit is expected to be in the region of £300. We wish to thank everyone who gave jumble and all helpers who became super jumble sales people. The proceeds will help considerably towards activities in our centenary year in 2014. Shelagh Kenny & Lisa Moakes.

### **ALNE COFFEE SHOP**

Very many thanks to all those people who have visited the Village Hall Coffee Shop on Wednesday mornings this year. We have now donated more than £100 to Village Hall funds during 2013. We remind you that there will be no Coffee Shop in December but we will be back in business at the end of January.

## **FRIENDS OF ALNE SCHOOL**

### **Burns Supper**

**Saturday 25 January 2014, 8pm-midnight.**

### **Alne Village Hall.**

Think ahead to January when Friends of Alne School will hold its annual Burns Supper. There will be entertaining speeches (of course), plenty of food and wine (hopefully) and enthusiastic dancing (definitely). Tickets will go on sale from 9.00am on Monday 6 January 2014. Tel 833114.

## **THOLTHORPE WI**

Sally Millington a fund raiser from Macmillan Cancer Care was our speaker for October. Sally gave us a brief history of the charity which was started by Douglas Macmillan whose father had died a painful death from cancer.

In 2012 most of their money came from legacies, direct marketing, fundraising events, trust income and general donations etc. totalling £155.7 m.

The services and information which the charity give vary from financial support, diet, funding of cancer nurses in hospitals, end of life care etc.

At Macmillan they understand how vital it is to have someone to talk to when you are affected by cancer. They have a **free phone number (0808 808 00 00)** with a team of people who can provide personal support and expert information 24 hours a day.

If you would like to get involved in Macmillan in any way please visit their website [Macmillan Cancer Support.com](http://MacmillanCancerSupport.com).

## **ALNE WI**

At our last meeting we laughed and laughed, in all sorts of positions! Our speaker was Judith Hardy and she was teaching us "Laughter Yoga". She explained the effect of laughter on the body, notably the production of endorphins [the feel good hormones]. Surprisingly even if the laughter is contrived this happens as the body can't tell the difference. We practiced lower pitched laughs from the pelvis right up to a very high one above our heads, a bit like yoga breathing, then we adapted this to some simple yoga positions. We all felt very good afterwards. Our vice president told us about the forthcoming Autumn Council meeting and the group meeting when Mrs Farbrother will talk about her visit to our current ACWW Associated Countrywomen of the World] project in Uganda. We then had the opportunity to sign up for courses and visits. We are a happy group, all ages and interests and visitors are always welcome. Our meetings are on the 2nd Wed of the month at 7.30pm Alne Village Hall.

## **RIDING LIGHTS**

Riding Lights Theatre Company will present a matinee performance of their Christmas show "Goose Chase" at the Galtres Centre, Easingwold on Saturday 14th December. Tickets £6 (adult) £4 (child).



## **EASINGWOLD FOOD BANK**

There is hidden poverty in our area and Easingwold needs a Food Bank. We need people who can give their time to help with:-

- Managing stocks of food
- Delivering to villages
- Welcoming people and serving refreshments.

If you might be able to help with this, please contact Frank Johnson-Banks by email (frankjb1@gmail.com)



## **ALF Fair Trade Market**

ALF was well attended and buzzing in November, and over £100 was raised and sent to the Typhoon appeal, in addition to a substantial sum raised by Ruth Davies, which was shared between the Red Cross and another Typhoon Appeal charity.

## **BRITISH RED CROSS & SHELTERBOX**

### **Typhoon Haiyan Appeal**

A huge 'THANK YOU' to all of you who supported my stall at the Christmas ALF market on Sat. 23rd November 2013 in Alne Village Hall. My total sales for the day were £191.50, so I have sent cheques for £100 each to the British Red Cross and Shelterbox respectively. Many thanks for your generosity. Ruth Davies

### **Opportunities for Prayer**

Every Tuesday at the vicarage in Alne 9.00 am

Every Wednesday at Tholthorpe Methodist Chapel 8.45 am

Step Aside, Thursday 12 December and 9 January, 9.30 am at 14 The Leas  
Helperby

### **Midweek Communions**

Wednesday 4 December at St Peter's Brafferton, at 9.30 am Rev Chris Park  
Wednesday 8 January at St Peter's Brafferton, at 9.30 am Carmel Gittens

### **St Stephen's Aldwark Flower Rota**

Dec 2013 – Linda Davies

**ANGLICAN SERVICES  
DECEMBER 2013**

**1 December**

Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Baptism	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Hawthorn
Thormanby	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Charlotte Cranfield
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth/ Carmel Gittens

**8 December**

Alne	10.30 am	Toys and Tins	Carmel Gittens
Brafferton	10.30 am	Methodist	K Hopwood
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	Toys and Tins	Rev Chris Park

**15 December**

Aldwark	4.00 pm	Carol Service	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	6.30 pm	Carol Service	Rev Chris Park/ Carmel Gittens
Myton	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park

**22 December**

Alne		No Service	
Brafferton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Myton	4.00 pm	Carol Service	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	7.00 pm	Carol Service	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	6.30 pm	Carols on the Green	Rev Chris Park

**24 December**

Alne	4.00 pm	Christingle	Rev Chris Park
Alne	11.30 pm	Midnight Communion	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	3.30 pm	Nativity Service	Maureen East
Brafferton	11.30 pm	Midnight Communion	Carmel Gittens

**25 December**

Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	9.00 am	Methodist Communion	Rev Ann Vaughan
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	10.30 am	All Age Communion	Rev Chris Park

**29 December**

Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
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**JANUARY 2014****5 January**

Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Charlotte Cranfield
Tollerton	10.30 am	Morning Worship	John Rhodes

**12 January**

Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Brafferton	10.30 am	Methodist	V Firth
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	All Age Worship	Rev Chris Park

**19 January**

Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Myton	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	9 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park

**26 January**

Alne	10.30 am	Anglican Communion	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Myton	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Tollerton	4.00 pm	Family Time	Team

**METHODIST SERVICES**  
**All Welcome**

The Rev Elizabeth Cushion is the Methodist Minister for Easingwold and the surrounding villages. Elizabeth can be contacted on 10347 821460.

**DECEMBER 2013**

1 Dec	3.00 pm	Tholthorpe Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion
8 Dec	10.30 am	Raskelf	Mr David Marwood, United Service
	10.30 am	Brafferton Helperby	Mr Ken Hopwood, United Service
	3.00pm	Alne Hall, Alne	Mrs Lis Johnstone, <b>Carol Service</b>
15 Dec	3.00 pm	Tholthorpe Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, <b>Carol Service</b>
22 Dec	2.30 pm	Alne Hall, Alne	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, <b>Carol Service.</b>
24 Dec	11.30 pm	Tholthorpe Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, <b>Christmas Eve Midnight Service</b>
29 Dec	10.30 am	Husthwaite Methodist Church	Mr Robin Jackson

**JANUARY 2014**

5 Jan	3.00 pm	Tholthorpe Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, <b>Covenant Service</b>
12 Jan	3.00pm	Alne Hall, Alne	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, <b>Covenant Service</b>
	10.30 am	Brafferton Helperby	Revd Vivien Firth
	6.30pm	Stillington Methodist Church	Mr John Freeman, <b>Villages Together Service</b>
19 Jan	3.00 pm	To be advised	Mr Robin Jackson, <b>Plough Service</b>
26 Jan	10.30am	St Mary's Parish Church Alne	Mr Brian Latto, United Service

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**COPY DATE for February 2014 issue: 16 January please.**

**Thank you.** E:mail [news@abchurches.org.uk](mailto:news@abchurches.org.uk) Church Office : 01347 838122