

Pew News



SUNDAY 24th 2017
Fourth Sunday in Advent

A warm welcome to St. Michael's Spearwood. Children are especially welcome. We do hope that you will find the worship uplifting and that your relationship with Jesus Christ is enriched through it.

If you have any questions about what we do here or about the Christian Faith in general I would be happy to make time to discuss them or any other issues with you.

Gluten free wafers are available for Communion, if you require these please speak to the service leader.

Revd Debbie

Prayer of the Day:

Gracious God,
whose eternal Word took flesh among us
when Mary placed her life at the service of your will:
prepare our hearts for his coming again
and keep us steadfast in hope,
that we may be ready for the coming of his kingdom;
for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHRISTMAS DAY COMBINED SERVICE

9.00am at St Michaels Spearwood (15 Mell Road)

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS BRING AND SHOW!

(JUST 1)

If you are lucky enough to receive a present tomorrow morning perhaps you might like to bring it along to show us in the service !

Prayer at Christmas

Father of all good gifts,

Thank you for the greatest gift of all – your precious Son, Jesus. Thank you that He chose to live with us so that all who trust Him will one day live with you in peace and wholeness.

Help us Father, this Christmas, to keep you at the centre of our celebrations and, in the midst of all the busy-ness and rush, to know your presence and the peace that only you can give. And Lord, may we reflect your love to those who don't yet know that you are real and alive and able to help, whatever their situation. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The name of God....

A little boy arrived at the gate of heaven. There he met an angel. 'Before you come in, can you tell me God's name?' said the angel. 'Oh, that's easy,' the little boy replied, 'His name is Harold.' 'What make you think His name is Harold?' the angel asked incredulously. The little boy explained: 'Because at Christmas we sing "Hark while Harold's angels sing..." and also, when we pray, we say: "Our Father in Heaven, Harold be Thy Name..."'

And there were shepherds

Luke's story of the birth of Jesus is brilliantly told – the angel's visit to Mary to tell her she would be mother of the long-promised Messiah, the old priest in the Temple told by another angel that his wife would have a son to be called 'John', who would prepare the people of Israel for that event, and then Mary and Joseph making the 60 mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, as required by the Roman census. When they got there, no room at the inn, and they settled instead for a convenient stable, where Mary gave birth to a boy child.

Suddenly, Luke changes the tone. 'And there were shepherds ...' – that's what he actually wrote, just like that. 'And there were shepherds', doing exactly what shepherds do, looking after their flocks by night. But this night was different: yet another angelic message – a call to abandon their sheep and go into Bethlehem to see the baby Messiah. They were given directions and a 'sign' to identify Him. He would be lying in a feeding trough. Well, at least they would recognise that.

And why the shepherds, in this glorious story of our salvation? Because the event needed witnesses, and the chosen witnesses would be this bunch of scruffy, smelly shepherds straight from the sheep-pen. Nothing could speak more eloquently of God's purpose than that. This was not a Saviour for the strong, rich and powerful, but for everybody. The carpenter and his wife guarded the Saviour of the world, and the very first witnesses were not kings or priests but a handful of shepherds.



Christmas Eve

2 Samuel 7:10-11,16, Psalm 89:1-4, 19-27, Luke 1:26-38

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-4, Luke 2:1-20

Date	Welcome	Reader	Prayer	Sacristan	LPM&LA	M/Tea
24th Dec	Karl	Audrey Maria	Maxine	Colleen	Lorraine Len	Barb Bern
25th Dec	Len	Ann	Lorraine	Lorraine	Colleen June	Bridgid

CONTACT DETAILS

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Turkey says

What does a turkey say? 'Gobble, gobble, gobble,' right? Not always!

A jewelry-loving turkey? - 'Bauble bauble bauble'

A turkey in the shoe repair shop? - 'Cobble cobble cobble'

A turkey with a sore leg? - 'Hobble hobble hobble'

A rugby turkey? - 'Huddle, huddle, huddle'

A dieting turkey? - 'Nibble, nibble nibble'

A turkey who argues a lot? - 'Squabble squabble squabble'

Then there was the dizzy turkey who just went: 'Wobble wobble wobble'