

NEWS FROM SAINT CHAD'S

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wardens

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A View from St Chad's

As the Christmas trees and decorations are being taken down at the beginning of this month and the excitement of Christmas subsides the return of some semblance of normality and 'business as usual' resumes. In church the celebrations of Jesus' birth including the carol service, carols in the churchyard and the children's services were enjoyed as well as the memorial service on Christmas Eve when the **lighting** of candles took place to remember the special people we have loved and lost.

In December the **lighting of** the Advent candles was explained and their relevance to Christians, culminating in the Christmas candle itself on Christmas Day. In the gospel of John chapter 8 verse 12 Jesus spoke to his disciples and said, "I am the **light** of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the **light** of life." As the shortest daylight hours have passed and the **light** of the days are lengthening after the winter solstice we begin to feel more positive in general. Undoubtedly, most people try to be good, kind and caring and this is also what the Christian way aspires to, and Jesus in the same vein told his disciples to "Shine your **light**". So we all can, and do, play our part in doing good works for our families, neighbours, communities and further afield and then we are shining our own **light**.

Many hymns feature "**light**" but the following children's chorus, often with actions, illustrates how just a small **light** such as candle shining in a cave can pierce the darkness and you don't want to cover it up:-

This little **light** of mine,
I'm going to let it shine,
This little **light** of mine,
I'm going to let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine,
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.



Spectacular Northern
Lights



Light of New Year
Fireworks



May you experience the **light** of the World this
year.

Blessings for a happy and healthy 2026.

