

NEWS FROM SAINT CHAD'S

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A view from the church

February is often the coldest, bleakest month of the year in the UK and therefore it is not unlikely that we will have sub-zero temperatures and snow to contend with - though we experienced these in January this year when Storm Goretti (and the weekend before it) brought cold, wintry weather. Although it may not be totally dark, for some a darkness descends in the form of isolation and loneliness when it is difficult or unsafe to venture outdoors.

Darkness can be unnerving or indeed frightening for some people; children can be afraid of the dark at night so need a **light** on for reassurance - I know I needed the landing **light** on when I was trying to get to sleep as a young child, in great contrast to loving it being pitch black for sleeping now.



The snow itself can appear **light** – when you look out of the window in the middle of a clear night the stars radiate **light** and the glistening, white snow reflects the **light** of the moon, it's beautiful, or when sledging down a snowy bank or playing in a snowy garden.

So **light** and darkness can have many connotations. In the Bible the very first Book of the Old Testament, Genesis, explains the creation of the world as moving from total darkness into **light**.

In Chapter 1 verses 3-5 it states:-

“God said ‘Let there be **light**’ and there was **light**. God saw the **light** and it was good. God divided the **light** from the darkness. God called the **light** day, and the darkness He called night”

For Christians we understand being in the **light** as good as opposed to being in darkness as not good and that Jesus can bring us out of the darkness and into the **light** of Christ if we trust in him.

During these dark and gloomy times of bad news in the UK and around the world we need some good news (**light**) to give us some hope and relief.

