

CROSSROADS

The magazine for
St George's Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon



**Come and celebrate Christmas
in our Benefice**

ST GEORGE'S AND ST MARGARET'S CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

November

Sunday 30th; 5.00pm Darkness to Light Service at St Margaret's

December

Saturday 13th; 3.00pm Christingle at St Margaret's

Sunday 14th; 3.00pm Quiet, reflective time at St George's

Friday 19th; 6.00pm Candlelit Carol Service at St Margaret's

Sunday 21st; 4.00pm Family Carol Service...

... a relaxed service at St George's with cake!

Wednesday 24th; 10.00am Nativity Fun at St George's...

...activities, snacks, dressing up!

Wednesday 24th; 11.30pm Christmas Eucharist...

... (Midnight Mass) at St George's

Thursday 25th; 10.00am Family Communion Service

at St Margaret's

... for a relaxed, informal all age focussed worship

DECEMBER 2025

75p

GIOIA OUR CURATE WRITES...

'Drop down, ye heavens, from above and let the skies pour down righteousness...'

So begins an ancient Advent chant known as the Advent prose (or the *Rorate Caeli*), sung in many churches throughout the season of Advent that we find ourselves in now. Where the advent prose is used, each week a new verse is added, the text drawn from Isaiah and reflecting upon the sin of God's people, the bleakness of humanity's situation, and the expectation and hope of God's redemption. The final verse, usually sung only towards the end of Advent, reiterates God's promise that His salvation, and His people's redemption, is coming soon.

The word 'Advent' is now almost exclusively followed by the word 'calendar' in our culture, and very rarely ever thought of in its actual meaning, but what it really means is 'arrival' or 'coming'. Thus, it is meant to be a time of *expectancy*, of *waiting*, of *preparation* in anticipation of Jesus' coming at Christmas. The Church has tried to retain the unique nature of the season of Advent, even when it has been lost elsewhere. If you are in church during this Advent you will see that purple is the colour of the season, as it is the colour of Lent, that other period in the church calendar when we focus on waiting and inner preparation.

Long before 'elf on shelf' and all the other associated things that now fill up this season, the Church saw Advent as a time to reflect upon much weightier themes: Death, Judgement, Heaven, and Hell. If that all seems a bit heavy and dark, and not at all 'Christmassy', then remember that the waiting and depth of Advent are all held within the wider hope and promise of the season. This is the promise that the Advent prose describes: the coming righteousness, the fulfilment of God's promises, the coming of the Light of the world into a deeply

divided and bleak place. A message we need now perhaps more than ever.

The joy of Christmas, when it comes, need not be a short-lived one that ends when the presents are unwrapped and the food eaten, instead it is the deepest and most profound promise of God's presence with us. This joy is all the richer if we have walked through some of the preparation and quiet of Advent, in the same way that Easter is all the more powerful if we have observed Lent and Holy Week. We can try to observe Advent in lots of ways. We might commit perhaps to spending some time reading scripture, or saying the Lord's Prayer, daily. We might even simply try to take a few minutes each day to sit, perhaps light a candle (as a reminder of God's promise even in the darkness) and just offer all that we are feeling and experiencing to God, listening for what He might say.

When we reach Christmas Day, and we encounter again the story of the birth of Jesus, we do so with so much joy and celebration. The promise of God, the Light that shines in the darkness, has arrived.

May we all have a blessed Advent, and a very Merry Christmas when it comes.





In December 1982 Rev Hedley Ringrose wrote...

UNION WITH WHADDON

The Pastoral Scheme uniting this parish with the parish of Whaddon became effective on November 1st. I was instituted and inducted as Vicar of Whaddon on November 30th. You may be interested to know that services at Whaddon will be at the following times: -

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month- Evensong at 6.00pm

2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month – Holy Communion not at 9.30am as before but at 9.15am.

Some will remember that a large part of this parish (St George's) was originally part of the parish of Whaddon. The building used as Whaddon Church Hall was generously given by Mrs Jeune. It was moved and re-erected to become the first church building on this site. If you look around the lovely Church and churchyard at St Margaret's, you will see inscriptions referring to the hamlet of Tuffley and will realise that this union of parishes is appropriate. If you haven't visited Whaddon Church, I suggest you do so soon. It's just one mile by road from St George's, a suitable distance for a walk one afternoon around Christmas, perhaps. HR

The 13 people who attended October's 'Refresh' on the 18th were welcomed with a warming drink at Grange Baptist Church. Pastor David Crunkhurn started the meeting with a time of praise followed

Refresh

by an opening prayer. He then gave a short talk the theme of which was 'Worry' in which he referred to Matthew chapter 6 and Luke Chapter 12. Pastor

David then gave a guided explanation of 6 tables all dealing with the subject of worry. Each table held a card giving us information and suggestions on how to use the materials on the table as we prayed at each station.

Briefly these were:

Do not Worry! Ecclesiastes 3:1

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

Using wax crayons, we were invited to create a leaf print reminding us of seasons and life changes for us all.

Do not be anxious! Jeremiah 29:11

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.

Using water colour paints, we were invited brush a card to find a hidden reflection.

I am the Lord who heals! Psalm 103:2-3

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.

The task was to place a sticking plaster on a drawing of a human.

Work Worries? Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Using playdough, we were invited to create something that symbolised our workplace.

Into the Future? Joshua 1:9

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be

frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.'

As we coloured in the print of a rainbow, we were invited to bring our plans and worries about our future to the Lord.

You are not alone! Deuteronomy 31:8

It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.'

Using a metallic pen, it was suggested we decorate a cross as a reminder God is always with us.

The meeting concluded with "The Lord's my shepherd" by Stuart Townend

All in all, an evening thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

On Saturday 25th October, 8 of us met to Litter Pick. A healthy volume of waste and recycling was collected around Grange Road, Randwick Road, and Tuffley Lane.

Please note that Refresh will not meet in December, but it is hoped there will be Church in Tuffley Carol Singing at the Pike and Musket on Tuesday 16th at 7.00pm. Please note that the Pike have to confirm this yet!!

**SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER
from 12.00noon until 3.00pm**

Are you ready to join us on Saturday 29th November? We're all ready for you and your family. The stalls are planned; The to buy food list has been sorted; the kettle is on; the Christmas music is ready to play; Father Christmas is on his way, he's written his list and checked it twice, so he knows who's been naughty or been nice.



Have you been keeping an eye on our weekly Signpost? You have, GREAT! so you are aware of our requests for donations of **bottles** and **prizes** for the Grand Raffle and tombola; our Mothers' Union would like donations of **cakes** for the Cake Stall too, please let Sylvia Chamberlain know that you will bring cake

donations.

See you on Saturday 29th November between 12.00noon and 3.00pm

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ST GEORGE'S

We are truly blessed to have such a great worship team and congregation. "All my journey through" demonstrated how diverse Rachel's life has been. It was an informal afternoon where Jonathan asked the questions, Rachel answered them and included some of her favourite hymns. It was lovely to hear of Rachel's earlier life and how other people saw that she would enter the church. Here's hoping there is another offering, but thank you to Jonathan and Rachel for a lovely afternoon. David has a video of it if any of you missed it. It's worth seeing!

One of our Churches in Tuffley events was the annual "Time to Remember" service. This is incredibly poignant and clearly important to everyone who came. The names of all our loved ones were displayed on the screen, and everyone had a chance to light a candle to keep the memory of their loved ones alight.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Donations for Christmas flowers, in memory of loved ones, can be given to any Churchwarden at St Margaret's or at St George's. There are envelopes at the back of St George's with space for you to write the name of the person being remembered at this Christmastide.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER

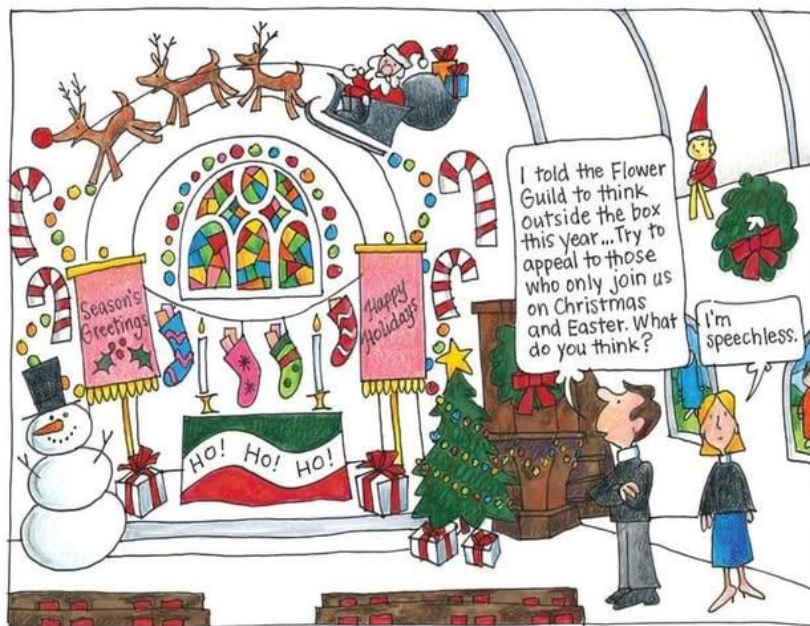


It was good to see St George's church almost full this year, with eighty-five adults and thirty-five children and young people at our Remembrance service. Many of the young people were from local groups of guides, brownies, cubs and beavers, and the altar cloth was decorated with poppies that they had made during the previous week from plastic bottles and painted.

The service was led by our curate, Gioia, and included the placing of wreaths at the war memorial by our County Councillor and a member of the guides, and a two-minute silence.

Following the service, many enjoyed tea, cake, and a time of fellowship. Thank you to all who helped to make this occasion so meaningful.

HELEN



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A ROBIN ON MY FENCE

There's a robin on my fence today,
A feather by my feet
A heart-shaped leaf that blows along
Beside me down the street

Your song played on the radio
This morning in the car
And just last night I could've sworn
I saw a shooting star

The sun and rain are dancing
Making rainbows in the sky
And on the slightest breeze I watch
A butterfly go by

And people might say these are not
The signs I know they are
That it is just coincidence
Your song played in the car

That it is just the sky
And it is just the birds and breeze
A little windy weather
And the nature of the trees

But there is nothing little
About the way they make me feel

The sense of peace they carry
Is both comforting and real

Because it's just one song
And just one butterfly and bird
Just one star and just one leaf
In one enormous world
And so, the probability
Of noticing it all
Is close to nearly nothing;
Almost infinitely small

And that is how I know
That when that leaf floats into view
It isn't a coincidence,
But a sign of love from you

So, keep on shooting stars to me,
Keep playing me your song
Whilst you dance on top of rainbows
And blow heart-shaped leaves along

Yes, keep on sending signs dear Mum
I'll always look around
For your butterflies on breezes
And your feathers on the ground.



SYLVIA

(That isn't the name of the Robin)

NEW WILDLIFE AT ST MARGARETS

For well over a year, we have been noticing (and sweeping up) droppings in church, especially along certain parts of the nave aisle. We have trapped a small number of mice, but we were puzzled by a number of aspects. Things are now somewhat clearer!

The droppings are dry and crumbly, and much bigger than those of a house mouse. We have now sent samples to Warwick University for DNA identification. They tell us that they are definitely from Brown long-eared bats. That is interesting, because back in 2016, when our reroofing was looming up, the necessary survey showed absolutely no evidence of bats.

It does seem that with bats increasingly excluded by loss of habitat elsewhere, churches have become more and more of a refuge, so really, we should now say “welcome” to our new bat colony.

The Brown long-eared bat is actually the second most common bat species in the UK, with a population approaching a million nationwide, so we won't expect visits from wildlife experts. But bats are important to the eco-system, and we have a duty not to disturb them in any way.

As we write, the droppings have stopped abruptly, just as they did last autumn, so it seems that our colony is now in hibernation.

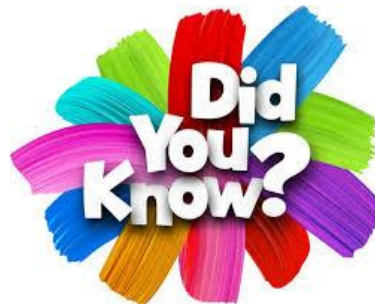
Actually, we have had a very large bat on the premises since mediaeval times, but he doesn't move a lot. Take a look at the east side of the tower, and you will see our splendid gargoyle. Actually he (or perhaps it's Mrs Bat) no longer spouts water – there's a shute on the south side which has taken over that job, so technically it's an ex-gargoyle. But what a fine piece of stonework to have on our church.



JONATHAN



A CHRISTMAS



- **Birthdate:** The Bible does not mention when Jesus was born, and the date December 25th was chosen by the Roman Catholic Church in 345 CE, possibly to coincide with the Roman festival of Saturnalia.
- **"Xmas":** Xmas is derived from the Greek letter chi (X) the first letter of the Greek word for Christ.
- **Christmas trees:** The tradition of decorating with evergreen trees has pagan origins. Early decorations included food like apples, nuts, and dates.

- **Christmas crackers:** The crackling sound of Christmas crackers comes from the original "snap" design, which was inspired by a log fire.
- **Pagan influence:** Many Christmas traditions, such as feasting, gift-giving, and decorating with greenery, have roots in the pre-Christian Roman festival of Saturnalia.
- **Christmas cards:** The first Christmas card was sent in London in 1843.



For our November meeting a group of us had a trip to Highfield Garden World in Whitminster where we had tea and cakes and a wander all around including their Christmas display. Our December meeting on Tuesday 9th will be a Christmas Social all are welcome to join us; we will have seasonal readings please bring a plate of food to share and a wrapped present.



GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ

Questions based on the Gospel readings for October

- 1 Scripture tells us Jesus was found on the other side of the lake. Those who found Jesus greeted him. What was that word?
- 2 Speaking to these people Jesus said, "you are looking for me not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the ____." What did they have their fill of?

- 3 Jesus went on, "Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for _____." What are the missing words?
- 4 The ancestors of the Israelites ate a certain food in the wilderness. What was it?
- 5 After Jesus sent out the 12 disciples, he appointed others to help him. How many did he appoint?
- 6 Jesus said to them, "The _____, but the labourers are few." What are the missing words?
- 7 Jesus went on to instruct them not to carry 3 specific items. Can you name one of these items?
- 8 When Jesus came to Nazareth he went to the synagogue as was his custom. What day was it?
- 9 Jesus read from a particular scroll. Who wrote it?
- 10 Jesus was visiting Nazareth at this time. In which town had he set up his home?

The answers are printed later in Crossroads



Come along to our **COFFEE POT** in the small hall on a Tuesday at 9.30am. Tea/Coffee and a light breakfast, and plenty of chat! Old friends meet new friends. What more could you want?



Please note that Coffee Pot is having a well-earned rest on Tuesday 23rd December, but we will be back.



Our final draw of 2025 will take place on Sunday 14th December. I've had a couple of enquiries asking how to be a part of this fundraiser, so, of course, if you would like to know more about this draw, please speak to Darrell as soon as possible. Good luck to all participants in our last draw for 2025.

Thursday Club

A place of company,
conversation and friendship.



Every Thursday
at St George's Tuffley
10.30am-1.45pm
Soup and a pudding £5
Ring Marlene on 01452 528998



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING CREW **Saturday 6th DECEMBER from 10.00am** **onwards**



We did lots of cleaning on Saturday 1st November; then go into Church the very next day and immediately spot something which was missed. It isn't for the sake of trying, the eight of us were all busy for most of the two hours we were in church on the Saturday.

So, we've one more clean before Christmas is upon us, we are reliant on our congregation to either spot and tell us what should be done or to spot what should be done and then come along and give us a hand. We will be in St George's Church from 10.00am on **Saturday 6th December at 10.00am** when we will continue our cleaning etc. ...

... with or without your help, and of course there are rewards of tea, coffee, cakes and possibly mince pies for all helpers.

CHURCH CLEANING CREW!



Editors' note: *December is no different to any other month in that there are a number of requests for your help and your support so, please consider offering your help at any of the following: - Church Cleaning Crew, Christmas Craft Fayre donations for Raffle, Tombola and cakes for the cake stall. If you can't help this month, you could always make a New Year's resolution and help in 2026.*

Your help would be very much appreciated whenever you can offer it

V is for...

Vans? Violets? Vultures?

According to Ruth Valerio in her book 'L is for Lifestyle', V is for Volunteering.

This month's subject may turn out to be a case of 'preaching to the converted' for which I apologise in advance, Val begins her chapter with 9 examples of people she knows who volunteer regularly for a variety of causes from running a Fairtrade stall to making Charity bird boxes from old pallets.

I'm sure our Benefice could come up with an equally impressive and varied if not even longer list. People freely giving their time and skill to good causes can make an amazing difference to the quality of our communities and local environments.

Opportunities abound locally, nationally, and internationally and most volunteers find that giving their service is deeply enjoyable and rewarding.

If you already volunteer regularly, well done, keep it up!

If you find yourself with some free time on your hands, consider volunteering there's a 'You' shaped niche out there somewhere.

I'll end with a personal story.

Until recently when ill health forced her to 'retire' again, a lady well into her 80's found her 'niche' volunteering at Gloucester Foodbank. She would come in for a couple of hours, once a fortnight and sort Carrier Bags from donations received by us, she'd check their re-use ability, size them and neatly fold them saving the foodbank a lot of money by reducing the number of bags we needed to buy to pack our food parcels. She is greatly missed.

Love and blessings, Lorraine



*Should you need to contact the Crossroads editors
You can at ds52604@gmail.com
Or on 01452 410507*



St George's Entertainers



Sing Along



Christmas



Friday 12th December



7.00pm - 9.30pm



St George's Centre

St George's Church, Grange Road, Tuffley, GL4 0PE

Adults £5 Children £2.50

Festive Nibbles Provided - BYO drinks

Tickets Available:

Email st.georgesent@gmail.com

Text – 07856071445





That to have your
JANUARY 2026 CROSSROADS
ready for publication by **SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER 2025**

...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL
BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN...

...**Saturday 13th December 2025**

Crossroads will be printed on Tuesday 23rd December

Articles for Crossroads can be received by the editors at any time
and will appear in the first Crossroads after receipt.



1. The carol "Silent Night" was written in which country?
2. Where did "Good King Wenceslas" rule?
3. What was the last Beatles' Christmas number one?
4. Which Christmas plant has the Latin name "Hedera"?
5. Who sang the opening line of "Do They Know It's Christmas" for Band Aid II in 1989?
6. To which city does New York cop John McClane travel to on Christmas Eve in "Die Hard"?
7. What fruit is used to make a Christingle?

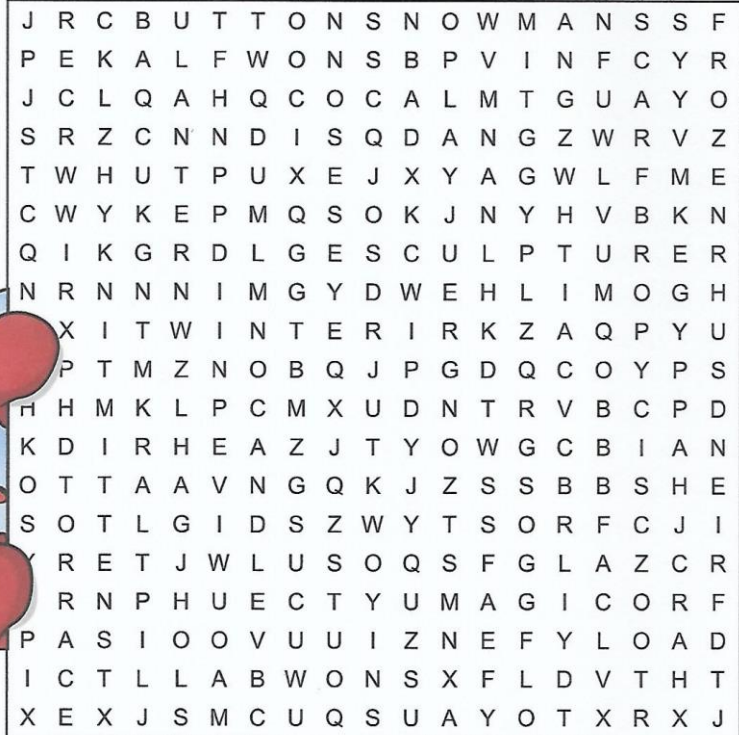
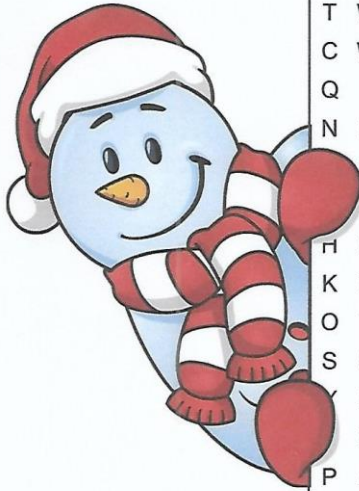
8. Why did Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem?
9. Which British group had the last Christmas number one of the seventies?
10. What was first brought to Great Britain by William Strickland in 1526?
11. Which European country was the first to issue a Christmas stamp?
12. How would you make a chestnut into a "Marron glace"?
13. In which German city would you find the shrine of the Magi, said to house the bones of the Three Kings?
14. What first went on sale as "Smith's bon-bons"?
15. Which wrestler starred in the 1996 film "Santa with Muscles"?
16. Where did Queen Elizabeth II normally spend Christmas Day?
17. Where would you be if your Christmas gifts were bought by "Shengdan Laoren"?
18. Which Pope in AD 320 declared December 25th to be Christmas Day?
19. Which Saint first performed a nativity play?
20. What didn't The Darkness want to end in their 2003 Christmas hit?

The quiz answers are printed later in Crossroads





SNOWMAN WORDSEARCH



Find the following words in the above puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

Button, Candle, Carrot, Coal, Cold, Eyes, Friends, Frosty, Frozen, Happy, Lantern, Magic, Melt, Mittens, Nose, Play, Scarf, Sculpture, Snowball, Snowflake, Snowman, Top Hat, White, Winter.

The answer is printed later in Crossroads



CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Austria: 2 Bohemia: 3 Hello Goodbye: 4 Ivy: 5 Kylie Minogue: 6 Los Angeles: 7 Orange: 8 To pay their taxes: 9 Pink Floyd: 10 Turkeys: 11 Austria: 12 Coat it in sugar: 13 Cologne: 14 Christmas Crackers: 15 Hulk Hogan: 16 Sandringham: 17 China; basically it's Chinese for Father Christmas: 18 Pope Julius I: 19 St Francis of Assisi: 20 The bells:

GOSPEL QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Rabbi: 2 loaves: 3 Eternal Life: 4 Manna: 5 Seventy: 6 harvest is plentiful: 7 purse, bag, sandals: 8 Sabbath: 9 Isaiah: 10 Capernaum:

SNOWMAN WORDSEARCH ANSWER

J	R	C	B	U	T	T	O	N	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	S	S	F
P	E	K	A	L	F	W	O	N	S	B	P	V	I	N	F	C	Y	R
J	C	L	Q	A	H	Q	C	O	C	A	L	M	T	G	U	A	Y	O
S	R	Z	C	N	N	D	I	S	Q	D	A	N	G	Z	W	R	V	Z
T	W	H	U	T	P	U	X	E	J	X	Y	A	G	W	L	F	M	E
C	W	Y	K	E	P	M	Q	S	O	K	J	N	Y	H	V	B	K	N
Q	I	K	G	R	D	L	G	E	S	C	U	L	P	T	U	R	E	R
N	R	N	N	N	I	M	G	Y	D	W	E	H	L	I	M	O	G	H
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D	P	T	M	Z	N	O	B	Q	J	P	G	D	Q	C	O	Y	P	S
H	H	M	K	L	P	C	M	X	U	D	N	T	R	V	B	C	P	D
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Y	R	E	T	J	W	L	U	S	O	Q	S	F	G	L	A	Z	C	R
J	R	N	P	H	U	E	C	T	Y	U	M	A	G	I	C	O	R	F
P	A	S	I	O	O	V	U	U	I	Z	N	E	F	Y	L	O	A	D
I	C	T	L	L	A	B	W	O	N	S	X	F	L	D	V	T	H	T
X	E	X	J	S	M	C	U	Q	S	U	A	Y	O	T	X	R	X	J





NOVEMBER

Sunday 23

December Crossroads available

9.00am Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church

10.30am Parish Eucharist at St George's Church

3.00pm Farewell Service for the Venerable Hilary Dawson, Archdeacon of Gloucester in Gloucester Cathedral

Monday 24

10.30am Say Aphasia in small hall

5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom

5.00pm Brownies in main hall

6.00pm Rainbows in small hall

7.15pm Guides in main hall

7.15pm Youth Group in small hall

Tuesday 25

9.30am Coffee Pot in small hall

10.00am Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel

1.30pm Fun & Free in main hall

5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel

6.30pm Cubs & Beavers in main hall

8.00pm Karate in main hall

Wednesday 26

8.15am Morning Prayer on Zoom

9.30am Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall

2.00pm Gardening Club committee in small hall

3.30pm Slimming World in main hall

5.00pm Slimming World in main hall

5.00pm Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel

6.30pm Slimming World in main hall

6.30pm GAGS Committee in small hall

Thursday 27

10.30am Thursday Club in small hall

	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall
Friday 28	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship in main hall
	Christmas Craft Fayre set up commences	
Saturday 29	10.00am	Christmas Craft Fayre prep and Fayre
	12.00noon	Christmas Craft Fayre at St George's
Sunday 30	9.00am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St George's Church
	4.00pm	IGBO meet in small hall
	5.00pm	Darkness to Light Service at St Margaret's Church
DECEMBER		
Monday 1	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall
	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
Tuesday 2	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
Wednesday 3	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
Thursday 4	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall

	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall
Friday 5	1.00pm	Gardening Club Christmas Party
	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship in main hall
	7.30pm	Entertainers in small hall
Saturday 6	10.00am	Church Cleaning Crew
	10.00am	Karate in main hall
Sunday 7	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St George's Church
	5.00pm	Evensong at St Margaret's Church
Monday 8	10.30am	Say Aphasia in small hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall
	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
Tuesday 9	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Social in small hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
Wednesday 10	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
Thursday 11	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall

Friday 12	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship in main hall
	7.30pm	Entertainers Christmas Sing a Long
Saturday 13	10.00am	Karate in main hall
	12.30pm	Party set up
	3.00pm	Christingle at St Margaret's
	3.00pm	Charles' IGBO group party
Sunday 14	9.00am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St George's Church
	3.00pm	Quiet, reflective time at St George's
Monday 15	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall
	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
Tuesday 16	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
	7.00pm	CiT Carols at the Pike and Musket TBC
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
Wednesday 17	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
Thursday 18	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall
Friday 19	Schools break up for Christmas/New Year break	
	6.00pm	Candlelit Carol Service at St Margaret's

	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship in main hall
Saturday 20	10.00am	Karate in main hall
	1.00pm	Private Let of main hall
Sunday 21	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St George's Church
	4.00pm	Family Carol Service
	5.00pm	Evensong at St Margaret's Church
Monday 22	10.30am	Say Aphasia in small hall
	1.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Tuesday 23	10.00am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
Wednesday 24	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	10.00am	Nativity Fun at St George's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	G.A.G.S. Committee in small hall
	11.30pm	Christmas Eucharist at St George's
Thursday 25	10.00am	Family Eucharist at St Margaret's
Friday 26	Church Office Closed	
	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship in main hall?
Saturday 27	10.00am	Karate in main hall
	3.00pm	Private Let in main hall
Sunday 28	9.00am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St George's Church
	4.00pm	IGBO Meeting in small hall
Monday 29	1.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Tuesday 30	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist in St George's Lady Chapel
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
Wednesday 31	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel

	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
Thursday 1	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St Margaret's Church
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
Friday 2	Church Office Closed	
	6.00pm	Christ Mandate Fellowship in main hall
	7.30pm	GAGS in main hall
Saturday 3	10.00am	Church Cleaning Crew
	10.00am	Karate in main hall
Sunday 4	10.30am	Parish Eucharist at St George's Church
	5.00pm	Evensong at St Margaret's Church
Monday 5	Schools New Term	



There will be a **farewell service for the Venerable Hilary Dawson, Archdeacon of Gloucester** on Sunday 23 November at 3.00pm in Gloucester Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to attend this service.

Our Christmas Craft Fayre: Saturday 29th November 2025 from 12.00noon until 3.00pm. See the article earlier in this Crossroads.

St Barnabas (not so much a Christmas Fair, more a 'build your own Nativity'): 29th November from 10.00am until 12.00noon.

Grange Baptist Church Christmas Fair: 6th December from 11.00am until 3.00pm. Local crafts, light lunches, sweet treats and more...

Wedding Fayre / Celebration of Marriage: Sunday 25th April 2026 (and/or Saturday 24th TBC) More information to follow.

Summer Fun Day 2026: Saturday 11th July 2026 is the provisional date for next year's Summer Fun Day.

A LITTLE BIT OF CHRISTMAS HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh? Nothing – it was on the house.

How did the bauble know that she was addicted to Christmas? She'd been hooked on Christmas trees all her life.

What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations? Tinsilitis.

What do you call a blind reindeer? No-eye deer.

Why was the snowman embarrassed when he was spotted rummaging through a bag of carrots? He was caught picking his nose.

What is one of the best Christmas presents that you can give and receive? A broken drum. Why? Because you can't beat it!

I have this incredible ability to predict what's inside a wrapped present. It's a gift.

Why did Santa have to go to the hospital? Because of his poor elf.

Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing? They're always dropping their needles.

I got a Christmas card full of rice in the post today. I think it was from my Uncle Ben.

Why did the red-nosed reindeer help the old lady cross the road? It would have been Rudolph him not to.

Why did no-one bid for Rudolph and Blitzen on eBay?
Because they were two deer.