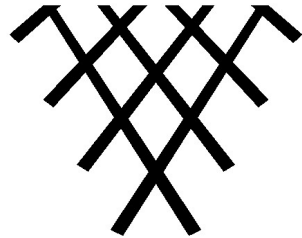




ST PETER'S
CHURCH STANLEY



Dec '18 / Jan '19
Parish News



Free - please take a copy

www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk



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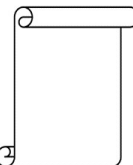
Single Wills, Double Wills, Trust Wills and 'Living Wills' from £50

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from £265

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**For an informal chat about
your needs, please call
Gail on: 07914 016681**

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comfort of your own home.*



The Minister writes:

Like most children, my favourite time of year was Christmas. I had lots of favourite times, but Christmas was that bit extra special. It was because we had an open coal fire blazing in the hearth making the house toasty warm. We had extra special food like turkey and Christmas pudding, and if I was lucky, I got more than two toys.

As I grew up my expectations changed but the thrill of Christmas didn't. Even as an adult I still find Christmas wonderful, not for me anymore but for my children and grandchildren. I can relive the thrill of my own Christmas experience through the faces of others.

For some, Christmas in a very difficult time. Personal circumstances, lack of money, bad relationships and a whole host of other things just can't help but get in the way. Sadly, for some, Christmas is the worst time of the year. Christmas is meant to be a time of giving. Today, that seems to mean spending lots on as many presents as you can afford even when they already have so much. As a Christian, I believe in giving, and giving for giving's sake, not because it is expected of me.

Jesus told us that we don't need a lot of money to make a difference to others, in fact we don't really need to spend a penny. All we need to do is give. We can give time, support, help and anything else that will, in the giving, help those who receive. It is amazing just how much



a few words of comfort can affect the hearer; a simple gesture of helping someone in and out of the house with shopping bags.

Jesus gave the greatest gift of all, a chance to live with him in his Father's house. To give us this, he gave his life. This gift is worth more than anything money can buy. I am not suggesting that you ignore friends and family at Christmas, in fact quite the opposite: be generous, but that doesn't need to be in the price and number of gifts. Just remember to be even more generous to those who are in need. We live in a society that is built on wealth, but it should be built on kindness and love, both of which we can give in abundance without cost. Have a wonderful and giving filled Christmas.

Rev David Teece, St Peter's Church, Stanley

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St Peter's Church Services

*All services are held at St Peter's Church,
Lake Lock Road, Stanley, WF3 4HW*

Sunday 10am Family Communion *with
Sunday Gang for children
and regular parade services.*

Thursday 9:15 am Children's Ark *with songs,
stories, crafts, playtime and
refreshments.*

*We do not currently have a mid-week communion
service. Please contact the church office on 835746 if
you would like to request a communion visit at home.*

Other Christian Worship

METHODIST CHURCH: Lee Mount Chapel

Sunday: 10:30am service

Minister: Revd Barry Owen

email: barry.owen@methodist.org.uk, tel: 07753 127681

ZION CHRISTIAN CENTRE

466a Aberford Road, Stanley,

www.zionchurch.co.uk, telephone: 01924 872262

Sunday: 10:30am Service

11:00am Sunday School & crèche

Tuesdays: 7:30pm Prayer meeting

Wednesdays: 7:30pm Bible Study, discussions

Minister: David Dixon, telephone: 01924 872262

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DATES FOR DECEMBER and JANUARY

Sat 1st Dec 6.30pm	<u>Christmas Concert</u> at Mount Road Methodist church; see page 10 for more information.
Sun 2nd Dec 10am	<u>St Nicholas parade service</u> : bring a wrapped gift for a child in need this Christmas, see p11.
Sun 2nd Dec 3pm	<u>Advent Service</u> at St Paul's Alverthorpe, for all the churches in our united benefice, see p11.
Tues 4th Dec 10am—2pm	<u>Senior Citizens' Lunch club</u> with activities and a hot meal every Tuesday. See p21 for details.
Weds 5th Dec 2pm-4pm	<u>Coffee Afternoon</u> at Mount Road Chapel; see page 10 for more information
Weds 5th Dec 5pm-7.30pm	<u>Santa Comes to Stanley</u> : a free event at Stanley community centre, see page 13.
Sat 8th Dec 10.30am-12.30	<u>Coffee morning</u> at St Peter's church with lots of great stalls and refreshments, page 10.
Sun 9th Dec 3pm	<u>Stanley Community Singers Christmas concert</u> buy tickets on the door, see page 9.
Fri 14th Dec 7.30pm	<u>Film Club—'The Star'</u> a charming animated family nativity film. See page 16 for a review.
Sun 16th Dec 4pm	<u>Family Carol Service by candlelight</u> : at St Peter's Church, with Bible readings and carols.
Wed 19th Dec 7.30pm	<u>PCC Meeting</u> at St Peter's church.
Xmas Eve & Xmas Day	See centre pages, p14-15, for details of all our Christmas services.
Fri 11th Jan 7.30pm	<u>Film Club—'Fool's Gold'</u> : a romantic comedy adventure film. See page 16 for a review.
Sat 12th Jan 10.30am-12.30	<u>Coffee morning</u> at St Peter's church with lots of great stalls and refreshments, page 10.
Sun 13th Jan 4pm	<u>Christingle service</u> : celebrating Jesus as Light of the World. See page 17 for details.

STANLEY LIBRARY

Stanley Library offers a wide selection of books, talking books, selected language tapes, newspapers (including the weekly Wakefield Express), selected magazines (including the monthly Which magazine), and an A4 colour photocopier; please enquire for the cost of using the machine. There are also public access computers, offering free internet access, and basic computer programmes (i.e. word processing). The computers are free to use; users just need to have a current library card.

OPENING HOURS

Monday	9.30am—5pm
Tuesday	9.30am—5pm
Wednesday	Closed all day
Thursday	9.30am—7pm
Friday	9.30am—5pm
Saturday	10am—1pm

Activities for Children: There is a Tiny Tots Storytime for under 5's from 11.30am every Monday throughout the year. Other activities for children are organised in most school holidays—please ask for details.

Crafts and Chat morning: Every Tuesday from 10am-11.30am: bring your knitting, drawing, crocheting or any other activity and enjoy chat and refreshments.

Coffee Morning: There is a coffee morning every Thursday morning, 10am-12 noon. Come and relax with friends over a cuppa.

Code Club: Learn how to make your own computer games and animations at Code Club, every Thursday from 3.30pm—6pm.

Family History: Would you like help researching your family history? An advisor is available in the library every Saturday from 10.30am who can help navigate Ancestry and other useful sites.

Reading Groups: Check with the library for the meeting times and book details of the current reading groups.

Community Centre rooms: The community centre rooms are available to hire from Stanley Nursery.

Stanley Library contact details: Lake Lock Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4HU, Telephone number: 01924 303130.



Stanley Community Singers



Christmas Concert

Sunday 9th December, 3pm

St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road, Stanley

With a varied programme of festive songs and Singalong carols, and with special guest performers



Also with a raffle and refreshments
A donation will also be made
to a local charity



Buy tickets on the door: £3 adults & 50p children

Wear something Christmassy if you want to!

Christmas Fair — a review

Many thanks to everyone who organised and supported our Christmas Fair on Saturday 17th November which was held at St Peter's church. The event raised a fantastic £1,040 which was an amazing result.

There were lots of stalls, including toys, bottle stall, bric-a-brac, children's tombola, cakes, books, tombola, handmade craft items, and a raffle. The Friends of Stanley Library also has a stall and for refreshments there were bacon and sausage sandwiches, and tea and coffee.

Many thanks to the organisers, the stallholders and everyone who helped beforehand and on the day to make it such an enjoyable, happy and successful event. Particular thanks of course to everyone who came along on the day to support the event. *(Please note all winners of raffle prizes and 'Name the Teddy' have been notified).*



Mount Road Methodist Chapel: *Christmas Events*



- Christmas concert of Carols and Music on Saturday 1st December at 6.30pm; with free admission and a voluntary retiring collection.
- The next Coffee Afternoons will be on Wednesday 5th December and then on Wednesday 2nd January, from 2pm—4pm with cakes, refreshments and other stalls. Everyone welcome.
- Christmas Eve Service by candlelight at 7.30pm on Monday 24th December, led by Rev Barry Owen.
- Thank you to everyone who attended the Memorial service on 11th November. The Last Post was sounded by a cornet player from the West Yorkshire Police Band and the offering was donated to the Royal British Legion.



Knit and Natter, Sew and Chatter!

At St Peter's Church Centre, every Thursday, 2pm-4pm

Enjoy a cuppa, company and a 'crafty' afternoon!

Please come and join this established group of ladies as they knit, sew, compare ideas and patterns, learn new crafty skills, and share conversation, refreshments and friendship.

Just turn up: you will be very warmly welcomed

Church coffee mornings

The next church coffee mornings at St Peter's church will be on Saturday 8th December and Saturday 12th January from 10.30am-12.30pm with all the usual great stalls including refreshments, bacon butties, cakes, raffle, jigsaws and more. Please come along and support our coffee morning—you can be assured of a very pleasant morning.



Jack, the Giant and the Magic Bean

The well-known pantomime story of Jack and the Beanstalk has been given the typical St Peter's church makeover and includes the usual terrible jokes, silly songs, great costumes and props that you've come to expect.

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard back-stage and on-stage over the past few months to prepare the pantomime for our audiences. And thank you to everyone who helped out during pantomime week to make it run so smoothly. Yet again we will be performing the pantomime to nearly 700 people over 7 sell-out shows. If you've managed to get a ticket, we hope you enjoy the show! And we look forward to seeing you all again next year!

St Nicholas Parade service, Sunday 2nd December, 10am

The St Nicholas family and parade service is an opportunity to donate a wrapped gift for a child who might otherwise not receive much this Christmas. The gifts will be handed over to the Barnados charity to be distributed. Please bring a wrapped gift, labelled with a suggested age and gender.



Advent Service, Sunday 2nd Dec, 3pm at St Paul's, Alverthorpe

This year there will be a joint advent service for all the churches of our United Benefice, taking place at St Paul's Alverthorpe. Everyone from St Peter's is invited to go along to this special service which will include an advent message from each of the four churches.

Carol Service

Sunday 16th December, 4pm

Everyone is invited to join us for a traditional family Carol Service by candlelight at St Peter's church, with all your favourite carols and Christmas Bible readings. Please note that the carol service is taking place at the earlier time of 4pm this year.



Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday this year was a very special event at St Peter's church, Stanley, culminating in the rededication of the war memorial on the old church site.

A lot of planning went on behind the scenes and sincere thanks must go to Barry McCarthy, the church PCC, and Councillors Jacqui Williams and Matthew Morley for their considerable efforts in making this happen.

The war memorial plaque was removed from the side of the old church nearly 5 years ago, before the demolition of the church. It had been in storage ever since, and particularly because of the significance of the 100 years since the end of WW1 this year, it was agreed to organise the cleaning and re-gilding of the plaque and the building of a new memorial.



The stone memorial has been crafted from stone from the old church, and on the opposite side, the clock face from the old church has been mounted. The clock face has also been cleaned and painted.



An appeal was launched to help pay for the re-gilding on the plaque, and around £450 was raised towards the total cost of approximately £1,200. Other costs associated with creating the stone memorial and transportation have been very generously covered by funding obtained by Councillors Jacqui Williams and Matthew Morley.

On Remembrance Sunday, there was the usual parade service at St Peter's church in the morning, and then an outdoor service at 2pm at the old church site. The afternoon service was led by Bishop Tony Robinson and Rev David Teece and included a couple of hymns and readings, as well as the rededication of the war memorial in memory of those from Stanley who died during both world wars.

Around 200 people came along to the service and it was wonderful that so many people recognised the importance of this memorial in our community's history. The service was followed by refreshments at St Peter's church.

Also as part of the 100 years since WW1 commemorations, over 80 poppy shaped boards were erected on lamp-posts in Stanley, each one bearing a name from the war memorial. The response to these poppy boards has been incredible, with many people from the local community finding it very moving to have these names displayed so prominently in our village.



St Peter's church was also very proud to display a beautiful poppy cascade which was made from hundreds of poppies crocheted by many people from the village, and put together by the church Knit & Natter group. In addition, knitted bunting featuring poppies and the



George Cross was created by the library craft group and was also on display in the church during Remembrance day, along with some beautiful flower arrangements.

Thank you to all those people who gave so much of their own time in many different ways to ensure that as a church and as a community we continue to remember those young men from our village who gave their lives so many years ago to protect our freedoms.

Santa to visit Stanley Community Centre!

Wednesday 5th December, 5pm—7.30pm

This wonderful community awareness and fundraising event is running again this year with Santa calling into Stanley Community Centre on Wednesday 5th December as part of his journey around the district. The community event will start at 5pm with Santa arriving by sleigh at 6pm, bringing a small gift for children who come along to meet him. Local charity and community groups will be promoting awareness and providing activities and stalls. There will also be a kids' roundabout, free candy floss, and various refreshments. Please come along and support your local groups and enjoy a special community event.





Christmas Events 2018

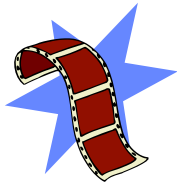
*At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road,
Stanley, Wakefield*

Sunday 2nd December 10am 	<u>St Nicholas Parade Service</u> at St Peter's Church. Bring a wrapped gift for a boy or a girl and label with the suggested age. Barnardos will distribute the gifts to children who might not receive much this Christmas.
Sunday 2nd December, 3pm	<u>United Benefice Advent service</u> at St Paul's in Alverthorpe: a joint advent service for all the churches in our United Benefice.
Wednesday 5th December 2pm-4pm	<u>Coffee Afternoon</u> at Mount Road Chapel with various stalls and refreshments. Call in for a coffee, cake and a friendly chat. The next date will be 2nd January. 
Wednesday 5th December 5pm—7.30pm	<u>Santa comes to Stanley</u> at Stanley Community centre. With free candy floss, kids' roundabout, activities and displays by local community groups and charities, and Santa arriving by sleigh at 6pm. 
Saturday 8th December 10.30am-12.30pm	<u>Coffee morning</u> at St Peter's Church with refreshments, cake stall, raffle, tombola, jigsaws and more! Everyone welcome! 
Sunday 9th December 3pm 	<u>Stanley Community Singers Christmas Concert</u> at St Peter's Church. Join our local choir for an enjoyable afternoon concert of festive songs and carols, followed by refreshments. <i>A donation will be made to a local charity. Please buy your tickets on the door: £3 adults, 50p children.</i>

<p>Friday 14th December 7:30pm</p> 	<p><u>Free Film Club—'The Star'</u>: a charming animation film about the first nativity at St Peter's Church; Doors open 7pm, free tea & coffee, bring your own popcorn! The next film club date is Friday 11th January 2019 when the film will be 'Fool's Gold'.</p>
<p>Sunday 16th December 4pm</p>	<p><u>Carol Service</u>: a service by candle-light at St Peter's Church featuring traditional Bible readings and carols. Please note the earlier start time.</p> 
<p>Monday 24th December 2pm</p>	<p><u>Christmas Eve Crib service</u>: a very popular service for all ages at St Peter's Church, with carols, dressing up, crafts and refreshments.</p> 
<p>Monday 24th December 7:30pm (Mount Road) or 11pm (St Peter's)</p>	<p><u>Christmas Eve Communion Services</u>: join us at 7:30pm at Mount Road Methodist Church or at 11pm at St Peter's Church for traditional communion services to welcome Christmas Day.</p>
<p>Tuesday 25th December 10am</p>	<p><u>Christmas Day family service</u> to celebrate the birth of Jesus.</p> 
<p>Saturday 12th January 2019 10.30am-12.30pm</p>	<p><u>Coffee morning</u> at St Peter's Church with refreshments, cake stall, raffle, tombola, jigsaws and more! Everyone welcome!</p>
<p>Sunday 13th January 2019 4pm</p> 	<p><u>Christingle Service</u>: a special all-age service at St Peter's Church in conjunction with the Children's Society to celebrate Jesus as the Light of the World. Everyone will receive a Christingle orange. Please note the earlier start time.</p>

See our website for further details of these events, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

		
<p>facebook.com/stpeters.stanley</p>	<p>www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk</p>	<p>@stpeters</p>



St Peter's Church

Film Club



Friday evening, 14th December 7:30pm

'The Star' (2018)



A small but brave donkey named Bo yearns for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day he finds the courage to break free and finally goes on the adventure of his dreams. On his journey, he teams up with Ruth, a lovable sheep who has lost her flock and Dave, a dove with lofty aspirations. Along with three wisecracking camels and some eccentric stable animals, Bo and his new friends follow the Star and become accidental heroes in the greatest story ever told - the first Christmas.

Friday evening, 11th January 2019 7:30pm

'Fool's Gold' (2017)



This comedy adventure follows Ben "Finn" Finnegan (Matthew McConaughey) as an affable, modern-day treasure hunter who is obsessed with finding the legendary 'Queen's Dowry': 40 chests of priceless treasure that was lost at sea in 1715. To follow his quest, Finn abandons everything, including his marriage to Tess (Kate Hudson). Tess is now working aboard a mega-yacht owned by billionaire Nigel Honeycutt (Donald Sutherland) when Finn convinces Nigel to join him searching for the treasure and inveigles his way on to the yacht. They are not the only ones in pursuit of the treasure, and are up against Finn's one-time mentor, Moe Fitch (Ray Winstone), and a ruthless local gangster named Bigg Bunny (Kevin Hart). Both are intent on beating Finn to the prize. Let the treasure hunt begin!

Doors open 7pm, film start 7.30pm

Free admission, tea & coffee; bring your own popcorn!

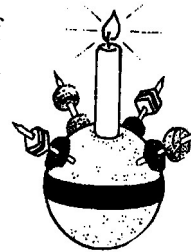
What is Christingle all about?

The word Christingle means the Christ-light, and the tradition of Christingle goes back to 1747, when the pastor of a church in Germany, John de Watteville, wanted to help his congregation understand about God's love for the world. He came up with the Christingle, which became popular within Germany before spreading to other countries. Nowadays, the Christingle is an orange with a red ribbon around it. Mounted in the orange are four cocktail sticks, each carrying some sweets. The orange represents the world, and the sweets remind us of all the wonderful gifts that God has given us in our beautiful World: He gave us these gifts because He loves us.

On top of the Christingle there is a candle which stands for Jesus: God sent Jesus into the world to light our way back to God. Finally, the red ribbon stands for the blood of Christ. He came into the world for a purpose: to die in order to take the pain and the sin of the world upon himself. This means that when we do something wrong and feel bad about it, we can go to God and know that we are forgiven.

Today, collections taken at Christingle services are given to the Children's Society to help its mission to change the lives of vulnerable children across the country who have no one to turn to. Whether they are a young carer, a refugee or at risk of sexual exploitation, there are thousands of children in the UK who need someone who is willing to listen to and support them.

By taking part in a Christingle service this season, you can help to change the lives of disadvantaged children and families in our local communities.



*St Peter's Christingle service is at the earlier than usual time of
4pm on Sunday 13th January 2019 and will be led by
Rev Jo Kershaw from St Anne's, Wrenthorpe*

Moorhouse Community Action Group

The Moorhouse Community Action Group meets every two months. The next meeting will be on Thursday 17th January at 6pm at St Peter's Church. Come along and share any issues specific to Moorhouse with local councillors and WDH representatives.

The Conversion of Ebenezer Scrooge

We think of the traditional British Christmas as a few days off work, a family get-together and a big meal. In fact, that only goes back to Victorian times. Before that it was a religious event, with church services and carols, but not a great community event. Among important influences on the change was a single story by Charles Dickens, 'A Christmas Carol', first published 175 years ago this December. It is in effect a morality fable, with a memorable anti-hero, Scrooge, and a splendid happy ending.

Ebenezer Scrooge ran his business with single-minded dedication to profit. His former partner, Marley, had died, and now in sole charge he decided to impose a more rigorous regime. There would be no Christmas Day off for his assistant Bob Cratchit, which ruled out the family's hopes of a celebration meal together. Bob's wife Martha was shocked, but Bob valued his job and said nothing. Scrooge, who regarded all such fanciful stuff as 'humbug' remained immovable, despite pleas to the contrary.



That was, until Christmas Eve. That night he had a series of dream-like visions. The first was of his late partner, Marley, begging him to reconsider his attitude. There then followed three ghosts. The 'Ghost of Christmas Past' was a vision of his own unhappy childhood. Then came the 'Ghost of Christmas Present' about the disappointment and tears his decision had brought to the Cratchit family. The third was the most powerful – the 'Ghost of Christmas Future', in which he saw his own grave. Was this how he wanted to be remembered?

When he awoke on Christmas morning, Ebenezer Scrooge was a changed man. Bob need not work on Christmas day, and Scrooge himself would furnish a sumptuous meal for them all. The whole day was transformed, and Tiny Tim, the junior of the family, rounded off the whole experience with a cry of 'Merry Christmas, everybody.'

The story captured not only the public mood but also the public's heart. This was the sort of Christmas they wanted. And gradually it began to take shape – holidays for workers, charity for the poor,

warmth and love in the family. Eventually the law and the work of trade unions gave the new tradition a feeling of permanence, but there's no doubt Dickens' 'Christmas Carol' story started it all.

The first edition of 'A Christmas Carol' was first published on 19th December 1843 and had sold out by Christmas Eve! By the end of the next year, 13 further editions had been published, and in 1849 Dickens began public readings of the story, completing 127 before he died in 1870. The book has never been out of print.



Brownies and Rainbows news

Since September, the 3rd Wakefield Rainbows and 39th Wakefield Brownies have been meeting at St Peter's church on Monday evenings as the Cross Keys building has been unavailable. The church has been very pleased to give the Brownies and Rainbows somewhere to meet, and the groups have written a report to explain what they've been busy with this term:

"First of all, we would like to thank St Peters Church for giving us a home whilst we are unable to use Cross Keys.

The Rainbows have had a lovely half term; they have been doing lots of craft activities, getting to know each other and learning all about the Rainbows Promise. They also held a Macmillan Coffee Event and enjoyed inviting their families to this. The Brownies have chosen to work towards their First Aid badge this term and have been learning about what to do in an emergency and recognising what gives us good mental health. We celebrated International Day of the Girl on 11th October by completing activities from World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and talking about gender discrimination. We are looking forward to handing out the special #TeamGirl 2018 badges at our end of half term celebration evening!

The Brownies Unit (aged 7-10) is very short of volunteers at the moment – if you could spare an hour a week and would like to help us at our weekly meetings please get in touch with us at 39thwakefieldbrownies@gmail.com or look at the Girlguiding Website www.girlguiding.org.uk."

Rainbow and Brownie leaders

Draw your margin

Jules Morgan, Chair of UK Church Administrators Network (UCAN)

Saturday moweeekend was no different as our daughter got busy with her writing work. The class teacher has taught them to draw a margin on each page before starting to write, but sometimes there has been 'huffing' from our youngest about why she should bother. This week, in the middle of her comprehension, she suddenly needed more space to get in something vital that she's missed. "Oh, that's what the margin is for!" she exclaimed.

Hearing her little conversation with herself, reminded me of a leadership meeting I'd sat in recently, where a seasoned and wise church leader was reminding others to build a margin into their lives. Building a margin into our life is about putting enough space between all of our commitments - and the very outer limit of ourselves and our resources. A healthy margin is about drawing and holding a line between the edge of where we live and work - and the actual edge - the edge that we don't suddenly want to find that we've gone over.

*"Margin is the space between our load
and our limits." Richard Swenson*

Intentionally building in enough margin is necessary so that we don't burn out or compromise the rest of our lives in the name of 'busyness'. But living with margin isn't only about us, it's also to ensure that those around us don't suffer when we live beyond our limits.

We can become pretty good at finding strategies that work, and enable us to maintain our margin and juggle the complexity and demands of life. But particularly in the weeks before Christmas, normal goes out of the window! There will be more demands and expectations placed on each of us. With the exceptionally pressured season of Christmas lurking around the corner, are YOU intentionally drawing enough margin in your life right now?

It can be tempting to budget to the outer limits of our time and energy, and just add in all the extra. But where life and work in this season require more commitments that you would normally take on, it's worth considering NOW where else you might do less.

A margin doesn't have to be a hard line. You can use it for something vital that you need to squeeze in if you really want to. But if that margin has already been drawn then at least when you cross into it, you're not teetering really close to the edge of your limits and resources.

Intentionally build and draw some margin into your life before you get too bogged down in pre-Christmas preparations. And as you do that, I pray that you have space to appreciate afresh the true heart of Advent and Christmas. Enjoy that space and rediscover the peace of Emmanuel - God with you - as you enter this season. Use some well-drawn margin to celebrate and rest - without crashing and burning.



St Peter's Senior Citizens' Lunch Club



At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road
Every Tuesday, 10am—2pm

- Arrive from 10am-10.30 and enjoy tea or coffee and a chat, followed by the activity of the day.
- Lunch served from about 12:15pm: a freshly cooked hot meal followed by dessert, for just £5 per person.
- Ideal for anyone wanting a bit of companionship and something to do!

The Christmas lunch will be on Tuesday 18th December and will include a full 3 course Christmas dinner costing £10 per person. Anyone else is welcome to come to the Christmas lunch, but please phone the office in advance to let us know. Please note that the lunch club will be closed on 25th December and 1st January.

Phone the church office on 01924 835746 for more info.

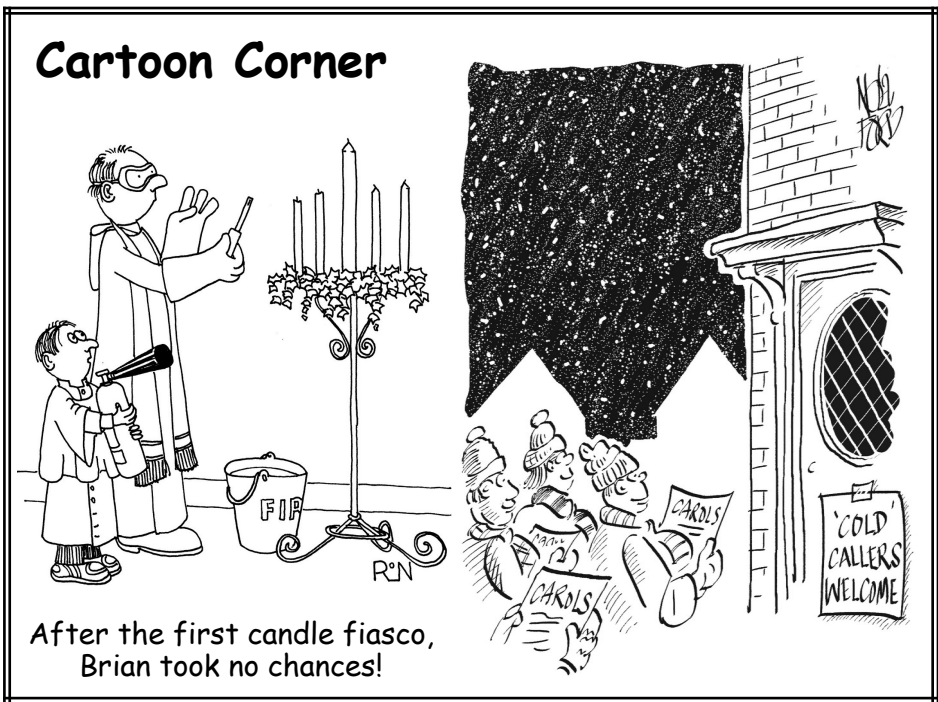
CAP is worth millions to UK economy



Recent research by the London School of Economics has found the debt charity, Christians Against Poverty (CAP) contributes £32 million to the UK economy. It seems that for every pound the Christian debt charity spent, it benefitted the wider society four times as much. The LSE also said CAP provides ‘crucial’ face-to-face support and goes far beyond simple debt advice.

Christians Against Poverty was founded by John Kirkby in Bradford in 1996. He believed God was calling him to sacrifice his career in finance and use his knowledge of the industry to help the poor. Over the past 22 years, CAP has negotiated with creditors, set up budgeting systems and offered a lifeline to those trapped in debt.

Nowadays, CAP runs 645 various projects with churches across the UK, including job clubs and debt advice. The local CAP debt centre is at St Helen’s Church in Sandal. St Helen’s also runs a Job Club and Fresh Start groups in Wakefield.



Prayers for this month

The Manger

A simple trough for feeding stock
Had stood, for many years,
As humble as the wint'ring flock –
Besmirched by filthy smears.

This manger mean inspired no thought
As day succeeded day,
Save by the stable lad who sought
To fill it up with hay.

And yet this old and dirty thing
That stood unloved, unknown
Became a bed for God the King
A trough became a throne!

And we have sung two thousand times
About that manger, poor
And poets build their Christmas rhymes
Upon that stable floor.

For God can use the meanest tools –
He'll use your heart, or mine –
He moves outside our human rules
To work His plan divine!
by Nigel Beeton

Prayer for Christmas Joy

Loving, generous Father,
This Christmas, please help us to keep you at the centre of our
preparations and celebrations. May our thankfulness for the gift of your
precious son, Jesus, motivate all that we think and say and do. May the
joy of His coming shine from us and attract those who don't know what
Christmas really means, so that they want to find out!
In Jesus' name and for His glory, Amen
by Daphne Kitching

A child is born

For unto us a
child is born,
unto us a son is given:
and the government shall
be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be
called:

Wonderful,
Counsellor,
The mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

For God loved the
world so much that
he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who
believes in him
may not die but
have eternal life.

John 3: 16



*Please contact the editor, Eleanor Plant, with items for the next magazine on
01924 835746, or by email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk*

Peaceful Praise on a silent night

200 years ago this Christmas Eve a parish priest in Salzburg, Austria, and his organist wrote a new carol for the midnight mass. The priest, Fr Joseph Mohr, had written the words as a poem, and the organist, Franz Xavier Gruber, created a tune of haunting beauty. The simple words and wistful melody became one of the world's favourite carols, translated into hundreds of languages— 'Silent Night' as we know it. On Christmas Day in WW1, British troops heard German soldiers singing 'Stille Nacht' and responded with 'Silent Night'—the sacred words echoing across the blood-stained no man's land. This carol is about the infinite peace of the nativity: Mary pondering all that was happening and the shepherds returning to their fields. The birth of this royal baby went largely unnoticed. There were no crowds, no cheering, no processions. But for two centuries people have sung this precious song of peace to recall that silent and holy night.

Stanley Rodillians RUFC—new members needed!

Stanley Rodillians RUFC is looking for girls and boys of all ages between 4 and 11 to join the mini/junior section.



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For more information please contact Jordan Platt on 07804 470382 or email jordan.platt@yahoo.co.uk.

Or just come along to training every Tuesday at 6.30pm at the club off Lee Moor Road and see what it's all about.

www.stanleyrodilliansrufc.rfu.club

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No appointment necessary — Home visits can be arranged

Stanley Library & Community Centre, Lake Lock Road, Stanley,
1st & 3rd Thursday of each month 6.00 - 7.00pm

Excluding bank holidays

St Peter's Church Centre, Stanley

2nd Saturday of each month 10am - 11am

Bevin Close Community Centre, Outwood

2nd Saturday each month 11.15am - 12.00noon

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	churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk	
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UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs/Scouts (boys & girls)	Mark Pringle	07450 953744
	firstyorkshire@gmail.com	
Rainbows & Brownies	Visit www.girlguiding.org.uk	

Weddings and Baptisms

For information about weddings and baptisms please contact the Assistant Minister after any church service or by telephone on 01977 730375.

Contact us:

St Peter's Church
Lake Lock Road
Stanley
Wakefield
WF3 4HW
01924 835746

Email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk



St Peter's Church, Stanley, Wakefield



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