**The Parish of St. Mary,**

**Harrington with Salterbeck**

**December 2019 & January 2020**

**40p**

**St Mary’s Church**

Priest in Charge Rev Julia Powley 830215

Churchwardens Mr Ian Smith 831246

Mr Charles Murray 832507

PCC Vice-Chair Mrs Carol Callaway 833223

PCC Secretary Mrs Anne Falcon 0782 187 5509

PCC Treasurer Mrs Ann Brown 832384

Assistant Treasurer Mrs Carole Pattinson 830222

Our Website: New united benefice website! [www.stmarys-harrington-and-holyspirit-distington.co](http://www.stmarys-harrington-and-holyspirit-distington.co)

**Who to Contact**

**For Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, House Communions, general enquiries or to arrange for somebody to be prayed for in church please contact Rev Julia Powley**

**Flowers in Church:** Marion Walker 834470

**Parish Magazine:** Andrew or Carol Callaway 833223

([a.callaway@talktalk.net](mailto:a.callaway@talktalk.net))

**Pew Sheet:** Ann Brown 832384

**Weekly Readings:** Susan Janulis 832653

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.fotosearch.com/bthumb/ARP/ARP114/Phone_3.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.fotosearch.com/illustration/dialing.html&usg=__D6wKw6FcmBvWkN8EqcouSrsUzfA=&h=145&w=170&sz=9&hl=en&start=12&tbnid=ewW80SF2DVHq8M:&tbnh=84&tbnw=99&prev=/images?q%3Dtelephone%2Bclip%2Bart%26gbv%3D2%26hl%3Den)

Dear everyone,

In the time covered by this magazine, we will have a general election, Christmas, a new year and even the possibility of being out of the EU by January 31st! That is a lot to be happening in a period when, usually, not much happens as the Christmas preparations and festivities take over from normal life. This year will be different.

First, whatever else you plan to do in December, however many dinners and nativity services are in your diary, please vote, whoever you vote for. It is so easy to think it doesn’t matter, but every vote is important. So, we need to make time for that in the middle of everything else.

Second, please pray. There is so much happening in our nation, and we will have so much presented to us by the different parties trying to get our support. Social media feeds us so much news, real and false. So we need wisdom and discernment. In the book of James in the Bible, we are promised that if we want wisdom, all we need to do is ask. So let’s ask.

Third, please remember how much God cares for us, and how much he is involved in our lives. Christmas reminds us of that, as we celebrate the Incarnation, the point where God broke into our world in human form. As it is so easy to make Christmas sentimental, this year we need to grasp the power of Christmas, the power of Jesus becoming part of our world and our lives. He is still in our world, through the Holy Spirit and through all who trust Him, including us!

The final words of one of the modern carols we sing goes as follows:

But nations now may see His grace and know that He is near,

When His meek heart, His words, His works are incarnate in us here.

I pray that this Christmas, the community around us will see Jesus in us, and that our Christmas celebrations will be more real than ever as we grasp the power of having Him in our lives. That is what Christmas is all about.

Happy Christmas, and God’s richest blessings for 2020.

With love,

Julia

**CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation is an opportunity to make public statements of faith and is open to anyone aged from year 11 to over 100. If you fit into that age bracket and would like to think about getting confirmed, please have a word with Julia. We will be starting to have confirmation preparation sometime in the New Year.

**M.U. News**

We declare success for our open evening in November when Margaret from Aspatria gave a wonderful demonstration of her skills at flower arranging. We watched and listened as she snipped stems and soon had made five festive flower arrangements. These were raffled after we had shared hot drinks and mince pies.

Donations or items (toiletries and candles) are needed by the end of November for a stall at the Christmas Fair. This year sees a change of day to Saturday 7th December from 12.00 to 3.00pm. Any items for this to Audrey please.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR M.U. IN DECEMBER!

Thurdsay 19th NOT the 12th – the hall will be a polling station.

Annual subscriptions £19 for 2020 will be taken at that meeting following Carols and Poems.

Christmas meal – menu choices will be taken in December for our January dinner.

**Dates to Remember**

Monday 2nd December – Deanery M.U. Carols,7.00pm at Great Broughton.

Thursday 19th December – our own Carols by Candlelight, 7.00pm remember your candles!

Thursday 9th January – M.U. dinner at the Galloping Horse, 7.00pm friends all welcome to join us.

***Christmas Flowers***

If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas flowers in Church (perhaps in memory of a loved one) please see Marion Walker.

**MC900216560[1]Home Communion**

If you know of anyone who would like home communion please contact Julia (01946 830215)

**Our Regular Activities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Events (many of these activities only run during term time. Please use contact number for details)** | **Contact (all codes 01946 unless otherwise stated** |
| **Sunday** | **Services in Church** at 8.00am and 10.30am (for further details of services, see page 12).  **Go 4 It** during 10.30am service on 4th Sunday of the month  **Study Group** at 7pm on alternate Sunday evenings | Rev Julia Powley 830215  Ann 832384  Susan 832653  Rev Julia Powley  830215 |
| **Monday** | **Pram Club** 10 – 11.30am, Church Hall  **Explorer Scouts** 7.15 – 9.15pm, Scout Hut, East Avenue | Marion Walker  834470  Andrew Hardy  832810 |
| **Tuesday** | **Cubs** 6 – 7.30pm, Scout Hut  **Crafty Mary’s** 3rd Tuesday 7.00pm | Judith Moffatt  07703 535962  Rev Julia Powley  830215 |
| **Wednesday** | **Beavers** 5.30-6.30pm, Scout Hut  **Scouts** 7 – 9pm, Scout Hut | John Fleming 833630  Andrew Brown 832384 |
| **Thursday** | **Holy Communion** 9.30am, Church  **Pram Club** 10 – 11.30am, Church Hall  **Choir Practice** 7 – 8pm, Church  **Mothers Union** (2nd Thursday of month) 7.00pm, Church Hall  **Youth Group** 7.15pm – 8.30pm  (alternate Thursdays) | Rev Julia Powley 830215  Carole Pattinson  830222  Ann Hill 830072  Audrey Armstrong 830507  Andrew Callaway  833223 |
| **Saturday** | **Messy Church –** (3rd Saturday of month**)** 4pm to 6pm, Church Hall  **Soup on Saturday** - (2nd Saturday of month) 11.30am – 1pm, Hall  **Men’s Breakfast** – (last Saturday of the month) 9.30am. | Rev Julia Powley  830215  Rev Julia Powley  830215  Ron Hill  830072 |

**From the Registers – October 2019**

**HOLY BAPTISM**

j0335512We give thanks to God for the gift of new life. We remember in our prayers those little ones who have recently been baptised:

6th October – Eva Ditchurn born 14/8/18

20th October – Kitt Fleming born 28/5/19

20th October – Thea Tuck born 15/5/19

20th October - Isaac Acton born 30/4/19

20th October – Logan Garner-Armstrong born 19/6/19

We pray for the parents and Godparents and their responsibility to bring up these children in the faith.

**THE DEPARTED**

We remember those whose earthly journey has come to an end:

Joan Moore who died on the 2nd of October aged 65

Leon Goldwater who died on the 10th of October aged 86

Margaret Blackburn who died on the 15th of October aged 80

Juliet Fryer who died on the 18th of October aged 78

We commend all our departed loved ones to God’s eternal love and care. We remember all those who have lost loved ones and pray that God may strengthen, comfort and support them in their bereavement.

**Readings for December and January**

**December 1st    Advent Sunday**

**Isaiah 2 vs 1 - 5    Matthew 24 vs 36 - 44**

**December 8th    Advent 2**

**Parade**

**December 15th    Advent 3**

**Isaiah 35 vs 1 - 10 Matthew 11 vs 2 - 11**

**December 22nd    Advent 4**

**Isaiah 7 vs 10 - 16    Matthew 1 vs 18 - end**

**December 24th    Midnight Service**

**Isaiah 52 vs 7 - 10    John 1 vs 1 - 14**

**December 25th    Morning service**

**Isaiah 62 vs 6 - end    Luke 2 vs 1 - 20**

**December 29th    Christmas 1**

**Isaiah 63 vs 7 - 9    Matthew 2 vs 13 - end**

**January 5th        Epiphany**

**Isaiah 60 vs 1 - 6 Matthew 2 vs 1 - 12**

**January 12th    Baptism of Christ**

**Isaiah 42 vs 1 - 9    Matthew 3 vs 13 - end**

**January 19th    2nd after Epiphany**

**1 Corinthians 1 vs 1 - 9 John 1 vs 29 - 42**

**January 26th    3rd after Epiphany**

**1 Corinthians 1 vs 10 - 18 Matthew 4 vs 12 - 23**

**Church Rota – December/January**

**Date** **Reader Prayers Sidespersons Chalice**

1st Dec Charles Tony Muriel & Leah Ian & Ann W

8th Dec Parade Service

15th Dec Ian Ian Pauline & Marion Mary Fr & Anne F

22nd Dec Susan Ron Julie & Andrea Leah & Charles

29th Dec Kelly Graham Jacky & Kelly Ann H & Muriel

5th Jan Ian Richard Margaret & Ann D Leah & Charles

12th Jan Family service

19th Jan Richard Carol Muriel & Leah Ian & Ann W

26th Jan Susan Ron Pauline & Marion Chris & Carol

**Church Cleaning – December/January**

7th Dec – Eleanor Kerr & Ann Weir

[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwie7-e8sN7VAhUFUBQKHQR-B4gQjRwIBw&url=http://www.clipartpanda.com/categories/cleaning-clip-art-for-free&psig=AFQjCNGtlcA0WyzFzwsd1qWZz6u_J3cO0w&ust=1503063080056030)14th Dec – Muriel Hill

21st Dec – Leah Brown & Sylvia Murphy

28th Dec – Marion Walker & Brenda Hodgson

4th Jan – Ann Brown & Susan Janulis

11th Jan – Karen Donovan & Sue Wilkins

18th Jan – Anne Falcon & Debbie Yates

25th Jan – Pam Douglas & Julie Hardy

**Coffee Morning Rota – December/January**

1st Dec – Ann Hill & Carole

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&docid=h3P92k1DFLkiUM&tbnid=ymBC3s0vFJBQAM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.colourbox.com/vector/cup-of-coffee-or-tea-vector-illustration-on-white-background-vector-2998457&ei=k-imU8P_F4akPdD4gcgI&bvm=bv.69411363,d.ZGU&psig=AFQjCNGylIaPwzYl-2NgvGruoCZykek-xQ&ust=1403533829002155)8th Dec – Wrena & Andrea

15th Dec – Margaret & Audrey

22nd Dec – Julie & Sue

29th Dec – Marion & Muriel

5th Jan – Ann Bown & Susan

12th Jan – Leah & Pam

19th Jan – Ann Hill & Carole

26th Jan – Margaret & Sue

***If you can’t make any of these dates, please arrange a swap with someone.***

**Christmas Raffle**

There are spare books of raffle tickets at the back of Church if you would like to buy and/or sell some – please write your name and the ticket numbers on the list. If you are selling tickets it would be appreciated if you could have the sold and UNSOLD books together with the monies back to Church by Sunday 1st December. If you would like to donate a prize for the raffle, please see Julie Hardy.

**Children’s Society Coordinator**

**** After many years Carole Pattinson has decided to stepdown from her role as our Children’s Society Co-ordinator. If you think you could fill this role please have a chat with Carole to see what the job involves. Thanks to Carole for all her hard work over the years.

**Important Dates – December 2019**

Sunday 1st Holy Communion 8.00am

Holy Communion 10.30am

Study group 7.00pm

Thursday 5th Holy Communion 9.30am

Choir practice 7.00pm

Saturday 7th  **Christmas Market 12.00 - 3.00pm**

Sunday 8th Holy Communion 8.00am

Christmas Family Parade Service 10.30am

Healing Service 6.00pm

Wednesday 11th Carol Concert with Cockermouth Ukelele 7.00pm

Band at the Old Chapel in Distington

Thursday 12th Holy Communion 9.30am

Choir practice 7.00pm

Saturday 14th **Soup on Saturday 11.30am - 1.00pm**

Sunday 15th Holy Communion 8.00am

Holy Communion 10.30am

Thursday 19th Holy Communion 9.30am

Mothers Union 7.00pm

Sunday 22nd Holy Communion 8.00am

Holy Communion 10.30am

Carols by Candlelight 6.00pm

Christmas Eve Christingle and Crib Service 3.30pm

Christmas Eve Communion 11.30pm

Christmas Day Christmas Day Communion 10.30am

Thursday 26th **No** Holy Communion Today

Sunday 29th Holy Communion 8.00am

Holy Communion & **Go for it** 10.30am

**Important Dates – January 2020**

Thursday 2nd Holy Communion 9.30am

Choir practice 7.00pm

Sunday 5th Holy Communion 8.00am

Holy Communion 10.30am

Thursday 9th Holy Communion 9.30am

M.U. dinner at the Galloper 7.00pm

Friday 10th **Film Club** 7.00pm

Saturday 11th **Soup on Saturday 11.30am - 1.00pm**

**Book Club 1.00pm**

Sunday 12th Holy Communion 8.00am

Family Service 10.30am

Healing Service 6.00pm

Study group 7.00pm

Thursday 16th Holy Communion 9.30am

Choir practice 7.00pm

Saturday 18th **Messy Mary’s & Messy Youth 4.00pm – 6.00pm**

Sunday 19th Holy Communion 8.00am

Holy Communion 10.30am

Tuesday 21st Crafty Mary’s 7.00pm

Thursday 23rd Holy Communion 9.30am

Choir practice 7.00pm

Sunday 26th Holy Communion 8.00am

Holy Communion 10.30am

Study group 7.00pm

Thursday 30th Holy Communion 9.30am

Choir practice 7.00pm

**St Mary’s Church, Harrington – 250 Club**

**** If you haven't already got your number but would like to be in the draw there are a few numbers left, please see Anne Falcon.

**November winners:**

1st 224 Frank Walker

2nd 16 Louise O’Connor

3rd 21 Ann Denwood

Thank you to everyone who supports the 250 Club.

A reminder that the half year subs are due, if you want to join in have a chat to Anne Falcon.

**Collections for October 2019**



6th - £286.10

13th - £125.00

20th - £158.50

27th - £111.00

**Our thanks to those who continue to support us with their giving.**

Did you know that if you are a taxpayer, for every £1 donation you make to the Church we can claim 25p tax back from H M Revenue & Customs (at no extra cost to you). If you have not already signed a Gift Aid declaration please see Ann Brown for a form.

**Harrington Scouts Christmas Card Delivery**

Drop your Christmas cards in the special post boxes in the Church Hall, the Pioneer, the Galloper or the Scout Hut before Friday 6th December, and they will be delivered in the High Harrington, Harrington and Salterbeck areas for a **KIND DONATION.** All cards will be delivered on Sunday 8th December.

**5p collection**

In November we raised £34.25.

Along with the Galloping Horse and Bookstall this made a monthly total of £43.25.

Come along and look at the second hand bookstall on a Tuesday morning in church.

Thanks Carol.

**Soup on Saturday**

**[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=5uivsYii7L8sRM&tbnid=i1DJjFjs1ejO2M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://griggstownfarm.com/food-of-the-week/food-of-the-week-soup-4/&ei=ZDQGU8usAsfL0AX88oCADQ&bvm=bv.61725948,d.ZG4&psig=AFQjCNGal-I_dPHLRYQjePg0hdXLaTkWRA&ust=1393001927748727)At St Mary’s Parish Church Hall, Harrington**

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=5uivsYii7L8sRM&tbnid=i1DJjFjs1ejO2M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://griggstownfarm.com/food-of-the-week/food-of-the-week-soup-4/&ei=ZDQGU8usAsfL0AX88oCADQ&bvm=bv.61725948,d.ZG4&psig=AFQjCNGal-I_dPHLRYQjePg0hdXLaTkWRA&ust=1393001927748727)**Good Food and Good Company**

**Saturday 14th December 11.30am – 1pm**

**ALL WELCOME**

Come and join us for a bowl of delicious homemade soup, a bread roll and a cup of tea/coffee all for just £2.00 – we do hope you can join us and we guarantee a warm welcome to all.

**Christian Bookstall**

We are going to have an area in the Lady Chapel for our Bibles and books. At the moment we are selling good quality second hand books. Once we have a new area I will be bringing New books and if there is time Christian Christmas cards and small gifts.

Come along and have a look – you may see something that you would like. For more information talk to Carol Callaway.

**MC900354041[1]Pram Club**

Pram Club meets in the Church Hall on Mondays and Thursdays from 10am to 11.30am during term time. Parents, Grandparents and carers are all welcome – have a chat and a cuppa and watch the children play.

**Tuesday Morning Gang**

We currently have a group who meet on Tuesday mornings (9.30 to 11.30) to do odd jobs around the Church and Church Hall. If you have some spare time and would like to help please contact Ian Smith (831246)

**St Mary’s Youth Group**

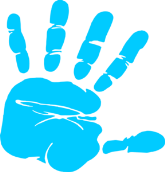
Meets every other Thursday from 7.15pm to 8.30pm. Meet up with your friends, learn more about our faith and have fun.

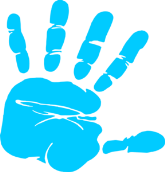
Held at 36 Seadown Drive, High Harrington.

Call Andrew on 07963 755905 for more details.

BOOK CLUB

[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwi52M6Kvd7VAhVGPhQKHe26BH0QjRwIBw&url=http://www.erringdenbenefice.org.uk/groups7/book-club/&psig=AFQjCNECdrjs9QWWZAoZ12xUqHFAuTMqnA&ust=1503066462336767)Do you enjoy reading and like to have a chat about the books you read? If you do then our Book Club is just for you. We meet in the Church Hall every other month after Soup on Saturday. The next meeting is on Saturday 11th January 2020 at 1.00pm and the book we are discussing is ‘Elizabeth is missing’ by Emma Healey.

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=pjMAwkgIExD86M&tbnid=xbgQRICeGCRMRM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.clker.com/clipart-blue-hand-print.html&ei=BBwVUvLjOeyd0wXO2ID4Dw&bvm=bv.50952593,d.d2k&psig=AFQjCNEQoWVDex0p9hA6AhD-yQvS_XufKQ&ust=1377200804456924)**Go 4 It**

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=pjMAwkgIExD86M&tbnid=xbgQRICeGCRMRM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.clker.com/clipart-blue-hand-print.html&ei=BBwVUvLjOeyd0wXO2ID4Dw&bvm=bv.50952593,d.d2k&psig=AFQjCNEQoWVDex0p9hA6AhD-yQvS_XufKQ&ust=1377200804456924)Go 4 It is usually held on the fourth Sunday of the month at 10.30am in the Church Hall and is for children of all ages - parents are more than welcome to join us or you can join the service in Church if you wish. Go 4 It includes crafts, songs, stories, games and prayers. We then join the service in Church at approximately 11.15am. All welcome – come along and join us!

***Parish Magazine***

Thank you to all distributors who deliver the parish magazine all through the year, in all weathers - your help is much appreciated.

We have now revised all the distribution lists and it would be good if we could keep these lists up to date. To enable us to do this, if you add or remove anyone from your list please let Ann Brown know, thank you.

Also, if you are reading this magazine and don't receive a monthly copy (but would like to) or if you know someone who would like to receive the magazine each month, please contact Ann Brown (01946 832384) and we will add you to the relevant distribution list. There are 10 issues each year and the cost is £4.00 per year.[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=8Cv8WzIS2mPlAM&tbnid=Lsq49XEepBFCMM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.clker.com/clipart-hand-print-pink.html&ei=cicVUsOUC7Ok0AXN4IH4Bg&bvm=bv.50952593,d.d2k&psig=AFQjCNG3mo_rKvDYkKBcR43kh5tAjYB7Pw&ust=1377204165285914)

**Men’s breakfast**

**If you like good company, good food and a good chat then men’s breakfast is right up your street. We meet at the Galloping Horse usually on the last Saturday of the month at 9.30am. If you want to know more give Ron Hill a call (830072) or pop along to our next breakfast on Saturday 25th January 2020.**

**Welcome Packs**

[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjarrzz8t7VAhVPsBQKHTADCOEQjRwIBw&url=https://www.clipartsgram.com/welcome-visitors-clipart-34494&psig=AFQjCNFb3CruxIIfNDj2-bcMJiFSteF5IQ&ust=1503080812828229)We have put together welcome packs for families moving into the new estates in Harrington. They contain general information about the area (schools, doctors, libraries, shops, local clubs etc), bus timetables, bin collection dates etc as well as information about St Marys and what we do and (most importantly) chocolate. If you notice someone new moving into a house near you, please ask for a pack to deliver to them and say hello!

**February Magazine**

We would be pleased to receive any articles, news or items of interest for inclusion in the Parish magazine. If anyone has anything to be included in the May magazine, please give it to Julia or Andrew or Carol Callaway before 16th January 2020.

[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&ved=0ahUKEwilguzg897VAhUGzRQKHXQuDcMQjRwIBw&url=http://www.educationabroadasia.com/phuket-film-club/&psig=AFQjCNFPZmYyFXnPMAEKt2dySpwjB7KTzA&ust=1503081015770757)[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj33uyl897VAhUE7BQKHaIuBrQQjRwIBw&url=http://www.sjsb.co.uk/extra-curricular/film-club/&psig=AFQjCNFPZmYyFXnPMAEKt2dySpwjB7KTzA&ust=1503081015770757) **Film Club**

Next Film Club Evening is Friday 10th January at 7pm. There is no charge to either join the club or view films but a suggested donation of £2 for each film you watch would be great. This is just to cover our costs and will include tea, coffee or juice.  If you would like to bring your own wine we will provide glasses. Film club is open to anyone over the age of 18.

**Church Hall**

The Church Hall is available for private hire. Please contact Sheila Richardson (07710 996695) for further details and bookings

**Crafty Mary’s**

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiikYXUuZ3MAhWEnRoKHXWYA_MQjRwIBw&url=http://dicdevelopmenttrust.com/craft-club/&bvm=bv.119745492,d.d2s&psig=AFQjCNEjhHhw0k_zaq8p3_zUSq2_m7dSsw&ust=1461249397742568)We have a craft club at St Mary’s on the third Tuesday of each month in the Church Hall. Please don’t feel that you have to be good at something – we just want to get together with friends for a cuppa and enjoy making/doing or whatever – some of us have now started making things for charities. If you are interested, please come and join us on Tuesday 21st January and bring your friends – all are very welcome.

**Note that there is no Crafty Mary’s in December**

**Open Church**

We are open on Tuesdays from 10.30am to 2.00pm.

Christian book stall will be opened during this time.

Carol Callaway

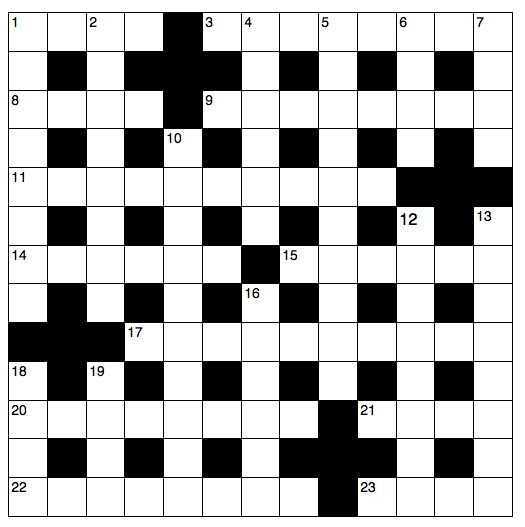
01946 833223

A Christmas prayer

Lord, as I enter into the fast-paced season ahead, help me walk slowly and quietly.  Let me stop and listen to the angels sing of the greatest news ever told.  Let my heart, mind and soul join the chorus. “Glory in the Highest!! The Messiah has been born!”

Among all the bright sparkling lights and cheery holiday tunes, let my spirit travel once again toward Bethlehem to honour and worship Jesus, my King,  The Prince of Peace, the Lord of Hosts, Mighty Counsellor, Son of God, the Lamb. All Your love, mercy and power somehow made flesh in the tiny form of a humble baby born in a manger. Let me worship the only one who is worthy to take our sin away and open the gates of all eternity!

*by Daphne Kitching*

**December Crossword**

**Across**

1 ‘The blind receive sight, the — walk’ (Luke 7:22) (4)

3 Got (Philippians 3:12) (8)

8 Leave out (Jeremiah 26:2) (4)

9 Castigated for using dishonest scales (Hosea 12:7) (8)

11 Weighty (1 John 5:3) (10)

14 ‘Now the serpent was more — than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made’ (Genesis 3:1) (6)

15 ‘Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot — God’ (Romans 8:8) (6)

17 Because Israel lacked one of these, tools had to be sharpened by the Philistines (1 Samuel 13:19) (10)

20 In his vision of the two eagles and the vine, this is how Ezekiel described the latter (Ezekiel 17:8) (8)

21 Rite (anag.) (4)

22 Nine gigs (anag.) (8)

23 ‘The eye cannot say to the — , “I don’t need you”’ (1 Corinthians 12:21) (4)

**Down**

1 ‘Flee for your lives! Don’t — — , and don’t stop anywhere in the plain!’ (Genesis 19:17) (4,4)

2 Principal thoroughfare (Numbers 20:19) (4,4)

4 ‘The tax collector... beat his — and said, “God have mercy on me, a sinner”’ (Luke 18:13) (6)

5 ‘The zeal of the Lord Almighty will — this’ (2 Kings 19:31) (10)

6 ‘The day of the Lord is — for all nations’ (Obadiah 15) (4)

7 Specified day (Acts 21:26) (4)

10 Deadly epidemic (Deuteronomy 32:24) (10)

12 Roman Catholic church which has special ceremonial rights (8)

13 Tied up (2 Kings 7:10) (8)

16 In his speech to the Sanhedrin, Stephen described Moses as ‘powerful in speech and — ’ (Acts 7:22) (6)

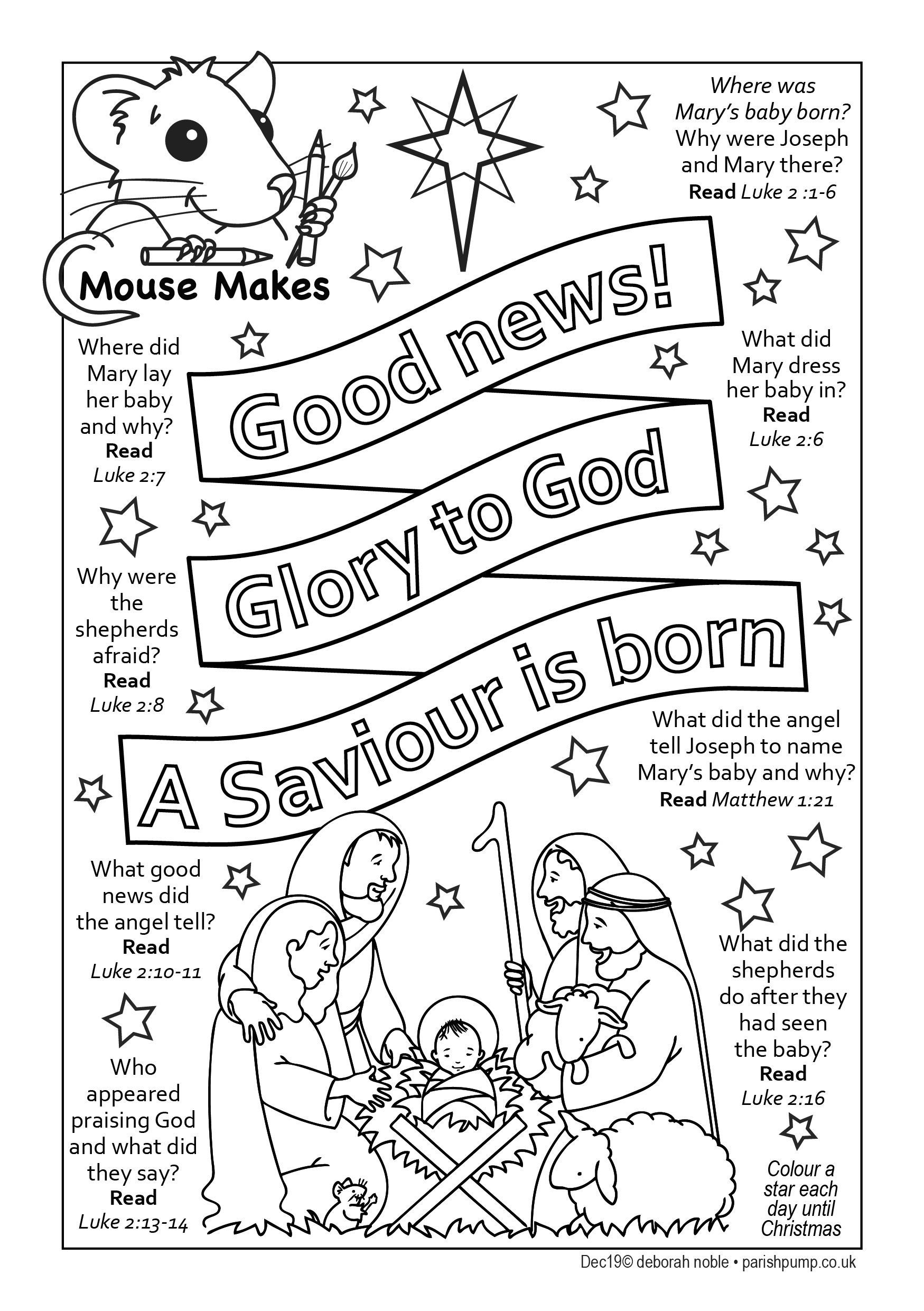
18 ‘Although he did not remove the high places, — heart was fully committed to the Lord all his life’ (1 Kings 15:14) (4)

19 Tribe (Deuteronomy 29:18) (4)

**NOVEMBER ANSWERS**

**ACROSS:** 1, Jehoiachin. 7, Endured. 8, Eased. 10, Rash. 11, Startled. 13, Easier. 15, Rubric. 17, Impurity. 18, Feet. 21, Eye at. 22, Ready to. 23, Holy Spirit.

**DOWN:** 1, Judas. 2, Harm. 3, Is duty. 4, Cheerful. 5, Insular. 6, Jezreelite. 9, Dedication. 12, Secretly. 14, Supremo. 16, Stir up. 19. Egypt. 20, Hair.

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