

S. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 2014 AND JANUARY 2015

From the Priest-in-charge

All my life I have been lucky enough first to be taken to church, and then, when old enough, to be able to go to church of my own accord. I was therefore glad to read some words of Canon Giles Fraser which express something of what is special about going to church. 'Churches, like live theatre', he wrote, 'cannot be successfully replicated online. Churchgoing is about the solidarity of sitting in the same pew, being involved in the same liturgy, trying to get on with people with whom you don't have anything else in common. We have survived every conceivable war, crisis, scandal, collapse and disillusionment. OK, we may not have the money to keep the heating on all the time. But don't expect the "for sale" sign to go up any time soon'.

It is heralded well ahead in the streets, but in the end Christmas, the birth-day of Christ, always seems to come suddenly. This is likewise characteristic of the coming of Christ as presented in the gospel. Watch, for you know not when he comes (Mark 13.35-7) is the message of Advent. Christmas with its sudden arrival is a true sacrament or sign of the coming of Christ. He was born as blessed Mary's child when the fulness of the time had indeed come, but the arrangements for his arrival were not ready. He is given also to dwell in our hearts through faith as king of peace, the peace and love of God. It falls out well that my last

letter as priest-in-charge can end with words which, like the gospel itself, can be understood by all, but hold within them all the mystery and joy of the Christian religion: **HAPPY CHRISTMAS.**

William Horbury.

Christmas Carols On the Fourth Sunday in Advent, 21st December, we look forward to singing carols around the parish after Evensong (6.00 p.m.). Our **Carol Service** this year is on Innocents' Day, Sunday 28th December, at 11.00 a.m.

Future Plans From 1st December the Churchwardens take on responsibility for the arrangement of services (Prof. Horbury will continue to officiate up to and including 18th January). The Archdeacon and the Rural Dean are to meet the P.C.C. to initiate discussion of future plans.

Cleaning Rota The church is kept beautifully, but its high daily 'footfall', to use the commercial slang, means that regular cleaning is vital and further help is always very welcome. If you would like to assist in this way please contact Mrs. Horbury.

Testimony to S. Botolph's Glancing through back numbers of the Newsletter I was struck by a personal testimony to S. Botolph's, reproduced here as an expression of much that we aim at:

I am convinced that it is the atmosphere of prayer and welcome which draws our visitors beyond the casual glance of the tourist doing the churches of Cambridge.'

(Patronal Festival sermon 2001, Vivienne Lake)

CALENDAR

ADVENT SUNDAY 30th November 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist;
Epistle, Mr Howlett Jones; Preacher, Prof. Horbury
6.30 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 3rd December *S. Andrew*, Apostle, transferred
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

ADVENT II Sunday 7th December
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist;
Epistle, Miss Josselyn; Refreshments, Josselyn
6.30 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 10th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

ADVENT III Sunday 14th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Mattins
1. Isaiah 1.1-20, Mrs. Baker; 2. Matthew 25.31-end, Dr Lindsay
Preacher: Mr Richard Howlett Jones
12 noon Holy Communion
6.30 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 17th *Ember Day* 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

ADVENT IV Sunday 21st 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist (Order 1)
Epistle, Mrs. Horbury; Intercession, Mrs. Coggill
6.00 p.m. Evensong followed by carol singing

Monday 22nd *S. Thomas*, transferred
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Wednesday 24th *Christmas Eve* Church Decoration from 9.30 a.m.
Evensong 4.00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY Thursday 25th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist; Epistle, Mrs. Horbury
4.00 p.m. Evensong (said)

S. Stephen's Day Friday 26th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
S. John's Day Saturday 27th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

INNOCENTS' DAY Sunday 28th
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. **CAROL SERVICE**
followed by Refreshments
4.00 p.m. Evensong (said)

Thursday 1st January 2015 *Circumcision of Christ*
Holy Communion 10.30 a.m.

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 4th January
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist;
Epistle, Dr Hunter; Refreshments, Horbury
Evensong (said) 4.00 p.m.

Epiphany Tuesday 6th January
Holy Communion 10.30 a.m.

EPIPHANY I Sunday 11th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Mattins
1. Isaiah 61, Mrs. Baker; 2. John 1:19-34, Prof. Cockerill
12 noon Holy Communion
6.30 p.m. Evensong (said)

Wednesday 14th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

EPIPHANY II Sunday 18th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist (Prayer-book)
Epistle, Mrs. Coggill; Preacher, Prof. Horbury
6.30 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 21st 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

CONVERSION OF S. PAUL Sunday 25th *Epiphany III*

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

11.00 a.m. Mattins

1. Jeremiah 1:4-10, Dr Hunter; 2. Philippians 3:1-14, Dr Lindsay

Preacher: The Revd Vivienne Lake

12 noon Holy Communion

5.00 p.m. Ecumenical Service at S. Michael's, Michaelhouse
(Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)

Monday 26th P.C.C. 8.00 p.m.

Wednesday 28th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Candlemas (transferred) Sunday 1st February

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Epistle, Mr Barker; Refreshments, Barker

4.30 p.m. Evensong (said)

S. Botolph's, Cambridge

Churchwardens: Mrs. K. M. Horbury 01223 363529, Prof. T.

Cockerill 01223 363603

Associate Priest The Reverend Margaret Widdess 01223 313908

Reader Mr Richard Howlett Jones 01223 880467