

THE PARISH OF DEANE

DEANE CHURCH NEWS

DECEMBER 2000

SUNDAY DIARY

1. FIRST OF ADVENT

8.00am Communion
10.30pm Family Communion
6.30pm Evensong

10. SECOND OF ADVENT

8.00am Communion
10.30am Baptism
Youth Service in the
Scout & Guide Hut
6.30pm Evening Communion

17. THIRD OF ADVENT

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion
Nativity in the
Memorial Hall
6.30pm Festival of Lessons
& Carols

24. FOURTH OF ADVENT

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Carol Service
11.30pm Midnight Communion

31. FIRST OF CHRISTMAS

8.00am Communion
10.30am Family Communion



*After a night's snow at Upper Slaughter in the Cotswolds (Photo: Paul Felix)
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MIDWEEK DIARY

Communion: Every Wednesday at 10.00am in the Church Lounge

Alpha Groups: Tuesdays & Wednesdays December 5/6 and 12/13

Home Group: Tuesday December 5 at 8.00pm in the Rectory

Church Council: Monday December 11 at 7.4pm

Christmas Day: 8.00am Communion, 10.30am Family Communion

WHO'S WHO	WHAT'S ON
<p>Rector: Roger B Jackson The Rectory 234 Wigan Road (61819)</p> <p>Vicar: Paul Ellis St Andrew's Vicarage Crescent Avenue (651851)</p> <p>Readers: David Dewhurst 11 Braemar Gardens (651347)</p> <p>Nola Worsfold 22 Melbourne Road (659099)</p> <p>Wardens: Philip Gore 12 Ellesmere Road (63798) Les Kilsby 1386 Junction Road West (492351) Bryan Shephard 57 Molyneux Road (01942 817288)</p>	<p>Creche: under 3 years Alison Partington (419498)</p> <p>Scramblers: 3 to 5 years</p> <p>Climbers: 5 to 7 years Lynda Smith (62093)</p> <p>Explorers: 7 to 11 years Pat Boulton (655068)</p> <p>All meet in the Memorial Hall on Sundays at 10.30am</p> <p>Pathfinders: 11 to 14 years Ian Gardiner (660460)</p> <p>The Memorial Hall Fridays 7.15 - 9.00pm</p> <p>CYFA: 14 to 18 years Nicola Oakes (845772)</p> <p>Fortnightly on Sundays at 8.00pm</p> <p>BELL RINGERS Practice Night Wednesdays at 7.30pm Kenneth Higson & Anthea Morris (63754)</p>
<p>PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL</p> <p>Lay Stan Wilson</p> <p>Chairman: 11 Clough Meadow (492034)</p> <p>Honorary Keith Acton</p> <p>Treasurer: 3 Mallowdale Close (842723)</p> <p>Honorary Les Kilsby</p> <p>Secretary: 1386 Junction Road West (492351)</p>	<p>CHURCH CHOIR Rehearsals on Sundays at 11.45am Jim Needham (01942 812692)</p> <p>MUSIC GROUP Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7.30pm Ray Howarth (652602)</p> <p>LADIES GROUPS Meet in the Memorial Hall</p> <p>Ladies Guild: Alternate Tuesdays at 7.45pm Edna Barlow (01942 817434)</p> <p>Mothers Union: Second Wednesdays at 2.00pm Janetta Makin (658270)</p>
<p>CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS</p> <p>Buildings & Fabrics: Mike Kirkby</p> <p>Worship: Bryan Shephard</p> <p>Social: Julie Cooper</p> <p>Mission & Pastoral: Ian Gardiner</p>	<p>Parents & Toddlers Thursdays at 1.30pm Julie Cooper (660946)</p>
<p>OTHER OFFICIALS</p> <p>Organist: Jim Needham 130 The Pewfist Westhoughton (01942 812692)</p> <p>Flowers: Mary Jackson 234 Wigan Road (61819)</p> <p>Verger: Betty Calderbank 32 Junction Road (655375)</p> <p>Archivist: Rodney Howard 42 Elswick Avenue (652417)</p> <p>Gift Aid Sid Harris</p> <p>Secretary: 11 Manningham Road (656355)</p>	<p>UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut</p> <p>Brownies: 1. Tuesdays at 6.30pm Clare Miles 2. Wednesdays at 6.30pm Janet Barnsley (01772 322247)</p> <p>Guides: Mondays at 7.15pm Carole Baxendale (419167)</p> <p>Cubs: Thursdays at 6.45pm Wendy Gooding (653277)</p>
<p>MEMORIAL HALL</p> <p>Bookings: Julie Cooper 16 Clunton Avenue (660946)</p> <p>Caretaker: Ian Cooper 16 Clunton Avenue (660946)</p>	<p>Beavers: Monday at 5.45pm Liz Yarwood (417639)</p> <p>Rainbows: Fridays at 6.30pm Margaret Latchford (657101)</p>

The Parish Office at the Rectory, 234 Wigan Road (61819) is open on Saturdays from 10.00 to 11.00am to deal with initial enquiries for Baptism and Banns of Marriage.

The Rector writes

25th November, 2000.

Good News of Great Joy.

When Jesus was born, God announced His arrival to some ordinary Shepherds on a hillside in this way:

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people”.

In an age where bad news gets the most coverage in the media, good news comes as a refreshing change! Christmas is good news. Not just because it's a holiday, not just because of the presents, not just because of the parties, not just because it is a chance to see loved ones again. Don't misunderstand me. I'm not knocking any of these things. I believe them all to be good. However, there's something better. Christmas is good news because it's a promise. Jesus' birth was a promise that God hadn't forgotten us, hadn't abandoned us. He cared, and He did something that will last forever. Moreover, it's a promise for “all people”. No one is left out whatever our culture, our colour, our gender, our age, our background or lifestyle. It's a promise that if we put our trust in God then

- there can be hope when all around is despair
- there can be love instead of hate
- there can be peace in the midst of turmoil
- there can be good which overcomes evil.

God promises all this to all of us as a free gift this Christmas. It is the gift of a better life both here and now and in the hereafter. If you are like me you will be suspicious of free gifts. We want to know what's the catch in it. I can assure you there's no catch in this one, because it is offered by the One who can be trusted. And so my message this month is simply this – if you haven't yet received God's free gift don't dilly dally about. Instead put your trust in God now before leaving it too late.

The details of the Christmas Services are on the front cover where you will notice that we are restoring the midnight communion on Christmas Eve but there will be no service earlier in the evening at 6.30 pm and likewise on New Year's Eve.

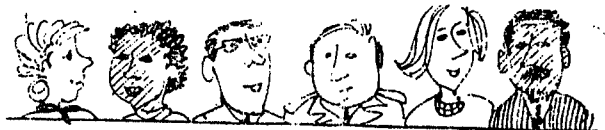
Charlie and Sara Moore are back in this country. It has been decided that it would be a better use of their time and less frustrating if they took a period of leave now before returning to their new parish in Zimbabwe once their work permit has been issued. They will be joining us on Sunday December 3rd spending some time at Deane and some at Over Hulton. Charlie will be speaking at the Family Communion Service at 10.30 am and this will be followed by a Bring and Share meal in the Church Lounge. This should give us the opportunity to meet them informally. They are also planning to come to the central fellowship group on the following Tuesday evening.

The Deane Church News.

The fact that this publication is regularly produced on time each month is due in no small measure to the small team who work faithfully and efficiently behind the scenes. We owe a debt of gratitude to Craig and Una Mochrie, to David Dewhurst and Mary Jackson and to Christine Dean, head of the Deane School Reprographics Department.

Finally Mary joins me in sending you our good wishes for the forthcoming festive season. As in previous years there will be an opportunity to send your greetings to the Church family on a single card placed on the special display unit in Church rather than sending a host of individual cards. In previous years the money saved in this way has gone to the Tear Fund Christmas Appeal.

Roger B. Jackson.



IN THE NEWS



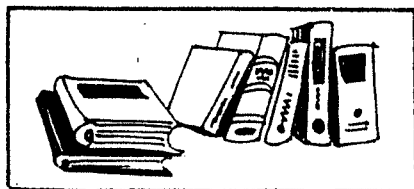
Thanksgiving. On Sunday October 22nd we gave thanks with the following parents for the birth of their child:

Mark and Lesley Bannister of 6 Wyndham Avenue for Olivia Kaye.
Ian and Emma Moore of 12 Cringle Close for Matthew James.
Andrew Nuttall and Janine Benn of 29 Windyhill Drive for Christopher.
Darren and Julie Whittaker of 43 Winterfield Drive for Jordan James.

Attendance Awards have been given to the following children in Climbers.

For	25 attendances:	Thomas Byrne, Robert Smith
	50 attendances:	Georgia Packwood
	100 attendances:	Andrew Simpson, Helen Smith.

BITS & PIECES



A further 4 new books have been added to the Church Library. There is a compendium of 3 **of Corrie Ten Boom's** "The Hiding Place". "In my Father's house" and "Tramp for the Lord", They tell of her life in Holland during the Nazi occupation as well as the times before and after the last World War. "Chasing the Dragon" is **Jackie Pullinger's** account of her work amongst drug addicts and prostitutes in the notorious Walled City in Hong Kong.

"Look no hands" is the account of how **Brian Gault**, born as a thalidomide baby without arms, overcame the problem and the prejudice to lead an independent life. "**Suddenly He thinks He's a Sunbeam**" tells how a happy atheist actor became an Anglican priest. It must be said that it is disappointing how few people are making use of our Church library – less than half a dozen in the last 6 months. To borrow a book all you need to do is to fill in a few details in the red exercise book on the book trolley and on returning the book enter the date.

The Ladies Guild meet on Tuesday, December 12th to sing carols and listen to the Christmas readings. Their next meeting will be their AGM on January 9th 2001.



Don't leave it too late to purchase a parish Diary and a Hospice Calendar for next year. The diaries cost 75p. and the calendars £2.35.



People often remark how beautifully decorated our Church is for the Christmas services, but it doesn't just automatically fall into place. It happens because a few people are willing to give of their time and to exercise their decorating skills for the benefit of all of us. The Church will be decorated on Friday afternoon December 17th from 2.00 pm. Even if you can only put out the candles and cut up the holly and the ivy that will be appreciated.

WORLD WATCH *Prayer Link*

Asia

BURMA Despite political repression and human rights abuses, the church is permitted to function nationwide. Pray for Tearfund partner, the Myanmar Baptist Convention, learning to initiate small local community development projects among its constituent members of minority tribes. Pray for wisdom and fervour as they begin to share the gospel with Burmese people.

INDIA The Evangelical Fellowship of India (EFI) is helping to lead a co-ordinated response from the churches, training them to deal with violence and persecution. Please pray for them, and for the Emmanuel Hospital Association and Community Health units, both affected by opposition to Christians locally. Pray for all those seeking to evangelise in a hostile environment.

Africa

NIGERIA Since February, over 1000 people have been killed in Muslim-Christian clashes. Christians are being forced to conform to strict Islamic law in some of the northern states, despite exemption claims by the government. Pray for partners CAPRO, Gidan Bege and the Fellowship of Christian Students, all reaching out in social action in strongly Muslim areas.

SUDAN Religious minorities are subjected to slavery and forced conversions by government soldiers. Even so, Sudan's church is among the fastest growing in Africa. Pray for her, and for all persecuted for their faith.

MALI Persecution is the norm for Christian converts; they face rejection and physical violence from their families. Pray for the Good Seed project in Diré that gives a living to such Christians, and also seeks to show God's love to Muslims. Pray for new initiatives in Timbuktu's church, reaching out to the community.

ZIMBABWE Since the elections, the political situation remains tense in Zimbabwe. Please pray for protection and courage for Tearfund partner the Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe, as they continue to work in difficult circumstances.

Europe/Central Asia

KOSOVO Albanian terrorists continue to destroy or desecrate Serb Orthodox buildings, and the threatening of priests continues to be an issue. With a population that is 98% Muslim, pray that minorities will be respected.

UZBEKISTAN Christians in this former Soviet republic are harassed, persecuted and tortured for worshipping 'illegally' in unregistered churches. Yet give thanks for the release of youth leader, Nikolai Rodzinsky.

Latin America

MEXICO Government law on indigenous culture and rights is causing tension in Chiapas, in the south. Local Catholic leaders have used it to expel evangelical Christians from indigenous communities. Pray for an end to persecution, and for greater understanding.

COLOMBIA Give thanks that Evelio García Pedraza, a Tearfund-linked pastor kidnapped recently by a guerrilla group in Armenia, has been released. Pray for God's protection on other pastors who may be future targets for those wanting to exploit ransom demands.

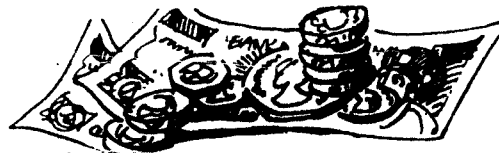
This monthly prayer guide is written by Tearfund's Prayer and Campaigns Team as part of World Watch Prayer Link. It is published by mail, e-mail and on the Tearfund website www.tearfund.org

Further information on Tearfund's prayer resources is available from the **Supporter Enquiries Team** on 0845 355 8355, e-mail enquiry@tearfund.org

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Telephone 020 8977 9144 Registered Charity No. 265464



MONEY MATTERS



Thank you to all who have contributed to God's work through our church.

	Planned Giving Envelopes	Loose Collections	Totals
October 1st	£607.17	£75.21	£682.38
8th	870.51	108.34	978.85
15th	724.20	90.92	815.12
22nd	748.86	128.49	877.35
29th	840.75	128.77	969.52
Standing Orders	432.50		432.50
Weekdays		11.40	11.40
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	£4,223.99	£543.13	£4,767.12
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In the corresponding month last year the amount given was £3,755.

This year's giving therefore represents an increase of 29% over the same period. On the strength of this our Church Council at its meeting on October 30th made two important financial decisions:

1. To pay in full for the first time for a few years our Church's share of the Diocesan Quota amounting to £48,356 – i.e. £929 per week. A great deal of this money goes to ensuring that there are C of E clergy operating in those parts of the diocese where the Church is very weak and could not possibly support a clergyman/woman.
2. To increase our giving to missions and charities by £1,000 to £4,500. The money has been allocated as follows:
Overseas Missions and Agencies.
 Crosslinks £1,200; South American Missionary Society £720. Church Mission Society £678; The Bible Society £246; Study Link £246.
Home Missions
 Church Pastoral Aid Society £612; Scripture Union £126; Church Army £60.
Local and National Societies and Charities.
 Derian House Children's Hospice £252; Bolton Hospice £150; Winter Watch £150; Simeon Trustees £60.

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The final figure given to the Tear Fund Harvest Appeal was £488.

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Ray Horridge wishes to thank all those who sponsored him on his recent BUPA Great North Run. So far Church members have raised £119.60 and there are still a few more who have yet to honour their pledges. The money is to be used for the purchase of books for our St. Mary's Primary School.

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Christian Aid

Christian Aid Week this year raised £12 million. Last year's Christian Aid Week was the best ever when £10.5 million was raised, so this year's huge increase is even more remarkable.

It is due in part to the fact that £600,000 will be reclaimed by the Charity from the Inland Revenue because donors indicated on their envelope that they wished to take advantage of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's "Gift Aid" package. All that is necessary to indicate that you pay tax and that you wish the charity of your choice to claim back the tax you have already paid.