

# Deane Parish Magazine

January

2005



## January Diary

**January 2      Christmas 2**

9.00 a.m. Communion CW

10.30 a.m. Family Worship

6.00 p.m. No evening service

**January 9      Epiphany 1**

9.00 a.m. Communion 1662

10.30 a.m. Service of the Word

6.00 p.m. Service of the Word

**January 16      Epiphany 2**

9.00 a.m. Communion 1662

10.30 a.m. Family Worship and Baptism

6.00 p.m. Communion

**January 23      Epiphany 3**

9.00 a.m. Communion 1662

10.30 a.m. Family Communion

6.00 p.m. Service of the Word

**January 30      Epiphany 4**

9.00 a.m. Communion 1662

10.30 a.m. Praise Service

6.00 p.m. Communion

## Communion Readings

**January 2      Christmas 2**

1 Corinthians 1.1-9      John 1.1-18

**January 9      Epiphany 1**

1 Corinthians 1.10-17      Matthew 3.13-17

**January 16      Epiphany 2**

1 Corinthians 1.18-31      John 1.29-42

**January 23      Epiphany 3**

1 Corinthians 2.1-16      Matthew 4.12-23

**January 30      Epiphany 4**

1 Corinthians 3.1-9a      John 2.1-11

## The Rector Writes

**"A church in the heart of the community and a church with a heart for the community"**

As we begin this New Year none of us knows what it may hold in store for us - and I for one am grateful for that! No doubt there will be joys and sorrows as there always are, some anticipated, others not. But as we enter this New Year maybe we can take heart from the many saints who have preceded us and whose anniversary we will recall. Here are a few for you to think about.

Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, was martyred probably on February 23, 155 AD during a festival of games there. He is remembered for his refusal to denounce Christ, saying "Eighty and six years have I served him and he has done me no wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King who saved me?" Thomas Tallis was born in 1505. He was one of the first composers of English Protestant church music, much of it still performed and recorded today. John Rogers was burnt at the stake for his faith at Smithfield in London on February 4<sup>th</sup> 1555. Rogers had been an assistant to William Tyndale in translating the New Testament into common English. 'That which I have preached I will seal with my blood' he said on his way to execution. Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley were burnt in the town ditch outside Oxford on October 16 1555, Latimer encouraging Ridley with these words, 'Be of good cheer, Master Ridley, and play the man. We shall this day, by God's grace, light such a torch in England as shall never be put out.' James Hudson Taylor, founder of the China Inland Mission (now the Overseas Missionary Fellowship), died on June 3 1905 at Changsha, the capital of Hunan province, the last province of China to be opened to the gospel. He was taken to be buried at Chinkiang, beside his wife Maria and four of their young children. Thomas Barnardo, the Irish doctor who was so moved by the plight of London's street children that he founded 'Dr. Barnardo's Homes', with the motto, 'No destitute child ever refused admission'. He died on September 14 1905. By the time of his death 59,384 children had been admitted to his homes. "Surprised by Joy", written by C S Lewis, was first published in 1955. In the book he describes his conversion first to Theism and then to Christianity. "I was driven to Whipsnade one sunny morning. When we set out I did not believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and when we reached the zoo I did." This is only a small selection of those whose lives will no doubt be commemorated this year, but it got me thinking, 'What about my life? Many of these men and women have left a lasting legacy of Christian faith and endeavour that we today look back upon and are grateful for. Truly their deeds live after them

Will the same be true of me? Of course I doubt whether many of us will be remembered in a similar manner to them (but who knows!) but we can all endeavour to play our part, as they did, in building God's kingdom and changing the society in which we live. There is the temptation within each one of us to live for the now, to live for the day, but we should be living lives which will prove a lasting testimony to God's love and grace at work within us.

And not only should this be true of us as individuals, it should be true for us a church as well. We need to be handing down a lasting testimony to those who will follow us. As I look round Deane Church I am grateful for all those, known and unknown, who contributed so much to the church as we see it today. Those for instance who carved the faces which hold up the roof beams are unknown to us, and yet their craftsmanship lives on and gives delight. Then there is the legacy of the Revd. Pattinson. How we see the church today is very much a legacy of his vision of the church at the end of the 1800's. And now, as a church, we move on, and we too are called upon to leave our mark in the life of our church. As you all know we have appointed an architect to help us adapt the church to meet the needs not only of our present congregation but for those who will follow on from us. This too will be part of the process of the continuous change which has happened in the life of the church ever since its first stone was laid. We do not, or should not, seek change for change's sake, but with the sole aim of continuing to glorify God, which is why the church was built in the first place, and to be a witness to Christ's love in the community in which our church is placed. "A church in the heart of the community and a church with a heart for the community" should be our motto.

So this year we think about those who have gone before us. We think of our task of living for Christ day by day, seeking his sustaining power and strength. And we look to the future, knowing that God has great things in store for us both as individuals and as a church. Of course the task set before us may be difficult. We may think that we do not have the resources to accomplish them, either individually or as a church. But one thing is sure, "with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26). So as we enter this new year let us not do so with fear and trepidation, but with boldness, knowing that we do not walk into the future alone but with the God who has always proved himself to be faithful to his people.

May the Lord indeed richly bless you this year. And may he bless and prosper the work of our church set in the heart of our community in Deane.

# Sermon Notebook: "People Like Us"

Simeon: Luke 2: 22-35

This month sees the start of a new series of Sermon Notebook looking at people of faith in the Gospels. We begin with Simeon, who blessed Jesus in the Temple, when Mary took him there to dedicate him to the Lord. Simeon is presented to us as a Spirit filled believer (25).

## *The Spirit was upon Simeon*

Simeon was moved by the Spirit to wait for the 'consolation of Israel', the promised Messianic Age and meet the Messiah himself (25, 26). Although an elderly man, Simeon was still alert and eager for all that God intended in the future. We too need to ask the Holy Spirit to show us all what God wants to do in our lives during this coming year.

How can we overcome the tendency to be pre-occupied with our own needs and concerns?

## *Simeon was moved by the Spirit*

The Holy Spirit himself brought Simeon and Jesus together, in the right place at the right time (27). While we often look for the Holy Spirit in the extraordinary, this reminds us that He usually works through the ordinary circumstances of everyday life.

What examples of this have you seen in your own experience?

## *Simeon praised God in the Spirit*

The Spirit enabled Simeon to recognise the child as the Messiah (28-31), and inspired his praise in the words we call the Nunc Dimittis (lit: '(you) now dismiss'). With a prophetic perspective, Simeon declared Jesus to be God's light to reveal him to the Gentiles, fulfilling his promise to Abraham.

Think about it!

- Ø In what ways have we found Jesus to be God's Light to us?
- Ø In the coming year, with Simeon, let's pray for a Spirit-inspired longing to meet with God, guarding us against any spiritual complacency.

# How to Grow Deane Church

## The Growing Church in the Acts of the Apostles

'We have to learn what it means to be a church on the margins rather than at the centre, to operate as a movement rather than an institution, and to become unconventional and surprising rather than predictable' (Stuart Murray).

By looking at the church in Acts we can see vital ways in which today's church can become more of a movement rather than an institution. The first Christians saw themselves as agents of the *missio dei*, being sent out by God to live and proclaim his kingdom and Christ's lordship to the world. The life of their church was shaped by its mission, rather than the other way round!!

The church in Jerusalem began when Peter preached to the crowds at Pentecost and 3000 people were added to the embryonic church. We should note that as a community they kept a balance of worship, community and mission (Acts 2:42-47). This can be pictured as a triangle, with each point representing a different aspect:

### **UP: Worship**

'they continued to meet together at the temple courts, and broke bread in their homes'

### **IN: Community**

↳ 'all the believers were together and had everything in common'

### **OUT: Mission**

'they gave to everyone as they had need and enjoyed the favour of all the people'

Significantly, as a result of this balance the church grew spontaneously: 'the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved' (47).

Therefore, for growing churches today we need to maintain an emphasis on each one of these three directions in our church life. In terms of our own church, are we achieving such a balance? Where are our strengths, and what aspects do we need to be developing?

# Special Days in January

## 1 January - The naming of Jesus

It is Matthew and Luke who tell the story of how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. And it is probably no more than a delightful coincidence that the Church recalls the naming of Jesus on 1 January - seven days after 25 December. For in Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians, the name of Jesus held a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated his ministry, and it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor 6:11); and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9). All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow.

## 6 January - Epiphany

On 6 January we celebrate Epiphany - the visit of the wise men to the baby Jesus. But who were these wise men? No one knows for sure. Matthew calls

them 'Magi', and that was the name of an ancient caste of a priestly kind from Persia. It wasn't until the third century that they were they called kings - by a church father, Tertullian. Another church father, Origen, assumed there were three - to correspond with the gifts given. Later Christian interpretation came to understand gold as a symbol of

wisdom and wealth, incense as a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh as a symbol of healing - and even embalming. Certainly Jesus challenged and set aright the way in which the world handled all three of these things. Since the eighth century, the magi have had the names Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior.



# Thoughts for the New Year

Do not squander time, for it is the stuff of which life is made.

*Benjamin Franklin*

Tomorrow is a post-dated cheque. Today is cash.

*anon*

Some people are always calling on heaven for God to send a cargo of blessings to them, but they are not at the harbour-side to unload the cargo when it comes.

*F B Meyer*

Faith is the trunk of the tree whose roots represent grace and whose fruit symbolizes good works.

*William Hendriksen*

The gospel does not fall from the clouds like rain, by accident, but is brought by the hands of men to where God has sent it.

*John Calvin*

No man begins to be good till he sees himself to be bad.

*Thomas Brooks*

The devil loves to fish in troubled waters.

*John Trapp*

He is much happier that is always content, though he has ever so little, than he that is always coveting, though he has ever so much.

*Matthew Henry*

Compassion is what makes a person feel pain when somebody else hurts.

*anon*

A church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints.

*anon*

If you are a Christian, you are not a citizen of this world trying to get to heaven; you are a citizen of heaven making your way through this world.

*Vance Havner*

One life, a little gleam of time between two eternities; no second chance for us, for evermore.

*Carlyle*



## Standing with the Peace-makers

British Christians are working for peace between Palestine and Israel by standing in the front line to show solidarity with those who are suffering on both sides. They are taking part in the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel, a joint project of Churches Together in Britain & Ireland and Christian Aid. The scheme involves volunteers engaging in non-violent activity 'on the ground'. Twelve people from Britain and Ireland have joined volunteers from eight other countries to stand alongside Israelis and Palestinians who are seeking an end to the occupation of what are termed "the occupied Palestinian territories".

Some Ecumenical Accompaniers take turns in watching the gates that give farmers access to fields in the area. "Before we arrived," said John Lynes, "the Israeli security guards often hassled the farmers. These fields are their livelihood... Palestinians are glad to have the EAs with them as we reduce the likelihood and level of violence. We use our contacts with media and human rights organisations to share information and apply indirect pressure on the Israeli Defence Force. "Protection through presence is one of the main objectives of these brave volunteers who put themselves potentially in harm's way. They support acts of non-violent resistance alongside Christian and Muslim Palestinians and Israeli peace activists, engaging in public policy advocacy and reporting of violations of human rights.

Katharine Maycock, a former accompanier, said, 'Israelis don't know that half the Palestinians live on food assistance because of imposed closures. Equally, many Palestinians are unaware that 100,000 Israeli families will soon fall under the poverty level, due to cutbacks on welfare spending. Yet the terror felt in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem is the same as that felt in the streets of Gaza, Hebron or the mud alleys of Deheishe refugee camp in Bethlehem."

For more information or to make a donation, write to Laura Stagnaro, EAPPI, Freepost, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2YS.

# Other Matters

## Keep on Knitting!

Before you put your needles away, Mavis Bell and Maureen Edwards are embarking on our next project - knitted tops and jumpers for the children in Embu. The target is one hundred garments. Patterns are now available in church. Quantities of any type of wool would be much appreciated. Thank you.

## Ladies Guild

January 11

AGM and White Elephant

January 25

Marathon Mr Townson



Gilbert thought, in view of the cold weather, the Vicar might have shortened the graveside service!

## The Perfect Church

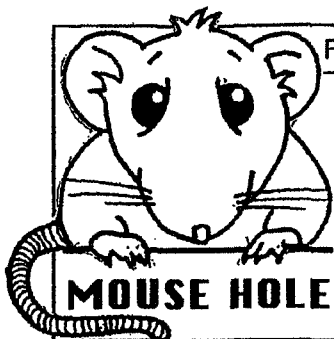
If you should find the perfect church  
Without one fault or smear,  
For goodness sake  
Don't join that church  
You'd spoil the atmosphere.  
If you should find the perfect church  
Where all anxieties cease,  
Then pass it by, lest joining it  
You spoil the masterpiece.  
If you should find the perfect church  
Then please don't ever dare  
To tread upon such holy ground  
You'd be a misfit there.  
But since no perfect church exists,  
Made up of perfect men,  
Let's cease looking for that church,  
And love the church we're in.  
Of course it's not the perfect church,  
That's simple to discern,  
But you and I and all of us  
Could cause the tide to turn.  
What fools we are to flee the past  
In that unfruitful search  
To find, at last, where problems loom  
God proudly builds His church.



WHO'S WHO	WHAT'S ON
<p><b>Rector:</b> Ian Mainey (Telephone 01204 61819)</p> <p><b>Vicar:</b> Paul Ellis (01204 651851)</p> <p><b>Readers:</b> David Dewhurst (01204 651347) Nola Kilsby (01204 492351)</p> <p><b>Wardens:</b> Les Kilsby (01204 492351) Bryan Shephard (01942 817288) Craig Mochrie (01204 652324)</p>	<p><b>Scramblers:</b> 3 to 5 years <b>Climbers:</b> 5 to 7 years Lynda Smith (01024 62093)</p> <p><b>Explorers:</b> 7 to 11 years Elaine Cockerham (01204 650347)</p> <p>All meet in the Memorial Hall on Sundays at 10.30am</p> <p><b>Pathfinders:</b> 11 to 14 years <b>CYFA:</b> 14 to 18 years Ian Gardiner (01204 660460) The Memorial Hall Fridays 7.15 - 9.00pm</p>
<p><b>PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL</b></p> <p><b>Lay Chair:</b> Jane Hampson (01204 848433)</p> <p><b>Honorary Treasurer:</b> Alan Cheetham (01204 405829)</p> <p><b>Honorary Secretary:</b> Les Kilsby (01204 492351)</p>	<p><b>BELL RINGERS</b> Practice Night Wednesdays at 7.30pm Kenneth Higson &amp; Anthea Morris (01024 63754)</p> <p><b>CHURCH CHOIR</b> Rehearsals on Sundays at 12 noon (except third Sunday – see Music Group below) Jim Needham (0161 723 5860)</p>
<p><b>CHAIRMEN OF WORKING GROUPS</b></p> <p><b>Buildings &amp; Fabric:</b> Mike Kirkby <b>Worship:</b> Elizabeth Plant <b>Social:</b> Chris Dewhurst-Taylor</p>	<p><b>MUSIC GROUP</b> Rehearsals on each third Sunday at 12 noon Beccy Rutter (01942 814946)</p>
<p><b>OTHER OFFICIALS</b></p> <p><b>Organist:</b> Jim Needham (0161 723 5860)</p> <p><b>Flowers:</b> Josie Crompton (01204 655964)</p> <p><b>Archivist:</b> Rodney Howard (01024 652417)</p> <p><b>Gift Aid Secretary:</b> Les Kilsby (01204 492351)</p> <p><b>Deane Elizabeth Plant</b> <b>Church News:</b> (01204 63730)</p>	<p><b>LADIES GROUPS</b> Meet in the Memorial Hall <b>Ladies Guild:</b> Alternate Tuesdays at 7.45pm Pat Sewell (01204 61278) <b>Parents &amp; Toddlers:</b> Thursdays at 1.30pm Jean Mainey (01204 61819)</p> <p><b>DEANE LUNCH &amp; LEISURE</b> Wednesdays 12 noon to 2.30pm Julie Cooper (01204 660946)</p>
<p><b>MEMORIAL HALL</b></p> <p><b>Bookings:</b> Julie Cooper (01024 660946)</p> <p><b>Caretaker:</b> Ian Cooper (01024 660946)</p>	<p><b>UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS</b> Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut</p> <p><b>Brownies:</b> 1. Tuesdays at 6.45pm Ann Calderbank (398206) 2. Wednesdays at 6.30pm Janet Bamsley (01772 322247)</p> <p><b>Guides:</b> Mondays at 7.15pm Carole Baxendale (419167)</p> <p><b>Cubs:</b> Thursdays at 6.45pm Mike Ash (436036)</p> <p><b>Beavers:</b> Monday at 5.45pm Liz Yarwood (855163)</p> <p><b>Rainbows:</b> Fridays at 6.30pm Margaret Latchford (657101)</p>

[www.deaneparish.info](http://www.deaneparish.info)

*Initial enquiries for Baptism and Banns of Marriage should be directed to the Rector*



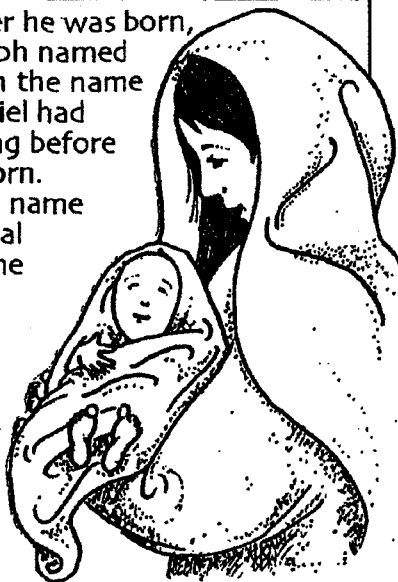
From my home in the church I learn about all sorts of things...

Eight days after he was born, Mary and Joseph named their baby with the name the angel Gabriel had given them long before he had been born.

It was a special name for a very special baby... the name

**JESUS**  
which means  
**GOD IS SAVIOUR**

*"You are to give him the name JESUS because he will save his people from their sins."*



Glue a photograph of yourself onto a thick sheet of card. Decorate the frame with your name and it's meaning (if you know it) and any other words you would use to describe yourself!



*As you read your bible, look out for the meanings of the names in the footnotes at the bottom of each page...*

**What does the name ABRAHAM mean?**

Look up  
**Genesis 17:5**

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

**JOHN**  
means  
**GIFT OF GOD**

**SARAH**  
means  
**PRINCESS**

**RUTH** means **FRIENDSHIP**

**SAMUEL**  
means  
**HEART OF GOD**



**Read**  
**Matthew**  
1:21  
and Luke 2:25-38

**CAN YOU FIND THESE BIBLE NAMES IN THE GRID?**

**JESUS**  
**MARY • JOSEPH**  
**ELIZABETH • JOHN**  
**ADAM • EVE**  
**MATTHEW • MARK**  
**RUTH • PHOEBE**  
**DEBORAH • NOAH**  
**SARAH • HANNAH**  
**PAUL • SAUL**  
**LUKE • RAHAB**  
**SAMUEL**