



December 2017 Diary

Events in Whitchurch



Monday 4th Dec	7.30pm	Whitchurch WI meeting In the Whitchurch Community Hall
Thursday 7th Dec	7.30pm	Tavi Praise at St Andrew's
Sunday 10th Dec	3-5pm	Christmas Family Craft Party Whitchurch Primary School
Saturday 16th	5.00pm	Carols by candlelight at Woodpecker Way, Tiddybrook
Sunday 17th	6pm	Carol Service at St Andrew's with wine and mince pies
Tuesday 19th	9.15am	Whitchurch Primary School Christmas service at St Andrew's
Sunday 24th	4.00pm 11.30pm	The Nativity and crib service Midnight Communion
Monday 25th	8.00am 10.00am	Holy Communion at St Andrew's Family Service and Holy Communion at St Andrew's

St Andrew's Advent Course

Starting 28th November

St Andrew's will be running an Advent Course on the writings of the Old Testament which predicted the coming of a Messiah. There will be four groups on Monday evening, Tuesday evening and Friday morning. More details from Anne de Looy.

Events in the Mission Community

Friday 1st December – Sunday 10 December:

Tavistock Parish Church 10 am – 4.30 p.m. Tavistock Annual Christmas Tree Festival. **Entry £1.** Everyone very welcome

Friday 16th and Saturday 16th Angels at Large –

A Nativity Pantomime at Tavistock Methodist Church. 3pm and 7pm. Children at school £5; Adults £7.50. Pre-school children free.. Tickets from TMC Office 1822 611049.

Saturday 16th December: 7.30 p.m. Tavistock Parish Church.

Stannary Brass Band Christmas Concert

Monday: 7.30pm

Led by Anne de Looy
Tel: Anne 859421
Felicity: 614146
To check for venue

Tuesday: 7.30pm at

24 Beech Close
Tavistock. Contact
Graham Dutton
Tel:614602

Tuesday: 7.30pm

Led by Penny Rowan
24 Church Lea,
Tavistock. Contact:
Catherine Stoate
Tel: 615847

Friday 9.45am at

30 Church Lea.
Contact: Janet Eales
Tel: 614166

Every week in The week

Daily Prayer together
In church 9.-9.30am
Monday to Friday

Holy Communion
Thursday 9.30am
Followed by coffee

Bell Ringers:
Friday 7.45pm
In church.
Contact: Jane Doidge
Tel: 852267

For copies of the Exeter Diocese Monthly magazine and prayer diary go to www.exeter.anglican.org/prayerdiary.



St Andrew's and St James' Whitchurch

Seeking to be
Church for
The whole
Parish

December 2017

FREE

Reverend Miranda Donne
revmirandadonne@gmail.com
Tel: 07711 186687

St James' Church
Sue Allerton
Tel: 614533

Church Wardens
Catherine Stoate
Tel: 01822-615847

Peter Rowan
01822 611001

Church Office
Tel: 617780

Website: www.standrewsandjames.org

From the
Registers

Baptisms
for Isabelle Ann-Rose
Elliott.
19th November

Deaths
Ernest Ewart Marshall
22nd October

Viewpoint



Seven times a day I praise you (Psalm 119:1)
Pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17)

Over the past year I have been attending a course in Exeter called *Exploring Christian Spirituality* – exploring how Christians down the ages until the present day have sought to pray to and to worship God.

We explored what many have learnt, and how they prayed. We began with the early hermits in the Egyptian desert, like St Antony (AD 251-356), from whom sprang the earliest monastic communities; followed by St Benedict (480-547), the father of western monasticism, and Celtic Spirituality associated with the likes of St Columba of Iona (521-597) and St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne (634-687).

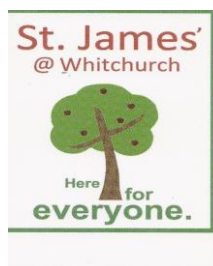
The eastern Orthodox churches developed a distinctive spirituality of their own, whilst in the western Roman church there were two very influential men: St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226), founder of the Franciscans, and St Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556), founder of the Jesuits, of whom the current Pope is a member. Rooted in the Reformation and more recognisable to our church are Evangelism, with its concentration on spreading the message of the Bible and the Charismatic movement, emphasising the role of the Holy Spirit.

All of this has reminded me yet again of the riches of past experience. Benedict when setting out his 'Rule' for his monastic community determined that there would be seven daily 'offices' or services of prayer. When Archbishop Cranmer compiled the Book of Common Prayer he combined four of these offices into Morning and Evening Prayer to produce two services that working clergy and lay people could realistically use for their devotions. It is this discipline that lies behind the Morning Prayer held in church Monday to Friday at 9am, or in our own individual times of reading and prayer each day. I personally use various simple orders of Morning and Evening Prayer to guide my devotions when so easily my thoughts wander away! What about you? I am very happy to make recommendations to those who would like some guidance.

Another useful aid to thought and prayer is imaging oneself into the Gospel stories in a way advocated by St Ignatius – that is what the Ignatian Prayer Group, sponsored by TACT, does. At present it meets fortnightly at Hazel Butland's. Have a word with her or me if you would like to try that out in the New Year. In the busyness of our lives Jesus spoke of our **need to pray always and not to lose heart (Luke 18:1)**. We need all the help we can get in this vital part of our lives

Wishing you a peaceful and blessed Christmas -
Tony Vigars

News from St. James

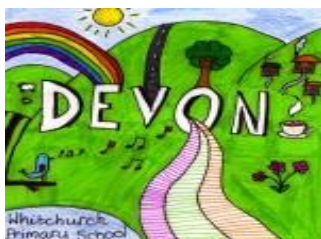


It's been a quiet November at St James', but plans have been made for exciting things ahead: a new joint St Andrew's and St James' Open the Book team is forming, to take Bible stories into Whitchurch School from next term; we're also inviting Whitchurch families to our Christmas Craft event in the school on Sunday 10th Dec, and organising 'Carols by Candlelight' in Tiddybrook Meadows on Saturday 16th.

Perhaps our most exciting news, however, is that Sophie, who has been attending St James' for some time now, will be baptised at St Andrew's on 3rd December – a wonderful pre-Christmas gift!

Sue Allerton

Whitchurch School



Up to date information about recent events can be found on the school newsletter at:

www.whitchurch-primary.devon.sch.uk

Follow the links via "Parents".
If anything extra exciting happens I will submit the occasional article!

Janet Clifford

St Andrew's WI

This month's meeting was hosted by President Marion Caudwell who welcomed both members and visitors.

Our speaker was Alison Gribble who not only talked to us but also gave us a cookery demonstration entitled "Taste of the Caribbean".

Alison was an entertaining speaker who was able to keep up a running commentary at the same time as demonstrating six different recipes. Alison held the room entranced and very generously answered all questions asked and shared all her recipes with the ladies.

After a break for tea, normal business was undertaken. Several items were discussed including the fact that our name had now been officially changed to Whitchurch WI.

The next meeting at the hall will be our annual Christmas Party on Monday 4th December at 7:30pm when we will be entertained by Lamerton Handbell Ringers. Unfortunately this is a meeting for members only. The next meeting where we will be welcoming guests will be on Monday 8th January at 7.30pm when we will be discussing the WI Resolutions for 2018.

Victoria and Abdul

I had read some good reviews of this film and to me, Judi Dench *is* Queen Victoria in the same way that Yul Brynner *is* the King of Siam!

The film opens in colonial India where Abdul is working as a clerk in a jail. Much effort is being made to find a couple of native representatives to travel

to England to present the Queen with a carpet as part of her Golden Jubilee celebrations 1887.



Karim is selected because of his stature; his companion was a late replacement for someone who was injured by an elephant! Having arrived in England, their first encounter with the Queen is at a banquet where we see her eating with the most appalling table manners – was this true? The Queen is increasingly intrigued by Karim and a close develops between them. Before long, Karim (now called the *Munshi* – or *teacher*) is helping the Queen with correspondence, teaching her Urdu and cooking her curry. The Queen invites Abdul to bring his family over. Members of the family and the Court' are appalled..

The film is fascinating as a reflection of how society was at that time and how the Queen spent her days. The relationship between the Queen and Abdul spanned 14 years up to the time of Victoria's death in 1901. . Immediately after her death, Abdul was banished back to India, and the Queen's family and officials burned every scrap of evidence of her friendship with the Munshi. However, his personal diaries survived and were passed to his nephew where they eventually came to light. . Without this there would be no film or knowledge of an extraordinary relationship between a sovereign and her Indian subject

Ann Townsend

Quiet Space

*Jesus, new born
child of all time
We greet your birth
with wide-eyed
delight.*

*You are precious
beyond words for
our world needs
your presence more
than ever.*

*Let the angels'
promise of your good
news offering joy
and prayer to all the
world be heard by
those who lead and
guide.*

*Let kings bow down
and all creation
greet this holy
moment as we seek
to grasp its
magnitude.*

*For you are God's gift
Silently delivered to
every human heart.*



Sunday Services December

3rd December 8.00am 10.00am 11.00am 6.30pm	The first Sunday of Advent Holy Communion (BCP) Worship and Holy Communion St James' Family Service at Whitchurch CPS Choral Evensong
10th December 8.00am 10.00am 11.00am	The second Sunday of Advent Holy Communion (BCP) Worship and Holy Communion St James' Family Service at Whitchurch CPS
17th December 8.00am 10.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	The Third Sunday of Advent Holy Communion (BCP) Worship and Holy Communion St James' Family Service at Whitchurch CPS Joint Carol Service
24th December 8.00am 10.00am 4.00pm 11.30pm	The Fourth Sunday of Advent Holy Communion (BCP) Worship and Holy Communion The Nativity Midnight Communion Service
25th December	Christmas Day (see back cover)
31st December 8.00am 10.00am	The First Sunday of Christmas Holy Communion (BCP) Worship and Holy Communion
7th January 8.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	Epiphany Sunday Holy Communion (BCP) Worship and Holy Communion Coral Evensong

Thank you to our sponsors of this issue of the Newsletter

Scruples

*Visit us in our new and spacious show room at
17 Brook Street, Tavistock. Tel: 01822 618168*

**Gold and Silver]
Jewellery**



Christmas Gifts

**Jewellery and Watch Repairs
Complimentary gift wrapping**