



# December 2017 Diary

## Events in Whitchurch



<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	7.30pm	Whitchurch WI meeting In the Whitchurch Community Hall
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	7.30pm	Tavi Praise at St Andrew's
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	3-5pm	Christmas Family Craft Party Whitchurch Primary School
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	5.00pm	Carols by candlelight at Woodpecker Way, Tiddybrook
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm	Carol Service at St Andrew's with wine and mince pies
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	Whitchurch Primary School Christmas service at St Andrew's
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	4.00pm 11.30pm	The Nativity and crib service Midnight Communion
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 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

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### 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](http://www.exeter.anglican.org/prayerdiary).



Seeking to be  
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Parish

December 2017

FREE

Reverend Miranda Donne  
[revmirandadonne@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.standrewsandjames.org)

From the  
Registers

Baptisms  
for Isabelle Ann-Rose  
Elliott.  
19<sup>th</sup> November

Deaths  
Ernest Ewart Marshall  
22<sup>nd</sup> October

# St Andrew's and St James' Whitchurch

## 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).

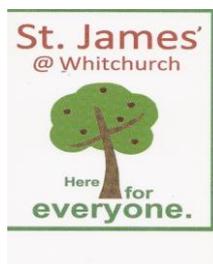
The eastern Orthodox churches developed a distinctive spirituality of their own, whilst in the western Roman church there were two very influential men: St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226), founder of the Franciscans, and St Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556), founder of the Jesuits, of whom the current Pope 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

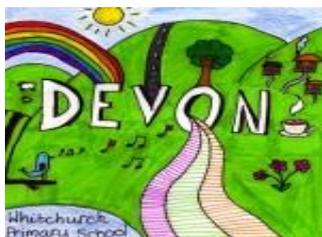


It's been a quiet November at St James', but plans have been made for exciting things ahead: a new joint St Andrew's and St James' Open the Book team is forming, to take Bible stories into Whitchurch School from next term; we're also inviting Whitchurch families to our Christmas Craft event in the school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

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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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

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

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