

PARISH NOTES

Welcome to
St John the Divine
The Parish Church of
Menston with Woodhead



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
GIFT SUNDAY

13 DECEMBER 2020

Sunday 9.30am - Zest

Sunday 11am - Service of the Word with optional Eucharist at the end
(any overflow will be directed to the Parish Room)

Wednesday 9.30am - Holy Communion

Social distancing and hygiene measures should be maintained, including the wearing of a mask unless exempt. You can find various resources on our website to aid in worship from home, including prayer resources, videos, readings, crafts and so much more. Every Sunday you can also find resources from our services, including a video recording of the service and the written sermon—[Click here!](#)

READING ONE (OLD TESTAMENT): ISAIAH 61: 1—4, 8—11

The Good News of Deliverance

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

READING TWO (NEW TESTAMENT): JOHN 1: 6—8, 19—28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

The Testimony of John the Baptist

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’”
as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

LIGHT UP A LIFE

16 December—Remembering David.

19 December—Remembering Tom with fondest love on his birthday.
Pat, Tom, Henry, Robin and Alex.



ST JOHN'S ROOF APPEAL

FUNDRAISING BOOKLETS

Published during the lockdown, two new booklets by David Machin are for sale at £5 each, every penny to the church roof fund. As usual you're sure to find plenty to amuse you - and to give you pause to think:

- Let the Rafters Ring - verses fresh off the pen
- Ding Dong Merrily - tasty tales to make you smile.
- 'Verses for Funny Folk' (children and the young at heart)
 - Verse on the Wing - (our friends the birds)
- 'Machinations' - (his first volume of short stories)
or indeed any of his earlier booklets of verse.

You can get in touch at david@machdv.plus.com or by ringing 872228.

CHAPLAIN'S CHUTNEY

Raising money for the roof appeal, Andrew has the following products, all homemade.

- * Old Dower House Chutney: traditional apple and plum a favourite!
 - * Sweet Piccalilli: Northern favourite!
- * Christmas Chutney: cranberries, figs, Christmas spices.
 - * Seville Marmalade: sunshine in a jar!
- * Lemon Curd: great for tea as well as breakfast.
- * Corn Chow-chow: like corn relish but better!

£4 a jar, all proceeds to the roof appeal. Please email or phone for safe delivery—associate@stjohnmenston.org.uk or 07710561167.

WE PRAY FOR



The Sick: Ken Parker, Pauline Blake, Sylvia Bradley,
Marjorie Thompson, Eric Wilkinson

Memorial Book: Shirley Rollinson, Philip McLellan, Madge
Woodhouse, Herbert Kendall, Reginald Westwell,
Jean Illingworth, Louie Normington, Ashton Harvey

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- * Our homes, families, friends and all whom we love
- * Those whose time is spent caring for other
- * Those who are close to death
- * Those who have lost hope
- * The worship of the Church

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God of hope,
we cling to you,
for your renew the face of the earth.

Through the gift of your Son,
our Lord Jesus,
we follow you on the path of dawn.

Enlightened by your love and wisdom,
help us to lead each other
and all creatures
back to your open arms.
Amen.

CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN'S

GIFT SUNDAY

This year, Gift Sunday takes place on
13 December. Our gifts will once
again be going to the children at
Meadowlea Children's Home in
Menston. They would appreciate
donations of new toys, games and
gifts suitable for 5—10 year olds.
Please leave gifts unwrapped. Thank
you in advance for all of your kind
donations.

FOLLOW THE STARS TO BETHLEHEM

A fun Advent trail for all the family,
running from 12 - 24 December.
Follow the 22 stars hidden around
Menston to find baby Jesus and
crack the code! Prize draw for

correct answers. Star Map and
instructions available for £1 from 1
Garth Grove on 12th-13th & 19-20th
December, 10am—2pm, or from
Pickard's Deli. All proceeds to the
Church Roof!

ADVENT VIDEO REFLECTIONS

Each day of Advent, Revd. Andrew
will be uploading a new video
reflection. [Click here](#) to watch!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Please see the poster on the final
page of the notes for our additional
Christmas service times. Please note
that all services are subject to
change according to government
guidance.

PARISH MAGAZINE

The December/January double
edition of the Parish Magazine is
now available to [read online!](#)

MENSTON HELPLINE—01943 874335

The Menston helpline is available to
support people in the village in the
coming month(s). Please us know if
we can help in any way.

DIAL-A-SERMON—01943 666875

St John's has a phone line which
offers a short Service of the Word.
The call is charged at your local rate
(i.e. the price of a normal phone call)
and is available 24/7.

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION

Please note, there will be no
communion on 30 December.

Christmas

at St John's, Menston

Sunday 20 December	4.00pm	Carol Service
Thursday 24 Christmas Eve	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
Friday 25 Christmas Day	10.00am	Christmas Morning Celebration

In addition to our regular services & subject to government guidelines

Visit www.stjohnmenston.org.uk for more information



"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matt. 1:21

COVID-19 has led many of us to feel despair,
loneliness and anxiety

Being There

An online group for those who know how this feels

Being There is a group for people across the
Menston area to meet safely and enjoy
non-judgemental, inclusive friendship and support

Meeting via Zoom, it has it's heart at
St Johns Parish Church

At some point in our lives all of us have needed to
know that there was someone there

Being There is there for you

Sunday evenings 7.00pm - 8.00pm

For more information email Rev Andrew
beingthere@stjohnmenston.org.uk