

PARISH NOTES

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



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY

6 DECEMBER 2020

Public services at St John's will resume from Sunday 6 December.

Please ensure you undertake distancing and hygiene measures, following the notices displayed in church.

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 40: 1—11

God's People Are Comforted

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

READING TWO (NEW TESTAMENT): MARK 1:1-8

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”



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 during lockdown associate@stjohnmenston.org.uk or 07710561167.

WE PRAY FOR



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

The Deceased: Sheila Agar

Memorial Book: David Seel, Jack Shaw, Elsie Crowther, Robert
Thackwray, Karl Ingram, Lilian Rich, Eluned Ellis,
Florence Mee, Trudie Scott, Lilian Thomson,
Kenneth Hanson

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- * The Queen, members of parliament and the armed forces
- * Peace and justice in the world
- * Those who work for reconciliation
- * All whose lives are devastated by war and civil strife
- * Prisoners, refugees and homeless people

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God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.
God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.
God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.
God of hope, the rock we stand upon,
be the centre, the focus of our lives
always, and particularly this Advent time.
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 12th - 24th 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!

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.

ADVENT VIDEO REFLECTIONS

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

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Chris and Kathy
Roberts for their hard work in
clearing the large pile of wood
chippings from the bottom of the
church ramp. A herculean effort -
thank you.

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 let 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.

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