

Notices

Christmas in Narnia Tuesday 17th 7.30pm, Rectory.

An evening exploring CS Lewis and the joy of Christmas with Dr Sharon Jebb Smith and mulled wine and mince pies.

Pasada Nativity Set

If you would like to host the Pasada nativity scene for a night during Advent, please put your details and a suitable date on the form in the hall.

Volunteers needed: To give out mince pies outside the Church 5-6pm Friday 21st December.

Christmas Singing

There is an opportunity to join with others to form a choir for Christmas, which will sing a couple of seasonal songs in this year's carol service on December 22nd. Rehearsals will take place on Sunday December 15th immediately following the 10.30am service and Thursday December 19th at 7.30. No previous experience, expertise or music reading necessary - just an enjoyment of singing! **Please let Helen Goodyear know if you are planning to join in, even if you can't make all the practices.**



Alpha! This course is starting on **Monday January 20th** and will run for 10 weeks. The introduction to the course will be a buffet in the Bielside Inn.

Following this, the format will be pudding and coffee in the Rectory from 7.30pm followed by a DVD talk and discussion and questions afterwards. Please take an invitation for your friends.

Election Results: Following the AGM, Jill Kirkham and Mark Beecroft have been elected to Vestry, Simon Barnett as Treasurer, Ian Arthur as Lay Representative and John MacCormack as alternate lay representative and Nancy Manning as Secretary.

A big "thank you" to my sponsors who helped me raise £340 for Riding for the Disabled. Overall, our group of thirty saddle-sore volunteers who participated in a forty minute lesson, managed to collect just over £2,000. This total magnificently doubled our 2011 effort and every pound is greatly appreciated by RDA Deeside and the disabled riders who love their riding lessons on their special ponies. Many thanks. Pat James.

15th December 2013



Advent 3

Almighty God, who through the prophets promised that light would conquer the darkness, shine in our hearts and in our minds, and so use us that we may lead others to your splendour and the greatness of your power which is revealed in your Son Jesus Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayer Points

Please pray for:

1. Maureen and Claire Dallard, Helen and Elliott Davidson and Frank and Cissy Dirr.
2. The Cooper family in the loss of Rob's father Brian who passed away last Sunday afternoon aged 92.
3. The Hadfield family in the loss of Mary's father, John Prince who passed away at the weekend aged 87.
4. Our Christmas events.

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Joy of the redeemed

35 The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, ² it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendour of our God.

³ Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;

⁴ say to those with fearful hearts,
'Be strong, do not fear;

your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
he will come to save you.'

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the mute tongue shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

⁷ The burning sand will become a pool,
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.
In the haunts where jackals once lay,
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

⁸ And a highway will be there;
it will be called the Way of Holiness;
The unclean will not journey on it;
it will be for those who walk in that Way.
wicked fools will not go about on it.

⁹ No lion will be there,
nor will any ferocious beast get up on it;
they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there,
¹⁰ and the ransomed of the LORD will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

² When John heard in prison what Christ was doing,
he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, 'Are you the one
who was to come, or should we expect someone
else?'

⁴ Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you
hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame
walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf
hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is
preached to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is the man who does
not fall away on account of me.'

⁷ As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to
speak to the crowd about John: 'What did you go out
into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If
not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in
fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in
kings' palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A
prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a
prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written:
"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹ I tell you the truth: Among those born of women
there has not risen anyone greater than John the
Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven
is greater than he.