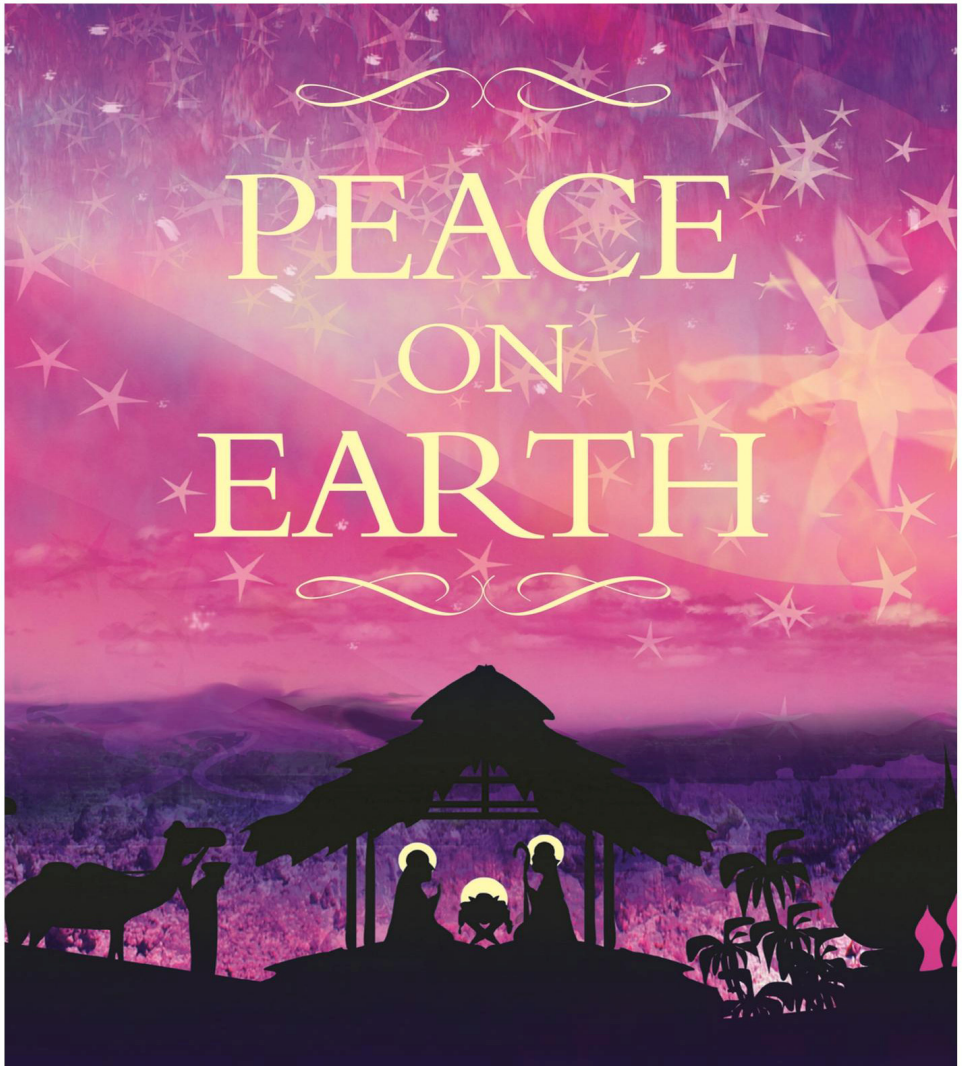


THE KING

DECEMBER 2021



The Parish Magazine of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

WEBSITE: www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

VICAR	The Reverend Michael Miller The Vicarage, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1QS	(020) 8866 9230
ASSISTANT CURATE	The Reverend Helen Hutchins <i>e-mail:</i> helenhutchins@hotmail.co.uk	01923 824 741
LAY MINISTER	Miss Sarah Parnaby	(020) 8866 8309

SERVICES

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday
can be attended in Church
Other Services - Said Eucharist (can be attended in Church)
10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, Saturdays 10.30 am
Said Eucharist (online only)
6.00 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays
All Services are currently streamed from our website.
Please see our website for the latest information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL at St. Edmund's Church

Sundays at 10.15 am in the Hall.
Please contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for more information.

Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession),
BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNS OF MARRIAGE -
please telephone the Vicar.

OFFICERS

Churchwardens:	Mr Steve Castle 3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY Mr Chris Ambrose <i>e-mail:</i> churchwardens@stedmundthekeing.org.uk	(020) 8868 0482 01923 825 524
Hon. Secretary:	Mrs Clare Moses <i>e-mail:</i> claremoses@hotmail.com	07950 863 250
Hon. Treasurer:	Mr James Mair	(020) 8428 1349
Director of Music:	Mr Mark Hammond 39 ^B Carlton Avenue, Kenton HA3 8AX	(020) 8909 2687
Hall Bookings:	Mr Steve Castle 3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY	(020) 8868 0482

ORGANISATIONS

Flower Guild:	Mrs Glenda Greenfield <i>e-mail:</i> ggreenfield60@gmail.com	07850 581 551
Women's Guild:	Mrs Hilda Greenfield Mrs Connie Ambrose	01923 823 134 01923 825 524
Arrow Players:	Mr Michael Godden	01296 631 975
Classic Concerts:	Mrs Marjorie Pimm 2 Northwood Way, Northwood HA6 1AT	01923 821 869
Youth Group:	Mr Steve Castle 3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY	(020) 8868 0482
Scout Group:	Mrs Karen Retter	07984 662 588
Guides:	Abigail Harrison/Clare Walker <i>e-mail:</i> secondnorthwoodhillsguides@gmail.com	

MAGAZINE

Hon. Editor:	Mrs Jenny Jones 19 Latimer Close, Pinner HA5 3RB	(020) 8866 7173
--------------	---	-----------------

WELCOME

to the online edition of this magazine.

In the current circumstances, we are publishing on our website so that you don't miss out on the regular monthly issue.

If you know someone who does not have internet access and would like a printed copy of this magazine, please contact Steve Castle at

steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

giving their name and postal address (having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

If you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail you can subscribe by completing the form at

<https://tinyurl.com/subscribe-orbit>

or by visiting www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

and clicking the "Subscribe" link underneath "Weekly Newsletter".

The Sunday 10 am, Thursday 10 am, Friday 11 am and Saturday 10.30 am Eucharists

continue to be celebrated with a congregation inside Church and online.

The Tuesday and Wednesday Eucharists remain online only for the time being.

Congregational singing has been reintroduced on Sundays, and refreshments are now available in the Hall afterwards (table service).

The wearing of masks is encouraged but not compulsory.

In order to reduce the risk of virus transmission some doors and windows remain open during the service.

You are advised to wrap up warm if the weather is cold.

Communion continues to be given in one kind only.

The Peace is shared non-physically.

The Offertory Procession remains suspended, but collection plates are available near the Font.

All services will continue to be available online.

They can be accessed from the website www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

or via the weekly St. Edmund's Newsletter –

see above for how to access the Newsletter.

FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

Dear Friends

Every year I think we start hearing about Christmas earlier and earlier. I was surprised to see so many Christmas adverts early in November and was convinced that it wasn't my imagination that we don't normally see them until the beginning of December. I thought perhaps it was just me getting older and grumpier, so I was relieved to hear on the radio recently that this year to counter for last years 'non - Christmas' they were in fact aired earlier that they would normally be.

Christmas has become very much a secular celebration with people of all faiths and none enjoying it. For Christians it is very easy to get swept up in this and forget the important aspects of the feast. An important part of Christmas is the time we spend with friends and family, but *the* most important part is our worship, the time we spend with God and our Christian family. God sent his Son to be born as a human being and to experience life as we do. It should surely be our greatest wish to be thankful for that by joining our fellow Christians in worship at the Eucharist. Eucharist actually means thanksgiving!

Christmas actually begins on 24th December and the season extends through Epiphany on 6th January through to Candlemas on 2nd February. Most of the decorations are taken down at Epiphany but the central focus of the incarnation, the crib remains in church until Candlemas – The Presentation of Christ in the temple. Sadly, the world doesn't get that, and I have seen Hot Cross Buns for sale on Boxing day in supermarkets. In times gone by the twelve days of Christmas (the time from Christmas day until Epiphany) was a period of great celebration and partying. That isn't the case now and the days after Christmas can seem a bit of an anti-climax. All the partying is over, and the dark days of January lie ahead with nothing to look forward to but the sales! It is such a shame that this has happened. It would be wonderful if we were able to reclaim those twelve days of Christmas and have a great time celebrating Christ' birth during Christmas time.

I do hope that the debacle of last Christmas when we were told firstly that we could celebrate with others and then at the last minute we were advised that we must not, will not repeated this year and we will be able to plan to have a great time with loved ones.

I would like to wish you all a very happy and Holy Christmas and also to thank you all for the tremendous generosity and hard work that you have demonstrated over the year in supporting the Raise the Roof project and pray that 2022 will be a prosperous and fruitful one for us all.

Love and prayers
Fr. Michael

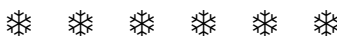
THE “LIGHTS OF LIFE” MEMORIAL TREE

The Christmas season can sometimes bring with it a keener sense of loss as we remember family and friends who are no longer with us.

The Lights of Life tree will be in the Church foyer from
Thursday 9th December to Thursday 6th January

All are invited to place names of the departed on the tree
and record personal tributes in the Memorial Book

The Church foyer and Lady Chapel will be open daily
from 9 am until 6 pm



The tree will be blessed at the 10.00 am Eucharist
on Thursday 9th December, to which all are warmly invited.
Refreshments will be served after the Service.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

3.30 pm Saturday 11th December at St. Edmund's
Carols Traditional and New, including audience participation
Tickets £15 (includes programme and Christmas Tea)

and look out for details of our SPRING CONCERT
Saturday 19th March 2022 at St. Edmund's

CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS DECEMBER 2021

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday

5 SUN 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant - Fr. Michael; Preacher - Mthr. Helen

Baruch 5.1-9, Philippians 1.3-11 Luke 3.1-6

9 Tues 2.30 pm Women's Guild, in the Lounge

12 SUN 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant - Mthr. Helen; Preacher - Fr. Michael

Zephaniah 3.14-end, Philippians 4.4-7, Luke 3.7-18

3.00 pm Christmas Afternoon Tea for "Raising the Roof"

19 SUN 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant - Fr. Michael; Preacher - Sarah Parnaby

Micah 5.2-5a, Hebrews 10.5-10, Luke 1.39-45

6.30 pm Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

24 FRI CHRISTMAS EVE

11.00 pm Midnight Mass

Celebrant - Fr. Michael; Preacher - Mthr. Helen

Isaiah 52.7-10, Hebrews 1.1-4, John 1.1-14

25 SAT CHRISTMAS DAY

11.00 am Said Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher - Fr. Michael

Titus 2.11-14, Luke 2.1-14

26 SUN 1st SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Celebrant and Preacher - Fr. Michael

1 Samuel 2.18-20,26, Colossians 3.12-17, Luke 2.41-52

St. EDMUND'S WOMEN'S GUILD

Will meet on Tuesday 14th December

at 2.30 pm in the Lounge.

**Peter Heath will lead us in a Carol Concert,
which will be followed by festive refreshments.**

All are welcome.

WEEKDAY SERVICES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Spectrum on Sunday
Monday	5.00 pm 6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Beaver Scouts Cub Scouts Guides
Tuesday	6.00 pm 7.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST Scouts
Wednesday	6.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST
Thursday	10.00 am	SAID EUCHARIST
Friday	11.00 am 8.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST Arrow Players
Saturday	10.30 am	SAID EUCHARIST

St. EDMUND'S YOUTH GROUP

meets every 2 weeks on Wednesdays, 7-9pm in the Hall.

Open to all aged 10-16.

Contact Steve Castle on 020 8868 0482 for information.

DECEMBER DATES - 1st, 15th



JANUARY MAGAZINE

*All contributions for
the January Magazine
to be with Jenny Jones by
Friday 10th December
020 8866 7173*

2022
2021

**A SERVICE OF
DEVOTION and
BENEDICTION**

for New Year's Eve

5.30 pm Tuesday 31st December

Prepare for the New Year in prayer

SUNDAY SCHOOL
at St Edmund's Church



Christmas is a great time to introduce
Children to the Christian faith. Come along on
Sunday mornings from 10am to 11.15am and
explore the Christmas Story through
craft and activities.

If you would like to join in or know more please
contact Carol on 07827 159 586

HUGE THANKS to everyone who has contributed to keeping the magazine going during the pandemic. Especial thanks due to Steve Castle and Mike Godden for their part in the production as the magazine converted to an online version for the majority. The contributors continued to provide interesting articles to read, so thanks due to them. Dear readers, we could not do without you!

I wish everyone a blessed and also merry Christmas and a Happy new Year.

Best wishes to you all, Jenny Jones (Hon. Editor)



In last month's magazine I reported that we needed to raise £30,000 before Phase 1 could begin.

Another month of fundraising has taken place and very fruitful and enjoyable it has been. Being a member of Arrow Players I must say it was so good to be back on stage again after such a long hiatus and to have had such a well-written, directed, organised and appreciated play to perform thanks to Mike Warrick and the group. We also had a great Quiz Evening thanks to Clare Moses and team. How fortunate we are to have such a rich diversity of events at St. Edmund's.

I am delighted to report that October was another month in which we received generous donations which, like September, totalled over £12,000. Again, on behalf of the PCC, may I thank everyone who has contributed to this total, either directly or by making the events a success. I would also like to thank those who have quietly raised money in other ways by letting their neighbours know about the appeal and helping to raise the profile of our Church within the community.

The generosity shown means our virtual drainpipe continues to fill and, rounding to the nearest thousand, we now have £18,000 remaining before we reach the published target of £116,000.

Just a reminder that we are updating the fundraising totals at the end of each calendar month and announcing the amount raised at the end of the 1st or 2nd Sunday of the month's during Parish Notices. Again, please accept my apologies that the total in the magazine will be a few weeks behind the actual situation but rest assured that all donations are counted and appreciated.



As I write this, James Mair (Treasurer) and I are preparing to report to Standing Committee and PCC the fundraising situation and we will discuss the latest quote received from the contractors for Phase 1. I hope to have more news on this in the next issue of the magazine but continue to hope and pray we will be able to begin work early next year.

If you have not already made a donation but would like to do so, it would be very gratefully received. Donations can be made in several ways:

- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St Edmund The King (with “Raise the Roof” written on the reverse please). Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer, St Edmund’s Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.
- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank:
 - account name: PCC of St Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
 - sort code: 40-52-40
 - account number: 00017222
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the “Donate here” button on our website: www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

Thank you.

Fundraising Events for Raise The Roof

Just a reminder that, for the time being, all fundraising events will be in aid of Raise The Roof. For a full list of events please check the church website www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

More information

If you would like to know more about the appeal please contact me on 020 8868 0482 or e-mail steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk. I am also the acting Stewardship Recorder and will be happy to answer any questions you may have about making donations.

And finally...

I’m pleased to tell you that I completed my 50 x 5km runs in aid of Raise the Roof as part of the 5K Challenge. I covered a total distance of 264km (164 miles) which, as the crow flies, is home to Exeter. I may need some new shoes now! Thank you to everyone who sponsored me, and congratulations to all my fellow 5K Challengers who have done such an amazing job and raised double the original target. A massive “thank you” to Sarah and Simon Wilson for organising the challenge. Awesome!

Until next time please continue to keep the Raise the Roof appeal in your prayers, that we may raise enough money quickly to keep this place a welcoming, warm, safe and dry place for all who come.

With best wishes, Steve



CHRISTMAS AT ST EDMUND'S



All Christmas Services
can be attended in Church,
and will also be streamed online.
See www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk for the latest information.

SUNDAY 19th DECEMBER

6.30 pm
CAROL SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE

4 pm
BLESSING OF THE CRIB
and NATIVITY STORY

followed by
EUCCHARIST (Said)

11.00 pm
MIDNIGHT MASS



CHRISTMAS DAY

**10 am
FAMILY EUCHARIST**

**26th DECEMBER
(1st SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS)**

**11.00 am
PARISH EUCHARIST**

NEW YEAR'S EVE

**5.30 pm
DEVOTION and BENEDICTION**

The 'real vs artificial' Christmas tree debate hasn't shown any signs of slowing down, with different groups coming out in favour of one side or the other.

The British Christmas Tree Growers Association (BCTGA) estimates that around seven million trees are bought each year in the UK, with the vast majority of real ones - around 80% being the Nordmann Fir.

Most trees are UK-grown, with only around £3 million worth of Christmas trees imported into the UK in 2017, according to government figures. However, recent statistics suggest that almost half of all trees sold are artificial.

But what is the environmental impact of a real or artificial tree? Which is the most eco-friendly option? Kevin Jones, Head of Forestry at the Soil Association, offers his insight on why he thinks a real Christmas tree is the best way to go:

What are the differences between real and artificial Christmas trees?

Most artificial trees are made in China, with the dual climate impact of being made from plastic, PVC and metal, and then shipped overseas.

It isn't just the manufacturing that racks up their carbon footprint, however. Artificial Christmas trees aren't recyclable, so when they're inevitably thrown away, they end up in landfill, going nowhere fast.

According to the Carbon Trust, a two-metre artificial tree has a carbon footprint of around 40kg, more than ten times that of a real tree that's burned after Christmas.

In other words, you'd need to re-use an artificial tree 10 times to negate its carbon footprint, yet it's estimated that they are used only four times, regardless of improving quality.

Compare this with a real, locally sourced tree and the difference is stark.

Christmas trees take around 10-12 years to grow to the most popular size of 6 feet. During that time, they provide a habitat for wildlife and capture carbon from the atmosphere.

Of course, if this year's tree ends up on the rubbish heap, it will have a greater impact (through decomposing and releasing methane) than one that is used for wood chip or burned.

Local authorities often offer a collection and chipping services, with chips used for mulching, or trees can be composted and used as a soil improver. Burning is a particularly effective way to dispose of a used Christmas tree and reduces potential emissions by 80% over those that are thrown out. You can even extend the Christmas joy by re-using your tree as a home for bugs and birds in your garden.

What should you look for in a real and sustainable tree?

So, if you are looking for a real and sustainable tree, where should you start? Firstly, you don't need to worry about deforestation when purchasing a real tree: most Christmas trees are grown as a horticultural crop and aren't felled from pre-existing forests.

As a crop, there are things you can look out for:

- **Source an FSC Certified tree**
- **Source it organically**
- **Source it locally**

Christmas trees suffer from similar pest problems as many crops, so pesticide use is often high. However, trees can't technically be certified as 'organic,' as organic standards do not cover wood. However, **it's worth looking for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) Certified trees**, as they're grown in a responsibly managed way and often minimise pesticide use.

If possible, **source from an organic independent retailer or farm shop**, as these providers are more likely to opt for total avoidance of pesticides.

It goes without saying, **the more locally the tree is sourced the better**, as it reduces the miles travelled, supports the local economy (a lot of work over many years goes into growing Christmas trees) as well as – hopefully – adding an extra element of traceability to the centrepiece of your Christmas decorations.

What's more, the import of live plants from abroad poses a huge biosecurity risk to plant species in the UK, introducing pests and diseases that can have a devastating effect on our farms and woodland. **Opting for a tree with a Grown in Britain certificate** guarantees your Christmas tree won't have been imported, helping to reduce this risk as much as possible.

Remember, **don't be afraid to ask about the environmental credentials** of the tree you're thinking of buying!

(This information came from the Soil Association)



And in case you're wondering, the Christmas Tree in Church this year was grown (without using pesticides) from a 12-inch Norway Spruce sapling purchased in Buckinghamshire and planted in 2010 in the garden behind the Church - and you can't get more local than that! And there are 2 more waiting for future years. Another batch will be planted soon.

Mike Godden

I can't believe we'll have got to December before you read this! The first significant occasion after my last report was the funeral of Graham Yates on Thursday 14th October at St. Edmund's - a dignified ceremony full of all the elements of his faith and churchmanship, but also containing glints of humour, typical of Graham himself. There was a touching tribute from a work colleague, and Fr. Michael's sermon reflected on many aspects of his life, embracing, of course, his activities at St. Edmund's. This included his performances in Arrow Players productions and, naturally, the pantomimes. The description of him in his Mother Goose costume brought back mirthful memories - borne out by a certain member of Arrow Players paying homage to him by adding bright yellow tights to her more sober garb!

As expected, the church was packed. Fr. Peter Godden assisted in the Service, old friends were servers, and there was a real feeling of closeness and love interwoven with the pain of his loss. All were invited to the reception at The Woodman, where we indulged in memories, triggered by the photographs of Graham and Carol shown on screen. Condolences had come from all quarters, including from Soweto from my friend Mitta, who remembers Graham from her days in Pinner. Memories of Graham spread far, and will endure.

An event of a different kind was the Scouts' Jumble Sale on Saturday 16th October. Joining the queue outside, I had a lovely chat with two local ladies I'd never met before. One of them, a neighbour of Grace Caterer, was just coming up to her 90th birthday, but looked barely 70!

Inside the Hall and Scout Hut, it was a bit of a scrum. Things were wonderfully cheap, and you had to be careful not to be trampled-on by seasoned jumble-shoppers! Nevertheless, I managed to buy some drinking glasses and books, as well as purchasing tea and cake. The Jumble Sale really is worth visiting, and every penny counts towards our new Scout Hut. (In fact, they made about £1,600!) And you can make new friends!

Members of St. Edmund's Choir were kindly invited by the Eastcote and Ruislip Choral Society to sing in Handel's Messiah with them, at St. Edmund's on Saturday 30th October - which some of us did! The orchestra and soloists were great and it was an uplifting experience, spiritually as well as musically. I think everyone should hear Messiah once a year: what music! What words! For those unfamiliar with it, the amazing story of our Redemption is told in glorious song, through Bible passages. Many thanks to those of you who came to listen: from your glowing comments, you seemed to enjoy it! It certainly made *my* year...

As if all that singing were not enough, on the afternoon of Sunday 31st October we enjoyed 'Hymns and Pimm's' as part of the 'Raise the Roof' campaign. People had paid to hear their favourite hymn, and to have a glass (or more) of Pimm's! Among the well-known hymns were some less familiar, which enriched the experience, and which may well be added to our repertoire! We ended with 'The Heavens are telling', from Haydn's 'Creation' - appropriate to this time of concern for the planet. It was a

splendid event: thank you, Mark, for all your hard work, and getting us 'sung in' for the Carol Service! And thank you, refreshment team!

It's been an event-packed November this year. It was good to have a sung service for All Souls on Tuesday 2nd November - a day which evokes a lot of poignant memories of those we have loved and lost. I think that keeping All Souls' Day not only brings us close in mind to our dear departed, but also helps us to reflect on our own souls, and our relationship with God.

In the 5k Challenge (which has now collected over £10k) one of the fund-raising projects was the play "Now You See It, No, You Don't", the light-hearted mystery which Mike Warrick wrote in 50 days. This was performed on Friday and Saturday 5th and 6th November. The script was witty, the production slick and the acting superb, and, what is more, the audience was allowed to vote on who they thought had 'dunnit'! The characterisation of the different suspects was hilarious, and the tension between the two detectives added to the humour. Many congratulations!

Christmas came early for the Women's Guild on Tuesday 9th November, when Elizabeth Wastell showed us how to make festive table and door decorations. Many of her 'ingredients' were flora you can find in hedgerows and gardens, and those artificial touches like painted twigs, sprigs and bows can be re-used year after year, so it's also environmentally friendly: you can even get ecological 'Oasis' now! I am feeling inspired to attempt some such decorations of my own this year - thank you, Elizabeth!

Our Quiz Evening on Saturday 13th November was another enjoyable get-together, which also raised money for our roofs: £380 in fact. The questions were pleasantly challenging without being too alarming - I particularly liked the sheet where you had to guess the Underground stations - and Mike Godden, aided adeptly by his glamorous assistant Simon Wilson, compèred the event with his usual aplomb. Many thanks for an engrossing and merry evening, and congratulations to the winners, on Fr. Michael's table - a formidable team!

Remembrance Sunday followed: a solemn but not sombre occasion, with the delight of having so many young people from the uniformed organisations and members of their families present: the church was pleasingly full. As Fr. Michael said in his sermon, it's difficult keeping the balance between remembering with thanks the sacrifice of those who died fighting for our freedom, and a true awareness of the cost and the horrors of war. I felt that the service got the balance right, and was moved, as ever, by the images shown onscreen during the Last Post, the Two Minute Silence and the Reveille.

Then, in the afternoon, we held our Service of Commemoration for the Faithful Departed. Thirty people were mentioned as having died in the last two years, a number of whom had been members of this church for many years. It was good to see representatives of some of their families there, such as Harold Talbot's son Cliver, Olive Fairclough, Carol and Stephen Yates, who must have found it especially hard after losing Graham so recently. Thanks to those who prepared the comforting tea afterwards, which pulled us together, in more ways than one.

After these sadder services, we were gladdened by the St. Edmund's Day celebrations on Saturday 20th November, which we combined with our Confirmation service. It was a wonderful occasion. Bishop Michael Colclough confirmed our four candidates, Abigail, Frederica, Joash and Nathaniel (who was also baptised), and gave an inspiring sermon about St. Edmund. He told of the huge effects that both the life and death of our Patron Saint had on the life of the English Church at that time, and urged us to follow his example, giving our 'all' in love and service.

The Mass was followed by a delicious lunch cooked by Glenda Greenfield and her team. Many thanks to all who helped make this a memorable day.



ST. EDMUND'S CHURCH

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

10th - 19th December

**Free Entry;
Donations towards
"Raise the Roof" are welcome**

Opening times

Friday 10th	3pm -5pm 6pm -8pm
Saturday 11th	11am - 1pm
Sunday 12th	11am - 2.30pm
Friday 17th	3pm - 5pm 6pm - 8pm
Saturday 18th	11am - 1pm
Sunday 19th	3pm - 6.30pm



**Refreshments, Gifts and Christmas Cards
will be on sale**



A Christmas Treat

**Come and enjoy a
Christmas Afternoon Tea**

(Including sweet and savoury selection)

Sunday 12th December 2021

3pm (Doors open 2.45pm)

**at St. Edmund's Hall
Pinner Road, Northwood Hills, HA6 1QS**

Tickets £15

Live Pianist & Raffle

For Tickets call 01923 823400

Can take group bookings, limited tickets available

Book early to avoid disappointment!



**Raising money for
“Raise the Roof”**

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Mike Godden

Advent is a time of expectation and preparation, . This month's hymn encapsulates those themes and also looks even further, towards Christ's second coming. The hymn has an ancient, Latin, origin, probably in the 5th or 6th century, being found in various monastic breviaries, and in the Roman Breviary of 1632, and has had many translations into English, with varying degrees of approximation!

Hark! A herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh' it seems to say;
'cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! The Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven.

So when next he comes with glory,
Wrapping all the earth in fear,
May he then as our defender
On the clouds of heaven appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
While unending ages run.

The translation above, as used in the New English Hymnal, is by Rev. Edward Caswell (1814-1878) in 1848. He was born at Yately, Hampshire, where his father was a clergyman, educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, and was ordained in 1839. He became Curate of Stratford-sub-Castle (near Old Sarum, on the outskirts of Salisbury) in 1840, but in 1847, he joined the Church of Rome. He was a prolific author, poet and translator.

The hymn is usually sung to the tune "Merton", written by William Henry Monk (1823-1889). He is best known for his music editing of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861, 1868; 1875, and 1889 editions). Beginning in his teenage years, Monk held a number of musical positions. He became choirmaster at King's College in London in 1847 and was organist and choirmaster at St. Matthias, Stoke Newington, from 1852 until his death. At St. Matthias, Monk also began daily choral services with the choir leading the congregation in music chosen according to the church year, including psalms chanted to plainsong. He composed over fifty hymn tunes and edited a number of Hymnals. He composed and published Merton in 1850. The tune's title is thought to refer to Walter de Merton, founder of Merton College, Oxford.



Resuming our series of thumbnails of British Cathedrals, in approximate chronological order of their origin, we come now to ...

ELY CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity. Until the Reformation the Cathedral was dedicated to St. Peter and St. Ethedreda. The present building dates back 1083, but it became a Cathedral in 1109, when the Diocese of Ely was created out of part of the Diocese of Lincoln. It was built in the Romanesque style, its most notable feature being the central octagonal tower which together with its lantern above, most majestically dominates the surrounding landscape. Despite the attentions of both Henry VIII and Oliver Cromwell, the building remains one of the finest in England.

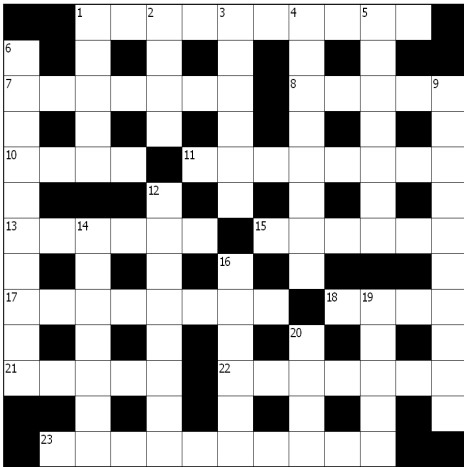
CARLISLE CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity. It became a Cathedral in 1133 when the Diocese of Carlisle was created out of part of the Diocese of Durham. The building was begun in 1122 as a monastic community; it was originally in the Norman style, but it was partly rebuilt in the 13th in the Gothic style. Further re-building took place in the 15th and 16th centuries, and during the Civil War part of the nave was demolished, then between 1853 and 1870 there was major restoration. The Cathedral has many fine architectural features, including some magnificent stained glass.

WELLS CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of St. Andrew. The Cathedral is the seat of the Diocese of Bath and Wells, which dates from 1245. However, there had been a Diocese of Wells from 909, before becoming Bath, then Glastonbury, the Bath and Glastonbury, the Bath (again), then finally to its present form. The building of Wells Cathedral began in 1175, but was not considered complete until around 1450. It is noted for the 300 mediæval carved stone figures on its west front, and for its striking “scissor” brace arches in the nave.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of the Holy and Indivisible Trinity. The building was started in 1072, but it wasn't a Cathedral until 1541, when the Diocese of Gloucester was created out of part of the Diocese of Worcester. Perhaps unusually for an ancient cathedral, it has survived without major collapses and rebuildings, although it undergo extensive restoration between 1873 and 1897 and again between 1968 and 1994. Among its many monuments, perhaps the most notable is the canopied shrine of Edward II, who was murdered at nearby Berkeley Castle. The cathedral has a stained-glass window depicting an early image of golf., which dates from 1350, over 300 years earlier than the earliest image of golf from Scotland!

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of St. Peter, St. Paul and St. Andrew. Became a Cathedral in 1541, when the Diocese of Peterborough was created out of part of the Diocese of Lincoln. The original building was founded as a monastery in AD 655; the present building was built between 1118 and 1238 - it was a parish church until 1541. The trio of arches forming the Great West Front, the defining image of Peterborough Cathedral, is unrivalled in mediæval architecture.

DECEMBER CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Provisional meeting place of God and the Jews (*Exodus 25.9*) (10)
7. David's third son, killed when his head got caught in a tree during a battle with his father (*2 Samuel 18.14&15*) (7)
8. They ruled much of the west coast of South America in the 15th and early 16th centuries (5)
10. Small deer of European and Asian extraction (4)
11. Seized control of (*Numbers 21.25*) (8)
13. Terror (*Luke 24.5*) (6)
15. First World War heroine shot by the Germans in Brussels, Nurse Edith ____ (6)
17. Stormy (8)
18. A bitter variety of this, together with lamb and unleavened bread, was the Passover menu for anyone 'unclean' (*Numbers 9.11*) (4)
21. Arson (anag.) (5)
22. How John Newton described God's grace in his well-known hymn (7)
23. Habitation (*Isaiah 27.10*) (10)

DOWN

1. '____ and see that the Lord is good' (*Psalms 34.8*) (5)
2. 'The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as ____ as a lion' (*Proverbs 28.1*) (4)
3. One of the exiles, a descendant of Parosh, who married a foreign woman (*Ezra 10.25*) (6)
4. He escaped from Nob when Saul killed the rest of his family and joined David (*1 Samuel 22.20*) (8)
5. City and lake in Central Switzerland (7)
6. 'Offer your bodies as living _____, holy and pleasing to God' (*Romans 12.1*) (10)
9. Pouches carried by horses (*Genesis 49.14*) (10)
12. One who accepts government by God (8)
14. Aromatic substance commonly used in Jewish ritual (*Exodus 30.1*) (7)
16. He asked Jesus, 'What is truth?' (*John 18.38*) (6)
19. Are (*Romans 13.1*) (5)
20. 'You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will ____ his people from their sins' (*Matthew 1.21*) (4)

NOVEMBER Crossword Solution



*The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving
the Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934.*

*The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery of
the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London*



*Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles,
martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ
in the year 869 when he was 29 years old.
The crown and arrows of the church crest
symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.*

