

# HUTTON PARISH

# LINK



FREE EDITION

FEB / MARCH 2025



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# Rector's Welcome

## ***Dear Friends,***

Welcome to this February/March edition of Hutton Link! I hope this finds you well after what's been a busy but brilliant Christmas and Epiphany season for our parish.



There were so many highlights over the festive season. Our Carols by Candlelight service at All Saints on 15th December was a joyful evening, with a full church, refreshments afterwards, and the warm glow of candlelight accompanying the carols that brought the Christmas story to life. Beer and Carols at St Peter's on 20th December was a lively night filled with singing and festive cheer. Midnight Mass at All Saints on Christmas Eve offered



a vibrant and incense-filled start to Christmas Day — a truly special moment to welcome Christ's birth.

Epiphany also brought wonderful celebrations. On 19th January, Bishop Adam joined us for a lively and well-attended service to launch the 700th anniversary year of All Saints Church. The unveiling and blessing of the new Peal Board in the Bell Tower added to the sense of occasion. It was a fantastic way to begin this milestone year, and I'm so grateful to everyone who made it happen.



Looking ahead, Lent and Easter will come a little later this year, with Lent beginning on 5th March. At St Peter's, we'll have new Stations of the Cross paintings ready for Lent worship. These will also feature in our weekly Lent Course, which will run on Wednesdays at 7pm from St Peter's. Everyone is welcome to join us as we take this opportunity to reflect and prepare our hearts for Easter.

This year's Lent Course, will be "Christianity Explored", which uses Mark's Gospel, videos, questions and group discussion to dig deeper into the Christian faith and the person of Jesus. Whether you have been a Christian for years, are brand new or are just interested in learning more about the faith, this course is for you. Booklets will be available in church for £2 during February.

It's a great opportunity to deepen our faith and connect with others in the parish, so do come along if you can.

As we prepare for what's ahead, I encourage you to consider how you can engage with our parish's activities and ministries. Whether it's helping in the kitchen, joining a Bible study group, or simply inviting a friend to a service, there are so many ways to get involved and be part of our shared life of faith. Let's keep building on the joy and connection we've shared this season as we move into the weeks and months ahead.



Thank you for being part of everything happening in our parish. Whether you've been here for years or are new to the life of the church in Hutton Parish, you're always welcome. Let's step confidently into the 700th year of All Saints Church, carrying with us the joy and fellowship of this past season.

With every blessing,

Andy +



# Rector's Reflection

## Theophanies: Meeting God Face to Face

As we journey through the seasons of the Church year, January's celebration of Epiphany draws our attention to God's self-revelation in the world. Epiphany begins with the visit of the Magi, where Christ is revealed as the light to the nations, and continues with moments like the Baptism of Christ and the Wedding at Cana, each unveiling Jesus' divine identity. These events remind us that God doesn't stay hidden but chooses to be known by us — a truth that also echoes through the Bible's extraordinary theme of theophanies.

### **What is a Theophany?**

Theophany is a big word with a simple meaning: it refers to moments in the Bible when God reveals Himself in visible or tangible ways. These encounters often leave people awestruck, humbled, and transformed. In the Old Testament, theophanies happen when God appears in forms that people can perceive, such as a burning bush, a cloud, or even an angel. These moments are not just about God showing up; they are purposeful, drawing people closer to Him and moving His plans forward.

For example, Moses' encounter with the burning bush (**Exodus 3**) is one of the most famous theophanies. Here, God appears to Moses in flames of fire that do not consume the bush. God reveals His name, "I AM WHO I AM," and calls Moses to lead His people out of slavery. This isn't just a spectacle; it's God stepping into history to rescue His people and inviting Moses to play a vital role.

Another striking example is the mysterious "Angel of the LORD." This figure appears multiple times in the Old Testament, such as to Hagar in the wilderness (**Genesis 16**), Gideon in his doubt (**Judges 6**), and the parents of Samson (**Judges 13**). Often, the Angel of the LORD speaks as though He is God Himself, leading many theologians to wonder if these appearances foreshadow Jesus Christ, God's ultimate revelation to humanity.

### **From Theophanies to Jesus Christ**

While theophanies in the Old Testament were awe-inspiring, they were partial and temporary glimpses of God. They pointed forward to something — someone — greater. In Jesus Christ, we find the ultimate theophany. John's Gospel declares,



"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory" (**John 1:14**). In Jesus, God didn't just appear for a moment; He came to live among us, to walk with us, and to bring us into a lasting relationship with Him. The season of Epiphany highlights this truth beautifully. The Magi's journey reminds us that Jesus' light is for all people. His baptism in the Jordan reveals Him as God's beloved Son, while the Wedding at Cana shows His power to transform not just water into wine but lives into something new. Each of these moments is a kind of theophany, unveiling Jesus as God's presence among us.

### **What Does This Mean for Us Today?**

Theophanies aren't just ancient stories; they remind us of a living reality. God still desires to reveal Himself to His people. Through Jesus, we are invited into a relationship where we can encounter God's presence daily. While we may not see burning bushes or hear voices from the heavens, God makes Himself known through His Word, the sacraments, the beauty of creation, and the lives of fellow Christians. Every time we gather for worship, hear Scripture, or share in Holy Communion, we meet the living God.

Moreover, these stories challenge us to reflect on how God's self-revelation calls us to respond. Moses, Gideon, and the others didn't just stand still after encountering God; they acted in faith, often despite their fears and inadequacies. Similarly, when we encounter Christ, He calls us to step out in faith, to live as His light in the world, and to share His love with those around us.

### **A Season of Revelation**

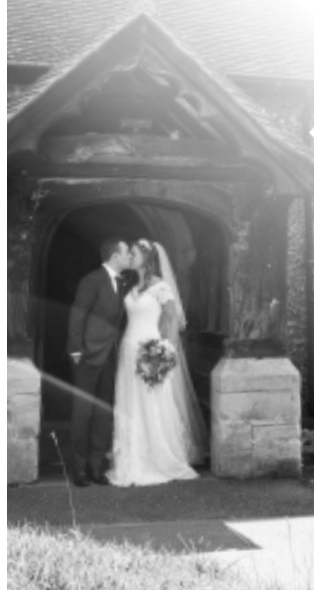
As we move beyond the season of Epiphany, let's carry its lessons with us. Like the Magi, we are invited to seek Christ and offer Him our lives in worship. Like those at the Wedding at Cana, we are called to trust in His transforming power. And like those who experienced theophanies in the Bible, we are called to draw near to God, to listen for His voice, and to join in His work in the world.

The Christian life isn't just about knowing facts about God; it's about encountering Him, being transformed by Him, and walking with Him daily. In Jesus, we see the ultimate theophany — God revealed fully and personally. May this truth encourage and inspire us as we continue to journey in faith.

**Fr Andy**



# All Saints' Weddings



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II\* Listed Church



Walking Distance To  
Hutton Hall



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01277 262864

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH LANE HUTTON BRENTWOOD CM13 1SB

Welcome to a new year, a very special year at All Saints as we celebrate 700 years of love and joy at our beautiful church.

Love is all around us: this may be a quick hello checking in with our neighbours, a chat with a friend, or a shared meal. Just as God commands us, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." **John 13:34.**

We have three couples ready to serve and love one another - Natalie and Jonathan, Lee and Reanne, and Venesha and Joel. Please pray for them as they prepare for their marriage in the coming months. They will be having a marriage preparation session with Fr Andy to understand the significance of getting married in a church and what's involved in a Church of England marriage service.

**Annie Bayley**  
Weddings, Co-ordinator



# JOIN US ONLINE



All Saints' • St Peter's  
Hutton Parish

GIVE US A LIKE AND JOIN US IN WORSHIP



**Morning Prayer:** live at 9 am Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

**Holy Communion:** streamed at 9.30 am every Sunday



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# Children's Church



## ADVENT & EPIPHANY: A Season of Tradition, Growth, and Gratitude

The team has been exceptionally busy during the Advent and Epiphany season.

We began with one of the most cherished traditions we uphold each year: the Travelling Crib. Starting on Advent Sunday, the crib journeyed between 24 families, symbolising the pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Inside the crib families found Christmas storybooks, a puzzle, craft activities, an Advent candle, and a set of knitted nativity characters that helped bring the story to life.

Families new to this tradition expressed their gratitude, with many commenting on the "thoughtfulness shown to older children." One family even knitted a new manger for the baby Jesus in thanks – a touching reflection of the spirit of generosity and connection that defines this tradition.

In addition, 38 Advent candles were given out to parish families. Some were collected during the services, while others were personally delivered to homes – a small but meaningful way to stay connected with families during this busy season.

A standout moment in our Advent activities was the Nativity Service held on Sunday, 22 December. Children's Church and Youth collaborated to lead worship with the nativity entitled The Greatest Journey. Four young people led us through the journey, with lots of audience participation. The children sang Calypso Carol





with great enthusiasm and Violet Carter's clarinet performance of We Three Kings was a beautiful musical touch that enriched the service.

This collaboration was a powerful reminder of the strength of intergenerational

worship. It was a joyful expression of our shared faith and a wonderful opportunity for children and youth to serve together, deepening the bond between these two important parts of our parish family.



After a short festive break, the Children's Church team returned on 5 January 2025, to a room full



of smiling faces. The Epiphany Service was well-attended, and 20 children took part in the tradition of chalking their homes, a ritual that brings the Epiphany spirit into the home.

It was a lovely way to start the new year, reminding us all of the importance of marking special moments in the liturgical calendar and sharing them with our families.

Sheryl x

(CHILDREN MINISTRY LEAD)





# ROOTED COMMUNITY

**SHARED LIFE, INCLUSIVE WELCOME, DEEPER PURPOSE**



We had a relatively quiet month in January as we all recharged our batteries after the busy and hectic Christmas period.

On the 24th January we had our first gathering since Christmas in the church hall, which as you can see from the picture was very well attended.

This month we shall be returning to normal with the following gatherings:



**Rooted Community**  
Women in Hutton Parish gathering  
around friendship, faith and food

**FEBRUARY**

**Rooted Lunch 1-3pm**  
Friday 14th February  
Friday 28th February

**Rooted Recharge 7.30-9pm**  
Wednesday 26th February

**All at St Peter's Church, Claughton Way**  
For more information:  
[rooted@huttonparish.com](http://rooted@huttonparish.com)

**WOMEN OF ALL AGES, AND STAGES OF LIFE AND FAITH ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US AT ROOTED COMMUNITY**



# Little Fishes



**BABY & TODDLER GROUP**

**THURSDAY 9:30-11AM • TERM TIME**

**A warm, welcoming  
space for parents  
& carers of little  
ones aged 4 &  
under.**

**£3**

**PER FAMILY**

**REFRESHMENTS**

**FUN & FRIENDSHIP**

**CRAFTS & FREE PLAY**

**STORIES & RHYME TIME**



**ST PETERS CHURCH CLAUGHTON WAY, HUTTON, CM13 1JS**



[youthandchildren@huttonparish.com](mailto:youthandchildren@huttonparish.com)



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# Little Fishes



This Advent, Little Fishes has once again brought **joy, creativity, and connection to the families in our community.** Through a combination of play, crafts, storytelling, and music, the children have explored the Advent story in ways that are fun, engaging, and deeply meaningful.

We have been privileged to welcome an average of 35 children and 30 parents/carers each week, and the enthusiasm and energy have been truly evident.



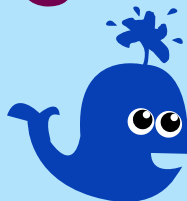
A particularly heartwarming moment of community outreach occurred when a member of our congregation overheard a regular Little Fishes attendee encouraging a new mum in the area to join us. She shared how much fun she and her child have at our sessions—a testament to the **welcoming and joyful atmosphere** we strive to create for all families.



One of the season's most exciting highlights was our annual Christmas party on 19 December. With 40 children and 41 adults in attendance, we set a new record—far surpassing the average of 22 children and 20 adults since reopening post-Covid. The turnout was a beautiful reminder of how Little Fishes has become a cherished part of our community and how much families appreciate the space we offer.

The children had a fantastic time during

our free play session, making Wise Men crowns and decorating festive gingerbread biscuits. We also shared the Christmas story using







our wooden nativity scene, offering a tactile and visual way for the children to engage with the narrative. As a special treat, the children sang carols while eagerly waiting to visit Santa, who generously gave each child a toy.

The event culminated in a festive meal, full of laughter and excitement. One especially heartwarming moment occurred when a child with severe allergies received a specially prepared meal. His face lit up as he exclaimed, "Is that all for me?!" His childminder, visibly moved, personally thanked us for our care and attention. She was nearly brought to tears by how we had gone out of our way to include him and ensure he felt safe and loved. This was a beautiful reminder of how even small acts of care can have a lasting impact on families.



As we look to the future, we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to continue welcoming both new and established families. It's clear that the bonds we build through fun and faith grow stronger each week. Whether through crafting,

playing, or simply sharing refreshments, Little Fishes remains a place where families can connect with one another and with God's love, and where parents and carers feel supported and uplifted.



*from Sheryl and the Little Fishes Team xxx*





*"Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart, for God has already approved what you do." - **Ecclesiastes 9:7***

HEAC welcomed the Year of the Snake with a big lunar New Year banquet on Saturday 25th January 2025. A beautiful event that was fully sold out (100 tickets!) straight away. Tino led the new year service and Kevin Lim shared his testimony on how God is good and faithful.



Father Andy blessed the community and the abundance of food that everyone brought to share with each other. Kit, Phyllis and Myai excelled at getting everyone fed with gladness and joy, from spicy Malaysian curry, Filipino chicken adobo, Chinese mushroom and broccoli vermicelli noodles and much more. But we all still managed to have space for the spectacular fruit platters, and delicious cakes and desserts!







Many enjoyed learning Chinese calligraphy with Nancy and writing out Chinese lunar greetings to bless their houses, such as "Spring Blessing", "Good Health", "Prosperity" and "Happy New Year". Bee taught the children origami and made a New Year snake and fish charm.

Linda laid on a cultural learning quiz themed on East Asian New Year traditions, so we all learnt something and many won prizes too.

Thanks to everyone's generosity, the celebration was full of beautiful voices: young and old; various ethnicities in one joyous union –

**Hutton East Asian Community: Fostering Friendship and Support to everyone with an East Asian Connection or interested in all things East Asian.**

**Annie Bayley**



Editor's note: Annie is too modest to include herself in the names of those who particularly helped to make such a wonderful event. But she was instrumental, along with Kit, Phyllis and Myai,, in producing the magnificent food.





# SNAPS!

This month's offerings come from Len Davies and feature St Marks Episcopal church in Crockett, a small town some 30 miles north of San Francisco, California, that Len visited shortly before Christmas. It is on the edge of the Napa Valley, famous for its wine production.

The church was established in Crockett in 1928 and comprises a small, wooden building constructed in 1936. It may be small, but it is beautifully furnished inside as you can see from the photo.



It holds services every Sunday and is part of the Anglican Church, so its services are similar to those that we hold here.



***Please keep your holiday snaps coming! It's fascinating for the rest of us to see different places of worship in different countries or different parts of this country. And if you can add any interesting details to accompany the pictures, so much the better!***







# LENT GROUPS 2025

Meeting weekly:  
beginning Wednesday 12th March,  
concluding Wednesday 16th April

Each week:

7pm - Stations of the Cross  
7.30pm Coffee and refreshments  
7.45pm Christianity Explored

Booklets available for £2.  
Copies of Mark's Gospel  
available on request.

Please sign up by email to [office@huttonparish.com](mailto:office@huttonparish.com)



# CANDLEMAS

By the time you read this, Christmas will be but a fading memory, kept alive, probably, only by the sight of the credit card bills that inevitably follow. And doubtless all the decorations will have long since been put back in their assorted cardboard boxes and consigned to the loft for another year.



But back in medieval times it wasn't like that at all. Christmas trees and decorations were routinely left in place until Candlemas or, to give it its full name, ***the Feast of the Purification of The Blessed Virgin Mary or the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ***, the day when Mary was ritually purified, and Jesus formally presented at the Temple.

Candlemas falls exactly forty days after Christmas – that is, on the 2nd February – and was nationally regarded as the official end of Christmas. It was celebrated by great feasts and candlelit processions, and derives its name from the blessing of the candles that were going to be used in churches across the land throughout the remainder of the year. These days many people place lighted candles in their windows at Candlemas to signify Jesus as a guiding light, dispelling sin and darkness.

In the Middle Ages, houses were decorated with fir trees, holly, ivy, and other greenery, particularly any that gave off a pleasing aroma, like rosemary, lavender and bay. Small candles were attached to the tree and lit every day (no such thing as Health and Safety in those times!) The decorations were put up on Christmas Eve, and there followed the “feast of Christmas” which started that afternoon and continued, metaphorically, until Epiphany on the



6th January. But whilst the “feast” part might have ended then, the decorations remained until Candlemas Eve. Indeed, in many churches Christmas cribs still remain in place until Candlemas.

It is a modern tradition that leaving decorations up after Twelfth Night (6th January, or Epiphany Eve) brings bad luck, although that might be a convenient ‘old wives’ tale’ introduced by people who by then were heartily fed up with the daily chore of sweeping up masses of pine needles and dead leaves! If the notion of ‘bad luck’ does have any historical support, it is in an early 17th-century poem by Robert Herrick (1591-1674):

***Down with the rosemary, and so  
Down with the bay and mistletoe.  
Down with the holly, ivy, all  
Wherewith ye dress'd the Christmas hall:  
That so the superstitious find  
No one least branch there left behind.  
For look, how many leaves there be  
Neglected there, maids, trust to me,  
So many goblins you shall see.***

Most of us, I suspect, can barely wait until Epiphany to take down the decorations and get the house back to normal, goblins or not. But the concept of bad luck might just have something going for it. How many of us take great care in storing the lights in neat circles only to find that next December when they come down from the loft they’re inexplicably twisted and knotted like a ball of

wool that the cat’s had: it takes half a day to unravel them, and then they don’t work? So maybe you would like to give some thought to leaving the decorations up until February next year? Just saying.....

**Malcolm Webb**





# Hutton All Saint's 700 years



2025 marks the 700th anniversary of All Saints Church in Hutton, so we are putting our hearts and minds into making it a year-long celebration.

We started the year with a special Dedication Eucharist service at All Saints Church on Sunday 19 January.

Our very talented bell ringers rang a Quarter Peal which lasted 45 minutes as commemoration before the service started.

We were extremely delighted to welcome the Bishop of Bradwell, The Rt Revd Adam Atkinson, who led us in worship.



His sermon was based on the reading of the Wedding at Cana (John 2.1-11) when Jesus performed his first miracle by turning several large stone jars of water into the best wine. He told us that although the groom would have been totally devastated that the wine had run out during the wedding ceremony, Jesus performed the miracle and blessed the wedding celebration with far more good wine than was needed - the groom was very happy to take the credit! This reminds us that God will provide for us, but we cannot succeed without His grace.

Bishop Adam joined with us in celebrating the past 700 years of worship and encouraged us to look to the coming years to ensure worship continues and flourishes in this beautiful place of God. During the service Bishop Adam also





unveiled the new peal board to commemorate the coronation of Charles III, which now stands under the bell tower alongside the peal board which commemorates the coronation of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

He also blessed the font and the congregation with a light shower of holy water. The church was full and after the service was over everyone enjoyed fizz, wine, soft drinks and delicious canapes in a very joyful atmosphere.



There are many more opportunities throughout the year to celebrate with us. Information can be found on <https://www.huttonparish.com/all-saints-700-years-celebrations> where you can subscribe to our newsletter or on [www.facebook.com/huttonparish](https://www.facebook.com/huttonparish) where you can click on the QR code.

We hope to see you throughout the year!!

**Lynn Rae**





## LETTER FROM.....

### **Hello Everybody,**

I do hope this letter finds you well and fully recovered from Christmas and New Year. I thought I would write and update you all on life at St Francis Church, West Horndon.

My first solo Christmas! Funny really as it wasn't a "solo" season at all. The team at St Francis has grown and grown and they are a real blessing. The Lord provided on so many levels that Christmas, although tiring, was a season of worship, community and celebration.

When I initially sat down in September to start planning everything and thinking through how all the services would work my main concern was that there should be something to suit everybody. So, we ended up with a Carol Service with a live nativity – two donkeys attended with Mary and Joseph. There was mulled wine and a lot of straw. The mulled wine was very lovely but needed a lot of testing according to the 'Wine Warmers' on duty. Did I mention the donkeys? They belong to one of the congregation's mums and it proves a point that it pays to make your wishes out loud – "I wish we could have a donkey" I said wistfully and within half an hour we had two! Our Joseph was nine years old and Mary was 80 but she looked a lot younger and I think we got away with it.

The nativity service was lovely. The children ran it all and did a brilliant job. It was lovely to watch and listen to them tell the story of the nativity clad in tea towels and some rather lovely costumes. Mary was 4 in that service – I'm not sure which is worse really but she was very beautiful and only held the baby Jesus by his leg for a little while!





# .....WEST HORNDON!

The village were very excited about having a Midnight Communion and just like all the Christmas Services they turned up en masse. It was lovely to have the regular members of the congregation involved not only in the services but in all the planning as well. We had a fantastic planning meeting, once the bare bones of the services were decided, and we now have new names on the list of readers and those leading intercessions.



The chocolate sermon went well on Christmas Day and then Kevin and I slept for 72 hours straight following that.

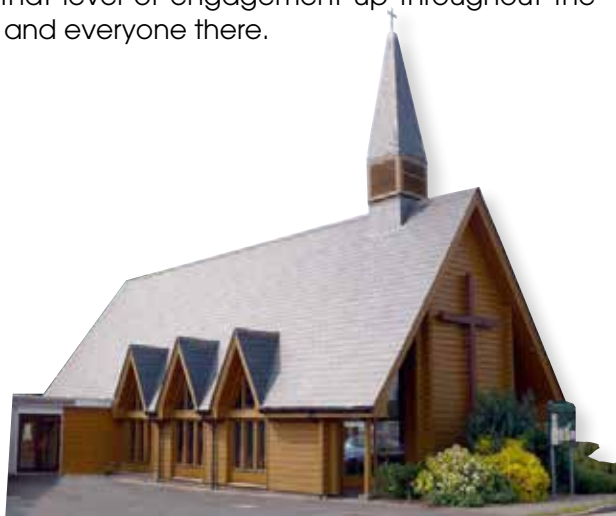
If I learnt anything from the Christmas season it is this. God moves through everything. Every time I asked him for his help something or someone appeared. To be really honest the help wasn't always what I had thought I wanted or needed but it turned out to be spot on.

West Horndon celebrated Christmas in style and although the singing of 'Ding Dong Merrily on High' was one of the most challenging experiences ever (too fast, too high!) the Good News of Jesus was spread profoundly.

Now the challenge is to keep that level of engagement up throughout the year - God Bless West Horndon and everyone there.

Revd.

Sue x .



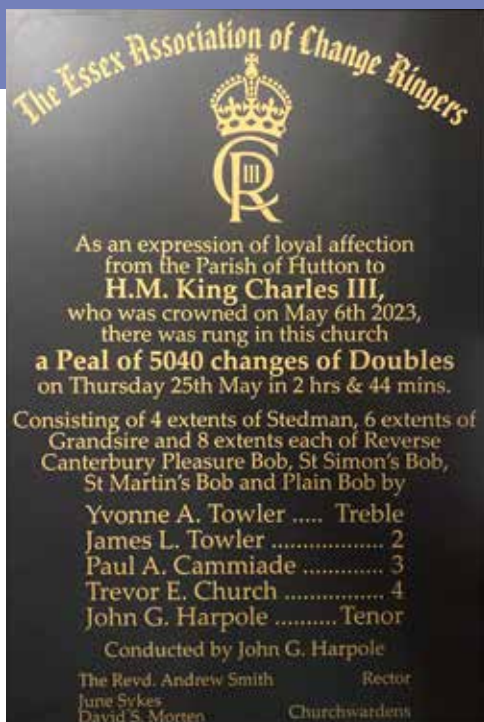


## ALL SAINTS BELL RINGERS

### 700th Anniversary of All Saints launched by Bishop Adam with blessing of the new Peal Board

When King Charles' Coronation was on the horizon, Father Andy asked if we could ring a peal\* for the event and so commission a peal board to match the one we currently had on the left-hand side of the ringing area which celebrated the Coronation of Elizabeth II.

The ringers at All Saints are not of peal-standard, so I enlisted the help of expert ringers from Essex to come and



ring for the occasion – these were Yvonne and Jim Towler from Inworth, Paul Cammiade from Downham, Trevor Church from Leigh-on-Sea and John Harpole from Basildon (shown left to right in the photo on the right). The peal was accomplished on May 6th, 2023 in 2 hours and 44 minutes, and we were absolutely delighted that the peal was 'scored'.

We then arranged to have a beautiful board produced to mark the peal and acquired a faculty (a Diocesan approval process) so it could be erected in the church, opposite the 1953 board as requested by Father Andy.





Beth Johnson (bell 1) and ringers from local towers, Paul Cammiade (2), Sarah Robbins (3), Mark Robbins (4) and John Harpole (5) ring a quarter peal before the 700th Anniversary service.

It took some time to get everything arranged, and at the end of 2024 I asked Father Andy if he would bless the board and he suggested that this could be done by the Bishop when he visited to mark the beginning of the 700 years of worship at All Saints in mid-January. We were thrilled that the Bishop would do this!

On the day, we again asked some of the peal ringers, supplemented by Mark and Sarah Robbins from Shenfield, to come and ring with us, this time a quarter peal – only 45 minutes! We rang this successfully ending at 10.45am, leaving time for our own All Saints ringers to finish off with some ringing before the

service. At the end of the service, our Peal Board was blessed by the Bishop and we had a lovely photo taken of the peal ringers who came back to visit for the occasion along with many of the All Saints (growing) band.

- *Front cover image.*

It's wonderful to think that this peal board will hang in the church for centuries to come, a lasting legacy in the church.

**Beth Johnson**  
(Tower Captain)





# Bible Study

This month we are looking at two more familiar parables, both featured in Matthew's gospel.

## The Lamp – Matthew 5:14-16

*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

These words from Jesus's Sermon on the Mount will be very familiar to most of us. In his sermon, Jesus uses the metaphor of light to convey a profound message about the role and impact of his followers in the world. This parable emphasises the transformative and visible nature of the Christian life. In calling his followers "the light of the world," Jesus is illustrating their role as agents of positive influence, moral clarity, and divine revelation in a world characterised by darkness and moral confusion.



The metaphor of a city on a hill signifies that the followers of Jesus

cannot go unnoticed. Their lives, actions and values are meant to be conspicuous, much like a brightly lit city on an elevated hill. The image of lighting a lamp and placing it on a stand further shows the idea that the followers of Jesus are to be intentional and unreserved in their witness.

## The Parables Unpacked





The purpose of shining one's light before others is not self-glorification but to direct attention and praise towards God. The good works of believers are meant to point beyond themselves, giving glory to the heavenly Father.

I often come across people in our church telling me how well I have been doing God's work in serving others; I immediately reply "Thanks to the Lord" or "Thanks be to God" because I know whatever I am doing well, it is because the Lord gives me strength and wisdom...therefore I will glorify God and also point them to give credits to Christ alone because "Every good and perfect gift is from above..." (James 1:17).

### **The Lost Sheep – Matthew 18:10-14**

*"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven."*

*"What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish."*



The image of the shepherd leaving the ninety-nine to search for the one demonstrates the radical nature of God's love and searching for those who have wandered away. It challenges the traditional value and importance.

The rejoicing of the shepherd on finding the lost sheep shows the joy in heaven over the repentance of even one sinner. This joy is not diminished by the apparent insignificance of the one compared to the ninety-nine.



This all highlights the immeasurable value God places on each individual. It serves as a powerful reminder of God's unfailing love, His active searching of those who have strayed, and the immeasurable value He places on each of us, especially those considered the least in society. It challenges believers to share in God's heart for the lost and to actively engage in seeking and restoring those who have gone astray.

Sisters and brothers, it is such a blessing that we can know more about God through the Bible – His Word! I strongly encourage everyone to read a passage from the Bible every day and if you have time, please join us to explore the richness God Has given us through the Bible. We have 4 groups which you could choose to attend: -

**Monday group** – the first Monday of each month. 2pm held in the church hall.

**Tuesday group** – every Tuesday in the chapel alongside people from the café. 10:30am

**Wednesday group** – the first and third Wednesday of each month (10am at West Horndon)

**Wednesday evening group** – the first and third Wednesday of each month in the chapel 7pm

Everyone is welcome to come along and to share the Word of God through fellowship and learning from each other and building each other up in our faith journey.

**Tino**



# from the archives —

In 1951, although the Second World War had been over for nearly six years, rationing was still prevalent in the UK. Whilst a few basic food commodities



gradually returned to being unrationed, such as flour (1948) and canned fruit (1950), other fundamental items took much longer to become freely available. Tea was rationed until 1952; sweets and sugar until 1953, and cheese, fats, meat, bacon and ham were the last items to be de-rationed, in 1954.

Housewives had to become adept and imaginative at stretching the meagre ration of foodstuffs that they were allowed in order to feed their families not just nutritionally but also to ensure that they all had sufficient to eat.

An example of this ingenuity was displayed in the church magazine for **March 1951**, where one of the parishioners offered a recipe for what she called "Joyce's Eggless Biscuits". Unfortunately we do not know Joyce's full name, nor what (if any) position she held in the church, but her recipe is reproduced here. It might be interesting for young mothers to make some of the biscuits for their children to show them what 'treats' boys and girls could enjoy when the country was still enduring the aftermath of the war:

*Soften  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb of margarine and beat with  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb of sugar.*

*Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb of self-raising flour and some flavouring (almond or orange is nice), but no liquid.*

*Roll out thin; cut into shapes, brush the top of each with water and sprinkle sugar over it.*

*Bake in a cool oven for about 15 minutes, until golden brown.*

It should be pointed out that the weekly allowance per person for margarine and lard, for example, was 4oz ( $\frac{1}{4}$  lb). Butter, if you could get it, was rationed to 2oz per person per week. Your fat had to be used for frying, baking, and sandwich making, amongst other things. In a typical household of two adults and a child, therefore to use the whole of one person's weekly margarine allowance in one go really would have been regarded as a special treat!

**Malcolm Webb**



We were really busy at “Daily Bread” leading up to Christmas, giving out many hampers, Christmas dinner bags and presents for children as well as treat bags for our individual customers.

The café and food hub were both open right up until Christmas Eve and our volunteers worked so hard to accommodate everyone’s needs with great love and affection to all who came through our doors. After Christmas day we had a well-earned week off to give all our volunteers time with their families and time to rest and recuperate. It is really important to look after ourselves when giving to others and we encouraged all the helpers to enjoy their rest.

We have a great array of over 150 volunteers with roles including, but not limited, to people who collect food in the evenings, pack food in the hub, give out food during the day, serve, cook and clear up in the café, coordinate collections on the app, return crates and boxes to stores, take cardboard to recycle, maintain the van, listen to customers with compassion and buy stock to replenish shelves and many more roles – our volunteers are vast and amazing. Many of them have faithfully been serving people for a number of years now, but often the volunteers work independently



We had a lovely party to celebrate all our amazing volunteers on Sunday 5th January with some money that had been donated for their well-being. We were very blessed to be able to welcome a caterer from another church to cook a delicious curry for all of us to enjoy. It was a wonderful evening where so many



of our volunteers had a chance to talk to people they normally only see in passing or when they are really busy serving customers and doing their volunteering jobs. It was great for people to see into other areas of the organisation and see how everyone works together to create such an impactful project that serves so many people in our community. We have had some lovely feedback from the evening and will definitely be aiming to put another evening on when time and funds allow.

If you would like to get involved and be part of this amazing family of volunteers then please get in contact at **[dailybread@huttonparish.com](mailto:dailybread@huttonparish.com)** or call

in to see us one morning when the café and food hub are open.







# Tea Break

Of all the puzzles that we've included on this page over the past five years, I don't think we've ever had a Sudoku. So to correct that oversight, here are two for you to try.

The first one is classified as "medium"; the second is supposedly "hard". But I'm sure most of you will work your way through them successfully. If not, the answers are elsewhere in this magazine – but try not to cheat!

## Medium

				1	5	9		
	6			9	2	8		
		4		7	6			8
		8		1				9
	4	7			9		2	8
		1			8		7	
							5	3
3								1
	5							2
								4

## Hard

	8	5			7	1		2
		4			1	6	5	
					5	3	7	6
				5			8	7
4						9	2	6
		8			9			
				7				5
1	9						8	



## Care Services Include:

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- **Shopping**
- **Transportation**
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# SUDOKU ANSWERS

Medium

8	7	3	4	1	5	9	6	2
1	6	5	9	2	8	3	7	4
9	2	4	7	6	3	1	8	5
2	3	8	1	5	7	4	9	6
5	4	7	3	9	6	2	1	8
6	9	1	2	8	4	7	5	3
4	8	9	6	7	2	5	3	1
3	1	6	5	4	9	8	2	7
7	5	2	8	3	1	6	4	9

Hard

6	8	5	9	4	7	1	3	2
7	3	4	2	1	6	5	9	8
2	1	9	8	5	3	7	6	4
8	5	1	6	7	2	3	4	9
9	2	6	5	3	4	8	7	1
4	7	3	1	8	9	2	5	6
5	6	8	3	9	1	4	2	7
3	4	2	7	6	8	9	1	5
1	9	7	4	2	5	6	8	3



Scan me to book



## Valentines Afternoon Tea

19th FEB 2-4PM | £10 Adults  
£7 Children

PRICE INCLUDES: A SELECTION OF SANDWICHES, CAKES, SCONES AND UNLIMITED TEA AND COFFEE



ST PETER'S CHURCH, CLAUGHTON WAY, HUTTON, CM13 1JS



The poster has a bright yellow background. In the four corners, there are images of fried eggs, showing the white egg whites and the bright yellow yolks. The text is centered on the yellow background.

# **MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST**

*Usually held on*  
the last Saturday of each month  
**9am - St Peter's Church**

**FEBRUARY 22ND**  
**MARCH 29TH**  
**APRIL 26TH**  
**MAY 31ST**  
**JUNE 28TH**  
**JULY 26TH**

*Join us for a cooked breakfast,  
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**Contact: [andy@huttonparish.com](mailto:andy@huttonparish.com)**



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## PARISH GIVING SCHEME

If you give regularly by way of putting money in the collection bag during a service, or by making a card donation on your way out, would you like to consider **Planned Giving?**

Planned Giving allows you to make regular monthly payments to the church by standing order or the Parish Giving Scheme.

It helps us greatly by making our administration easier and allowing us to plan more effectively. And it means you don't have to scramble around looking for the appropriate amount just before (or worse, during!) the service!

Forms to set up a standing order or to join the Parish giving Scheme are available at the back of the church and, once completed, can be returned to the Parish Office. If you have any questions about how Planned Giving works, please speak to Hedi Alderdice in the office (01277 262864).

*Thank you all for your continued generosity.*



# FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

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## Weddings

29th December 2024      **Suzannah and Erik Wall** (Blessing at St Peter's)

## Funerals

20th December 2024      **Stephen John Rennett** – Funeral at Bentley Crematorium,  
7th January 2025      **June Keller** – Funeral and Burial at All Saints Church  
14th January 2025      **John Stevens** – Funeral at Herongate Woodland Cemetery  
20th January 2025      **Philip Raymond Jones** – Funeral at Bentley Crematorium  
23rd January 2025      **Christopher Sharman** – Funeral at All Saints Church with  
comital at Bentley Crematorium  
30th January 2025      **William George Tyson** – Funeral at Bentley Crematorium

## **Funeral Arrangements**

Should you need to book a funeral for someone, please contact a member of the Ministry Team, and they will arrange for you to be talked through what needs to be dealt with. In normal circumstances this would include funeral arrangements, pastoral care, a visit from a member of the Bereavement Visiting Team, if appropriate, and information about interment of ashes, plaques on the Memorial Wall, Book of Remembrance, and anything else that you would like to know.

## **Baptisms**

Any child or adult who lives in the Parish may be baptised in our churches during an appropriate Sunday service at either All Saints or St Peters church.

For a child, baptism is the beginning of an exciting journey of faith. In choosing to have their child baptised, parents are saying that he or she is precious to them and precious to God. For some parents – or other adults, for that matter – they themselves didn't have the opportunity for whatever reason to be baptised as a child. We want to encourage them to be baptised as adults and to enjoy the same feelings towards God as their children will.

In the first instance please contact the Parish Office. The Parish Administrator will liaise with the Clergy to establish a date suitable to all parties and you will be sent an application form and information leaflets about the baptism itself and the other facilities available for you and/or your child to become involved with, all of which are mentioned elsewhere in this magazine.

## **Weddings**

Information about getting married in our churches can be obtained by contacting our Weddings Co-ordinator, Annie Bayley.

**CONTACT DETAILS FOR ALL THE PEOPLE MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE FOUND ON THE "USEFUL CONTACTS" PAGE AT THE BACK OF THE MAGAZINE.**



# SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Candlemas	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Revd Alice
		11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Revd Alice
9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	4 <sup>th</sup> before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Revd Lisa
		11.15	Holy Communion/Baptism	All Saints	Fr Andy
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Andy
		11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Fr Andy
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Tino
		11.15	Morning Prayer	All Saints	Tino
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Sunday before Lent	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Tony
		11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Revd Lisa
9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Lent 1	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Andy
		11.15	Holy Communiion	All Saints	Fr Andy
16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Lent 2	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Andy
		11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Fr Tony
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Lent 3	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Tino
		11.15	Morning Prayer	All Saints	Tino
30 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mothering Sunday	9.30	Holy Communion	St Peters	Fr Andy
		11.15	Holy Communion	All Saints	Revd Lisa

In addition to the above, the following services are being held:

5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Ash Wednesday	9.00	Holy Communion /Ashing	All Saints	Fr Tony
		19.30	Holy Communion /Ashing	St Peters	Fr Andy



# PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION OF:



This magazine that you are reading has been produced in its current form since April 2020. It has always been completely free of charge to anyone who wants a copy.

We produce 130 copies of each issue. Some are taken to All Saints for its regular worshippers to pick up, whilst the majority are placed in the foyer of St Peter's where there is naturally a far greater footfall from all the various daily activities and larger congregations.

All copies regularly go, but if you do struggle to get your hands on one, or you know of any local residents who would like one but are unable to get to church, and to whom you would be happy to deliver a copy, please let me know and I'll make sure you get what you need.

I said at the start that the magazine is and will remain free to all who want a copy. But of course there are costs involved in the production – paper, ink and the 'per sheet' rental charge from the company from whom we hire the printer. We need to try to cover some if not all of our production costs, and the best way to achieve that is to sell a small amount of advertising space in the magazine. To that end.....

- **Do you have your own business, or know of someone who does, and would you or they consider advertising in future editions?**
- **Would you be prepared to approach local shops – particularly those where you are well-known – and enquire whether they would be prepared to support us by way of advertising in the magazine?**

We charge £120 (full page) or £70 (half page) per year (six copies) for full colour adverts. All the advertiser has to do is present us with his preferred artwork and we'll do the rest. And the "year" can start at any time – usually from the date of the first edition published after we receive the advertiser's copy.

These rates are incredibly cheap for the amount of exposure that the advertiser will get, but it is not our desire to make a profit, just to cover our costs so that we never have to even consider charging for the magazine.

If you think you can help, or know of someone who might be able to, or just want more information about advertising, please get in touch with me. My contact details are on the back page.

Thank you.

**Malcolm**







# USEFUL CONTACTS



Rector	Revd. Andy Smith	andy@huttonparish.com	07860 156971
Associate Priest	Father Tony Baxter	tonybaxter54@gmail.com	07879 410543
Parish Curates	Revd Lisa Whymark Revd Sue Goldsmith Revd Deacon Alice Smith	lisa@huttonparish.com sue@huttonparish.com aliemismi@gmail.com	07795 966453 07779 121069 07729 399009
Licensed Lay Ministers	Chris Thomas Tino To	chrisanddon@hotmail.co.uk tinoto@rocketmail.com	01277 210862 07845 943676
Churchwardens			
<i>All Saints</i>	June Sykes David Morten Dawn Shaxon Terry Hayden Michelle Yarwood	junesykes@btinternet.com dsmplan@live.co.uk office@huttonparish.com terryh63@sky.com michelleyarwood16@gmail.com	01277 210495 01277 232517 01277 262864 07799 703729 07717 844224
<i>St Peters</i>			
Parish Administrator	Hedi Alderdice	office@huttonparish.com	01277 262864
Daily Bread Administrator	Natalie Slater	dailybread@huttonparish.com	07719 486912
PCC Secretary	Faye Gosling	pccsecretary.huttonparish@gmail.com	01277 262864
Treasurer	Jason Manning	finance@huttonparish.com	07793 283301
Stewardship & GiftAid Officer	Sue Barfoot	mrssmbarfoot@gmail.com	07754 105465
Rooted Community	Leadership Team	rooted@huttonparish.com	07729 399009
Weddings Co-ordinator	Annie Bayley	weddings@huttonparish.com	01277 262864
Children's Church & Little Fishes	Sheryl Dyson	youthandchildren@huttonparish.com	01277 262864
Parish Safeguarding	Jonathan Williams	safeguarding@huttonparish.com	01277 262864
Hutton East Asian Community	Tino To	tinoto@rocketmail.com	07845 943676
Tower Captain	Beth Johnson	bethjohnson6710@gmail.com	07796 691520
Spiritual Accompaniment	Chris Thomas	chrisanddon@hotmail.co.uk	01277 210862
Pastoral Team Lead	Tino To	tinoto@rocketmail.com	07845 943676
<i>Pastoral Assistants</i>	Margaret Morris Carol Fulcher Sheryl Dyson John Patterson	margaretmorris1945@outlook.com carol.fulcher@outlook.com youthandchildren@huttonparish.com john.patterson37@btinternet.com	01277 217398 01277 262864 01277 262864 07523 329507
IT and Audio Visual	Neil Dyson	neildysonphotography@gmail.com	07905 094516
Magazine Editor	Malcolm Webb	malcolmofmwebb@btinternet.com	07771 593650

