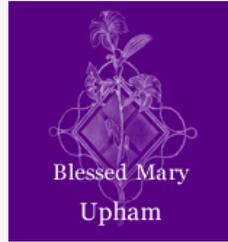


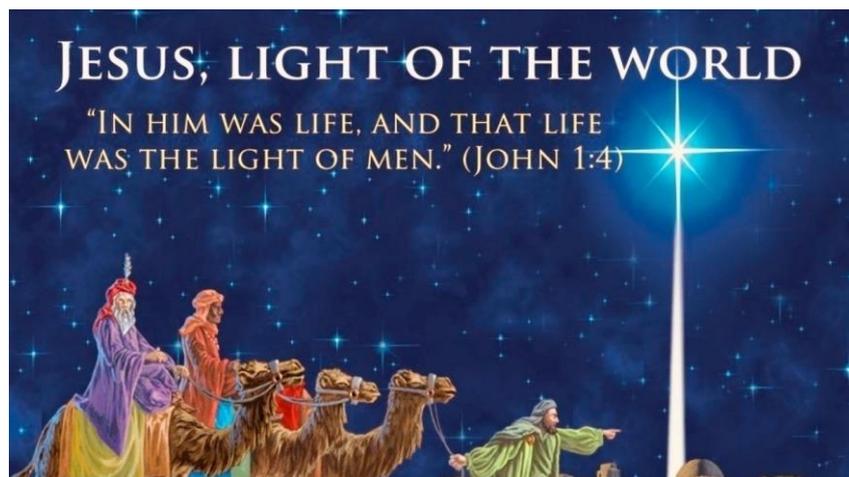
St Peters Church

Bishops Waltham



St Peter's and Blessed Mary - Christmas

25 December 2020



Christmas: Comfort and Joy

As I write from The Rectory, I am conscious that this Christmas is going to be very different for us all, especially for many who are not able to be with family and friends they love. None of us would have planned it this way.

However, in what will be a simpler Christmas, my prayer is that we might all discover the real

heart of Christmas which as of course not was planned to be the way it was either. This does not make it any the easier, but I do believe that in the darkness we can most see and experience the light that Jesus brings at Christmas:

"In Jesus was life, and that life was the light of the world." John 1v4

We are still going to be holding various service over Christmas Eve and Christmas day (see the St Peter's and Blessed Mary websites for full details and for the services after Christmas) and you would be very welcome to come if that is possible for you. Alternatively please join us online for either the St Peter's Christmas Eve (Communion Service) service at 11pm or Christmas Day at 9:30am (Family Service).

If you are wondering what to focus on for Christmas Day this year why not watch some of 'The Chosen' series or perhaps make a few phone calls to those we might know of on their own. See below for more details.

With my thoughts and prayers this Christmas

Revd James

Please note the Church Office will be closed from Wednesday 23rd December at 1pm until Wednesday 6th January at 9am.

If you would like to talk to the Rector you can reach him on 892618 or for pastoral matters call Di Hunt on 893372.



Who was the real Jesus that people met?

Would you like to look at the life of Jesus in a fresh way?

**Would you like to meet the real Jesus as he was not as he is
sometimes made out to be?**

Why not try watching this great new TV series available via YouTube.

The Chosen is a 2020 television drama based on the life of Jesus created. It is the first multi-season series about the life of Christ, and season one was the highest crowd-funded TV series or film project of all time. The series' creators stated that they had hoped to distinguish the new series from previous portrayals of Jesus by crafting a multi-season, episode-based story. The series portrays Jesus "through the eyes of those who met him". The first episode begins in AD 26 in Capernaum where we meet Sanhedrin member and Pharisee Nicodemus touring the region, tax collector Matthew fishermen brothers Simon and Andrew, demon-possessed Mary Magdalene and wandering craftsman Jesus. The final two seasons of the planned seven season show are intended to chronicle his death and resurrection."

Here is the link to a special Christmas Episode <https://youtu.be/paOjgZZDads>



Christmas Day

With the current Covid restrictions there could be some people in Bishop's Waltham – of all ages – at home on their own at Christmas, who would normally spend it with

family. Families rightly are being careful. Others, will be missing the Bishop's Waltham Community Christmas Lunch.

If you think of the people who live near you, or those you know through your activities and clubs in Bishop's Waltham or who are church members, you probably know of people in this situation.

If the family isn't meeting up for safety reasons it is probably not right to invite somebody to your house (unless a person is already in your bubble). **However, we feel sure a phone conversation or a distanced doorstep visit would be appreciated especially if technology can't be accessed.**

Many people I have spoken with have already organised their Christmas Day meal from companies such as Parsley Box but If the idea of delivering a hot Christmas Lunch to a neighbour is in your mind, please wear a mask when delivering and if you have to carry the piping hot meal into the home for safety reasons, please maintain distance between you and the recipient and please don't stay to chat.

Please ring Di Hunt for any further information on 893372

Thank you in anticipation of your kindness

Prayers

Please pray for those who especially need our prayers at this time:

Roy King.

And all those whose names are written in our Book of Requests for Prayer

Please hold before God in your prayers the family and friends of those who have died during this time:

St Peter's, Bishop's Waltham – Georgie Busher, Bill Bellingham, Alan Inder, Diana Bennett, Angela Fry, Jean Hammerton, Maeve Whyton and Jett 'Chalky' Taylor

The Blessed Mary, Upham – Stanley Shaw and Arthur William Newnham Sales

Anniversaries of Death falling around this time, who are recorded in our Book of Remembrance:

Maurice Fisher – 27/12/2008

Charles George Morris – 28/12/1965

Stanley Wallis Chandler – 29/12/1989

Leslie Ward 'Jan' Gayler – 29/12/2008

Vera Elizabeth Dore – 30/12/1988

Lilian Hale – 30/12/1989

Keith Robert Stephens 30/12/2009

Charlie G.R Cannings – 31/12/1976

John Ernest – 31/12/2015

Ken Langford – 1/1/2003

John Robert Jones – 2/1/1975

Sibylla Crump -2/1/1979

Mattie Nash – 2/1/1982

Alpha Course 2021

We're going online



STARTING
21st Jan 8pm

Alpha Update



As we can no longer gather in person, we are taking our course online! Join us as we continue to explore the big questions of life together

What a year 2020 has been! How can we make 2021 better? Try Alpha...

We are so excited to be taking our Alpha course online in the new year and can't wait to welcome you onto the Zoom call. If you would like to sign up please contact Emma Andersen for more information and the link to the first call. emma@simply-flowers.org

Free treat for everyone who joins us on the first night!

Subscribe/Unsubscribe

We very much hope that you will want to receive the weekly update, but if not please do e-mail: bwuoffice@tiscali.co.uk and we can take you off our list.

[Listen Back](#)

[Click to go to the St Peter's Website](#)

