

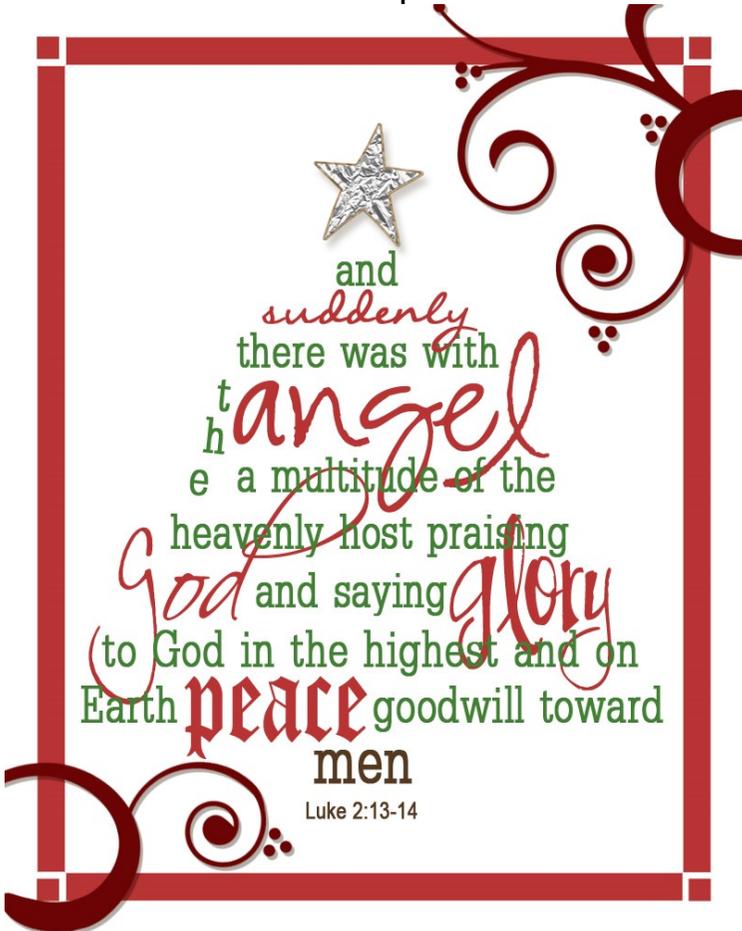
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Welcome

December/January 2021/2

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARTIN'S WEST DRAYTON

Challenge

May all who enter the Church find the peace of Christ and feel welcome.



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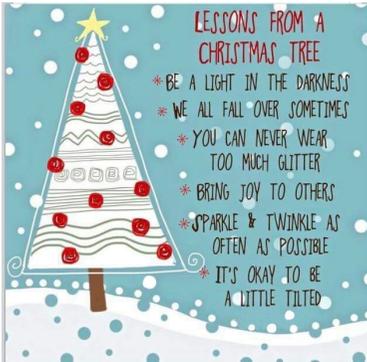
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From the vicarage

Dear Friends,

I wonder if you have ever heard of 'peregrini'? It may sound like an Italian beer or type of pasta. In fact it means one who travels, or wanders, from the Latin word peregrinus, foreign or travelling.

Long ago many of the Celtic Christian saints were peregrini, people who made hazardous journeys across land and sea, leaving the mark of Christ wherever they went. They believed they were following a divine call to share the love of Jesus, and that in this endeavour they were under the protective hand of God.

At Christmas we remember people who travelled. Mary and Joseph have to go to Bethlehem, about 60 miles from home, a hard journey in the midst of winter. As both of them had an incredibly deep devotion to God and his plan for their lives, we can assume that, like the Celtic saints, they would have walked the way with total faith that God was with them, and would protect them. What they couldn't anticipate was their second journey, not homeward but deep into the unknown, fleeing as refugees into Egypt. Even then, we assume they placed their trust in God, who had sent Joseph an angelic message of warning and instruction.

Christmas is traditionally a time when many of us literally travel, to visit close friends and relatives. We too can ask for God's protection as we travel, and that when we arrive we may take with us not just Christmas greetings and presents, but also the mark of Christ. For those of us staying in West Drayton, I hope you will all travel to church, make your little pilgrimage of love and commitment, as we remember God's immense generosity shown in the gift of Jesus.

And for all of us, life is a symbolic journey, sometimes through danger or unexpected paths, sometimes it goes according to our plans, and sometimes everything seems to fall apart. As we journey into the new year, may we prayerfully place our travelling plans into God's hands, and remember his protective presence is near. Wherever we travel he'll be there, but better still is to travel where he leads, and calls us to follow, that through our lives the Christmas Christ light may continually shine and bring hope to the world.

Wishing you God's blessings of Christmas peace,
hope, joy and love,

Revd Rosy

WORSHIP AT CHRISTMAS TIDE

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME HERE

Christmas by Candlelight Sunday Dec 19, 6.00pm

*Christmas readings and music to listen to, carols to sing,
all in the magical softly lit atmosphere of this unique ancient building.*

Christmas Eve Friday Dec 24

4.30pm Quiet Christmas

*A short service of words and gentle Christmas carols
as we remember the love and comfort of the Christmas story.
An ideal moment to experience some peace in a busy time,
or to remember loved ones no longer with us*

11.15pm Midnight Mass

A beautiful tranquil traditional service in candlelight

Christmas Day Eucharist (Sat 25) 10.15am Noisy Christmas!

With lots of music and singing as we celebrate Jesus' birthday!

Boxing Day Eucharist (Sun 26) 10.15am The Feast of Stephen

We remember the first Christian martyr as well as the joy of Christmas

Sunday Eucharist 2 Jan 10.15am The Feast of the Epiphany

*We tell the story of the visit of the Wise men (or Kings) to Jesus,
remembering Jesus has come to bless all nations of the world.*

Sun 30 Jan 10.15am The Feast of Candlemas with Christingles

We celebrate this wonderful festival of light with decorated oranges

3.00pm A live performance of Dickens' classic *A Christmas Carol*

A Christmas Carol
By
Charles Dickens

Based on the version Dickens made for his own solo performances.

Sunday 30 January 2021

3.00pm

Finishing at 5.15 pm including interval for refreshments).

Please Book Your Place



Please ensure you book a free ticket.

Either see Vincent, or use the Eventbrite booking site on the Internet.
There is no charge for Eventbrite.

We need to limit numbers in line with National Guidelines and with
Church of England guidelines.

The performance will also go out live over the Internet. There will be a link via Zoom.
This is made possible through the technology skills of Kevin Stephens.
Huge thanks to him!

The performance will raise money for St Martin's and local charity. Members of the audience will be warmly invited to make a donation.

Creation Care at St Martin's

COP26 has forced the nation to focus on climate change. The bible is clear that good stewardship of the world is our responsibility

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it” (Psalm 24:1)

Our actions need to reflect this.

In the last year, what has happened at St Martin’s to live that message?



In the churchyard:

- Planting of spring bulbs

- Leaving grass higher in some places during spring and summer

- Installing another nest box near the west wall

- Setting up a bug hotel in the orchard

- Seeding a wildflower area in and near the memorial garden – although this did not come out well for reasons not known to us



We could not have done this without the collaboration of the community payback team who made some changes to their work patterns to accommodate the new look.



Inside the church:

- Switching to a “green” energy supplier

- Conducting a bat survey as part of the Bats in Churches project (www.bats.org.uk)

- Switching to biodegradable cleaning materials and recycled toilet paper



From 5 to 13 June 2021, we promoted wildlife diversity counting as part of the “Churches Count on Nature / Love your burial ground” project (www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk), and ended that week in style with an Open Day that enabled people to socialize outdoors.

On Sunday 3 October 2021, as part of the harvest celebrations we offered a plant trail in the churchyard, enabling families to get closer to the nature of plants in a traffic light system (red for poisonous or painful, and green for edible), with the pears in the orchard being truly edible prizes on completion of the trail.



Willesden diocese awarded St Martin's a "Creation Care" grant to pay for two water butts and birdseed (for work with children). Using rainwater for watering plants will save drinking water currently used for watering the plants on graves.



Our short-to medium-term goals are:

- to install the water butts
- to register with A Rocha's Eco Church (www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk) and hopefully achieve a good rating
- to take part in Churches Count on Nature and Creation Care again

Have you considered your opportunities to love God's world by reducing your negative impacts on the environment? When you come to church, are you walking if possible rather than driving? When you shop, do you choose goods with less packaging? Do you keep food waste to a minimum? Do you pray about these decisions?

We would welcome your input, in particular practical ways of protecting the environment at church – there is lots to do! But everything we do, at home and in your community, has the potential to make a difference.

Ann & Astrid





Congratulations to
Henry & Christine Salt
Who celebrated their
Diamond Wedding Anniversary
on the
23rd September 2021



St Martin's Church
Church Road, West Drayton UB7 7PA

COFFEE MORNING

**Come and Join us for a Coffee and
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10 to 12 noon**

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- ♥ A Love ly compliment
- ♥ A SINCERE smile
- ♥ And your FULL attention



PRAYER PAGE

Dear God, may our Christmas be your Christmas.
Let us give and receive gifts with love.
Let us feast on friendship and forgiveness.
Let us decorate not just with tinsel
but with the light that shines from heaven.

(from *A Child's First Book of Prayers*, Lois Rock)



God of the moon, God of the sun,
God of the world, God of the stars,
God of the waters, the land, the skies,
who sent us the King of promise.

Mary knelt to do your will,
Her child was born, the King of Life,
darkness and tears were left behind,
and the bright star rose to guide us.

It shone on the land, it shone on the sea,
on storm and calm at the water's edge,
grief was no more, and joy prevailed,
and the world was filled with music.

(from *Songs of the Isles*, Kathleen Jones)

I said to the man who stood at the gate of years
Give me light, that I may tread safely into the unknown.

And he replied

Go out into the darkness and put your hand in the hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light
and safer than the known way.





The Editor's Christmas Quiz

CHRISTMAS CONNECTIONS.

All the answers are people, places or things that have some connection with Christmas.

1	Character played by Audrey Hepburn in the 1961 movie "Breakfast at Tiffany's".	
2	American fast food chain specialising in Tex-Mex foods.	
3	100,000 people lined the streets for this silent movie star's funeral.	
4	The State capital of New Mexico.	
5	Country that won the 2003 Eurovision Song Contest.	
6	Cockney rhyming slang for "Eyes".	
7	Bass player in the Jimi Hendrix Experience.	
8	Won Best Director Oscar for "Oliver!"?	
9	The first Lloyd Webber/Rice musical to be performed publicly.	
10	Group of eight private higher education institutions of North Eastern USA.	
11	British actor and playwright whose works include "Blithe Spirit" and "Hay Fever".	
12	Film series first created by George Lucas in 1977.	
13	Location of the Head Quarters of NATO.	
14	Pen-name of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson.	
15	The only child of Henry VIII & Catherine of Aragon to survive to adulthood.	
16	US TV show that brought fame to David Cassidy.	
17	Card game that uses wooden pinboard for scoring.	
18	The World's highest uninterrupted waterfall.	
19	Annual fair held in Nottingham in early October.	
20	Nickname for the home of the US film industry.	
21	UK food outlet specialising in gourmet snacks & sandwiches.	
22	Singer/songwriter of such hits as "The Locomotion" and "It Might as Well Rain Until September".	
23	The name of the pet cat in "The Simpsons".	
24	The video game where Mario made his first appearance.	
25	Actress who played Maddie Hayes in 1980's TV show "Moonlighting".	

CHRISTMAS INITIALS

Each set of initials represent the title of well-known Christmas songs both old and new. How many can you solve?

	INITIALS	NAME OF SONG	
1	WC		
2	JBR		
3	HYAMLC		
4	TLDB		
5	RTRNR		
6	WW		
7	AIWFCIY		
8	FTONY		
9	DTKIC		
10	JTTW		
11	FTS		
12	BC		
13	OLTOB		
14	GRYMG		
15	WTK		
16	THATI		
17	SIC		
18	ISMKSC		
19	BICO		
20	HX(WIO)		
21	SCICTT		
22	OCAYF		
23	RATCT		
24	HCSC		
25	IBIFC		

Christmas Songs Emoji Pictionary Quiz



If Rudolph was in front. How many ways can you arrange the other 8 Reindeers?



The Editor's Christmas Quiz Answers

CHRISTMAS CONNECTIONS.

All the answers are people, places or things that have some connection with Christmas.

1	Character played by Audrey Hepburn in the 1961 movie "Breakfast at Tiffany's".	HOLLY Golightly.
2	American fast food chain specialising in Tex-Mex foods.	Taco BELL.
3	100,000 people lined the streets for this silent movie star's funeral.	RUDOLF Valentino.
4	The State capital of New Mexico.	SANTA Fe.
5	Country that won the 2003 Eurovision Song Contest.	TURKEY.
6	Cockney rhyming slang for "Eyes".	MINCE PIES.
7	Bass player in the Jimi Hendrix Experience.	NOEL Redding.
8	Won Best Director Oscar for "Oliver!"?	CAROL Reed.
9	The first Lloyd Webber/Rice musical to be performed publicly.	JOSEPH and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat
10	Group of eight private higher education institutions of North Eastern USA.	IVY League.
11	British actor and playwright whose works include "Blithe Spirit" and "Hay Fever".	NOEL Coward.
12	Film series first created by George Lucas in 1977.	STAR Wars.
13	Location of the Head Quarters of NATO.	BRUSSLES.
14	Pen-name of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson.	Lewis CARROLL.
15	The only child of Henry VIII & Catherine of Aragon to survive to adulthood.	Queen MARY I.
16	US TV show that brought fame to David Cassidy.	The PARTRIDGE Family.
17	Card game that uses wooden pinboard for scoring.	CRIB (Cribbage).
18	The World's highest uninterrupted waterfall.	ANGEL Falls.
19	Annual fair held in Nottingham in early October.	GOOSE Fair.
20	Nickname for the home of the US film industry.	TINSEL Town.
21	UK food outlet specialising in gourmet snacks & sandwiches.	Pret-a MANGER.
22	Singer/songwriter of such hits as "The Locomotion" and "It Might as Well Rain Until September".	CAROLE KING.
23	The name of the pet cat in "The Simpsons".	SNOWBALL.
24	The video game where Mario made his first appearance.	DONKEY Kong.

CHRISTMAS INITIALS

Each set of initials represent the title of well-known Christmas songs both old and new. How many can you solve?

	INITIALS	NAME OF SONG	
1	WC	White Christmas	
2	JBR	Jingle Bell Rock	
3	HYAMLC	Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas	
4	TLDB	The Little Drummer Boy	
5	RTRNR	Rudolf, The Red-Nosed Reindeer	
6	WW	Winter Wonderland	
7	AIWFCIY	All I Want For Christmas is You	
8	FTONY	Fairy Tale of New York	
9	DTKIC	Do They Know It's Christmas	
10	JTTW	Joy to the World	
11	FTS	Frosty the Snowman	
12	BC	Blue Christmas	
13	OLTOB	O, Little Town of Bethlehem	
14	GRYMG	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen	
15	WTK	We Three Kings	
16	THATI	The Holly and the Ivy	
17	SIC	Step into Christmas	
18	ISMKSC	I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus	
19	BICO	Baby it's Cold Outside	
20	HX(WIO)	Happy Xmas (War is Over)	
21	SCICTT	Santa Claus is Coming to Town	
22	OCAFY	O Come All Ye Faithful	
23	RATCT	Rocking Around the Christmas Tree	
24	HCSC	Here Comes Santa Claus	
25	IBIFC	I Believe in Father Christmas	



Christmas Songs Emoji Pictionary Quiz Answers

- 1  Rockin' around the Christmas tree
- 2  I'll be home for Christmas
- 3  Frosty the snowman
- 4  Santa Claus is coming to town
- 5  I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus
- 6  Silent Night
- 7  Rudolph the red nosed reindeer
- 8  Grandma got run over by a reindeer
- 9  Silver Bells
- 10  12 days of Christmas
- 11  Angels we have heard on high
- 12  Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
- 13  I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
- 14  Driving home for Christmas
- 15  Jingle bell rock
- 16  Joy to the world
- 17  I'll be home for Christmas
- 18  Let it snow, let it snow

**Assuming Rudolf was in Front, How many ways
could you arrange the other Reindeer
40,320 (8x7x6x5x4x3x2x1)**

Hall Activities

Monday

Tae Kwondo 17:45 - 19:15

Tuesday

Zumba Gold 10:00 - 11:00
Drama Group 16:00 - 18:30
History Society 19:00 - 21:00
(Last Tuesday of the Month)
Craft Group 13:30—15:30
14th December 2021

Wednesday

Irish Dance 19:00 - 21:00

Thursday

WI 14:15 - 16:15
(3rd Thursday of the Month)

AA 7-10pm

Friday

Tae Kwondo 17:30 - 20:30

Saturday

Zumba Gold 10:00 - 11:00



Items for inclusion in the August/September issue of Challenge must be with the Editor by Sunday 23rd January 2022 Items not received by this date will, if appropriate, be included in the next issue.

Email: stmartinschurch@live.co.uk

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

FUNERALS

Alan Carter 29th November 2021
Pamela Ivy Powell 1st December 2021

We give thanks for their lives and
pray for those who mourn their passing.

ST MARTIN'S IS OPEN

on Sundays 10.15am - Holy Eucharist with music
all ages are welcome to this worship service.

on Mondays 9.30 am - Morning Prayer
a short time of quiet, Bible reading and prayer

on Wednesdays 10-11am - Peace and Quiet Hour
*Pop in and out any time to light a candle, sit, think, read, pray,
enjoy the tranquility of this ancient holy place.
Everyone of all Faiths or none are welcome.*

While in church, please remember to keep any Covid rules.
Thank you.



WHO'S WHO

VICAR	Rev Rosy Barrie	'	01895 442194
	rosybarrie1@btinternet.com		
Church Wardens	Uche Obi & Marie Tampin	.	01895 434949
Hall Bookings	Marie	'	07742 757377
PCC Secretary	William Fairchild	'	01895 434949
Stewardship	Julia Bennett	'	01895 851269
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Deanery Synod Representatives	Mary Davie & Pat Dibben	'	01895 434949
Sunday School	Contact the Parish Office	'	01895 434949
Church Treasurer	Emeka Obi		01895 434949
Editor of Challenge	Kevin Stephens	'	01895 434949
Flowers	Contact Pat via the Office	'	01895 434949



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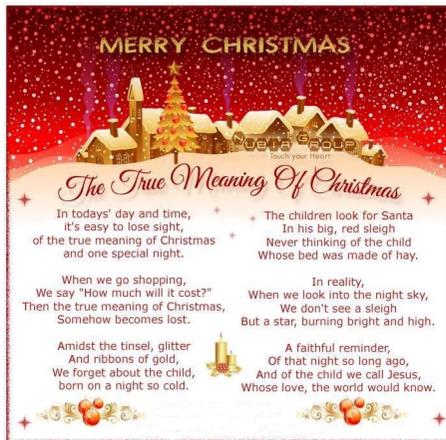
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