

Easingwold & Raskelf Parish Magazine

December 2018



**For unto us a Child is born,
unto us a Son is given**

Isaiah 9:6

30p

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OF ENGLAND

PARISH OF EASINGWOLD WITH RASKELF

✉ vicar@easingwoldraskelfanglican.org



Vicar	Rev'd Margaret Young	☎ 01347 821394
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		☎ 01347 824399
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Retired Clergy assisting in the parish	Rev'd Chris Peel	
	Rev'd Beryl Bowes	
	Rev'd Dr Peter Bowes	
	Rev'd Robin Davill	
	Rev'd John Hetherington	
	Rev'd Steve Jarratt	
	Rev'd David Senior	

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Front Cover: Photography & Graphic Design by Allan Green FRPS



From the Vicar . . .

December brings Advent and Christmas, times of anticipation and times of great joy. What could be more exciting than the celebration of a baby coming into the world, especially the Son of God?

Sometimes it is hard for us to join in with the festivities.

What about the couple who are desperately trying for a baby and there seem to be pictures of baby Jesus at every corner. We have the advance in medical science and the progression of IVF. This was a daily reminder to me when I worked in Oldham as the eye clinic was next to the maternity unit and there was a plaque up for one of its former employees Mr Patrick Steptoe who helped develop the first test tube baby Louise Brown. The question must be asked by people “why can’t I have one?”

What about those who feel the need to buy presents for all of the family and the only way to do this is to borrow from a loan shark? There are so many adverts on the TV, so many expectations that children will get something that they want on Christmas morning. They know that reality is that they should wake up in a cold damp house, and no presents but that seems Dickensian and shouldn’t be happening in the 21st century.

What about those who don’t have family around them? Some people say that Christmas is for children and getting together to eat turkey and Christmas pudding. What if they have never had family or the family has moved away? Cold turkey from the meat counter in a sandwich sitting by yourself watching TV is not exactly the happiest way of spending Christmas Day.

Christmas is far more than that, it is not just for the children, it is for everyone. Christmas is about Jesus Christ; a baby being born into a real family. This family had their troubles, initially they became refugees. This baby grew up and was God incarnate here on earth. Jesus came with messages of love and peace, He lived and died for us so that we know God’s love in human form. In turn, he gave the hope of everlasting life through our faith in him.

May the peace of Christ be with you all this Christmas,

Margaret

INTRODUCTION

There is one character who plays a pivotal role in the Nativity Story, but only gets a couple of lines in his one appearance. And he doesn't get a mention in the Gospels.

He was probably not very well-educated, though had a certain commercial acumen. He may have been somewhat coarse and callous, since, for most people of that time, life, if not solitary, was surely "nasty, poor, brutish and short".

So this could be:

THE INNKEEPER'S TALE

You'll never believe who I had in my pub a few months ago! Well, to be honest, I'm not sure myself, but it was obviously someone a bit special.

I remember it well - it was a very busy time; the Roman emperor had called some sort of census and hordes of people had descended on Bethlehem to register. So my place was absolutely chokka - every room was full, I'd even had to put extra mattresses on the floor in some rooms and me and the wife gave up our bed, so we had to sleep on the floor in the kitchen! Not that we got much sleep - with the house full, there was always somebody wanting something. Still, it made very good business - I suppose the Romans aren't all bad. They do tax us of course, but they usually pay their bills and they do keep order. We don't get much crime now - they soon sort out any thieves with a quick flogging or crucifixion. Yes, they whip you off so fast your feet won't touch the ground - well they wouldn't touch the ground if you were being crucified, now would they? I wouldn't want to get on the wrong side of them myself, apart from it being bad for business.

Anyway, where was I? Ah yes, there we were full to bursting, when one awful night, blowing a gale and snowing hard it was, a couple turned up - a bloke walking, with his very young - and pregnant - wife riding on a donkey. They said they wanted a room - I ask you! Well, I suppose I didn't have the heart to turn them away, but all I could suggest was that they could shelter in my old stable - it was a bit smelly with the animals, but at least it was warm and dry, and they seemed grateful enough.

When I told the wife about the girl expecting, she went out to see if she could help. We lost our own little one at birth some years ago, so she has a specially soft spot for babies. She'd not been gone long when she came back in to say the girl had produced a baby boy, and she took out some cloths to wrap him in. We had no cot, so they laid him on some straw in the manger that we sometimes use to feed the cows.

When she came back, she said the girl had told her that an angel had come to her one night and said that her baby would be the son of God! I ask you! Just women's talk, I thought. But then some strange things happened. A few nights later, some scruffy-looking shepherds arrived, asking to see the baby; and they said a group of angels had told them about it! And then some funny-looking foreign gentlemen also turned up, bringing presents for the baby, saying that a star had led them there! So I began to wonder. And when I went out myself to have a look, the manger seemed to be sort of shining and there was a funny feeling of 'goodness' - I felt I ought to kneel down and started to think that the Romans were alright, and to feel guilty about putting little 'extras' on my bills...! Probably just my imagination.

continued on next page

Anyway, the couple disappeared one night a few weeks later. According to the stable boy, they'd said they were going back to Nazareth, though the barman had heard them say they were going to Egypt to escape. Which is just as well, because not long after that a load of soldiers arrived, sent by our King Herod, saying they had orders to kill all the babies! That King Herod is worse than the Romans. I wish our promised Messiah would come, someone like King David, to free us from the Romans and their crony Herod. But I suppose that's too much to expect any time soon

Unless Unless!? M.W.

Flash From The Past

Readers from Raskelf may be interested to see this PCC report from the March 1952 edition of Easingwold with Raskelfe Parishes Magazine and Crayke Parish News:

“Raskelfe ...

The Parochial Church Council met on 12th February last and gave thought to many matters for the improvement of our Church. These included the decisions that the Lych Gate should have immediate repair, cleaning and oiling so as to preserve its life and brighten its appearance; that an estimate be obtained for the rearrangement of some pews now permissible as a result of the issue of a Faculty for the purpose; immediate attention to the flooding of the boiler house and the provision of boundary posts or marks for the recently acquired property for Churchyard extensions. It was further agreed that an effort be made at once to complete and keep in existence an Altar Flower rota (there must be a number of parishioners who would be happy to help in this way, possibly in the weeks when they would like to mark a family anniversary of some kind). Though information was not available at the time of the meeting it would seem plain that repairs to our organ, costing perhaps a considerable sum, will have to be undertaken in the near future.”

Sue Thorn



ST MARY'S CHURCH RASKELF

Sunday 2nd December - Eucharist, 9.10am

Sunday 9th December - Family Service, 10.30am

Sunday 16th December - Eucharist, 9.10am

Monday 17th December - Carol Service, 7.30pm

Wednesday 19th December - Lite Bite Lunch, Old Black Bull, 12 noon

Monday 24th (Christmas Eve) - Crib Service, 3.00pm; Midnight Eucharist, 10.00pm

July 1, 1887.

Church Bells.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Dedication and Reopening of Bells at Easingwold, Yorkshire.

At the festivities held in commemoration of her Majesty's Jubilee reign, the chief local event was the dedication and reopening of the bells hung in the tower of the Easingwold parish church. To a ring of five bells, which have all been rehung, has been added a new treble in substantial frame, and new floor. A special dedication service was held, conducted by the Vicar, at eight o'clock in the morning, and immediately afterwards fifty strokes of the tongue of the new bell were tolled by way of christening the bell 'Jubilee.' The National Anthem was then sung on the top of the tower, and a call for three cheers for her Majesty met with a hearty response. Shortly before noon Messrs. Howard, Cundall, Hodgson, Thompson, and Messrs. Mallaby, ascended the tower and rang out several touches of GRAND-SIRE, PLAIN, OXFORD, and KENT TREBLE BOB. The tone of the bells was remarkably rich, and caused great satisfaction amongst the parishioners. The entire work was satisfactorily done by Messrs. Mallaby of Masham, and the swing of the bells was all that could be desired.

This account appeared in the publication, 'Church Bells' on 1 July 1887, and records the opening of the newly augmented ring of bells, from five to six, in the church tower at Easingwold.

'Church Bells' was a weekly paper for church folk, which appeared from 1870 until 1906. The editor and proprietor was the Reverend John Erskine Clarke (1827 – 1920), who as Vicar of St Michael, Derby is said to have produced the world's first parish magazine in 1859. The contents of 'Church Bells' included a column on bells and bellringing, initially under the direction of the Reverend Henry Thomas Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St George, Devon, with contributions by many of the leading ringers of the time.

Nicholas J Green

Calling All Raskelf Standing Order Donors

This applies to Raskelf donations only. The present method of recording donations made by standing order is changing because in our combined parish the Diocese advises us to keep just a single bank account. It is important to note that our accounting system maintains a separate fund for Raskelf, so monies donated to Raskelf remain distinct but within the one account. If you donate by standing order you are asked to complete a new Bank Mandate form directing your bank to pay to account number 00322202. If you Gift Aid your donation, please also complete a new Gift Aid Declaration form and return it to the Treasurer. Both types of form are held by the Wardens or at the back of the church.

*Thank you,
Bill Henebury, PCC Treasurer*



Services and Events

December 2018

To contact the **Revd Margaret Young**

Tel: 01347-821394 or **Email: vicar@easingwoldraskelfanglican.org**

The Vicar's day off is Monday

Children are welcome at all our services

Sunday 2nd		Advent 1
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.10am	Raskelf Eucharist
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist with Church Mice
	2.30pm	Deanery Ecumenical Choir rehearsal
	6.30pm	Deanery Ecumenical Choir Advent Carol Service
Mon 3rd	-----	No Choir Practice
	5.30pm	ECY @ the Cozie Centre (Easingwold Christian Youth)
Tues 4th	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Christmas Party with presentation by Allan Green in the Parish Rooms
Wed 5th	9.00am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Beavers Christingle in church
Thurs 6th	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Fri 7th	11.00am	CTED Crib Service in Market Place
	11.30am	Advent Course in Parish Rooms
	3.00pm	Christian Meditation led by Marko at the Galtres Centre
	3.45pm	Ignite for Primary School age in the Parish Rooms
Sat 8th	2.00pm	Christmas Decorations demonstration & workshop in Parish Rooms
	2.30pm	Easingwold Singers Concert Vivaldi's 'Gloria' in Church
Sunday 9th		Advent 2
	9.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Raskelf Family Service
	10.30am	Parish Eucharist with Church Mice
	12.30pm	Baptism of Charlie Staplyton
	3.00pm	Springhill Court Carol Service
	3.30pm	Evening Service @ Methodist Church
Mon 10th	4.00pm	Choir Practice – All welcome
	5.30pm	ECY @ the Cozie Centre (Easingwold Christian Youth)

Tues 11th	10.00am 3.00pm	Bible Conversations @ 11 Whiteoak Ave – All welcome Springhill Court Holy Communion
Wed 12th	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Bootshop Christmas Carol Service in Church
Thurs 13th	9.45am 7.30pm 8.00pm	Open the Book at the Primary School 'the Shepherds' story' Bell Ringing Practice Inspire: Young Adults/young in faith @ Vicarage
Fri 14th	11.30am 3.00pm 3.45pm	Advent Course in Parish Rooms Christian Meditation led by Marko at the Galtres Centre Ignite for Primary School age in the Parish Rooms
Sat 15th	10.00am	CTED Nativity & Follow the Star around Easingwold

Sunday 16th

8.00am Holy Communion
9.10am Raskelf Eucharist
10.30am Parish Eucharist with Church Mice
6.30pm Easingwold Carol Service in church

Mon 17th	4.00pm 5.30pm 7.30pm	Choir Practice – All welcome ECY @ the Cozie Centre (Easingwold Christian Youth) Raskelf Carol Service
Tues 18th	6.30pm	Tiddlywinks Christmas Service in church
Wed 19th	9.00am 12 noon	Holy Communion Lite Bite Lunch @ Old Black Bull, Raskelf
Thurs 20th	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Fri 21st	11.30am TBC pm 3.00pm 3.45pm	Advent Course in Parish Rooms Primary School Christmas Service in church Christian Meditation led by Marko at the Galtres Centre Ignite for Primary School age in the Parish Rooms
Sat 22nd	9.30am	Church decorating

Sunday 23rd

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Parish Eucharist with Church Mice
No Evensong

Monday 24th

Christmas Eve
3.00pm Raskelf Crib Service
4.30pm Christingle
10.00pm Raskelf Midnight Eucharist
11.30pm Easingwold Midnight Eucharist

Tuesday 25th

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Parish Eucharist
 Holy Communion – service cancelled

Wed 26th

Thurs 27th

7.30pm

Bell Ringing Practice

Fri 28th

1.00pm

Wedding of Ryder & Hunter

Sunday 30th

10.30am Christmas 1

Holy Communion – service cancelled
Parish Eucharist

No Evensong

Registers . . .

Baptisms

4th November
24th November

Robert Andrew Bean
Georgia Corner

Marriages

None

Funerals

23rd November

Sandra Cooper

Fair Trade Christmas Oasis

THANK YOU to friends who supported Fair Trade Christmas Oasis at the Methodist church. From the profits and the drinks we were able to send £128.17 to the Disasters Emergency Committee and £477 to Fairer world for the sales.



Love reading but can't get to the library?



NYCC and Easingwold Community Library offer a free service for people of all ages who, because of ill health or disability, find it difficult to get to the library or carry books. The service is also available to carers.

Our volunteers will select books to suit the customer's tastes and they can either be collected from the library by a friend or relative or we can deliver directly to the customer every two weeks. Our delivery volunteers are all DBS checked and cover Easingwold and all the surrounding villages. We offer free access to books (including large print and children's), audio books, DVDs, music on CD and information. Users can opt in and out so can use the service if they are recovering from an illness or operation or can't get out in bad weather.

Know someone who may be interested?

To find out more please ask the potential customer or a representative to contact Easingwold Community Library on 01609 534584 (rings directly to Easingwold Library) and leave their name and contact telephone number. Someone will telephone back and arrange a visit to explain how to use the service and to find out what sort of books or other materials are required.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with deliveries, particularly to help cover holiday periods. Please contact Easingwold Library and leave your details if you would like more information.

**Easingwold Parish Church
Celebrating 600 Years**



The last event of the year



**2-4pm SATURDAY
8th DECEMBER
In the
PARISH ROOMS**

**Come and make Christmas
Decorations**

**Members of the Flower Club will be
doing a demonstration**

**Then have a go and
make something
yourself**



Tea and cakes will be served

**Christmas Celebrations
at the Methodist Church**
“A VERY SPECIAL GIFT”

On Saturday Dec. 15th, alongside the Nativity taking place in the Square, we will have Children's Christmas Craft Activities. Children of primary age will be welcome to drop in at any time, with a parent or carer, to take part between 10 and 12. There will be card-making, cookies to decorate, stables and angels to prepare and more. As usual, we will be also providing warm drinks and goodies and time for a chat.

Then on **Sunday Dec. 16th**, at 10.30 we will have an All Age Christmas Celebration, with music, singing, drama, poetry and readings on the same theme. Everyone most welcome.

Our Carol service is on **Sunday Dec. 23rd** at 10.30 – again, all welcome.

So we invite you to join us as we begin to Celebrate the VERY SPECIAL GIFT of the birth of Christ our Saviour.

Readings

2nd December 2018 Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36	Advent Sunday	Carols for Advent @6.30pm
9th December 2018 Malachi 3:1-4 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6	Advent 2	Evensong at Methodists @3.30pm
16th December 2018 Zephaniah 3:14-20 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18	Advent 3	Easingwold Carol Service @6.30pm
23rd December 2018 Micah 5:2-5a Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)	Advent 4 (Not a Family Service)	No Evensong
24th December 2018 Isaiah 52:7-10 John 1:1-14	Christmas Eve Midnight	-
25th December 2018 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1--20	Christmas Day	-
30th December 2018 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52	Christmas 1	No Evensong



Advent Course

An Advent Course will be taking place on the following four
Friday mornings:

30th November and 7th, 14th & 21st December

In the Parish Rooms, starting at 11.30am with coffee on
arrival

Led by Assistant Curate Lottie Cranfield

Gloria

Antonio Vivaldi

and Christmas music

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Conducted by Edward Venn

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100th Birthday Celebration

Muriel Coxon, a faithful member of the congregation at the Springhill
Court church services, reached her 100th birthday on November 13th,
which she celebrated with her family and friends.



Church Decoration

*The Parish Church will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday
22nd December starting at 9.30am. Any help would be much appreciated*



The Church
Mice



Children are very welcome on any Sunday

You are invited to our Sunday School for ages 3-11,
which continues on which continues on December 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd
at St John the Baptist & All Saints Church, Church Hill, Easingwold
Many activities – Learning through the Bible



MOTHERS' UNION



Mothers' Union Afternoon Social

Tuesday 4th December at 2.30 pm in the Parish Rooms

Audio-Visual Presentation from Allan Green, Carols & Light Tea

All welcome



PRAYER CORNER



Prayer is at the heart of what the church is about and the prayer corner in St John's continues to be used regularly. Please write the names of people you would like to be remembered in the book there. We also have a prayer chain, where a number of people pray for those in special need. If you would like prayers for yourself or another, in church or on our confidential Prayer Circle, please contact Deacon Lottie Cranfield on 824399.

Please include in your prayers this month:

- All Christmas planning and activities; that all may think of others less fortunate than themselves
- Those who will be alone this Christmas - the poor, the homeless, refugees, and all those who feel forgotten and unloved
- Easingwold and District Churches Together - shared worship and activities
- Those - charities and individuals - who try to support those especially in need at this time, but also providing support throughout the year

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th - 25th January 2019

Friday	18th	Parish Church
Saturday	19th	Parish Church
Monday	21st	Methodist Church
Tuesday	22nd	Community Church
Wednesday	23rd	Methodist Church
Thursday	24th	Community Church
Friday	25th	Catholic Church

Each of the above services will start at Midday

The services led by the Community Church
will be held in the Methodist Church

The United Service on Sunday 20th January at 3.30pm is subject to confirmation, but it is hoped that it will be hosted by the Catholic Church

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