

press thanks for and to loved ones, and this service provides a real opportunity to celebrate the power of love in our lives. There will be a Communion service at 9.30am tailored to this theme. An extra special invitation is offered to those who were married at St Peter's. Please pass this on to anyone you know who was married in our church - but anyone may remember their special day wherever it took place!

Mothers' Sunday: will be on 11th March, as with all services, at 9.30am: do bring Mums for the distribution of flower posies and thanksgiving for all our mothers and 'mother' parishes do and have done for us all. In years past this was a great opportunity to join together as families for the day, being one of the few days off for those in service.

Parish Bounds: On Saturday 24th March the Parish Bounds will be beaten once again. Start at Broughton Bank at 9.30am sharp. Lunch at the Crown, High Newton, around 12.30 – let them know on 30017 if you want to eat - and survivors' tea back the start at about 4pm.

A reminder of those being remembered 2017-2018:

Benson, Timothy (November 12th)	Pattinson, John (May 13th)
Churchman, John (December 10th)	Pearson, John (June 10th)
Hutchinson, Robert G (January 14th)	Preston, Thomas (July 8th)
Jackson, Thomas (February 11th)	Rawlinson, William Gray (Aug 12th)
Keenan, Henry (March 11th)	Shread, Herbert (September 9th)
Newsham, Richard Edgar (April 8th)	Wilkin, Frank (October 14th)

We are keen for those with family connections to get involved. Please contact us!

St Peter's Church of England – who to contact?

Vicar: Reverend Nick Devenish 36261



You can also contact the church through the website



Pastoral Visitor: Judith Slater 36361

www.stpetersfieldbroughton.org.uk

The Parish of St Peter's Field Broughton



Maintaining an Anglican presence since 1724

From the Vicarage

Journey of the Magi

*When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.
On coming to the house, they saw the child with his
mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.
Then they opened their treasures and presented him
with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. [Matthew 2:10-11]*

The Christian story continues after the excitement of Christmas Day and the giving and receiving of presents. We are still in Bethlehem as the baby Jesus enjoys time with his parents, family, friends and interesting visitors. We move out of the Christmas season and enter Epiphany - the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. More visitors are on the way. Unexpected visitors, the Magi!

Who are the Magi? The most probable explanation would be that they were three non-Jewish men who were 'watchers of the sky', astronomers. They had noticed something new happening in the night sky, namely a bright star. They were so compelled by this extra-ordinary revelation that they decided to follow the star and see where it would lead them. T S Eliot in his poem Journey of the Magi writes: 'For the journey, and such a long journey'. Such a long journey, and one which once starting, they did not know where it would end, or what, if anything, would be at their destination.

They travelled and travelled, running the risk of being attacked or worse, but they continued, driven on by the star in the sky. And what did they find? Eliot continues:

*'... were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was Birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt...'*

For them they had an epiphany when they gazed into the eyes of a small baby and realised that they were in the presence of the divine. That was what the star was pointing to. A new beginning for all of Creation.

Thank you for reading. Blessings to you at this Epiphany time.

Nick Devenish.

What's been happening in the Parish?



Visit of the Archdeacon: On Sunday 26th November (Christ the King) we were delighted to welcome the Ven Vernon Ross to officiate at our service and preach the sermon. The text was from Matthew 25 ('*Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?*') and his sermon was thought-

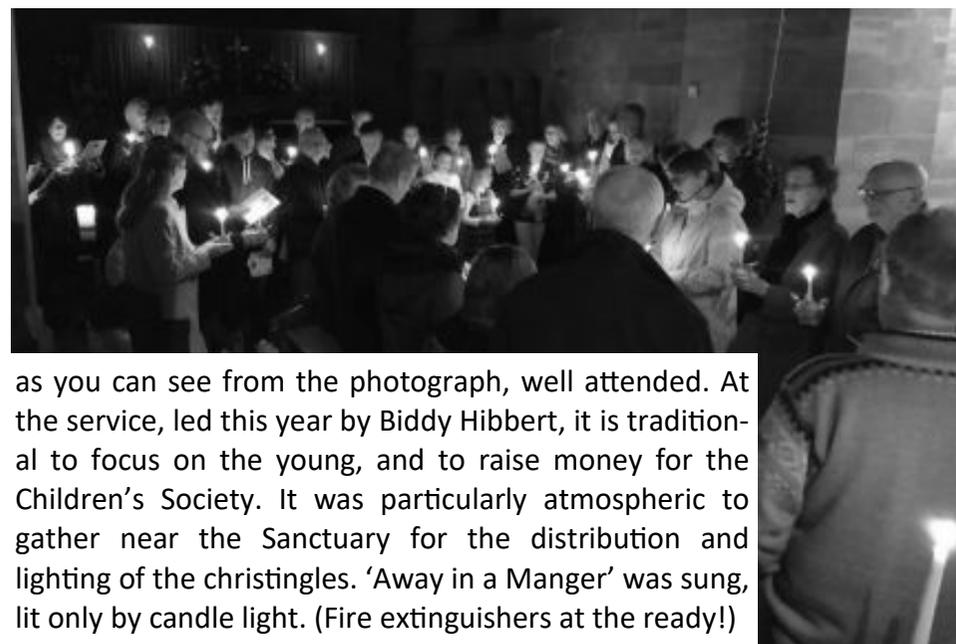
provoking: We were presented with some startling statistics concerning the growth of the Church worldwide, and the levels of persecution faced by Christians around the world.

Charitable Giving: In Autumn and over the Advent and Christmas period, our community can be proud of its continued support for some very special charities. Altogether, from Harvest, giving to the Bishop's Appeal, through Remembrance Sunday (for the British Legion), Christingle (the Children's Society), carol singing (St Mary's Hospice), Christmas Day service and the Tree of Light (Derian House Hospice), those who gave in this parish donated £682 to other organisations supporting peace, care and goodwill, and that is on top of regular contributions to the Food Bank.

Remembrance Day: Our plans to remember those from our parish who fell in the Great War are now fully underway. We were very pleased that Cyril, nephew of our first 'remembered' name, Timothy Benson, took the trouble to attend our service on November 12th and brought with him his uncle's medals. (Further details are in an article in the January issue of *Grange Now*.) Our next two to be honoured are: Robert G Hutchinson (Jan 14th) and Thomas Jackson (Feb 14th). Full details on our website.



Christingle: Our Christingle service was held on December 17th and was,



as you can see from the photograph, well attended. At the service, led this year by Bidy Hibbert, it is traditional to focus on the young, and to raise money for the Children's Society. It was particularly atmospheric to gather near the Sanctuary for the distribution and lighting of the christingles. 'Away in a Manger' was sung, lit only by candle light. (Fire extinguishers at the ready!)

For Your Diary — Future Services @ St Peter's and Community Events:

Valentine's Sunday: On 11th February we will be celebrating Valentine's Sunday, a chance to celebrate God's love, however it has been witnessed in your life, remembering someone special even – especially - if they are no longer with us. Valentine's Day has become a popular chance to ex-