

Vol.62 No 11 November 2022

Online  
Edition



# REMEMBRANCE

**ST PETER'S CHURCH**

**BRACKLEY**

*"Loving God, loving each other, loving Brackley"*



## *The Vicar writes.....*



The Church Council and I feel it is important to update the St Peter's community about the church's finances from time to time. It has been a while since I have talked money, so here goes.

### **Some figures:**

- **72** = The number of households who currently contribute to St Peter's each month by Standing Order. It's worth saying that I deliberately choose not to find out who gives or how much. Only our Treasurer is privy to that information.
- **£512** = The cost per day to run St Peter's (daily mean expenditure 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022). This includes, since Jan 2019: £278,000 paid to Peterborough Diocese (to have a vicar and the diocesan support structures), £166,000 for repairs and maintenance (roof, repointing etc.), and £75,000 for new fixtures (including new lighting, speakers, screen and projector).
- **£0** = The amount received each year from the Church of England and the government (unless you count Gift Aid on charitable donations or tax relief on repairs). Contrary to popular opinion, all income has to be raised by the local congregation either giving, fundraising or receiving money for use of the buildings.
- **9.9%** = The UK inflation rate at the time of writing (acc. Consumer Price Index). Naturally, this is likely to cause increased pressure on church finances in the coming months, unless income rises accordingly.

### **Some comments:**

We are hugely grateful to the many people who already give regularly and sacrificially to the church via Standing Order, envelope, the collection plate or online. Without your generosity we could not sustain our various ministries or beautiful premises. We are also very thankful for the substantial legacy left by Rosemary Miles, which has enabled major one-off investment in new lighting, the audio-visual system and, most importantly, seed funding for the Children and Families Worker role.

Nevertheless, we are currently running at a deficit each month and inflation has the potential to increase the shortfall significantly over the next year. We realise that some people won't be in a position to give more during a cost of living crisis. In addition, we don't want to pressurise visitors to donate (the main reason we don't take a collection during services). Despite all that, some reading this may feel they want to begin, renew or review their financial support of St Peter's Church. In which case, you can head to the 'Giving' page of our website or email John Carter, our Treasurer (cjohncarter@hotmail.com) for next steps. That would be greatly appreciated.

### **Some principles:**

Francis Bacon apparently once said, "Money is like manure: it's not good unless it is spread around." He had a point. Wealth is better shared than stockpiled – not least, as Christians, because spreading our resources is a way to ensure it is in *God* we trust, and not *gold*. So giving is not only good for others, it is good for us. Better still, giving also brings enormous pleasure to God: it is "a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God" (Phil. 4:18).

Therefore, don't give out of a sense of guilt or compulsion, for "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7), not a tearful one! Our generosity should spring naturally, willingly, joyfully from an appreciation of the incalculably costly generosity that God has already shown to us in Jesus, "You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:9).

As we marvel at our extravagant, munificent God, I hope giving becomes less of a burden and more of a sacred privilege, as we embrace the opportunity to become like him and express our undying gratitude towards to the one who gave us his all.

*Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!*  
(2 Corinthians 9:15)



*Trevor hated asking for money, but he  
sometimes made subtle hints*



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD  
SHOEBOXES TO THE CHURCH BY**

**13TH NOVEMBER**

**THANK YOU**



**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**13TH NOVEMBER**

**10.00AM**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**WITH ACT OF REMEMBRANCE**

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

We need Wine Bottle Gift Bags, if you have any please get them to a committee member by 6<sup>th</sup> November.

There are still tickets available for the Advent Lunch on 4<sup>th</sup> December price £25 for 3 course lunch (bring your own drinks) Tickets available from Caroline

# **QUIZ TIME**

**12<sup>th</sup> November**

**starts at 6.30 pm**

**St Peter's Church**

**Tickets £12**

**Fish & Chip Supper**

**Bring your own drinks**

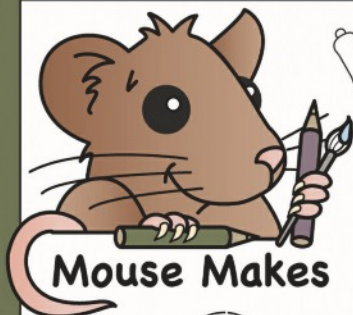
**Raffle and £1 Game**

**Please bring some  
pound coins with you.**

**Tickets from Caroline**

**On 07845 397168**

**Various Subject Rounds**



## Mouse Makes



**READ**  
the story  
in *Luke*  
1:26-55



**What does the angel  
say about God?**

Luke 1:37  
(LEARN this verse)

*Mary praises God, what does  
she say God has done?*

Luke 1:46-55



Find the words  
in the word  
search and  
the \_\_\_  
words too.

ETHOLYSPIRITOKS  
MBHCBIGTWLBZLORDA  
ELOHPRAISEOJESUSV  
SELIZABETHRONEPDI  
SSYLKWREIGNETPMEO  
ASCDIKINGDOMPHABU  
GESONREJOICEWORDR  
EDANGELZDOABABYLU

ANGEL • MESSAGE • GOD • JOSEPH • MARY • BABY • SON • BORN  
CHILD • THRONE • KING • REIGN • KINGDOM • HOLYSPIRIT • LORD  
HOLY • WORD • ELIZABETH • BLESSED • SAVIOUR • REJOICE • PRAISE



## THE COMING OF A KING

The birth of Jesus is fortold



God sent a messenger to Mary  
What was the angel's name?

-----  
Luke 1:26-28

**Mary was frightened,  
what did the angel say?**

Luke 1:30

*What was Mary to  
name her child?*

-----  
Luke 1:31



**What is her son  
going to be?**

Luke 1:32-33

*What happened  
to Elizabeth  
when Mary  
went to  
visit her?*

Luke 1:41



## **MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION**

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### **Would you like to hear more from St Peter's?**

If you are online and would like to receive the weekly Vicar's Update, just send an email to [brackleyvicar@gmail.com](mailto:brackleyvicar@gmail.com) and ask to receive the church's email bulletin



## ***Come ye Thankful People Come.....***

On Sunday September 26th the congregation of St Peters church, Brackley, celebrated Harvest Festival. We came together to thank God for all his gifts of flowers, fruit, vegetables, sun and rain.

The flower team enjoyed working together to fill the church with displays of beautiful flowers, leaves, grasses and vegetables. Many of the contributions to the displays were grown locally. Due to your very generous donations we were able to buy a wider range of flowers to fill the church with glowing golds, reds, yellows and oranges. We hope you enjoyed the arrangements and displays. We were also able to buy four new metal flower containers for church flowers. Thank you very, very much.



It is wonderful that three people have offered their help to the flower team at busy festival times. We really appreciate that and welcome their support.

Sally Hughes - flower team co-ordinator