

## **A few words from the Vicar ....**

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:13-14)*

Well, it's December again and Christmas is fast approaching. Before we know it, it will be New Year!

What with all the Christmas preparations, December is a busy month.

As usual, there is a lot going on at Christ Church too. Full details can be found on the Diary page of this month's magazine.

We begin our festive worship on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November with Messy Christmas (2pm in the church Hall). This is Messy Church but with an extra special Christmassy theme.

So, if you haven't experienced Messy Church yet, give it a try.

This year, our ever-popular Christingle service takes place at 4pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, a week earlier than usual. Then, on the following Sunday (10<sup>th</sup> December) we have a special Christmas Parade service.

And there's more .....

We have our Nativity and Carol services on 17<sup>th</sup> December, and on Christmas Eve we have our Crib service and Midnight Communion, followed by a 9.30am Family Communion.

Phew! And if that isn't enough, we are trying something new. On three Wednesday evenings in December (6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>), 7pm at the Vicarage, I will be leading some sessions aimed at encouraging folk to read their Bibles more often.

The aim is to create a calm oasis of prayer and conversation around God's word, as together we explore some seasonal Bible passages.

Absolute beginners are welcome. So, take a break from all the seasonal busyness. Come and join us as we unpack God's word a little, but first email or phone to let me know you're coming.

The Christmas story itself is the most wonderful event. It is the account of how God came into the world as one of us, as a baby, as Jesus. The events of that first Christmas set the scene for Easter when, in his love for us, Jesus died and rose again.

As Jesus' famous words from the Gospel according to John remind us, "*... God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*" (John 3:16)

This December we have something for everyone. So, come and sing some of those favourite carols. Come and join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, our saviour. Join us as we listen to the Christmas story told anew.

Join us as we celebrate the coming of God amongst us as Jesus!

Have a very happy Christmas and a blessed New Year!

*Dave*