Bedhampton Parish

St Thomas & St Nicholas

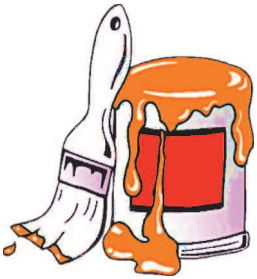
Epiphany

January

2021

50p

Gary Beaton



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Bedhampton Parish
St Thomas & St Nicholas

Happy New Year!

Here we are again, another new year! For many of us this is a time used to reflect. What's the saying? – "Out with the old, in the with new!" – a chance to try something different, set ourselves a new goal. This may be to make a change in our lives or give up something; which changes we hope will have a positive impact in our lives.

For many years, that has been my thought as I see in the New Year, inevitably making resolutions that are unrealistic and usually broken within a fairly short period of time. Any resolution which involves taking action but doesn't work out as planned may ultimately leave us feeling disappointed or dampen our spirits.

Over the years I have realised that we don't actually need to wait until 00:00 on 31st December to start anew.

Having faith is like a new start, every day. In God's eyes we never fail, he loves us and forgives us that is why His Son, Jesus Christ, was sacrificed on the cross so that we could be forgiven.

By offering up our short comings to God and seeking forgiveness, we are forgiven. We do not need to carry the weight upon our shoulders. As it says in *Lamentations 3:23 – 24; Great is His faithfulness. His mercies begin afresh each morning. I say to myself, the Lord is my inheritance therefore I will hope in Him.*

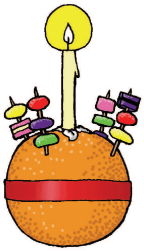
I pray for all of us who carry weight upon our shoulders, that we lift our burdens to you Lord and you grant us peace, knowing we are loved and in our redemption by his grace forgiven.

Tracey Smith

Planned Christingle Service - *cancelled*

Service to be on-line 10th January

A Christingle is made from an orange decorated with red tape, sweets and a candle. A Christingle celebration was planned for this month but has had to be cancelled.



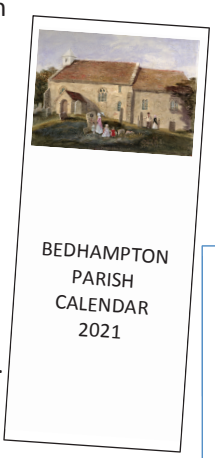
It is hoped that a service will be streamed on-line.
As every year, we hope to support The Children's Society. Keep in touch with the Parish website to stay up to date.

BEDHAMPTON CALENDAR 2021

We are pleased to announce the arrival of a Parish Calendar for 2021, featuring pictures of Bedhampton in years gone by.

We thank Ralph Cousins and the Bedhampton Historical Collection for permission to include these pictures.

Priced at £5 each, the calendar is available from our churches or contact the Parish Office.



FOODBANK contributions can be made at Asda, Tesco, and Waitrose, or in the black box at the Rectory in Bidbury Lane.

Come and join us for . . .

Messy CHURCH

. . . on-line

BEDHAMPTON CARDS

A selection of printed and hand crafted cards are available for sale in St Thomas'
or contact Jean O'Farrell
on 023 9283 3284..
Proceeds to the church.

Why not take some local photos for next year's Bedhampton calendar ?

Send to the Parish Office

FAMILY NEWS

We send our good wishes to those who celebrate anniversaries and birthdays this month including Ann Partridge, Jean Hildersley, Ann Nellthorp and Pamela Morgan.

Special congratulations to Pat Jay who will celebrate a milestone birthday this month.

The Christmas Experience in Bedhampton

12th – 24th December

As explained in the December issue, Christmas was not going to be called off, but perhaps celebrated a little differently this year. The birth of Jesus will still be remembered, just like any one else's birthday. So Roger and Gill Matthews came up with the idea of illustrating the Christmas story in St Thomas' churchyard.
And so the venture took shape with lots of preparation and hard work from a team of volunteers. Photos of the event appear on pages 10 and 11.

We must become a 'simpler, humbler, bolder Church' - Archbishops

The momentous events of 2020 will have a "profound effect" on the future of the Church of England and our wider society, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have said.

In a recent joint address to the General Synod, Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell said the Church of England must adapt and put its trust in God to become a "simpler, humbler, bolder Church."

The archbishops' comments came as they addressed the first online sitting of the General Synod following a legal change to enable it to meet remotely amid the coronavirus restrictions.

They outlined how the coronavirus pandemic and its economic fallout are providing the backdrop to huge social changes - here and around the world.

They also singled out how the Black Lives Matter movement and the publication of the IICSA report on abuse had exposed the Church's own failings and the need to change.

Archbishop Justin told Synod: "2020 will be a year that registers in memory and in history. If we put our trust in God, and if we learn to love one another, then I believe we can become a simpler, humbler, bolder Church, better able to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ."

The Midnight Service of Holy Communion in Bedhampton will be streamed online

Sign in an old church porch to reassure any visitors:

In this church many are cold, but few are frozen.

We trust that you will not be too cold at St Thomas and St Nicholas, but we need to fully air the buildings at this time of the virus.

The naming of Jesus – January 1st

Matthew and Luke tell how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. The Church recalls the naming of Jesus on 1st January - eight days after 25th December (by the Jewish way of reckoning days). In Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians, the *name* of Jesus held a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated His ministry, and it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor 6:11); and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9). All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow.

The name Jesus is of Hebrew origin, 'Yehosua', or Joshua. There is also the Hebrew-Aramaic form, 'Yesua'. In Greek, it became 'Ἰησοῦς' (*Iēsoûs*), and in Latin it became 'Iesus'. The meaning of the name is 'Yahweh delivers' or 'Yahweh rescues', or 'Yahweh is salvation'.

The angel Gabriel in Luke (1:26-33) told Mary to name her baby Jesus: "because He will save His people from their sins."

Epiphany – January 6th

On 6th January we celebrate Epiphany - the visit of the Wise Men to the baby Jesus. But who were these Wise Men? No one knows for sure. Matthew calls them 'Magi', and that was the name of an ancient caste of a priestly kind from Persia. It wasn't until the third century that they were called kings - by a church father, Tertullian.

Magi from the East – it isn't a lot to go on. Their devotion to astrology, divination and the interpretation of dreams led to an extension in the meaning of the word, and by the first century the Magi in Matthew's gospel could have been astrologers from outside of Persia. Matthew's gospel (chapter 2) is clear that the Magi asked Herod: 'Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.' So it is possible that in southern Arabia the Queen of Sheba's story of how a Messiah would one day be sent to the Israelites had survived.

By the 6th century the Magi had acquired names: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. By medieval times they were considered to be kings.

What about their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh? While we cannot know for sure what was in the minds of first century Magi, one Victorian scholar has offered a possible explanation as to the significance of their gifts. He was the Rev John Henry Hopkins, an American Episcopalian minister, who in 1857 wrote his much-loved Christmas carol, 'We Three Kings of Orient Are'.

Gold, said John Henry Hopkins, was a gift that would have been given to a king. Frankincense had traditionally been brought by priests as they worshipped God in the Temple. Myrrh was a spice that the ancients used in preparing bodies for burial.

If that is true, then you could say that the Wise Men, in choosing their gifts for this infant, honoured Jesus with gold because He was King of the Jews, with frankincense because He was to be worshipped as divine, and with myrrh, because He would also become a sacrifice and die for His people.

The Wise Men were the very first gentiles ever to worship Jesus. What faith they had! They travelled for months over difficult terrain, they never saw any evidence of Jesus' kingship, His divinity or His sacrificial death. They worshipped Him through faith in God's promises about Him. Isaiah foresaw this response to Jesus: 'Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.' The Magi's eyes of faith saw clearly and far into the future.

At the start of a New Year, we remember the Magi who followed a star to find the baby Jesus: *'Where is He?'* (Matthew 2:1). Amid the uncertainty of the pandemic are we asking the same question? As we face the sufferings of this New Year, we can be confident that Jesus knows and understands our experience.

from Parish Pump

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

This year's **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** has been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. The theme, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit", is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family.

For 2021, the sisters are inviting churches across the world to enter into their tradition of prayer and silence that is rooted in the ancient traditions of the Church catholic.

WHAT DID YOU DO DURING LOCKDOWN IN 2020?

The first lockdown lasted from March and eased in June. How did you pass your time? Did you take up a new hobby? Knitting, gardening, DIY? Were you able to help others? Did you keep a diary or journal?
We have just spent a further 4 weeks lockdown so there was time to be spent on another project. Tell us your stories.
Either send by email to Hello@Bedhampton.church OR send in writing to The Rectory. Please mark your envelope "Magazine".

HELP NEEDED

The Magazine Team is seeking someone who is a Bedhampton resident (not compulsory) who is good at gathering interesting local news which could be included in this magazine. You would be invited to either attend the magazine meetings which are usually held once a month, or to keep in touch by email which is what we have been doing during these past few months of lockdown and restrictions.
Please contact Max if you are interested or if you would like more information.
Email: Hello@Bedhampton.church

Holocaust Memorial Day calls for 'light in the darkness' of today

It was 25 years ago this month, on 27th January 1996, that the first Holocaust Remembrance Day was observed in Germany. It became International Holocaust Day in 2005 when it was adopted by the United Nations. It marks the day (27th January 1945) when the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration/death camp was liberated.

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) in 2021 is '**Be the light in the darkness'**. The aim is to encourage people to "reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, but also the ways individuals and communities resisted that darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide."
We can all stand in solidarity to "reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, in a variety of ways and places – at home, in public, and online."

100 years ago, on 28th January 1921, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was installed beneath the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. It honours those who died in WWI (and later also WWII) who were never identified.

'In Flanders Fields the poppies blow'

Part 32 of a monthly series on the men of Bedhampton who lost their lives in World War 2 and whose names appear on the War Memorial in St. Thomas' or in the graveyard.

John Robinson (1907-1940)

– Ordnance Artificer 3rd Class P/MX53843: HMS Express

John was born in 1907 in Oldham, Lancashire to George and Amy Robinson. His parents both worked in the local textile industry. In 1911 the family were living at 25 Healey Street, Oldham. He presumably joined the Royal Navy in the late 1920's or 1930's as he married Cecilia Mary Burfitt in Portsmouth in 1938. In September 1939 John was at sea and Cecilia his wife was living with a family at 'Milbur', Maylands Road, Bedhampton. She was working as a Shorthand Typist.

In 1940 John was an Ordnance Artificer 3rd class and serving on HMS Express. The 'E' Class minelaying destroyer had been built in the early 1930's. In the first months of the war she was based on the East coast and was engaged in mine laying operations in British, Dutch and German waters. From 26th May to 4th June 1940 HMS Express was involved with the evacuation of the BEF from the beaches of Dunkirk. She resumed her mine laying operations in the following months. On 1st September HMS Express and five other minelaying destroyers departed Immingham on the East coast to lay mines on the Dutch coast.

Tragically, the flotilla inadvertently sailed into an enemy minefield. Two destroyers were sunk and the 'Express' had her bow blown off. Four officers and 55 ratings were killed in the explosion. John Robinson died of the wounds he received on 2nd September 1940 aged 33.

Right: HMS Express, showing the bow blown off (Imperial War Museum).

An announcement was put in the Portsmouth Evening News and the Oldham papers by Cecelia his widow on 9th September 1940 (*right*). John was buried in St. Thomas' churchyard where his Commonwealth War Grave headstone can be seen today. (*See page 8)*

Rev. David Proud

ROBINSON—In loving memory of my dear husband John, O.A.3, R.N., died from injuries received on active service (H.M.S. Express).—Will never be forgotten by his sorrowing wife, Celia. Interred Bedhampton, Oldham, Lancs., papers please copy. 7B

from the Portsmouth Evening News.

OUR DAUGHTER HAS ARRIVED !

Hello and hope you are well and adjusting to the new life of 'Lockdown' and remembering to wear a face mask in shops!

We haven't updated in a while as we have been adjusting to becoming parents! It's been such a precious time and we are so thankful to God for ensuring we were in the UK to give birth to Zara-Grace!

Chloe ended up needing a C-section and later on we needed to call out an ambulance due to an acute allergic reaction!

We feel so blessed that we are in the UK and were able to receive all the care and treatment we needed to ensure Zara-Grace and Chloe were safe and healthy. We have been listening to this beautiful song called 'Promises' by Maverick City Music which talks of God's great faithfulness. It has been incredible to see his faithfulness through these past months of us being in the UK, from getting us back here safely (turning up to the airport with no ticket), to providing us with a wonderful family to host us, space and time to process life and benefit from counselling, the safe arrival of Zara-Grace, the £10,000 raised from fundraising for friends to receive food care packages during lockdown in Uganda, the continuation of projects in Kampala and safety of our place. God has been so faithful and has provided for us, even when we had no idea really what we needed.

Looking forward comes with a bit of stress and uncertainty again! We again are trusting in God's Faithfulness! We were hopeful that heading back to Uganda would be a lot easier, but with the upcoming elections in Uganda and the increase of political violence we aren't sure on specifics regarding heading home to Kampala. We hope it will be in the New Year but will need to continue to seek guidance from friends on the ground when we should head back. Please do pray for wisdom as we come up with a plan but also for a peaceful election in Uganda too.

Sam is particularly excited to head back to Uganda as the Cycle Project seems to have gained more traction! We have successfully been able to secure a Cycle Hub which is right next door to our place and such an answer to prayer. It is on the edge of the communities we work in and has the perfect amount of space for indoor cycle trainers, bike storage and the mechanics workshop! Sam has been able to head up a fantastic fundraiser to support the rental costs for the project and purchase a few more bikes! Turbo trainers have been donated and the boys are ready to get going as soon as we are back which is really exciting! So thank you for all of you who have been rooting for Sam and the Cycle Project, we are so excited to see how God will use this as a vehicle for discipleship!

Chloe continues to stay in touch with friends in the community in Kampala and is looking forward to picking back up with her relationships in the community. It will be great to be able to actually be physically alongside friends again and she is excited to see who God will put in her path in the coming year. Navigating being a mum as well as being in the community will be new but an exciting opportunity to build new relationships too!

Late news update: We are LOVING being parents. We are super excited to head back soon(ish) but haven't finalised plans.
Sam was able to secure a Cycle Hub for the Cycle project which is awesome for the cycle mechanics and cycle team.
Ride the Nile fundraising challenge is going well, if you want to sponsor Sam to ride 1000 miles in a month, here is the link :https://www.gofundme.com/f/ride-the-nile
Etsy sales are going well which is amazing considering we aren't able to do any physical sales! So thank you to so many of you who support through shopping!! :)

If you pray, we would love you to support us in prayer with the following things:
Wisdom for when to head back.
All the details which need to be organised and finalised before we go back.
We are excited for new friendships & relationships which will form in the New Year so prayer around that would be wonderful.
Pray for peace in Uganda, especially around election time which is on the 14th January.
Thank you so so much for your continued support and love!

Sam & Chloe Mutton

We congratulate Rev Chris Maclay and Louise on becoming grandparents. We hope they have been making the most of their new roles in these recent weeks.

Order

Happy to visit his local pub before it closed again, a man found himself near two nuns. Eager to talk to anyone after weeks in Tier 3, he ventured: "What is your order?" (Meaning their religious community.)
The nuns happily replied: "Sausage and chips."

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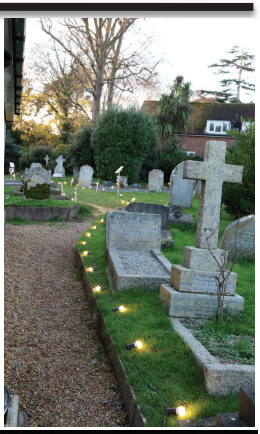
The Christmas Experience in Bedhampton

As explained in the December issue, Christmas was not going to be called off, but perhaps celebrated a little differently this year. The birth of Jesus will still be remembered, just like any one else's birthday. So Roger and Gill Matthews came up with the idea of illustrating the Christmas story in St Thomas' churchyard.

We would like to thank Roger and Gill and all the team for all their efforts in producing such a dramatic effect to the Christmas celebration. The event more than made up for no Crib service, no Nativity play and no Carol Service this year.

Above: The Angel Gabriel appears to Mary
Top right: Mary visits Elizabeth
Right: Mary & Joseph travel to Bethlehem
Below: Bethlehem



No room at the inn.

The storyboards with a link to a QR code, including Christmas Carols via mobile phone.

The shepherds follow the star.

The Magi bring gifts.

What can I give Him? - Give my heart.

Why parking your car is getting more difficult

Have you noticed that it is getting harder to park your car? And that when you finally do get parked, you can barely get the door open enough to squeeze out?

It is not your fault. Modern cars have grown so big that many drivers now have as little as 21cm of room to spare in a parking space.

A recent study has found that the country's most popular cars are as much as 55 per cent larger than they were in the Seventies, while the standard parking space has not grown at all. No surprise, then, that millions of drivers scrape their cars each year trying to park in cramped spaces.

The first man to get stopped for speeding…

It was 125 years ago, on 28th January 1896, that Walter Arnold of Kent became the first person in the world to be convicted of speeding. The speed limit was 2 mph at the time, and a man carrying a red flag had to walk in front of the vehicle.
One day Mr Arnold took off at 8 mph, without a flag bearer. He was chased by a policeman on a bicycle for five miles, arrested, and fined one shilling. He was four times over the rather modest 2mph limit in the streets of Paddock Wood, near Tunbridge Wells in Kent.

Plants in your front garden

What's in your front garden? If it is sparse, why not consider adding some plants this year? Apparently, the presence of greenery can lower your stress levels as much as two months of mindfulness sessions. Plants can also help you to feel happier.

Do you have an allotment?

As men take on more domestic household chores, here may be a surprise result; more women are tackling the family allotment, and often taking the children along to help out. Nationally, half of all allotment holders are now women. It is thought that the example of celebrity gardeners, especially Charlie Dimmock, may have helped. Demand for allotments has quadrupled since 2006.

1st Bedhampton Scout Group

www.1stbedhampton.co.uk

Unfortunately during November we have once again been unable to meet face to face as Scouting and the rest of England goes through Lockdown 2.0. We have returned to online Scouting and remember the 5th Scout Promise "A Scout has courage in all difficulties". (That includes Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Adults).

The Beaver Scouts during this lockdown have been creating comic strip super heroes and exploring their faith badge. The Cubs have been doing photography and doing 12 acts of kindness.

The Scouts and Explorers have been meeting on Zoom. Many of the evenings' activities have been run by the Scouts and Explorers themselves and have included a Remembrance discussion, and also an online Harry Potter Escape room (one group failed to Escape and is trapped in Hogwarts!)

Thank you to those who supported our Zoom AGM on 30th November. As part of this the results of our "closed banks" duck race was revealed. The full results and a video are on our website at www.1stbedhampton.co.uk , also see below.

DUCK RACE WINNERS

1st David Moorman
2nd Tracey Page
3rd Autumn Lawrence
4th Chris Thomas
5th Angel Vere
6th Paddy Williams
7th Sue Franklin
8th Logan Duke
9th Oliver Fairley
10th Sophia Luce
11th Kevin Brigham
Last duck Alison McClintock

Until next month keep smiling, look after yourselves and each other.

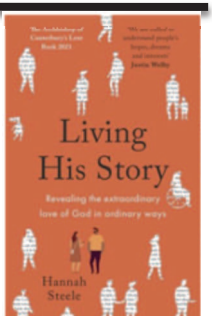
Nigel Vosper
Group Administrator

Church

My grandson, Justin, watched a live streaming service with his dad one Sunday morning. His mum wanted to know how it went. He said, "The music was nice, but the commercial was too long."

BOOK REVIEWS

With Lent in mind . . .



Living His Story - Revealing the Extraordinary Love of God in Ordinary Ways

By Hannah Steele, SPCK, £7.99

This, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for 2021, explores evangelism as a way of sharing God's love with people.

How can we convey the love of God to our neighbours in a post-Christian world that has largely forgotten the gospel of Jesus Christ?

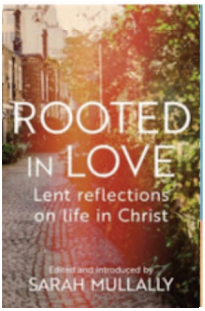
Hannah Steele uncovers liberating and practical ways of sharing the gospel story afresh. With warmth and encouragement, she shows us how we can live Jesus' story in our own lives, simply by being the people God made us and allowing people to be drawn to Him through our natural gifts.

This Lent devotional may change the way you think about evangelism, and give you confidence in sharing God's love with the people around you.

Set out in six sessions to take you through Lent, it can be used as a single study for individuals or small groups to prepare for Easter.

The Revd Dr. Hannah Steele is Director of St Mellitus College, London.

Rooted in Love – Lent Reflections on Life in Christ



By Sarah Mullally, SPCK, £7.99

This is the first Lent book from the Bishop of London, and it explores the ways in which we can live the Christian life to the full today.

The forty reflections will help you to go deeper into the meaning and practice of what it is to have your life in Christ today. Each reflection includes a Bible reading, a prayer and a suggestion for action.

The result is an exceptionally helpful Lent book, offering a rich array of biblical insight and spiritual guidance that Christians of all traditions will warmly welcome and appreciate.

The Rt. Revd and Rt. Hon. Dame Sarah Mullally DBE is the Bishop of London. Before her ordination she was Chief Nursing Officer in the Department of Health.

Looking forward to 2021

In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. - *Proverbs 3:6*

The coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on the way we conduct our lives, with many new rules and restrictions governing our health and safety. One area of concern is your Christmas Crib. It will need to be Covid secure. (as advised by a Church Diocese)

1. A maximum of 4 shepherds only are permitted in the Crib.
2. Shepherds must wear facemasks (unless exempt) and strictly observe social distancing (2m or 1m+ with mitigations).
3. Jesus, Mary and Joseph form a family bubble and thus may be placed together.
4. The ox and the ass need Declaration of Non-Contamination Certificates, obtainable from the Department of Agriculture.
5. The Three Wise Men, since they come from a non Schengen Area, will be subject to a 14-day quarantine, whether or not they have tested negative for Covid.
6. The straw, moss, palm branches and other decorations must be disinfected, with hands washed for 20 seconds after handling.
7. Angels flying over the Crib are now forbidden, owing to the aerosol effect produced by the batting of wings.
8. Shepherds are permitted provided they are not more than 70 years old or suffering from underlying medical conditions or in another vulnerable category.
9. The inn, along with other businesses in the hospitality sector, is closed until further notice.
10. For 2020 only, a Pontius Pilate should be added to the Crib to explain to authorised participants the protocols for washing and sanitisation of hands.

Checka trade

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Wordsearch for January - Epiphany

The Christmas story carries on into the New Year, with Epiphany and the arrival of the Wise Men, led by the Star in the East. Through the eyes of faith, they saw Messiah in that small baby, and worshipped him, giving gifts that foresaw his life and work. New Year is also a time of new beginnings for us – resolutions about diets and paying the bills and doing better at work... Happy New Year!

W	H	R	N	A	M	E	R	H	E	B	O
G	I	N	L	B	B	L	Y	Y	W	J	E
N	W	S	C	S	M	D	B	C	R	E	W
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R	G	R	T	O	S	L	D	A	G	D	O
L	O	H	A	E	R	N	A	E	N	Y	L
W	A	H	R	N	N	R	S	S	R	Y	D
R	E	S	O	L	U	T	I	O	N	S	I

Epiphany
Wise
Men
Camels
Baby
Frankincense
Myrrh
New
Resolutions
Bills

Jesus
Star
Herod
Worship
Gold
Work
Study
Running
Gym

Answers next month

DECEMBER WORDSEARCH SOLUTION

Five things I'd like to see in 2021

by Revd Peter Crumpler

I keep hearing people say that 2020 was a 'year like no other.' Friends have been writing a special journal recording the year, so they can pass it on to their grandchildren. Others just want to leave 2020 behind and look to a happier new year.

Both reactions are completely understandable. But I've been looking ahead to 2021 and thinking about the five top things I'd like to see in the year ahead. I wonder if you'll agree with them or not? Maybe you could put together your own list.

1. Let's make sure the vaccines are distributed fairly and speedily. Those who need the vaccine most urgently should receive it first, with a fair system for ensuring everyone else can be vaccinated quickly and efficiently. We need to ensure that everyone receives the vaccine wherever they live in the world – from the poorest to the richest.

2. Let's learn the lessons of the pandemic - not just going back to how life was. Many of us learnt to appreciate our family so very much more – especially when we could not be with them for months on end. We learnt the importance of neighbours and local businesses, the NHS, medical researchers, care providers and other frontline workers are. Let's not forget them.

3. ***Let's value nature.*** Those of us with gardens, or with parks or fields nearby, have been massively blessed. I've learnt to pay attention to birdsong, to the changing colours of the trees, and how unexpected plants have taken root in our garden. Pets have played a major part in helping us endure the lockdowns, especially for people who live alone. May we all learn to value the natural world on our doorsteps in the year ahead and beyond.

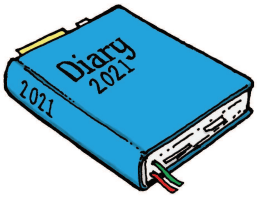
4. ***Let's bless technology.*** Without the use of the internet, meeting people 'online' or keeping in touch via email, Facetime or other technologies, 2020 would have been a whole lot tougher. Churches across the country moved their Sunday services online, and soon adapted to a different way of worshipping – not the same, but still helping us to worship together and see familiar faces. Let's continue to give thanks for the science that made that contact possible in 2020.

5. ***Let's value our church family.*** Imperfect we may be, like any family. But the months without being physically able to worship with them, share communion with them, sing alongside them have been hard. I value so much how many churches have risen to the pandemic challenge and sought to serve their communities in all kinds of ways. May we take all this experience into 2021 and build upon it.

Whatever 2021 holds for you and all those that you love, I pray that you may know the love of God in your life, and be able to pass it on to others.

Revd Peter Crumpler is a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts

HAPPY NEW YEAR



(An acrostic poem where the first letter of each line spells out the title of the poem)

Heaven's gift of another year
As the old departs and the new is born,
Plans for a future and a hope
Preparing us for each new dawn.

Yesterday has gone forever,
New days and ventures lie ahead,
Even darkness turns to light
When we make the Lord our head.

Yielding to the Holy Spirit
Ever mindful that He's there,
As we live our lives before Him
Rejoicing in His loving care.

By Megan Carter

St Nicholas Church

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Please contact the office on 023 9248 3013
Hello@Bedhamptonparish.org.uk

Public services

Services will follow the on-line pattern with Messy Church on the first Sunday.
www.bedhamptonparish/worship

We ask that you inform us if you are going to attend one of the services. You can do this on-line at Bedhampton.church/book or by phone on 023 9245 0955.

We would like to wish all our readers a Happy New Year.

From the Parish Registers

There were no Thanksgivings, Baptisms or Weddings recently.

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the families of those who have recently died.

THE BISHOP OF PORTSMOUTH

It has just been announced that the Rt. Revd. Christopher Foster, Bishop of Portsmouth, will retire in April.

to all our readers

Planned Services for January

Covid19 restrictions permitting

SUNDAY 3rd (Epiphany)

SUNDAY 10th (Baptism of Jesus)
Christingle Service on-line

SUNDAY 17th

SUNDAY 24th

SUNDAY 31st

Details were correct at the time of going to print.

FEBRUARY 2021

Magazine

For information about advertising and the 'Magazine by mail' service, contact the Parish Office (see below)

We warmly welcome advertisers to our magazine but the Parish does not accept responsibility for the quality of work carried out.

All material for the next issue should be sent to the Parish Office, St Nicholas Church, Belmont Grove, Bedhampton, PO9 3PU by

10 am on **Thursday 7th January**

Rector :	Rev Max Cross	023 9248 3013
Email :	Max@Bedhampton.church	
	Day off: Thursday	
Churchwardens :	Roger Matthews	023 9248 6175
	Ann Partridge	023 9247 2180
Deputy Churchwardens :	Sandra Matthews	023 9248 4669
	Tracey Smith	
Parish Administrator :	*vacant*	023 9248 3013

Parish Office open 9 am – 1.00 pm on Monday to Friday

Enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms

Email: Hello@Bedhampton.church

Services from SEPTEMBER 2020 onwards

A new pattern of services started in September, with one service in each church on each Sunday. The pattern will look something like this, shown below. The on-line service will also still be available every Sunday for the time being.

Sunday one - Online - 8am Sunday Worship Online.
Sunday one - Online - 8am Sunday Messy Church.
Sunday one - St Nicholas' - 9am Morning Worship.
Sunday one - St Thomas' - 11am Morning Prayer.
Wednesday one - St Nicholas' - 9:30am MU Holy Communion.

Sunday two - Online - 8am Sunday Worship Online.
Sunday two - St Nicholas' - 9am Morning Worship.
Sunday two - St Thomas' - 11am Holy Communion.
Wednesday two - St Thomas' - 9:30am Holy Communion.

Sunday three - Online - 8am Sunday Worship Online.
Sunday three - St Nicholas' - 9am Holy Communion.
Sunday three - St Thomas' - 11am Morning Prayer.
Wednesday three - St Nicholas' - 9:30am Holy Communion.

Sunday four - Online - 8am Sunday Worship Online.
Sunday four - St Nicholas' - 9am Morning Worship.
Sunday four - St Thomas' - 11am Holy Communion.
Wednesday four - St Thomas' - 9:30am Holy Communion.

When a month has five Sundays or Wednesdays.
Sunday five - Online - 8am Sunday Worship Online.
Sunday five - St Nicholas' - 9am Morning Worship.
Sunday five - St Thomas' - 11am Morning Prayer.
Wednesday five - St Thomas' - 9:30am Holy Communion.

We ask that you inform us if you are going to attend one of the services. You can do this at Bedhampton.church/book or by phoning the office on 023 9245 0955. We hope the need to warn us will be removed shortly. If you have any questions contact the church office or Rev Max Cross.

Edited and produced by the Churches of St Thomas and St Nicholas

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"Bedhampton Village"
https://bedhamptonvillage.com
is a not for profit community website for all Bedhamptoners to contribute to, thereby improving communication, awareness, interest and support of Bedhampton life.

bedhamptonvillage.com

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