



# The Seeker

handleychurch.org.uk



#6 2021

The church magazine  
for *St Mary the Virgin*,  
*Sixpenny Handley*  
with *Gussage St Andrew*  
and *St Rumbold's*,  
*Pentridge*

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## 6dH Film Society

St Mary's Church  
2nd Friday of every Month at 8pm

Are you a film buff or would just like a good night out? Then come and join the new 6dH film Soc. St Mary's church has all the equipment and licenses to show films on our large drop-down screen. Doors open at 7:30pm.

**FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**White Christmas**

**FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**  
**Game Night [15]**



We hope this will become a regular fun feature of village life. The Soc will work on a donation's basis of £5 per adult and £2.50 for children. Refreshments will be available, but people can bring their own alcoholic beverages and a small corkage and glass fee will be charged. All funds will go towards St Mary's though we will also have special charity nights for other local organisations. You might also want to bring a cushion!

Please note showings will be dependent on COVID regulations at the time which can change. We ask people with any symptoms not to attend

### Our Christingles are on TAP this year!

Join us for "Carols at the Club" on Wednesday 15th December at 6:30pm.

With plenty of space to spread out outside the Pavillion, we're looking forward to bringing the community together for our great family event.

This is in place of our usual Christingle service, but don't worry – those sweet-spiked orange candle holders will make it a special occasion for all. Please bring a torch.



## Magnifi-café

**THURSDAYS 9am-12pm**

including *Teddy Bears*  
Toddler Group



**St Mary's**

Tea,  
Fresh Coffee,  
Hot Chocolate,  
Tea Cakes,  
Muffins, & Snacks

## DIARY OF A COUNTRY PARSON

As 2021 draws to a close many of us will be thinking of what 2022 will have in store for us. The roaring twenties haven't got off to the start many of us imagined or hoped for. The COVID Pandemic has controlled our lives in ways that we couldn't have conceived three years ago.

However, life and human resilience always amazes me at its ability to adapt even in the most difficult of circumstances. I write this article on Armistice Day which is a sombre reminder of both the worst and best of humanity. This remembering over the years has helped us learn that it's not victory we celebrate but human courage, dignity, and compassion. It also helps us to understand that evil is ever present in our world and to recognise it when we see it particularly when peoples are oppressed because of colour, creed, or sexuality. In similar words St Paul reminds us *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."*

**Galatians 3:28.** We are all quite simply God's children and more than

anything he wishes us to live in peace and harmony.

In a few weeks we will celebrate that great festival of peace and hope. As the Angels sang on Christmas Day and as we will in our carol singing *"All glory in the highest, Peace on earth, goodwill to men, Glory in the highest."* The nativity is a reminder to us that God does things differently. The creator of the universe who flung stars into space doesn't come in might and power but as a helpless babe to a family of refugees fleeing persecution by a despot king and occupying forces. The life of Jesus is a model for us all on how to live. Jesus enjoyed life and celebrated it with his friends. His first miracle was turning 120 gallons of water into wine! He enjoyed being with people from all walks of life and backgrounds. He taught love compassion and mercy, wept at the death of his friends and for what he could see society was becoming. Then when faced with persecution and death he did not revile or threaten but prayed and loved. It was

this way of living that defeated the powers of evil when he burst from the tomb on the first Easter morning.

Many of us might not consider ourselves religious or churchy people. We may also feel that organised religion in its many forms has a lot to answer, I do too. However, many of us acknowledge a spiritual dimension to life and of all the world's greatest teachers it's hard to argue with the teaching of Jesus. "Love one another as I have love you" or "do unto others as you would have done to yourself" If we try to live our lives following this simple but powerful teaching, we will become better people and build better communities.

I have no idea what 2022 will bring but I know it will probably be a mix of good and bad. What I need to do is ensure I'm engaging in the good and when faced with the bad I look to the example of the child of Bethlehem.

Peace and Good Will to you all  
**Canon Richard Hancock**

### CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR SERVICES — Handley with Tollard Royal Group

Date	Handley	Pentridge	Gussage	Tollard Royal	Farnham	Chettle
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>Advent 2</i>	10:00 am FS 6:00 pm HC	9:00 am BCP Matins	#	#	10:30 am — FS Christingle	#
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec			6:00 pm – Carols by Candlelight <sup>TBC</sup>			
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>Advent 3</i>	10:00 am HC	#	9:00 am HC	11:15 am Advent Service	#	6:30 pm Christingle
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>Advent 4</i>	6:00 pm Carol Service	11:15 am HC	#	4:00 pm [TBC] Carol Service	6:00 pm Carol Service	#
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec		6:00 pm Carol Service				
Christmas Eve						6:30 pm HC
Christmas Day	10:00 am HC	11:15 am HC	<i>Join with St Mary's</i>	10:30 am <sup>TBC</sup> HC	10:00 am FS	#
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan <i>Plough Sunday</i>	10:00 am FS 6:00 pm HC	9:00 am Matins	#	#	10:30 am — FS	#
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00 am HC	#	9:00 am HC	11:15 am HC	#	10:30 am MW
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan <i>Epiphany 2</i>	9:20 am ☪ 10:00 am Inf	11:15 am HC	#	#	6:00 pm HC	#
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan <i>Epiphany 3</i>	10:00 am HC	#	9:00 am Matins	6:00 pm Evensong	#	9:00 am HC

# No service   FS Family Service   HC Holy Communion   MW Morning Worship   Inf Informal Worship   ☪ Breakfast Church