

# St Mary's News

December 2021 / January 2022



## *Includes ....*

Hope, Peace, Love and Joy - the Revd Tony Rindl

A gift of prayer ... - the Revd Joshua Brocklesby

World Day of Prayer 2022

Little Angel Puppet Theatre's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*.... and much more!*

## Hope, Peace, Love and Joy

I recently saw a Christmas card that simply read 'In the darkest winter nights Christ's love still shines the brightest'.



There is always that sense of excitement at the switch on of the Christmas Lights, even if they do seem to get earlier and earlier every year. Let's face it with the clocks going back and the nights drawing in we can do with some brightness to cheer us up. It has been a difficult couple of years and with news of yet another mutation of Covid, Omicron leaves us still uncertain as to what Christmas will be like or indeed what the New Year holds. Light is hugely symbolic and with it that sense of reassurance and comfort.

There are lots of examples of the hope and comfort light brings that spring to mind. The lighthouse with its flashing lights warning the sailor of dangerous rocks and signalling the safe passage in the harbour. Then there are the warm inviting lights of a country pub after a long walk at this time of year and the lights offer the prospect of a comfortable seat next to a roaring fire and a glass of your favourite tippie. The rising sun appearing at the dawn of a brand-new day.

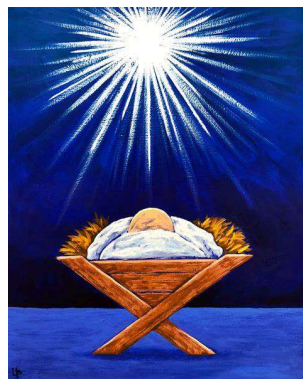
We need light to shine and dispel the darkness, and there is something hugely symbolic about a lighted candle and whether it is Diwali symbolising the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, knowledge over ignorance or Hanukkah celebrating the miracle where there was only enough oil for one night and yet the oil lasted eight nights, enough time for the Jews to go out and press more olives to produce more oil so that the light could continually shine in the Temple. There are of course many similar traditions and festivals observed by various religions and indeed those of no faith.

I am sure we can all agree a lighted candle is a universal symbol of hope. Even a single candle once lit will transform a dark space. The lighted candle features on a birthday cake not only a symbol of blessing and joy as a

birthday is celebrated but that hope of future happiness as well. The well-known human rights charity Amnesty International has as its logo the iconic symbol of a shining candle encased in barbed wire as it fights for all those who have been wrongly imprisoned and face persecution and torture. There are many other examples of a candles being lit. In the darkness of grief, we may well light a candle in memory of a loved one. When disaster strikes or someone dies as a result of an accident or from a violent crime, the community might come together for a vigil where again candles are lit or some other form of light such as that that which comes from the torches on our mobile phone.

It is a busy time of year, and the symbolism and importance of Advent can sometimes be lost in getting ready for the commercial side of Christmas and all the other events that take place during this month. Yet Advent is hugely meaningful as we light the candles on the Advent wreath one by one over the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. As we remember the foundations of our faith; The Patriarchs, Abraham, the Old Testament Ancestors of Jesus; the Prophets who foretold the birth of Jesus; John the Baptist and Mary the Mother of Jesus symbolising in turn Hope, Peace, Love, Joy, and so the light gets brighter. I think it is worth reflecting that in the season of Advent as the days get shorter and the nights longer and it gets darker, so the light of Advent wreath shines ever brighter as we reflect on layer upon layer of revelation and all that leads to Hope, Peace, Love, Joy and ultimately Jesus.

As we hold on to the traditional understanding of the Christmas story, we know that somewhere in Bethlehem in the middle of the night a light would be shining in a barn, some simple structure used to provide shelter for animals. Anyone passing by might not have given it much thought but inside something so deeply profound was happening. Mary, a humble peasant girl, was giving birth to a child named Jesus, the Son of God, the Saviour of the World. That baby, born of human flesh is God incarnate, Emmanuel God is with us. That baby lying in a manger is the



One who at the beginning of time spoke, and creation came into being. That baby would grow up and tell of the wonders of God's kingdom here on earth and would amaze the crowds by performing miracles and radically changing the lives of the sick and the poor and those who were marginalised. That same baby would at a relatively young adult die an excruciatingly painful death on a cross and be buried and on the third day rise again.

St. John tries to capture something of the cosmic scale of those events in Bethlehem in the opening chapter of his Gospel known as the Prologue. Reminiscent of the opening verses of the Genesis story of creation he explains how in the beginning God spoke and there was light and out of light came creation and the miracle of life. The Gospel writer goes on to say, 'The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.'



That true light of course is Jesus, 'The Light of the World.' John then concludes, 'The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.' Perhaps the most poignant words from John's prologue and I think brings comfort especially in these difficult and uncertain times are, 'The light

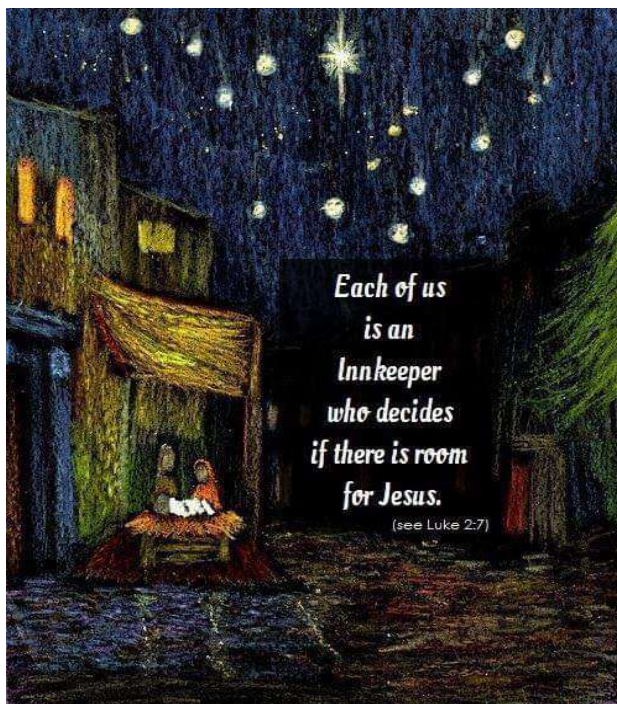
shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.'

The beginning of the season of Advent also heralds the beginning of the Church year as the cycle of bible readings known as the lectionary starts again, first Advent and Christmas but leading us on to Easter and Pentecost and incorporating all the other important Christian festivals along the way. It is therefore worth reminding ourselves that as we light that first Advent candle symbolising hope, that hope does not disappear when we put away our Christmas decorations and the Advent wreath for another year but carries on throughout the year for all eternity for 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.'

So let us use this season of Advent wisely to reawaken our faith not only in preparation for Christmas but for that glorious day when Christ will return, when all will be complete. Indeed, may Christ find us watching and waiting in joyful anticipation and the flames of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy burn ever brightly in our hearts, as we seek to live life well and place our trust in the one true light that has come into the world.

Perhaps the card I mentioned at the beginning of my letter should stay up all year round and serve as a constant reminder that in the darkest of times the Light of Jesus always shines. Indeed, that is what the owner of the card does.

*Revd Tony Rindl*





# Watford Memorial Service

Sunday 12th December  
2.00pm

St Mary's Church  
Church Street | Watford

*(nearest parking | Church Car Park)*

Working together with the Chaplaincy Team  
at Watford General Hospital,  
a time for our town to pay tribute to friends,  
families and loved ones who have passed away

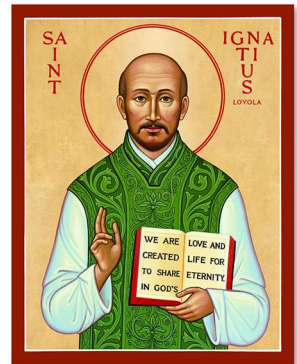


*If a family member or friend has died during this last year or two you are very welcome to come to this service to remember and give thanks for them.*

## A gift of prayer to carry through Christmas and into the New Year

Reflecting should I think be a key part of our Christian journey throughout all times of the year but especially so during Advent, Christmas and with a New Year just around the corner. We shouldn't just 'do' all the time without allowing a moment to reflect on the things we have done and on ourselves. Reflecting creates the space and gives the opportunity for God to work in us, helping us change and allow the image of God's love to be more clearly visible in us and so we should try to get into the habit of setting time aside to reflect in the presence of God on a regular basis.

To those who joined us for Connect Together in December you will know that we started with doing something called the Daily Examen. It's a type of prayer done at the end of the day which helps us to reflect with God on all that has occurred, and I find it is often a gift. The prayer was proposed by St Ignatius Loyola who is perhaps most famous for founding the Jesuits, a religious order which was very influential within the Roman Catholic Church. During my time at the Community of St Anselm at Lambeth Palace we spent time exploring Ignatian Spirituality and indeed it was his Spiritual Exercises which I undertook for a month in silence as part of my time there. So, it is probably no surprise that it was during that year when I came across the Daily Examen. We were encouraged to try it by a Nun who used it regularly and spoke of its benefits for her own prayer life. She even revealed she liked to do it with a G&T in hand, praying for as long as the small glass lasted, a routine I am also fond of!

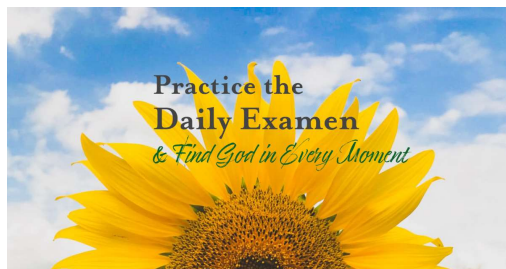


Below I will include the details on how to give this type of prayer a go. I encourage you if you haven't done it before to give it a try. It's a great way to reflect on the day you've just had and all that occurred, and it can help you see God at work in the little things you may have missed in the moment. I especially like that you enter it with a focus on gratitude, helping us to be

thankful for small things even on a tough or difficult day. With the New Year on the horizon, it can be a good exercise to use the structure and points for prayer of the Examen to review your year with God. Take time to think about all you have done and think about the emotions of the year, giving time for God to speak to you about it as you prepare for 2022!

## The Daily Examen

1. **Become aware of God's presence.** Look back on the events of the day in the company of the Holy Spirit. The day may seem confusing to you—a blur, a jumble, a muddle. Ask God to bring clarity and understanding.
2. **Review the day with gratitude.** Gratitude is the foundation of our relationship with God. Walk through your day in the presence of God and note its joys and delights. Focus on the day's gifts. Look at the work you did, the people you interacted with. What did you receive from these people? What did you give them? Pay attention to small things—the food you ate, the sights you saw, and other seemingly small pleasures. God is in the details.
3. **Pay attention to your emotions.** One of St. Ignatius's great insights was that we detect the presence of the Spirit of God in the movements of our emotions. Reflect on the feelings you experienced during the day. Boredom? Elation? Resentment? Compassion? Anger? Confidence? What is God saying through these feelings? God will most likely show you some ways that you fell short. Make note of these sins and faults. But look deeply for other implications. Does a feeling of frustration perhaps mean that God wants you to consider a new direction in some area of your work? Are you





concerned about a friend? Perhaps you should reach out to her in some way.

- 4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.** Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you to something during the day that God thinks is particularly important. It may involve a feeling—positive or negative. It may be a significant encounter with another person or a vivid moment of pleasure or peace. Or it may be something that seems rather insignificant. Look at it. Pray about it. Allow the prayer to arise spontaneously from your heart—whether intercession, praise, repentance, or gratitude.
- 5. Look toward tomorrow.** Ask God to give you light for tomorrow’s challenges. Pay attention to the feelings that surface as you survey what’s coming up. Are you doubtful? Cheerful? Apprehensive? Full of delighted anticipation? Allow these feelings to turn into prayer. Seek God’s guidance. Ask him for help and understanding. Pray for hope.

St. Ignatius encouraged people to talk to Jesus like a friend. End the Daily Examen with a conversation with Jesus. Ask forgiveness for your sins. Ask for his protection and help. Ask for his wisdom about the questions you have and the problems you face. Do all this in the spirit of gratitude. Your life is a gift, and it is adorned with gifts from God. End the Daily Examen with the Lord’s Prayer.

All the information included on this five-step version of the prayer is found on the website - <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/>

God bless,

*Josh*



# PCC Report – November

## Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> November

The following report briefly covers some of the matters considered at the meeting.

*Finances* Peter Dean reported that expenditure continued to be below the budget figure but even so the General Fund was showing a deficit during 2021. He went on to provide a forecast of the end-year position taking into account items of expenditure that fell towards the end of the year. This indicated that a potential deficit on the General Fund of around £37000. This level of deficit could result in the church breaching its policy on reserves and the situation was clearly of concern. The Finance Committee would be meeting shortly to consider the position and the prospects for 2022.

*Safeguarding* The urgent need to appoint a Safeguarding Office was again highlighted. The Vicar noted that Cath da Costa and Jacky Faria had worked on the administrative aspects of safeguarding with the aim of relieving a future Safeguarding Officer from some responsibilities previously falling to them. He would be approaching potential appointees. Cath had updated the Safeguarding Policy; the draft would be circulated to PCC members in the near future.

*Church Centre furnishings* Tilly Elliot said that the curtains had been ordered and were being made. As a result of the appeal in St Mary's News, some donations towards their cost had been received. In anticipation of the new furnishings, the window frames were currently being painted.

*Memorial stone* Roger Courtney reported that New Hope needed to vacate their Community Garden in 2022 since the lease was ending. They had asked whether a memorial to members of the homeless community could be relocated from the Community Garden to the churchyard. A possible site had been identified and New Hope were drawing up preliminary proposals.

The diocese would need to give permission and in anticipation of a Faculty application the Council passed a resolution giving its approval to the move.

*Mission Action Plan* In the light of Andy Roby's stimulating address at the morning service on 21<sup>st</sup> November, the Vicar invited views on whether 'Planet' should be added to the list of potential themes for the next Mission Action Plan. The general view was that although this would give concern for the environment suitable prominence, it might be preferable to ensure that this concern, rather than being separate, was embedded in whatever actions were proposed for the other themes we needed to concern for the environment to run across everything that was done. Tony went on to indicate that he intended to ask specific people to lead groups to develop proposals in the three themes starting in the New Year; these groups would themselves engage a wider range of church members. The work of the groups could be brought together in the next PCC Away Day session.

*Vicar's report* Tony commented on the constructive relationships that existing across the faith groups in Watford. They had recently come together at the invitation of the Borough Council to consider the needs of the town; at that meeting, he had emphasised the lack of provision, including 'safe spaces' for young people. Watford faith groups had also been well represented at a diocesan inter-faith meeting that he had attended. Tony informed the Council of several approaches from bodies working with vulnerable children and adults which could result in collaborations with St Mary's.

*Roger Courtney*

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**At the heart  
of Christmas**



# Current Affairs **Connect Group**

## Levelling up the economy

*In November, the Current Affairs Group discussed the last of a short series on levelling up: **Levelling Up - What does it mean for economic policy?** Governments have been attempting to level up society since the 1930s with limited success because the problems are highly complex. The Johnson Government has made some funding available for towns, but no detailed policy proposals have been released at the time of writing despite a Government promise to issue a White Paper by the end of the year. Given the emphasis in the Bible on equity and economic justice, levelling up poorer communities is a concern for Christians. But what does it mean in practice?*

### *Background*

The earliest government policies to boost the regions date from 1934. Since then, governments across the political spectrum have regularly expressed concerns to level up in some way - from Blair and Brown's rescuing 1 million children from poverty to May's 'just about managings' to Johnson's 'left behinds'.

The UK is one of the most geographically unequal countries in the developed world. Its regional inequalities are deep-rooted and complex. Even well-designed government policies can take years or decades to have meaningful effects.

Highly skilled, well-paid jobs are not evenly spread across the country. Poorer regions lose too many of their best-educated young people because they don't have attractive jobs to go to.

The very rich are concentrated in London and the southeast and yet the poor are just as numerous in London as elsewhere. Inequalities within regions are larger than the inequalities between regions. What's more, the UK is considerably more regionally unbalanced now than 40 or 50 years ago caused by deindustrialisation in the last quarter of 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In a 2020 report, the Institute for Fiscal Studies found that areas in need of levelling up are particularly concentrated in large towns and cities outside

London and the South-East, in former industrial regions, and in coastal and isolated rural areas.

There is no single set of factors that characterise a 'left-behind' place. The challenges faced by such cities, towns and coastal communities are very different from each other. The difficulty for government is that there can be no one-size-fits-all policy agenda. Nor can government be all things to all places: it has to decide what it's trying to achieve and how.

With a few exceptions, these 'left behind' places have not been the most exposed to the economic impact of COVID. However, Brexit has made levelling up more difficult as it impacts most on groups such as less-educated male workers in blue-collar jobs that are concentrated in traditionally 'left-behind' areas in the North of England, South Wales and the West Midlands.

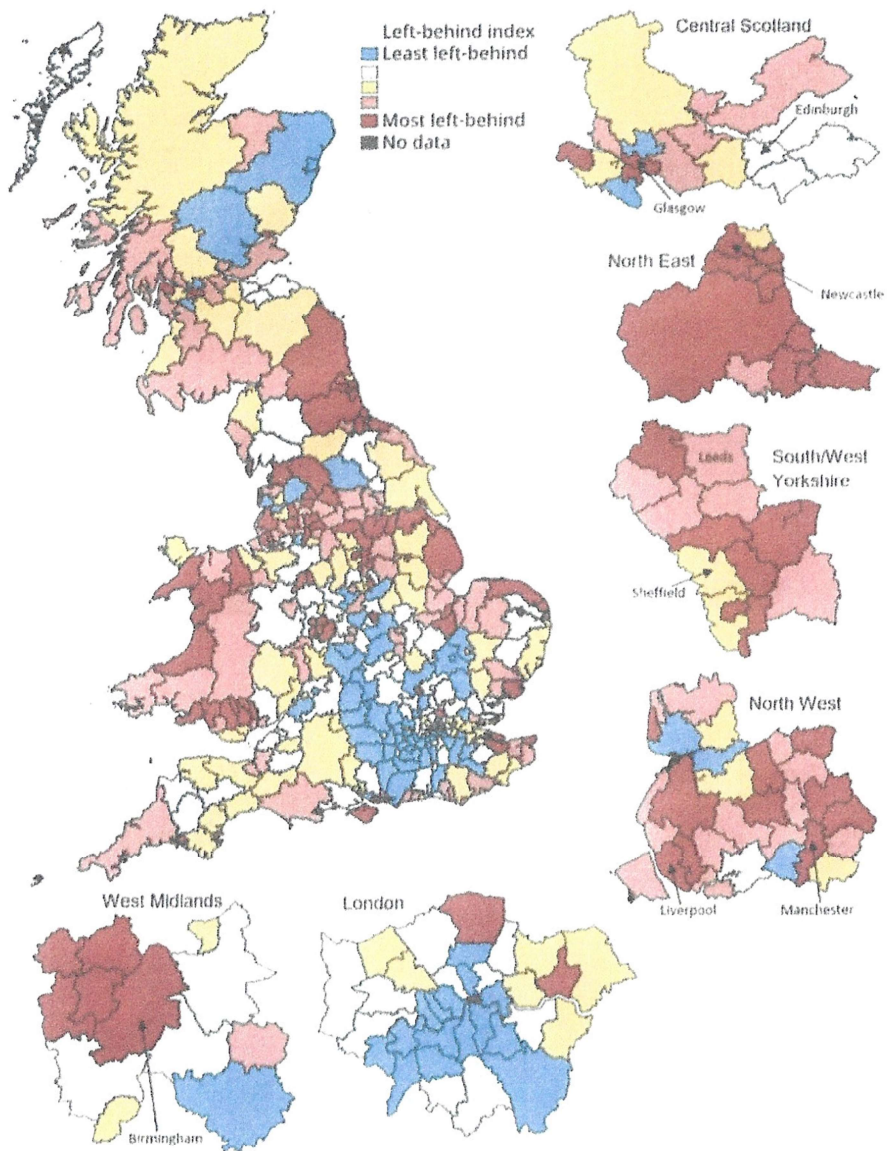
The Conservative Party promised to level up "every part of the UK" in its 2019 manifesto and again in this year's Queen's speech. Its primary focus is on investing in towns, cities, rural and coastal areas and giving them greater control of how such investment is made.

To date the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, has announced nearly £7 billion of initiatives. This includes a £4.8bn Levelling Up Fund to invest in infrastructure such as town centres and local transport and around £1bn from the Towns Fund divided between 45 towns in England. The latter was criticised because 39 of the towns were represented by Conservative MPs and Ministers, including the Chancellor, while less prosperous neighbouring areas were given nothing.

Critics have also raised concerns about the latest Spending Review which imposed an additional £3,000 tax per year per household:

- Funding to less poorer communities would have to significantly increase after 2025 to match equivalent EU receipts from 2021–27.
- £20 per week has been cut from Universal Credits. Although the Chancellor has tapered this, an analysis from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation points out the significant impact in the light of the rising cost of living, especially for those who are not in work.
- The rise in National Insurance payments hits the working poor disproportionately because the threshold for contributions is £9,568 per year - much lower than for Income Tax.

## Levelling-Up Areas in the UK



Note: Darker red areas indicate areas classified as in the most 'left-behind' fifth, with darker blue areas in the least 'left-behind' fifth. Boundaries are for lower-tier local authorities as of April 2019.

Source: See the online appendix to this chapter for details of components of the index.



Finally, despite an increase in the Minimum Wage, Johnson's government is set to preside over the lowest income growth levels during any parliament on record. Real disposable household income per person is set to grow by just 0.5 per cent across the current parliament; a mere 0.1 per cent a year.

In September Lee Cain, the former Downing Street Director of Communications, described levelling up as a "slogan without a policy". To date no firm policy plans have been released despite the promise of a White Paper by the end of the year.

### *What does the Bible say?*

We are all equal in God's sight (Genesis 1. 26-27; Galatians 3.28) The Bible calls us to love our neighbours as ourselves (Leviticus 19.18; Mark 12.31) and to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God (Micah 6.8). There are many passages that emphasise inclusion of the poor: the need to be compassionate and open hearted towards them and to provide them with basic 'benefits' (e.g. Deuteronomy 24.14-22). We noted that the way to a successful economy is obedience to God's laws (Deuteronomy 7.12-15) and a focus on economic justice (Isaiah 58. 3b, 6-14). However, individuals also have a responsibility to work if they can (2 Thessalonians 3.10).

### *Reflections*

We agreed that the Bible supported equality of opportunity so as to enable an individual to fulfil their potential. Although the individual is part of the community, the focus of government is on the differences in communities. Its policies should therefore be directed towards investment and the creation of skills within communities. This should lead to a better standard for the individual, a reduction in poverty and greater opportunity for people to fulfil their potential.

We acknowledged the problem of de-industrialisation in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, especially in the North, and the impact this had on the self-worth and dignity of communities. Much of this was due to globalisation. Governments around the world had wrestled with the problem. Nevertheless, it was the task of government to bring work back into these communities. A focus on renewable energy was one way to do this.

People need a worthwhile job that makes use of their skills and abilities but not at the other end of the country. Family and local ties are important

and should not be dismissed by an ‘get on your bike’ attitude. But we also felt that this is not simply an economic matter. The church can do much in poorer communities to encourage and motivate people and give them value and dignity.

We welcomed the Conservative manifesto pledge to make levelling up a high priority and the funding the Chancellor had announced to date because this reflected Christian priorities. But we also agreed that, as yet, there was no defined policy and that so far levelling up was indeed a slogan without a policy. We were concerned that monies from the Town Fund had been allocated overwhelmingly to Conservative areas in a way that was plainly partisan and cynical.

We did not support the Chancellor’s tapered cut in Universal Credit, especially as the majority of recipients were in work. And although we felt social care needed proper funding, we increasing National Insurance was the not the way to do it. Both measures made the poor poorer and were not consistent with levelling up.

We welcomed the government’s focus on giving local areas greater control of how investments are made. We considered that there has been a tendency in UK government to set targets centrally for councils without providing them with the necessary funding and resource e.g. Parliament sets the number of new homes to be built. In our view, a much better approach would be to allow councils to create a localised economy by decentralising decision making and empowering them to raise their own local taxes. We recognised that to avoid a postcode lottery, there would need to be co-operation and co-ordination between local and national government. In particular, national government would need to continue to be in charge of large infrastructure projects such as HS2 that are needed to support job creation locally.

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*Our next meeting will be in the Church Centre at 8pm on 10th December. Further details will be provided in that week’s MailChimp.*

*The Current Affairs Connect Group*

# World Day of Prayer

(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)

## “I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU”

*Press release from World Day of Prayer:*



2022 is a special year for World Day of Prayer in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This year, we have prepared the World Day of Prayer service. It has been both challenging and rewarding to write about the three countries that make up our area: our landscape, people and culture all shaped by our history. We use our Bible text “I know the plans I have for you” from Jeremiah to reflect on some of the issues facing us today: poverty, domestic abuse and disability, finding hope in difficult situations and encouragement in the help we can give to each other.

Our International Committee based in New York coordinates the work of National Committees and facilitates the creation of our annual World Day of Prayer service on the first Friday in March. The service outline, created by the writing country, is distributed to the rest of the world, along with a Bible reflection, country background and children’s and – for the first time – young people’s activities.

All this work will come to fruition on **Friday 4th March 2022** when services will take place beginning in Samoa and moving through New Zealand and Australia, across Asia, Africa and Europe and finally the United States and South America before finishing in American Samoa. Across England, Wales and Northern Ireland services will take place in large urban centres, such as Central Hall Westminster, and in remote village churches. We will use modern technology to reach those unable to access a service but hope to be able to extend a welcome and hospitality to all.

In **Watford** the Service on 4th March will take place at **Beechen Grove Baptist Church**, as will the preparatory **Bible Study at 2pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022**. All are invited to attend. For further details please contact Rosemary Clemas.

## Clubs!

**Kids' Club** – Mondays, term time 3.30-5.00pm in St Mary's Preschool - a fun club with craft, play and games for primary aged children but younger siblings are welcome. Suggested donation of £1 per family which includes a snack.

**Centre Club - our Tuesday Toddlers Club** – Tuesdays, term time 9.30-11.00am in St Mary's Centre - a safe space to come and play with your toddler; includes a nursery rhyme session. Suggested donation of £1 per family - toast, coffee and tea provided.

**Youth** - First Sunday of the month 6.30-7.30pm. Open to Year 7s and above.

Want to help? We are currently running a club for **Afghan Youth** on Thursday evenings from 7.00-9.00pm and really need helpers whether as a one off or as a regular commitment. You will need to have a DBS. Please contact Cath (07961 564385) if you would like more information.

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Nativity **2021** style!

## Little Angel Puppet Theatre's 60th Anniversary

The Little Angel Puppet Theatre in Islington opened for its very first performance on Saturday 24th November 1961. Last month, Caroline and I were invited to its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibition along with other supporters.

The Theatre was the vision of John Wright, a master puppeteer from South Africa. He and his enthusiastic troupe found and purchased a derelict temperance hall in Islington and transformed it into a 100-seat theatre, specially designed for children. It was no mean feat. The chapel had no roof and they had to do everything themselves, even laying the floorboards and scraping the walls. The chapel had originally been constructed in the corner of a disused graveyard. They discovered human remains during the process of excavating to create raked seating, along with a fly tower and bridge for operating the string puppets or 'marionettes' as they are technically called. In the early days the troupe consisted of just five people who did everything: selling the tickets, making the puppets, performing the shows, and making coffee in the interval.

The Little Angel is now the established home and headquarters of UK puppetry. It has put on dozens of productions over the years using string, rod and shadow puppets often combined with live performers and original music. It has toured all over the world and collaborated with the classical music conductor, Daniel Barenboim and others on large scale productions at the Barbican and South Bank. Although most productions have been for children, there are always some each year for adults. Recent productions have included *Frankenstein* and Shakespeare's *Venus and Adonis*.

In 2014, a second theatre, the Little Angel Studio, was opened nearby. During the pandemic, Little Angel expanded its productions onto a new YouTube channel that has received over 1 million views, 48,000 watch hours and 7.6million reach to 95 countries.

On the day, we saw a performance of *There may be a Castle* based on the book by Pers Torday about a trip to Grandpa's on Christmas Eve and featuring a large dinosaur! We were given prosecco, sandwiches and cakes for lunch and a personal tour of the workshop where we met many of the puppets from previous shows. It was a pleasure to see some of our old puppet friends once again and some of these are illustrated:

*The Little Mermaid* is the oldest production from the 1950s and predates the Theatre. It was revived in 2006 with a new voice recording. Judy Dench was the Witch and Grandmother, Rosamund Pike was the Mermaid, Rory Kinnear was the Prince and Michael Gambon was the Narrator.



*St Francis and the Birds* was performed with a small cast of St Francis and a flock of birds, set to Seamus Heaney's poem and Messiaen's *Catalogue d'Oiseaux*.





*The Honeybird*, based on an EmaMpondweni (Mpondoland) folktale, was performed with narration and music in South Africa and was broadcast on Radio 3.



*Tsar Sultan* was based on Pushkin's fairytale poem. Rimsky-Korsakov made an opera of it with the famous *Flight of the Bumble Bee* tune which was included in the production accompanied by a tiny puppet bee that caused chaos among the other puppet characters!



Little Angel Theatre is located at 14 Dagmar Passage (off Cross Street), London N1 2DN, an easy walk from Angel Tube, just two stops from Euston on the Northern Line. During December and January it is showing *The Storm Whale* for ages 4-8 and *There May be a Castle* for everyone over 7. Thoroughly recommended as a Christmas treat. I'm just sorry that you'll have to purchase your own prosecco!

*Marcus Jones*

# Who's Who at St Mary's

## Vicar

The Revd Tony Rindl | 01923 225189 / 07792 505480  
[tony.rindl@gmail.com](mailto:tony.rindl@gmail.com)

## Curate

The Revd Joshua Brocklesby | 07764 738596  
[jbrocklesby.stmaryswatford@gmail.com](mailto:jbrocklesby.stmaryswatford@gmail.com)

## Churchwardens

Alison Saunders | 01923 244390  
Peter Dean | 07876 154387

## Children & Families Worker

Cath Da Costa | 07961 564385  
[familyworker.stmaryswatford@gmail.com](mailto:familyworker.stmaryswatford@gmail.com)

## Facilities Manager

[stmarysfacilitiesmanager@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysfacilitiesmanager@gmail.com)

## Church Office

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St Mary's Church, Church Street,  
Watford WD18 0EG  
01923 225189

[www.stmaryswatford.org](http://www.stmaryswatford.org)

## Services

### The Church is open each week

on Mondays and Fridays  
between 9.30am and 12.30pm  
and on Wednesdays and Saturdays  
between 12.00noon and 2.00pm

### Sunday

9.00am Holy Communion (said) in church  
on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday only each month;  
10.30am Morning Service in church and via Zoom  
every Sunday;  
5.30pm Encounter in church and via Facebook Live  
on 1st Sunday of month only  
(preceded at 5.00pm with refreshments)

### Wednesday

12.30pm Holy Communion in church

### Monday to Friday

9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom

*(for Zoom links please contact Church Office)*

Please keep up to date with what is on offer  
via our Facebook page  
or the website [www.stmaryswatford.org](http://www.stmaryswatford.org)



**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

**5th December**

10.30am - Christingle Service (also on Zoom)

5.30pm - Advent Evening Encounter

**12th December**

10.30am - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion (also on Zoom)

**19th December**

10.30am - 4th Sunday of Advent (also on  
Zoom)

6.30pm - Lessons and Carols

**24th December**

11.30pm - Midnight Holy Communion

**25th December**

10.30am - Christmas Day Family Service  
(also on Zoom)

**26th December**

10.30am - Holy Communion (also on Zoom)

**DO JOIN US AT ST MARY'S AS WE CELEBRATE  
CHRISTMAS!**

For Zoom details contact - [office.stmaryswatford@gmail.com](mailto:office.stmaryswatford@gmail.com)

For more info on services - [www.stmaryswatford.org](http://www.stmaryswatford.org)

