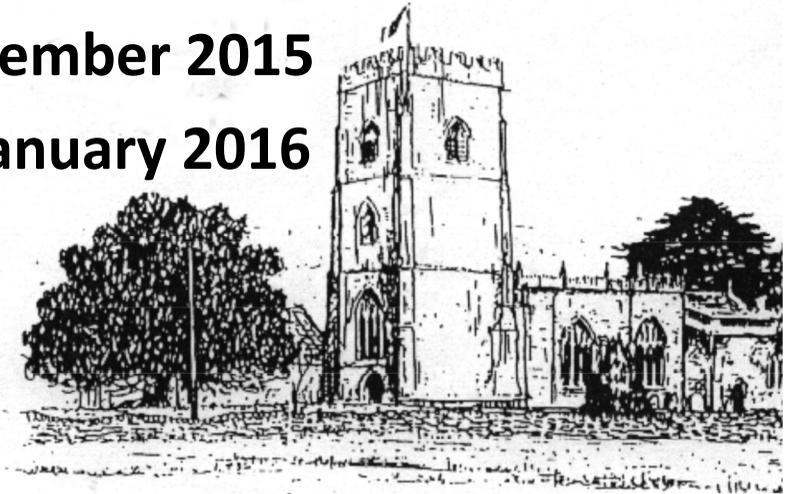


# The Parish Churches of Rodney Stoke and Draycott

December 2015  
& January 2016



Contents include:

CSC Christmas appeal

Carol, carol gaily

Threat to family life

Dreaming of a QUIET  
Christmas

Parish Portrait  
No.24

SOSP News

Progress at the Pond

Don's Poem and  
Mary's Recipe

**50p**

♦ Short Stays



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## Appointment news

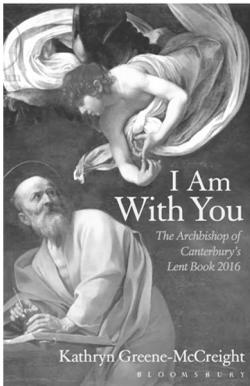
This is the latest update on the appointment to the vacancy for Rector in the Benefice.

Following the recent advertisements, a number of applications have been received for this post, and by the time you read this, we will have both drawn up a shortlist of candidates and (we hope) completed the interviews. The days for candidates visiting and being interviewed are the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November.

We may not be able to make any further announcements until well into December - but at this stage in the process, the signs are positive.

Watch this space!

*Chris Green*



## And a Stocking Filler for Lent?

The Bloomsbury Press is perhaps best known for J K Rowling, Harry Potter and associated wizardry. But this time around they are publishing 'I Am With You' by K Greene-Creighton which is billed as 'The Archbishop of Canterbury's 2016 Book for Lent' complete with a preface by Justin Welby. To find out more try [www.LentBook2016.com](http://www.LentBook2016.com) .

## Help — Help needed!

We have a real problem at St. Peter's. There are now only three people on the church cleaning rota. We cannot ask them more than once a month. Please could some kind person help? Really it's not that onerous?

We are also short of lesson readers and could do with one more on the coffee rota.

Offers - please - to me Colette Jeff on 01934 744 943 - and thank you in anticipation.



## A view from the pew

I have been asked to write the 'Letter' for this magazine, which is daunting following the Revd. Gordon Jeff's thoughtful piece last month! He mentioned we do not have to believe everything in a Church service. I agree and I am always pleased when the creed or other belief statement begins with "we" rather than "I". Then if I am doubtful about something, there are likely to be others in church who aren't. So together "we" believe! But what about Christmas? Do we believe all, some or just go through the motions?



Jesus' birth is only mentioned in two Gospels. Matthew has an angel coming to Joseph, wise men following a star and offering three gifts to the baby. Mark begins with John baptising Jesus as an adult. In Luke an angel announces to Mary she is to have a child. Later shepherds visit the stable. John has the baptism and temptation of Jesus. So 'The Christmas Story' is a compilation of Matthew, Luke and early church traditions. There was a birth certainly but what else can we believe?

Perhaps whether it is all historical is *not* the point. Joseph was honourable, caring and a good father as Jesus grew. Mary was obedient and knew in her heart God was crucially part of this birth (as I believe God is in all births) and she loved Jesus unconditionally. There *was* an astronomical "event" around that time according to ancient Chinese records. The homage of the Magi marks Jesus' importance beyond Palestine, perhaps even beyond time. The shepherds show his birth to be for all; not just the ruling elite. Jesus' humble stable and origins indicate that he is for us whoever we are.

Then there is the mystery and the miracle of birth itself!

The whole story weaves and flows in a deep, magical way to show us a poetic truth beyond words and facts that "the Word became flesh and lived among us."

Whatever you believe, this Christmas - have a very happy one !!!

*Mike Brownbill*

## Letter from the Bishop



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Jane and I have recently become grandparents for the first time and there is something very precious and wonderful about new life. This year there is a new baby in our family. And as Christmas approaches, we all find ourselves thinking about the image of baby Jesus lying in the manger. Our mind's eye paints a picture of an infant asleep in a stable. We might imagine his crying or laughter as he reacts to those around him; a tiny little figure in a fragile world. From the moment of his birth, Jesus is responding to those around him, longing to hear their voice.

In Jesus, God comes to us as an infant: approachable, pure, and eager for us to come close to him. As a child Jesus reaches out, arms outstretched eager for a response. Thirty three years later those same arms would reach out on the cross, outstretched and open to the world in love and forgiveness.

As we enjoy Christmas with our friends and family let us be reminded of this image. Let us pray for God's blessing and peace for all those in troubled parts of the world and pray they hear God's call and respond with love. Let us also pray for God's peace and blessing to fill our own lives and the lives of those around us.

Amidst all the noise and distraction of Christmas let us find a moment to be still and listen again to the call of Jesus. The Christmas message is as loud and clear today as any baby's cry: Jesus, the Saviour of the World, is here and he is yearning to hear our voice. May we respond by saying: 'O Come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.'

With warm best wishes,

*+Peter Bath and Wells*

# Community of the Sisters of the Church

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## Christmas Appeal 2015

Dear Friends and supporters

We are so grateful to all of you for your wonderful support throughout the year. We continue to see people in many kinds of need - single parent families, the elderly, the homeless, people living with addictions, refugees, asylum seekers and those whose benefits are delayed. Our special Christmas bags are for all these folk a sign of God's love and care. We expect to give bags to up to six hundred people over Christmas.

**Food:** at Christmas we particularly need- jars of coffee, boxes of chocolates, festive biscuits, Christmas puddings, tins of ham, meat or salmon -as well as the usual kinds of tinned and other food.

**Gifts:** this year we are especially asking for gifts for adults- LADIES: gloves, warm scarves, hand cream, small toiletries; MEN: gloves, scarves, hats and socks.

**Children:** Last year we asked for cash donations for Argos vouchers- which was a huge success. We gave nearly 200 £10 vouchers and would like to do so again.

**Additional needs-** Cash donations are always welcome! Most of our donated money goes on bulk buying food throughout the year, but is also used to top up the gas and electricity meter keys of some of our most vulnerable callers and their families.

We are so grateful to everyone who enables this ministry to continue. THANK YOU!

*Sr. Annaliese*

*Sr Rosina*

*Sr Sue*

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*At St. Peter's we will be collecting food and gifts to take to Bristol for Christmas. We need these by the end of Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Deliveries can be made to: The Old Forge, Stoke Street, Rodney Stoke – Sedany, The Street, Draycott – Barn Close, Wet Lane, Draycott – St. Peter's Church, Draycott. Or ring for a collection- 01749 870554.*

## **Child tax credits and Universal Credit—Implications for family life\***

*Christmas is a time when we think particularly about families and family life. This is part of the briefing prepared jointly by nine faith communities, including the Church of England, who 'have always treated children as a blessing rather than as a burden' in response to proposed and pending Government legislation.*

'The government has repeatedly affirmed its support for marriage and families. Yet, these proposed changes will have a profoundly negative impact on family life and UK society:

- Money worries and debt problems cause serious difficulties within families, which this measure will exacerbate. A recent survey by The Children's Society, found that 57% of parents in problem debt said that their financial situation had put their relationship under strain.
- The changes will also create perverse financial incentives for some families. In extreme circumstances, older children may be forced to leave home before they are fully ready, and large families may break up in order to avoid the two-child limit. Two single parents who wish to re-partner could be worse off if there are three or more children in their combined household.
- Parents with three or more children who have been bereaved or are fleeing domestic violence will be unable to obtain adequate support for all their children. Both groups are likely to need extra support where the deceased or abusive partner was the main earner. But, as a result of this measure, bereaved families will face additional pressures at a time of acute need. Victims will find it harder to escape abusive relationships.
- There may be further unintended consequences for kinship care arrangements and private fostering. Over 215,000 children in the UK are cared for in this way. If a potential new carer is no longer eligible for additional support because of the two-child limit, this may preclude them taking on such a role.
- Larger families are prevalent within some faith traditions and cultures, leading to legitimate concerns about the different ways this policy will be felt throughout society as a whole. The proposed measure will disproportionately affect families where there is a devout desire to avoid contraception or abortion.
- Despite advances in contraception, family planning is not infallible. Unexpected pregnancies could lead to a rise in abortions because the new benefit rules will make additional children unaffordable.

For all these reasons, we regard this measure as fundamentally anti-family. '

\*[www.churchofengland.org/media/2400405/joint\\_faith\\_group\\_briefing\\_on\\_two-child\\_limit\\_final.pdf](http://www.churchofengland.org/media/2400405/joint_faith_group_briefing_on_two-child_limit_final.pdf)

## Rodney Stoke and Draycott – Christmas Services and Carol Singing

Sunday 13 Dec	1115	Family Service with Carols	St Leonard's, Rodney Stoke
	1600	Carol Singing	The Laurels, Draycott
	1800	Carol Singing	The Strawberry Special, Draycott
Friday 18 Dec	1900	Carol Singing	The Cider Barn, Draycott
Monday 21 Dec	1830	Village Carol Singing	Meet at Rodney Stoke Inn
Tuesday 22 Dec	1830	Village Carol Singing	Meet at Rodney Stoke Inn
Thursday 24 Dec	1830	Candlelit Carol Service	St Leonard's, Rodney Stoke
	2330	Midnight Mass	St Peter's, Draycott
Friday 25 Dec	0900	Christmas Communion	St Leonard's, Rodney Stoke
	1000	Family Christmas Service	St Peter's, Draycott
Sunday 27 Dec	1600	Carol Service	St Peter's, Draycott

**Cards by Candlelight**  
**St Leonard's Church, Rodney Stoke**



**6:30 pm on Christmas Eve, 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**With the combined choirs of St Peter's and St Leonard's**



**Check out the new Sound System at St Leonard's**

With the generous help of a 50% grant from the Diocesan Fund for Church Growth, St Leonard's PCC has been able to install an induction loop system for the hard of hearing.

At the same time, a high quality audio system was installed for use during services and concerts.

## Carol, carol gaily.

The Revd Charles Hutchins wrote this Christmas song exactly 100 years ago, and we were still singing it with gusto when I was a boy (though I don't think many people would sing it nowadays!). People write new Christmas songs every year, and have been writing them for at least 1000 years.



Sometimes they're new tunes to old words, sometimes vice versa, sometimes entirely new. They always try to be catchy, and to catch the number one spot, whether religious or secular.

There will be plenty of opportunities for carol singing in our villages in December, quite apart from the usual weekly Sunday services.

On the 13 Dec, Rodney Stoke church will be holding a special family service telling the Christmas story with carols, at 11.15. Later that day, Draycott will be singing carols at The Laurels at 4.00 and then at 6.30 at the Strawberry Special. This last has become a hugely popular occasion over the years, and I expect the bar will be packed as usual. And for the first time this year, there will be another similar event at the Cider Barn at 6.30 on Friday 18 Dec.

On Mon 21 and Tues 22 Dec, the carol singing party from Rodney Stoke Church will be visiting houses in the village, as it has for the last 40 years. If you'd like to join them, wrap up warmly and meet outside the RS Inn at 6.30 each evening.

On Christmas Eve, there will be Candlelit Carols, 6.30 at Rodney Stoke Church, with traditional carols and popular Christmas songs. This is a real village occasion, full of children, and if you want a seat you'd better get there early. Then if you haven't had enough singing, go along to "Midnight Mass" at Draycott, which is at 11.30.

On Christmas Day itself, Draycott will hold a short family service at 10.00, again telling the marvellous story of Christ's birth in word and song. Children bring along their presents.

Finally, Draycott Church Carol Service is on Sunday afternoon 27<sup>th</sup> Dec at 4.00. There will be some beautiful music from the augmented choir (We started practising for it in October) and festive refreshments afterwards.

*David Cheetham*

## Tricia's Pantry

'I blink January's lashes and gush down December's cheeks'



"Do You Hear What I Hear?" was a plea for peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis. The star with a tail as big kite in the lyric alludes to nuclear missiles, not the Star of Bethlehem.

The reindeer who pull Santa's sleigh are likely female, if depictions are anything to go by. Male reindeer shed their antlers by Christmas, unlike females.

The first song heard in space was Jingle Bells.

In the original cartoon, "You're a Mean One, Mr Grinch," was sung by Thurl Ravenscroft. He was also popular as the voice of Tony the Tiger in cereal commercials.

In Bolivia, the Mass of the Rooster is celebrated on Christmas Eve, reflecting the belief that the rooster was the first to communicate the birth of Jesus.

The word carol comes from the French, meaning a ring dance accompanied by song.

You can write to Santa at Santa Claus, North Pole, Canada, H0H 0H0.

The Twelve Days of Christmas has several potential meanings. Possibly just the result of a parlour game in which successive singers had to add a verse before repeating all that had been sung before, it is otherwise thought to have been a coded mnemonic for banned Catholic catechism; in order: Jesus, the Old and New Testaments, faith hope and love, the four New Testament gospels, The Books of Moses, six days of creation, seven gifts of the spirit, eight beatitudes, the fruits of the spirit, the ten commandments, the eleven faithful disciples and twelve points of the Apostle's Creed.

Where does Santa go when he's sick? The elf centre.

Johnny Marks, who wrote Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, A Holly Jolly Christmas, and Run, Rudolph, Run, didn't celebrate Christmas. He was Jewish.

The Pogues "Fairytale of New York" has charted twelve times, making it the ninth most charted song of all time.

Charles Dickens grew up in the Little Ice Age, a period of cooler than average temperatures lasting from the 1500s to the 1800s. His first eight Christmases were white, and his writing popularised the notion of snow at Christmas.

*Tricia and Murray Heckbert*

## Music Matters

### Dreaming of a QUIET Christmas ???



As he left the organ loft, after playing for the umpteenth school carol service, a colleague of mine was heard loudly exclaiming “forget about dreaming of a White Christmas – I’m dreaming of a QUIET one”.

In some ways I know what he meant, but where would you (and I) be without music at this festive season?

As you sit in St Leonard’s on Christmas Eve, or in St Peter’s, for the Carol Service on the afternoon of 27<sup>th</sup> December, how will YOU feel if an announcement is made at the start that the organ has broken down, and the Service will have to be said! (of course, we know that many of you who read this could rescue the situation and sing unaccompanied – or would you?).

Wherever you are, Christmas is nothing without carols, and carols were originally dances, sung to the very simplest of folk tunes which themselves had often been previously sung to secular texts. Over the years composers and arrangers have written more and more complicated and demanding arrangements - something only the most highly skilled choral groups can ever hope to manage.

Me? – I always go for simplicity wherein often lies great beauty.

Perhaps the simplest carol of all is the world-famous *Silent Night* - a lovely singable melody that can be accompanied by anyone who can muster three basic chords on a guitar or a keyboard. Hundreds of arrangements later (and I made one of those, way back in 1965), it’s still at its best and most meaningful in its simplest form, and I leave you to imagine my delight in seeing a promotional trailer for the new Decca/Classic FM Christmas Carol recording from St Paul’s Cathedral, on which the choir’s director says that the lovely arrangement of *Silent Night* is his personal favourite. Listening I thought ‘hold on a minute, I recognise that.....’

Christmas without music? Not possible! Any day now (and I write this in early November) Classic FM will start playing carols day and night. Still, I mustn’t grumble – I might actually get to hear my version of *Silent Night*! Barry Rose

## Clémence Boyd *Parish Portrait No. 24*

Clémence, who likes to be known as Clé looks back on a long life with some delightful stories. Born in 1919 in Bristol, she was named after a Belgian refugee who helped her mother. She is proud to recall that her father's mother and his two brothers were born in the Toll House between Portway and Bristol Zoo, their father being the Toll keeper. The Toll House ceased to operate when the Clifton Suspension Bridge opened.

Clé's parents were keen on amateur dramatics, and her father, a GP, was Doctor to the Bristol Rep. Aged about 10, Clé was asked to take a small part in a play for a week. Her father knew that the strict Headmistress of Redland High would not approve so he wrote saying that, as there was an outbreak of measles, he was keeping his daughter away from school for a week! Several teachers saw the play and reported



Clé's appearance in the evening productions to the Head, who gave notice that Clé should leave the school. Her father took her out immediately, sending her to a small private school which she loved but where she did not prosper academically. Spelling is still a problem: 'I was probably dyslexic, but we did not have dyslexia in those days'

Prior to the war a clerical position with a bone specialist did not work out as her shorthand skills, in spite of taking a course on leaving school, were not up to scratch. Realising the job was unsuitable, her father saw an advert in the newspaper that the government was offering pilot training for 10 shillings. She did 11 hours flying but "just as I got going Hitler walked into Poland and that was the end of the Civil Air Guard", and she decided she must join up. Disappointed by the response of the WAAF she was welcomed by the ATS who sent her to Camberley where she worked on cars. Her regret is that she missed the arrival there of the young Princess Elizabeth, who although she changed wheels with the rest of them, was brought and returned each day by chauffeur. Like her colleagues Clé

would have had lectures with the future Queen. Girls like herself started as privates whereas the Princess was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. Before she left, Clé was promoted to Acting Sergeant and put in charge of a motorbike, although her knowledge of motorbikes was non-existent!

Clé has 3 sons, 7 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren, as well as 3 ex daughters-in-law. She wonders where she went wrong, but all 3 told her it was not her fault. It was her eldest son, Nicholas, who followed his father into his Solicitor's practice in Bristol who brought them to Draycott as his then wife wanted to live in the country. Clé cannot remember why they chose Draycott but thought Wedmore "too posh"!

The years spent together with John in Draycott were marvellous. Although a "townie" John loved the country; she was merely a supporter to his "constructive gardening" and, unlike John, did not know the Latin names for plants. He became involved with the Somerset Wildlife Trust starting a Botanical Team, which she is pleased to see is still flourishing.

It was after John died that Clé became a regular at St Peter's which she greatly loved. She enjoyed reading the lessons, especially being told by elderly members of the congregation that at least they could hear her! Getting there is too difficult now, but she enjoys the communion services at the Laurels.

Although Clé says she does not read much, "only the paper", she is well informed about many things. She feels that "Twitter" is a mixed blessing. Giving up her home, which came about after a fall in the garden, has not caused her any regrets. It is her car that she misses. She speaks warmly of the Laurels where her room has a view of the levels and a patio which she weeds. Some 26 butterflies were spotted on the buddleia one day in the summer. She is well supported by family (Nicholas lives close by and sees to everything). In contrast, she remembers that "for some who received Meals-on-Wheels in Bristol, which I helped deliver for many years, we were their only regular visitors". SMW

**Rodney Stoke Church Hall available for hire**

Thanks to a series of improvements, the Church Hall is now 100% accessible and wheelchair friendly. Enquiries about hiring the hall should be made to Sue Walker on (01749) 870611 or 07790008448.

Mobile Police Station in attendance at Sealey Close 3pm Tuesday 15 December. Speak directly to Linda Vincent our PCSO



## **News from the Supporters of St Peter's (SOSP)**

*Thank you everyone who has supported us throughout 2015.*

**Draycott & Rodney Stoke First School PTA** will be holding their **Christmas Fayre** on **Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12 noon** in the School.

SOSP invite you all on **Saturday December 5th from 12-1.30** in **St Peter's Church** to a **Soup lunch** with bread & cheese & cakes! This will follow on after our monthly Coffee & Cake Morning.. We would gratefully welcome any offers of soup & cake. Do drop in after the PTA Christmas Fayre for lunch or a cuppa. We are only next door.

SOSP members will be joining in with the carol singing at The Laurels, the Strawberry Special & the Early Doors Cider Barn as well as the Church Services as detailed elsewhere in this magazine.

January 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the first Coffee & Cake Saturday morning of 2016.

And future events planned are:

- Continuing with our monthly Coffee & Cake on the first Saturday of every month, sometimes with a little extra something added
- Another curry night at The Strawberry Special around Valentine's night
- Lent soup lunch in March
- Jumble sale in April
- Cake stall in May
- Stall at the Strawberry Fayre in June
- Walking treasure hunt in July
- The Holy Rollers are very keen to be involved in the Charity Summer Skittles League again next year
- After our very successful Michaelmas Fayre we hope to repeat this in October.

Look out for posters or in this magazine or contact any of the SOSP committee members for information or to offer to help or be involved in any way!

Please join us to have fun while raising funds for Charity Including St Peter's Church refurbishment fund. A Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all.

*Thea Oliver*

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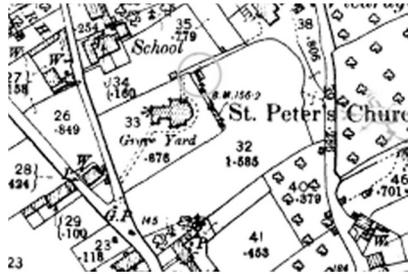
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## Progress at the Pond—Draycott Burial Plot

*Jasper Casey of Somerset Nature's Reptiles and Amphibians Group writes:*

'I found the pond on a map from 1890 so we know it is at least 125 years old, but we do not have access to any older maps at suitable scales to show it.



The burial plot and the field next door were once one field, and shape-wise it's typical of ponds designed to allow access for livestock watering. In the area of the Mendip Ponds Project they are either single-access stone ponds (like this one), double-access stone ponds (with slopes at both ends and generally a lot larger than this one), or circular cobbled 'dew' ponds (which vary greatly in size from small ones in single fields to huge ones at the inter-sections of four fields).



Whether the construction is a reflection of the high importance of water sources in the water-scarce Mendips or just because they made things well back then is anyone's guess! You can see how much better the state of the masonry is below the water and silt line. It is pretty much immaculate where it has not been exposed to the elements. Although it would be great to restore the masonry

with lime mortar we simply don't have the funds and, as it's holding water to a more than adequate depth for its intended purpose of a wildlife pond for pond-dipping, we will have to leave it as it is.

We'll be fencing it properly shortly, and putting some suitable plants in during early Spring next year. This may be something that the school children next door will want to help us with. We will survey it regularly for amphibians throughout the Spring to monitor progress. The most effective, and least disruptive, way of doing this is by torch surveys after dark as ponds come alive when the sun goes down. We know from surveying it over the last couple of years that it has a very small colony of Palmate newts in it, and even when it was just silt and an inch of water there was a bunch of hardcore frogs insisting it was still a pond!'

## Don's Poem and Mary's Recipe

### A Christmas Blessing

God bless the master of this house,  
The mistress also,  
And all the little children  
That round the table go;  
And all your kin and kinfolk,  
That dwell both far and near;  
I wish you a merry Christmas  
And a happy New Year *Anon*



### Blueberry and Apple Pie (Serves 8)

**330g (12oz) self raising flour**  
**1 teaspoon ground cinnamon or mixed spice**  
**220g (8oz) butter**  
**160g (6oz) caster sugar**  
**220g (8oz) blueberries**  
**450g (1lb) cooking apples, peeled, cored and diced**  
**3 eggs, lightly beaten**  
**Pinch of salt**

1. Line a 20cm (8inch) loose-bottomed cake tin with non-stick baking parchment, or grease and flour it. Pre-heat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas mark 4.
2. Sift the flour with the cinnamon or mixed spice and salt. Rub in the butter until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar, blueberries and apples.
3. Add the eggs and mix evenly. Spoon into the prepared tin and bake for 1 1/2 -2 hours.
4. Test with a skewer, by plunging it into the centre of the cake tin. If it comes out dry (bar a smear of blueberry juice of course), the cake is ready. If not, return it to the oven for a little longer.
5. Turn out of the tin and leave to cool on a wire rack.



## Sunday Services in December 2015

	<b>Cheddar</b>	<b>Draycott</b>	<b>Rodney Stoke</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	8am BCP Communion 10am Morning Service 4pm Christingle Service	9.30am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
13 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	10am Parish Eucharist	9.30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Service	3pm Family Service
20 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 4	8am BCP Communion 10am Parish Eucharist 6pm Carol Service	9.30am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
27 <sup>th</sup> December 1 <sup>st</sup> of Christmas	8am BCP Communion 10am Parish Eucharist	4pm Carol Service	11.15am Matins

## Readings for Sundays in December 2015 (Year C—St Luke)

	<b>Page</b>	<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 2	759	Malachi 3: 1-4	Benedictus	Philipp 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
13 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 3	762	Zeph 3:14-20	Isaiah 12:2-6	Philipp 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
20 <sup>th</sup> December Advent 4	765	Micah 5:2-5a	Magnificat	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45
27 <sup>th</sup> December 1 <sup>st</sup> of Christmas	769	1 Sam 2:18-20,26	148	Coloss 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52

## Sunday Services in January 2016

	<b>Cheddar</b>	<b>Draycott</b>	<b>Rodney Stoke</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> January Epiphany	8am BCP Communion 10am Morning Service	9.30am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
10 <sup>th</sup> January Baptism of Christ	10am Parish Eucharist	9.30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Service	8am BCP Communion
17 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 2	8am BCP Communion 10am Parish Eucharist	9.30am Parish Communion	3pm Plough Sunday
24 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 3	8am BCP Communion 10am Parish Eucharist	9.30am Parish Communion	11.15am Matins
31 <sup>st</sup> January Candlemas	10am Benefice Communion at Rodney Stoke		

## Readings for Sundays in January 2016 (Year C – St Luke)

	<b>Page</b>	<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> January Epiphany	38	Isaiah 60:1-6	72:10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
10 <sup>th</sup> January Baptism of Christ	773	Isaiah 43:1-7	29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17,21-22
17 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 2	776	Isaiah 62:1-5	36:5-10	1 Corinth 12: 1-11	John 2:1-11
24 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 3	779	Neh 8:1-3,5-6,8-10	19	1 Corinth 12: 12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
31 <sup>st</sup> January Candlemas	60	Malachi 3:1-5	24:7-10	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40

### Home Communion

It is one of the great privileges in ministry to be able to bring communion to the elderly and housebound or those who are temporarily unable to get to church due to injury – do let us know if you, or someone you know, would appreciate this aspect of the Church's care. Contact the Parish Office on 01934 742535.



## Diary December 2015

Tue 1	10.30am	Greenhill Communion	Cheddar
	2.15pm	Mother's Union Deanery Advent Service	Cheddar
Wed 2	10am	Holy Communion	Cheddar
Thur 3	9am	LMG Morning Prayer	Weare
	12.30pm	Lunch Club	The Riverside
Fri 4	5.30pm	Festive Night Carols	Cheddar
Sat 5	9am	Morning Prayer	Cheddar
	10.30am	SOSP Coffee and Cake	Draycott
	3pm	Masons Carol Service	Cheddar
Sun 6	2.30pm	Messy Church	Cheddar
	4pm	Christingle Service	Cheddar
Tue 8	2pm	The Laurels Communion	Draycott
	3pm	Sealey Close Communion	Draycott
Wed 9	11.30am	MU Communion	Cheddar
Thur 10	9am	LMG Morning Prayer	Axbridge
Sat 12	9am	Morning Prayer	Cheddar
	2pm	St John Ambulance Brigade Carol Service	Cheddar
Tues 15	10.30am	Greenhill Communion	Cheddar
Wed 16	10am	Holy Communion	Cheddar
	11am	Court House Communion	Cheddar
Thur 17	9am	LMG Morning Prayer	Wedmore
	11am	Cheddar Court Communion	Cheddar
	2.30pm	The Homestead Communion	Cheddar
Sat 19	9am	Morning Prayer	Cheddar
Wed 23	10am	Healing Communion	Cheddar
Thurs 24	4pm	Crib Service	Cheddar
	6.30pm	Carols by Candle Light	Rodney Stoke
	11.30pm	Christmas Eve Communion	Cheddar
	11.30pm	Christmas Eve Communion	Draycott
Fri 25	9am	BCP Communion	Rodney Stoke
	10am	Family Communion	Cheddar
	10am	Family Service	Draycott
Tue 29	12 noon	Wedding	Cheddar
Wed 30	10am	Holy Communion	Cheddar



**Are you free Tuesday morning 1000 -1130?**

Fancy a coffee, a biscuit and a real good chat

**Join us at Sealey Close Community Hall**

## Diary January 2016

Sat 2	10.30am	SOSP Coffee and Cake	Draycott
Tue 5	10.30am	Greenhill Communion	Cheddar
Wed 6	10am	Holy Communion	Cheddar
Thur 7	9am	LMG Morning Prayer	Axbridge
	12.30pm	Lunch Club	The Riverside
Sat 9	9am	Morning Prayer	Cheddar
Tues 12	2pm	The Laurels Communion	Draycott
	3pm	Sealey Close Communion	Draycott
Wed 13	11am	MU Communion	Cheddar
	12pm	LMG Meeting	Cheddar
	8pm	Ministry Team Meeting	Cheddar
Thur 14	9am	LMG Morning Prayer	Wedmore
Sat 16	9am	Morning Prayer	Cheddar
	2.30pm	Messy Church	Cheddar
Tue 19	10.30am	Greenhill Communion	Cheddar
Wed 20	10am	Holy Communion	Cheddar
	11am	Court House Communion	Cheddar
Thur 21	9am	LMG Morning Prayer	Cheddar
	11am	Cheddar Court Communion	Cheddar
	2.30pm	The Homestead Communion	Cheddar
Sat 23	9am	Morning Prayer	Cheddar
Wed 27	10am	Holy Communion	Cheddar
Thur 28	9am	LMG Morning Prayer	Weare
Sat 30	9am	Morning Prayer	Cheddar

Regular Weekly Events in December and January	
Monday	9.30am Line Dancing, Cheddar Church House
Tuesday	7.45pm St Peter's Choir Practice, Draycott 8pm Bell ringing, Cheddar
Wednesday	9.15am Draycott & Rodney Stoke First School Service in Church (term time only) 10am Holy Communion, Cheddar (except 2 <sup>nd</sup> Weds when at 11.30) 10am-12 Strawberry Totts, Draycott Memorial Hall
Thursday	9am LMG Morning Prayer – see diary for venue 7.30pm Bell ringing, Rodney Stoke
Friday	10-11.30am St Andrew's Toddlers, Church House (term time only) 6.15pm St Andrew's Choir practice
Saturday	9am Morning Prayer, Cheddar

December 2015 Rotas

DRAYCOTT

	6	13	20	Xmas Eve	Xmas Day	27
Sidesman	R Dingley	N Devitt	L Whittle	TBA		R Dingley
Intercessor	C Green	T Oliver	G Jeff	TBA	T Oliver	
Organist	B Rose	I Ames White	D Cheetham	TBA	TBA	TBA
Readers	C Jeff T Oliver R Dingley	G Jeff T Lumley	T Oliver C Jeff L Whittle	TBA		
Coffee	C Jeff	T Lumley	T Heckbert			C Jeff
Cleaning		C Jeff G Jeff	T Lumley			T Heckbert
Flowers	Advent	Advent	Advent	All Hands		Xmas

RODNEY STOKE

Sidesman	S Percival	A Percival	J Newman	TBA	TBA	T Symes
Organist	Joanne	Joanne	Michael	TBA	TBA	Barry
Reader 1	A Percival	S Percival	C Kembrey	TBA	TBA	H Neave
Reader 2	D Banks	I Turner	A Newman			A Percival
Cleaning		F Pitman J Drane				
Flowers A	Advent	Advent	Advent	I Sealey		
Flowers P				M James		

January 2016 Rotas

DRAYCOTT						
	3	10	17	24	31	
Sidesman	R Dingley	N Devitt	C Jeff	L Whittle	United Benefice Service at Rodney Stoke 10am	
Intercessor	A Jeffries	C Green	G Jeff	T Oliver		
Organist	B Rose	I Ames White	D Cheetham	D Cheetham		
Readers	T Lumley	M Heckbert	C Jeff	C Jeff		
	A Jeffries	N Devitt	G Jeff	T Oliver		
	R Dingley		T Oliver	L Whittle		
Coffee	C Jeff	T Heckbert	F Irving	T Lumley		
Cleaning		C Jeff G Jeff	T Lumley	T Heckbert		
Flowers	C Jeff	C Jeff	R Chard	R Chard		
RODNEY STOKE						
Sidesman	D Banks	C Kembrey	A Newman	C Neave	S Percival	
Organist	Joanne	Joanne	Michael	Barry	Joanne	
Reader 1	D Banks	I Turner	A Percival	H Neave	S Percival	
Reader 2	S Percival	C Kembrey	D Banks	A Newman	I Turner	
Cleaning	P Hills		J Newman		A Percival	
	J Holmes		D Johnson			
Flowers A	I Sealey	F Newman	F Newman	A Percival	A Percival	
Flowers P	M. James	H Neave	H Neave	V Andrews	V Andrews	

**FROM THE REGISTERS:**

**Baptism:**

*We welcome into the Church family:*

Riley Toogood

**Funerals:**

*Our prayers are with those who mourn the death of:*

Jessie Hembury, Edith Tozer, Jessie Hembury, Vincent Bassett,  
Beryl Crowther RIP

Mr Peter Everett DO MRO

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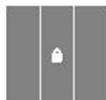
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**BENEFICE** [cheddardraycottandrodneystoke@gmail.com](mailto:cheddardraycottandrodneystoke@gmail.com)

**BENEFICE OFFICE – 01934 742535** Open every Saturday between 1000 & 1200  
**LAY/LICENSED READERS** Dr Chris Green

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**Deputy Wardens:** Paul Tullett 01934 743281 Peter Lythgoe 01934 744174  
**Deanery Synod Reps :** Alan Rayfield, Mike Brownbill, Rod Walsh  
**Treasurer:** Dawn Hill **Secretary:** Brian Halliday  
**Church House Bookings:** Anne Langford 01934 742763

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**Treasurer:** David Cheetham **Secretary:** Chris Green

**RODNEY STOKE** [www.stleonardsrodneystoke.org](http://www.stleonardsrodneystoke.org)

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***Deadline for Magazine copy is 11<sup>th</sup> of each month***

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To arrange a special service please contact:

For Baptisms: Mrs Julie Hope 01934 742234  
For Weddings: Rev Hilary Thomas 01934 742207  
For Funerals: Ven Judith Rose 01934 744871

For all other queries please either:

- call the Parish Office (01934 742535) on Saturday mornings
- contact your Churchwardens — details above
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