

## Our events over the Christmas Season

**Posada** (Spanish for “Inn”). This is an opportunity to welcome the Holy Family into your home during Advent, and there is a list at the back of church for you to sign to indicate the date when you are able to host them. Alternatively, ring me, Lesley, on 01530 413309 and I’ll arrange a date with you.

Our knitted Mary and Joseph are given to the first on the list, to look after for a day and a night, at the Christingle Service on 1<sup>st</sup> December and returned by the last person at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve. A diary accompanies them, so if you would like to do so, you can describe the adventures you had with them during their stay with you or you can send pictures and texts to put on our website. I took them to the supermarket last time I was looking after them – I am not sure what they made of it!

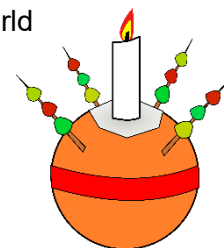


## Christingle Service – 1st December 2024 at 4.00pm. Not to be missed!

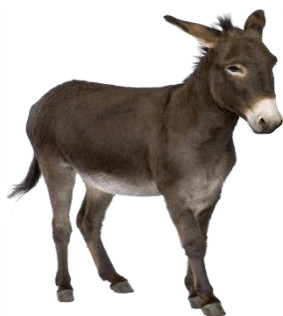
For many this is viewed as their “Start-to-Christmas” Service and it is always a joy to see the children holding their lit Christingles as we sing a carol and think about the Light of the World coming into our lives.

This year Vernon Bayliss from Youth for Christ will be speaking and children from Packington School will also be taking part. Mulled wine and coffee or tea will be served after the Service.

Donations will be for the Children’s Society.



## Instant Nativity and Toy Service 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 10.00am



This Service looks like being a lot of fun as we re-enact the Nativity to a simple script. We shall have some clothes for dressing-up in, but not enough for everyone, so if you can, please come with or in your own, then you can choose whether to be a king, an angel, a sheep – whoever you prefer! And, whilst it’s a little early for Santa, by popular request from last year we hope to have a return of our very special beasts of burden from last year, who were a delight!

Please also bring new unwrapped toys which will be donated to the Marlene Reid Centre in Coalville, to brighten the Christmas of children who have very little. Wrapping paper is also appreciated.

## Candlelit Carol Service Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 6pm.



Our Carol Service will be even more special than usual this year. We are delighted to say that Bishop Saju Muthalaly, the Bishop of Loughborough, has accepted an invitation to join us on this occasion and will be telling us a little bit about himself as well as giving a Christmas message. Bishop Saju was born in Kerala, in South India and grew up in a leprosy hospital in Bangalore, where his family were part of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church. After obtaining a theology degree in Bangalore in 2001, he moved to the UK to train for the ministry and became Bishop of Loughborough in 2022. A family man, he and his wife Katy have four children, Bishop Saju is passionate about cricket and cooking, and in his free time he also finds time to run marathons and play the guitar! He has a very warm and arresting personality and is an inspiring speaker, so do come and hear him.

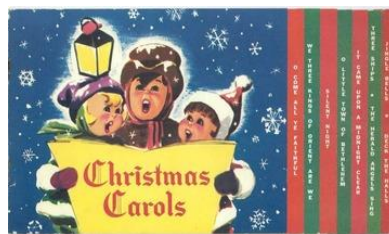
You may wish to bring a torch. Refreshments will be served after the service.



### Carol Singing at 7pm on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December with the Derby Central Salvation Army Band.

All being well, this will take place at the Bull & Lion village pub as usual, but **watch this space** - the venue may have to be altered owing to management changes at the pub. Wrap up warm and bring a torch!

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at of Christmas Readings and** a list at the back of Holy Rood the carol you like best and be sung on that morning.



**10.00am, an informal service Favourite Carols.** There will be Church where you can indicate those with the most "votes" will

### Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Christmas Eve.

**At 4pm we have our annual Crib** our children and families but is Christmas story is related and during figures from the nativity are gradually arranged around the manger.



**Service.** This is especially for enjoyed by all ages. The the course of the Service the brought to the crib and

**At 11.30pm we hold our very special midnight Holy Communion** when we celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas morning.

**Christmas Day.** There is no Service here in Packington but we join our sister church at **Normanton-le-Heath at 10.00am for Family Holy Communion.**

**Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024. 10.00am A Woodfield Team United Holy Communion Service at St John's Donisthorpe.** (in their wonderful newly restored and re-ordered church building).



**Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 11.30am.** You are invited to come along to Holy Rood Church at that time on the morning of 1<sup>st</sup> January for a brief time of worship, followed by soup, pudding and wine – but you are welcome to attend just the service or just the lunch, which will be served from 12 noon to 2.00pm, as you prefer. This event has proved popular in

the past two years – no-one wants to be alone on New Year's Day and if you are a couple or a family, it's still good to celebrate with other people – and it saves having to cook! There is no need to book but you can reserve a place or table by ringing Anne Wathes on 01530 414621 or Lesley on 01530 413309.