

St Johns Church Newsletter



January 2019

The Innkeeper' first Christmas *by Roger*

Palmer contributed by Bob Storey.

I've been in the hotel trade for some years now. It's a rum old business - sometimes run off your feet and other times hardly a customer in sight.

We always looked forward to census time when folk had to return to their homeland to register and we were able to put up the prices and still be full.

So it was when that young couple knocked and asked if we could put them up for the night. I could see that they had travelled some distance and that the wife was exceedingly pregnant. You know how it is – I was tired after a busy day and to reorganise again was just too much to expect. I told them I had no rooms but they could bed down in the stable if they wished.

How was I to know that she'd have the baby that very night. I mean if I had known I could have found a room somewhere inside. You always can if you're prepared to try!

Still I don't suppose it would have made much difference, and it's too late to worry now, and anyway the birth of one more child is hardly going to change the world – is it?

Judith Keller

Is arriving on 19th May for her annual holiday in Tenby, and leaves for Ireland on June 13th returning to Chicago on June 29th. Her daughter will be visiting for one week.

Four things you can't get back

The stone after it's thrown; the word after it's said; the occasion after its missed and time after it's gone.

Editorial

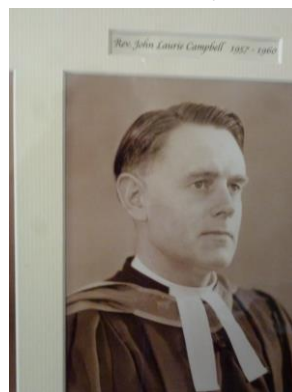
The close off date for February 2019 Newsletter is Friday 18th January. Please give contributions to Shirley, put in the box at the

back of the church, or email

shirleybdraper@gmail.com

Rev John Campbell *by Eluned Brown*

Following Emrys was Rev. John Campbell. He had been doing missionary work in Africa. He was only at St Johns for 3 years. When he left to be a teacher at Bush School, Pembroke Docks. He had a nice family of 5 children and he was well liked, as was his wife Eileen.



Is Santa a Man?

How do you know Santa is a man? Well no woman is going to wear the same outfit year after year!

Poster found in a church in France(translated)

As you visit this church this Christmas, it is possible that you may hear the call of God. However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. So thank you for turning it off. If you want to talk to God, please choose a quiet corner here, and talk to Him. If you want to see Him later, send Him a text while driving.

Both above contributed by Suzanne Tolley.

Christmas Fete

This was held on Wednesday 29 November as part of the usual coffee morning and hot Welsh Cakes on Sale. People were asked to guess how many Welsh Cakes had been sold between August and September for a prize. The raffle had many prizes and there was



guess the name of a toy dog. As well as the usual book, cake, white elephant tables, Sue and Ian had their home-made Christmas Cake stall, and the Craft group had their stall. The morning was enjoyed by all.



Children's Corner: The Power of One
One tree can start a forest, one smile can begin a friendship, one hand can lift a soul, one touch can show you care, one life can make a difference. Be that ONE today.

Recipe of the Month: Floddies

40z chopped ham, bacon, or turkey. 1/2lb peeled potatoes, 1 onion peeled, 2 eggs, 2oz flour, salt and pepper.

Grate potatoes and onions into basin add meat and rest of ingredients. Mix well. Fry spoonfuls in hot fat in a frypan until golden brown both sides.

Continuing the Spiritual Vitamins

Feel Incapable? Take Vitamin I - I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me. *Philippians 4:1*

Feel weak? Take Vitamin J Joy of the Lord is your strength. *Nehemiah 8:10*

Feel yourself slipping? Take Vitamin K Kept by the power of God *1 Peter 1:5*

Bad Temper? Take Vitamin L Love is not easily provoked. *1 Corinthians 13:5*

Feel Gloomy? Take Vitamin M My mouth shall show forth they praise. *Psalms 51:5*

Feeling unsure? Take Vitamin N Name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous runneth into it and is safe. *Proverbs 18:10*
More Next Month...

Real Christmas tree free kerbside collection

The Pembrokeshire County Council will collect your real tree if you contact them on 01437 764551 between 17 December and 9th January only.

Christmas Cards

To recycle cards, you can take them to a supermarket.

Swansea Restaurant Recommendation

Shirley went to Swansea to attend the pantomime, and her friends took her to the "NINES" restaurant on High Street en route back to the Railway Station. It is opposite the Polish Store and Oxfam Book Shop. It opens between midday and 3pm. The cost is £9.95 per person, but children under a height restriction were £4.95. Then you go downstairs and can eat all you want. Hot and cold, Chinese, European, Pasta etc. plus Sweets. Jugs of water are supplied, but for all other drinks you pay at the Bar.

The Christmas Tree Festival opened on Wednesday 14th December with many lovely trees. Tenby Aces Bicycle Club have one made out of drinking bottles. The Tenby Life Boat, The Welsh Cake Ladies, The Tenby Friendship Club and many more also have their trees. Various members of Church also had trees. The Church looks fantastic in the late



afternoon as it gets darker, when all the lights shine brighter. This is a view from the balcony, but doesn't show all the trees nor the front



lobby which has a very large nativity scene showing to the street.

Nativity Sunday



On Sunday 16th St Johns performed a Nativity play written by Graham Powell. Our minister, Rev Stella Hayton happened to say in his hearing that she had never ever been an angel, so Graham wrote the play giving her the lead part!

As the service started Graham apologised that Stella had been called by her boss to do something, but she hoped to be along shortly. The children opened the service, said prayers, etc. Then when the play started Stella came in (wearing her wedding dress – 29 years old and to the envy of most of the woman members still able to fit into it just lovely!!) Hefina had made Stella a lovely set of what looked like feathers pair of wings. And so the play commenced after all the laughter had died down. Stella had a “school” of 2 angels, Bethan and Jessica. The third was to be Megan, 3 year old last week, but a visit to the hospital on Saturday night prevented her and she had learnt her words beautifully we were told. The teacher and her 2 pupils visited Mary, Riley, and then Joseph, Rhys to tell them about their coming baby. While the congregation were singing, Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus and a donkey came into the “Stable”. The Angels went to fetch the Shepherds Carol, Hefina and Sue from the back of the church and they left a toy lamb that could baa by the manager. The Angels then took a star and brought the 3 wise men

Mia, and her two sons Maddox and Dylan to the stable. The service was concluded with Dylan singing a solo. Mince pies and coffee followed in the hall afterwards. It was a magnificent service.

Lexophiles

Ron Hurlow has contributed some of the best lexophiles from a competition held every year.

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

The batteries were given out free of charge.

A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.

A will is a dead giveaway.

A boiled egg is hard to beat.

Police were summoned to a day care centre where a three-year-old was resisting a rest. Did you hear about the fellow whose entire left side was cut off? He's all right now.

Craft Club Christmas Party

This was held on Monday 17th December. Ten members came for an afternoon of Christmas quizzes, cracker jokes, and racing reindeer. The afternoon tea of sandwiches, cakes, mince pies, chocolate fancies, and Christmas Cake was enjoyed by all.



With so much that has happened, Christmas is still to be celebrated with the Christingle Service on Monday 24th and Christmas Day at a service starting at 10am.

St Johns wishes everyone a blessed Christmas, and may Joy come into everyone's heart.