

Letter from the vicarage

By the time you read this, many of you will be prepared for the coming Christmas celebrations. Cards written, presents wrapped, meals, journeys, hospitality and activities all planned. And now you can look forward with joy and happiness.



But, that first Christmas there was no preparation, in one way, by those most closely concerned. Joseph and Mary travelled from their home town, arriving in Bethlehem in the midst of a vast influx of people, due to the orders of the government. Joseph was not well off nor was there room in the inn; the innkeeper who offered his stable had no idea that an event of stupendous importance to the whole world would take place there before sunrise!

Yet some of those concerned with what happened there had been preparing themselves. Mary, so honoured by God, was a young woman of exceptional character who had been readying herself for something very great, revealed to her by the angel Gabriel; Joseph - of whom we know little other than that God did not choose him without reason - and the shepherds had been chosen. Later, there were the Wise Men, who followed the star.

As we rejoice at Christmas time, we must remember that the greatest preparations for the first Christmas, were not those of any human beings, but those of God himself. God decided to send his beloved Son into our world, in human form, as a vulnerable, precious baby.

As Christmas Day approaches, let us resolve and make time in all the busyness to thank God for his Gift in the Coming of the Saviour, and to remember what it means to the whole world.

From the register

We welcomed into our church family
Ruben Sydney Hook on 16th September
and cousins

Rose Beatrice Weir

Sebastian Thomas Gould

Charlie George Gould on 4th November.



All our Christmas services at St. John's, Abbeydale & Holy Trinity, Millhouses

Sunday 16 December

Café Church Family Carols 4pm HT



Tuesday 18 December

Christmas Concert 7.30pm St. J's



Sunday 23 December

Festival of Nine Readings & Carols
6.30pm St. J's



Christmas Eve

Nativity Service 3.30pm HT

Christingle and Nativity 5.00pm St. J's

Midnight Mass 11.30pm St. J's

Midnight Mass 11.30pm HT



Christmas Day

All-Age Christmas Communion

9.30am St. J's

10.00am HT

Grace Food Bank Sheffield

We support the Grace Food Bank and welcome any donations in the box at the back of church or in the porch
To see what is needed, please go to
www.gracefoodbanksheffield.org.uk



Abbeydale and Millhouses Church
Choirs and Friends

Christmas Concert

Tuesday 18 December 2018

7.30pm

St John's Church, Abbeydale

Abbeydale Road South, S17

(opposite Abbeydale Sports Club)



With mulled wine
and mince pies

Tickets £6 from
Rona on 235 2575 or
on the door

Baby and Toddler clothes

Our churches, in particular our Toddler Groups, are delighted to be supporting local charities which help get much needed baby and toddler clothes to the more deprived young families in our city.



There is a collection point at the back of St John's church if you would like to contribute good quality used or new clothes for babies and for children under 5.

Thank you.

St. John the Evangelist

Abbeydale Road South

S17 3LE

Holy Trinity Millhouses

Grove Road

S7 2HB



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St. John the Evangelist

Parish of Abbeydale and
Millhouses

Christmas 2018



We wish you and your family a
blessed and peaceful Christmas
and look forward to seeing you
during the festive season.

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday 23rd December - 6.30pm
St. John's



Hear the story of the
very first Christmas
through traditional
lessons and join in
with some of your
favourite carols!

Christingle & Nativity Service

Christmas Eve - 5pm - St. John's

Share the meaning of
Christmas with all ages,
while supporting The
Children's Society and
their work with vulnerable
children....

