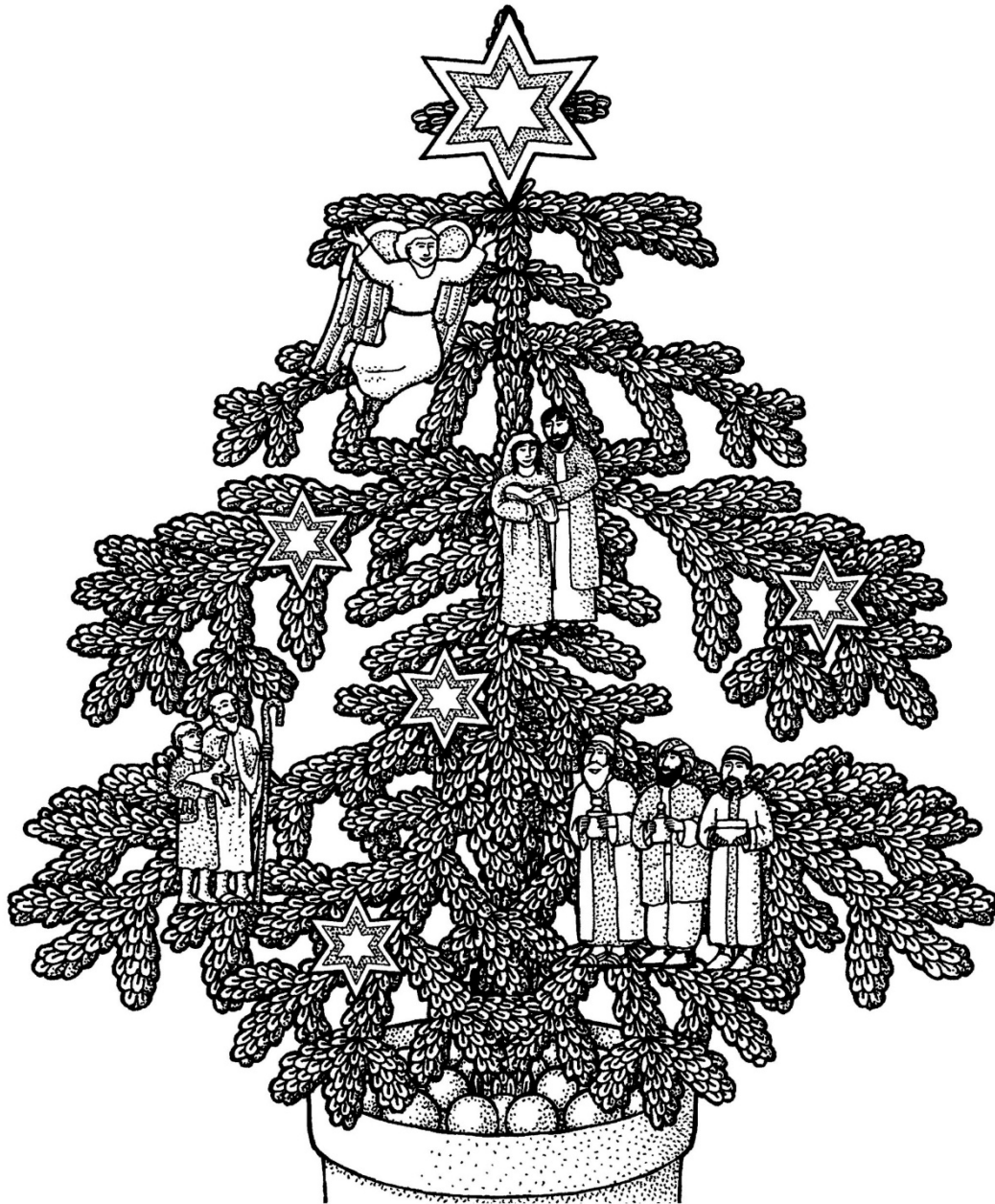


# Parish Magazine

December 2025 & January 2026

30p



## St. John's Parish Church

Rufford Road, Crossens, Southport  
(A member of the North Meols Team Ministry)

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## **Church contacts:**

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Treasurer: Mrs Louise James  
PCC Secretary: Mrs Chrissy Gregory

Rainbows: Mrs Nicola Macdonald  
Brownies: Mrs Natalie Flynn  
Guides: Mrs Tracy Boden. Tel: 228189

Mumford Room bookings:  
Mr Andrew Boden. Tel: 228189

## **Service times:**

### **Sunday (10am)**

Either Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

### **Wednesday (10am, unless otherwise stated)**

Either Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

For later dates, please check the website: [www.stjohncrossens.co.uk](http://www.stjohncrossens.co.uk)

*Rev Rebecca writes...*



Dear Friends

Christmas is a special time of year for so many people, especially Christians as we celebrate all around the world the birth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. It's a time when the shops are full of Christmas decorations, Christmas trees and Christmas fare, and Father Christmas appears all over the place!

This time of year often brings out the very best in humanity as many give up their time to care for others, whether it's making sure families who are struggling have enough gifts to give to their children or people giving up their Christmas day celebration to volunteer at various projects serving Christmas dinner to those who are homeless or vulnerable. It really is heartwarming to see so much 'good' going on all around us, all sorts of people showing love and care to so many who really need it.

In the Christmas story we also see at its heart love and care. In Mary we see a mother looking lovingly at her newborn son, we see Joseph gazing at Mary in love, and most importantly, in this tiny vulnerable baby, we see the complete and unconditional love of God. For this child is fully God and fully man. It is this baby called Jesus who is at the very centre of the Christmas story and as well as bringing love, he also brings, joy, hope and peace.

'Love' is very definitely the very centre of Christmas. It is about a God who chooses to come to meet with us as a tiny little baby boy profound and beyond our understanding. And as this baby grew into a man, that love for the whole of humanity continued to be revealed every single day of his life.

A poem by Christina Rossetti sums this all up very well and it happens to be one of my favourites and I would like to share it with you all this Christmas.

**Love came down at Christmas by Christina Rossetti**

Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, all divine,

Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and angels gave the sign.  
Worship we the Godhead,  
Love incarnate, love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus:  
But wherewith sacred sign?  
Love shall be our token,  
Love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and people,  
Love for plea and gift and sign.

So now may the love of the blessed Saviour Jesus Christ rest with you and all your loved ones this Christmas and throughout 2026

Rev Rebecca Clarke  
Team Rector, North Meols Team

The Quarter's Team Magazine is now available to watch  
on our  **YouTube** Channel

NORTH MEOLS TEAM MINISTRY SOUTHPORT -

Items this Quarter include:

*Remembering the Fallen on the 80th Anniversary of the ending of WW2*

*The Children's Society at Christmas - Threads Through the Bible (Revelation) -*

*Dedicating a Service Book for Chris - Rector's Christmas Reflection -*

*Meeting a New Churchwarden - An idea for a Christmas Present*

## Shining Brass

Once a month, if you would ever have the need to go into our vestry, then you would have found Brenda and Mavis rubbing and cleaning our brass and silver furnishings. They have regularly kept this work going for several years and we thank them most sincerely for it!

They now feel that it is time to stop, and they would be grateful to hand over to someone else.

If you feel that you would like to continue this work, then they would be very grateful. Please contact Chris Jowett if you would like to help in keeping our church well cared for.



# ROTAS

## Sunday Coffee Rota

7<sup>th</sup> December Nicola & Andrew  
14<sup>th</sup> December Brenda & Chris  
21<sup>st</sup> December Louise J & Heather  
28<sup>th</sup> December Kath & Jane



4<sup>th</sup> January Nicola & Andrew  
11<sup>th</sup> January Brenda & Chris  
18<sup>th</sup> January Louise J & Heather  
25<sup>th</sup> January Kath & Jane  
1<sup>st</sup> February Nicola & Andrew

Help is urgently needed to maintain a weekly rota. If you are willing to volunteer, please see me. Chris Jowett

## Wednesday Coffee Rota

3<sup>rd</sup> December Brenda & June  
10<sup>th</sup> December Jean & Mavis  
17<sup>th</sup> December Chris & Janet

7<sup>th</sup> January Eileen & Trish  
14<sup>th</sup> January Brenda & June  
21<sup>st</sup> January Jean & Mavis  
28<sup>th</sup> January Chris & Janet  
4<sup>th</sup> February Eileen & Trish

## Readings Rota

<b>7-Dec-2025</b>	Nicola	2nd of Advent	1 Timothy 6.6-11
<b>14-Dec-2025</b>	Simon	3rd of Advent	James 5.7-10
<b>21-Dec-2025</b>	Chris J	4th of Advent	Romans 1.1-7
<b>28-Dec-2025</b>	Maggie	1st of Christmas	Hebrews 2.10-end
<b>4-Jan-2025</b>	Louise J	Baptism of Christ	Acts 10.34-43
<b>11-Jan-2025</b>	Joey	Epiphany	Ephesians 3.1-12
<b>18-Jan-2025</b>	Sylvia	2 <sup>nd</sup> of Epiphany	1 Corinthians 1.1-9
<b>25-Jan-2025</b>	Joan	3 <sup>rd</sup> of Epiphany	1 Corinthians 1.10-18

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## **NORTH MEOLS TEAM - Upcoming events**

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### **St Stephens**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup>** - Ladies (and Gentlemen's) Carol Service.

**Sunday 7th 4.00pm** - Banks Christmas Fair including Christmas Tree Light switch on.

**Saturday 13th 10.30am- 2.00pm** - Christmas Memory Tree.

To remember those who have passed away. Come and put your loved one's names on the Christmas Memory Tree. Tags provided.

**Sunday 14th 10.30am** - Readings and Carols.

**Sunday 21st 10.30 am** - Christingle...

**Christmas Eve 11.00 pm** - First Holy Communion of Christmas.

**Christmas Day 10.30 am** - Service for Christmas Morning.

### **St Cuthberts**

**Sunday 7th 4pm** - Christingle with Sunday Club Nativity

**Tuesday 9th 7pm - 8pm** - Community Carol Singing in church

**Sunday 14th 6pm** - Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols

**Saturday 20th December 11am - 2pm in church -**

**Light a Candle for Christmas at our Memory Table in remembrance of loved ones**

**Wednesday 24th December 11pm** - Christmas Eve First communion of Christmas

**Thursday 25th December 10.30am** - A family Christmas Day Holy Communion service

# Puzzles – Sudoku

EASY

9			6					
2	7			8				6
	8	6		4	3	1	9	2
	9			1	6	5		
		5				2		
		3	4	5			7	
7	5	9	1	6		4	8	
3				7			2	5
					5			9

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MEDIUM

	5					3	7	
			2	7	6			
7					1			
2		3		1				
		7				6		
				3		4		5
			1					9
			5	9	4			
	6	2					1	

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## Flowers

**December** – No flowers in Advent

Christmas Flowers.

### January 2026

January 4<sup>th</sup>      In memory of Mrs D Jackson

January 11<sup>th</sup>     In memory of Mrs S Harding

January 18<sup>th</sup>     \_\_\_\_\_

January 25<sup>th</sup>     \_\_\_\_\_



Thank you to all who contribute to the flower fund. ECB

### "SCHOOL - RESCUE ME!"

As part of their work to support charities, school are supporting an animal rescue centre called "Rescue Me". The children have been asked to collect postage stamps from envelopes, unwanted foreign currency and any pre-decimal or pre-euro currency people may have hidden in old socks!!!

If you have any such items, please can you pass them to Karen Corbett and she will take them into school.

Nexus

# Churches Together

*(in North Meols)*

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December  
At St Patrick's RC Church  
7:30pm

**Everyone is very welcome!**

*"A new commandment I give unto you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"*

*John 13:34-35*

One for your Diary!  
**Christmas Concert**

**from**  
**Banks Brass**



**Band**

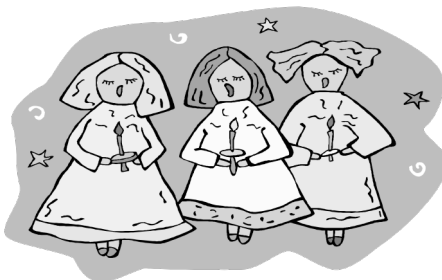


**FRIDAY 5th DECEMBER 7.30pm**

**ST. JOHN'S CHURCH**

**Only £6 everyone welcome**

**(pay on the door)**



# **TOY, GIFT & CHOCOLATE SERVICE SUNDAY**

**Sunday 7th December**

**HELP MAKE A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS**

**Please bring a new toy and a small  
bar of chocolate**

**to Church on Sunday 7th December**

**All the toys donated will be  
distributed to families in need.**





*St John's Church Crossens*

# christmas



# Fayre



**13th December**

**Starts 10 am**

**St. John's Church**

**\*Games**

**\*Stalls**

**\*Grand**

**\*Refreshments**



**everyone welcome**



# WORDSEARCH

**Did the Old Testament expect Jesus to come?** Yes indeed! Here are just some examples of OT prophecies:

**He would be born of a virgin.** ‘The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son and will call Him Immanuel.’ (Isaiah 7:14)

**He would be born in Bethlehem.** ‘But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel...’ (Micah 5:2)

**His lineage would be of the line of David.** ‘I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.’ (Jeremiah 23:5-6).

**He would bring healing.** ‘Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.’ (Isaiah 35:5-6)

**He would be crucified.** They pierce my hands and my feet. All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me. They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment. (Psalm 22)

**He would rise from the dead.** ‘You will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay...’ (Psalm 16: 8-11)

Born  
Virgin  
Immanuel  
Bethlehem  
Ruler

Israel  
David  
King  
Just  
Right

Healing  
Blind  
Deaf  
Lame  
Mute

Crucified  
Pierce  
Hands  
Feet  
Gloat

Rise  
Dead  
Abandon  
Decay  
Realm

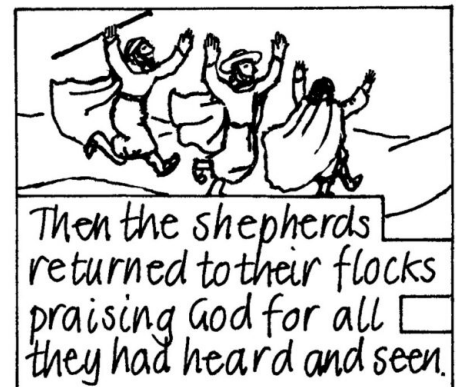


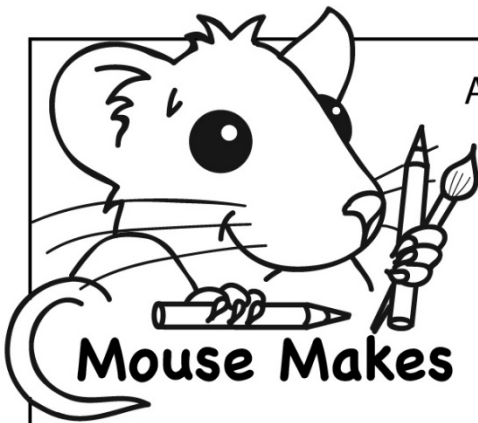
# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Luke chapter 2 verses 8 to 20

Shepherds were paid to look after the flocks out on the hillside. Uneducated and rough, they were usually avoided, or overlooked.





At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus, God's Son and our Saviour coming into the world as a baby, and we look forward to the time when Jesus will come again, not as a baby but as the King of kings and Lord of lords!

**read**  
John 14:3

A baby needs clothes to keep warm like a snuggly sleep suit or a vest and nappy.

*What were you dressed in?*  
Jesus was wrapped in

.....

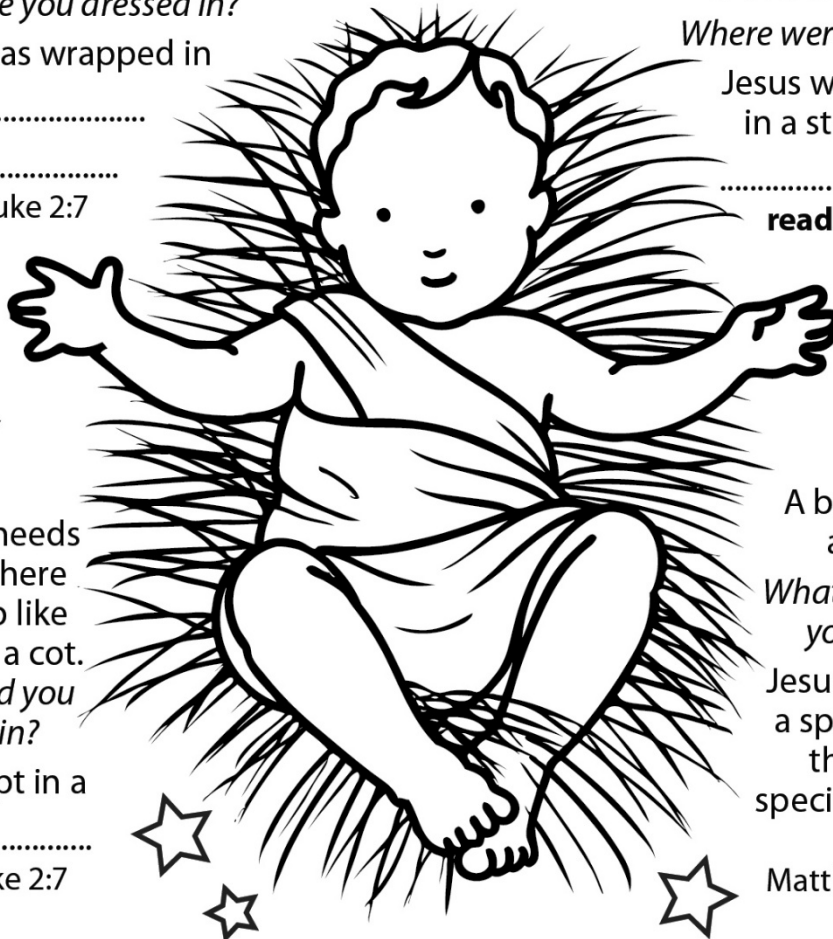
**read** Luke 2:7

A baby needs somewhere to be born like at home or in a hospital.

*Where were you born?*  
Jesus was born in a stable in

.....

**read** Luke 2:1-6



A baby needs somewhere to sleep like a crib or a cot.  
*What did you sleep in?*

Jesus slept in a

.....

**read** Luke 2:7

A baby needs a name.  
*What name were you called?*

Jesus was given a special name that had a special meaning.

**read**  
Matthew 1:21-23

# HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

NADOLIG LLAWEN ☆ NOLLAIG CHRÌDHEIL ☆ NOLLAG SHONA  
JOYEUX NOËL • FELIZ NAVIDAD • BUON NATALE • GOD JUL • FROHE WEIHNACHTEN

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