

CALENDAR

Sunday	16th December
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Parish Communion
6.00pm	Service of Light – a journey from Darkness to Light. Music led by St. Andrew's Choir and the Camerata Choir.
Monday	17th December
7.00pm	Middle School Carol Service
Wednesday	19th December
10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
2.30pm	Carol Singing at Burn brae: come and sing some carols and hear some Christmas readings. All welcome. Please sign the list at the back of church.
Thursday	20th December
9.15am	CHRISTMAS SET UP: Please can you help – setting out chairs, putting candles in holders, folding orders of service, polishing? Coffee will be available. Pop in for half an hour to help. Thanks
10.00am	Prayer Group in church
7.30pm	Advent Home Group
Friday	21st December
10.30am	Funeral: John Davies
1.30pm	First School Carol Service
5.30pm	Camerata Choir Practice
7.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturday	22nd December
7.30pm	Voices of Hope Concert
Sunday	23rd December
9.30am	Parish Communion
6.00pm	Evening Prayer (said)

Morning Prayer will take place at 8.50am and Evening Prayer will take place at 4.15pm Every day this week apart from Thursday evening and Saturday.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE VICAR:

Telephone: 01434 633012

Email. dkennedy@corbridgechurch.org.uk

Day off this week: Saturday

PARISH NEWS: The next issue will be out at the beginning of January. All items to Max Philbrick please. max@philbrick.eclipse.co.uk

THE PARISH OF CORBRIDGE WITH HALTON & NEWTON HALL

Advent 3

16th December

You are most welcome to our service this morning, please stay and have coffee, juice, and mince pies.

Collect for Advent 3: O, Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen

A reading from Zephaniah 3: 14 – end

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

A reading from Philippians 4: 4 – 7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God,

which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

(Luke 3 : 7 – 18)

We pray for:

- The sick, especially: John & Liz Sykes, Nicholas Craig, John Graham, Anna & Ian Colquhoun Meg Humphreys
- The family and friends of; John Davies & Sharon Wilkins
- Edward and Stefanie married on Friday
- Nightstop, StopGap and Reaching the Unreached – our charities for this year.

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS: As Christmas approaches, the Christmas Crackers team are planning their event which runs from 12 noon and 3pm on Christmas Day. If you know someone who might like to attend please contact John Bishop 633221.

POSTAGE STAMPS: Please put your used postage stamps in the box at the back of church. Thanks

A BIG Thank You to:

- All those involved in the Social yesterday
- The lifters and shifters who put up the tree and moved the furniture
- Suzette (& Warwick) for all the work with the Grand Draw.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS Donations towards the decoration of the church during the festive season would be gratefully received by Sheila.

HOME COMMUNIONS FOR CHRISTMAS: if you know of anyone who is housebound and would like to receive communion over the Christmas period please let the Vicar know. Thanks

HYMN

Hark, what a sound, and too divine for hearing,
Stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?
Is it the music of his people's prayer?

Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices
Shout to the saints and to the deaf and dumb;
Surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,
Glad in his coming who hath sworn, I come.

This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?

This shall he do, and can we still despair?
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,
Cast at his feet the burden of our care.

Yea, through life, death, through sorrow and through sinning,
He shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

Thomas Wood