



Rain down

I am sitting by the window watching the rain pour down in torrents and wondering ‘Why does rain come down in straight lines?’ Whether it comes vertically or at an angle, downpour or shower, it always comes in straight lines. Yet streams and rivers meander and weave curves and bows across the countryside; currents flow in whirls and eddies; waves rise and fall in rounded mounds and mould the coastline into bays and head-

lands, nooks and cran-

nies. We need the rain of God’s Spirit to come straight down, to hit the mark directly with His cleansing and to drench us in His presence. Advent is a time to stand out in the rain – to be spiritually washed clean and wet through.

Yet the journey which the rain takes through streams and rivers to the sea is full of twists and turns – and so creates a landscape of beauty and take the wa-



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ter far and wide through the fields and pastures. Our lives are shaped into a beautiful landscape through all the twists and turns. Sometimes we turn aside from a lesson to be learned and go our way, not God's, and so he brings us round in a great ox-bow bend, almost back to where we were, to learn again – and in the landscape of our lives a meander of slow-moving water takes shape. Advent is a time to look and ponder – to see what God has shaped in us

and to rejoice in his craftsmanship; to see where he needs us now to bend or turn, to allow the water of life to take us by a different route to shape God's beauty in our lives.

Straight or curved? How does water flow? And how does God move in our lives?

A Spanish proverb says: 'God writes straight with curved lines.' We 'discovered' that truth through physics. Have we received that truth in faith?

Remembrance Sunday

This year Remembrance Sunday was a time to remember those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as those who served in the two World wars and other conflicts. Young men and women from Dorset and relatives of members of the congregation are serving there and some have been injured and killed in action. Let us remember to keep these conflicts and all caught up in them in our prayers.

This service brings together young and old as we all take time to stand in silence and to make time to care. My thanks to the Royal British Legion, the Cubs Scouts, Brownies and Guides and the Marching Band for making this day, the service and the parade to the War memorial such a special time.

The Confirmation service at Salisbury Cathedral



It was a great privilege to share the commitment made by Sheila, Amy, Olive and Ryan as they offered themselves anew to God as disciples of Jesus Christ. This year the presence of the Holy Spirit was deeply felt, with peace, healing, love and joy. It was a special time and I trust that the Lord will continue to bless Sheila, Amy, Olive and Ryan in their walk with Him.



4 Weeks to Christmas!

But what about the next 5 Years?!

Advent is a time of preparation – practical preparations for our Christmas celebrations and spiritual preparations to greet the Christchild, and to pray for His return in glory.

So it is a good time to think about our church life and the next steps on our journey of worship, service and mission.

The PCC, the Vision Team and the Mission Wheel are the groups which have spent time praying and planning for the next Mission Action Plan. I am grateful for all the hard work which has gone

into the plan so far and I would appreciate any prayerful responses which help us understand the Lord's vision and purpose.

The plan is on display at St. Nicholas in the form of a model to help us visualize our aims, both practical and spiritual, and understand the concept established in 2003 in the Parish Profile of '*drawing the community into the church*' and '*releasing the church into the community*'. I hope that you will look at the model while it is on display and at the printed version of the plan



which will be produced and pray about your part in our next steps as a faith community.

A Mission Action Plan helps us imagine what our church could be like in 5 years' time and then decide how to work towards this. We have looked at some key aims from the Parish Profile of 2003 and how far we have worked towards those through our first Mission Action Plan 2005-2009.

The principal goals from the profile were :

- to find ways of using the St. Nicholas Church Centre to welcome the community
- to welcome families to worship.
- to find the appropriate role for St. Hubert's building within the parish ministry

The first two have been achieved through dreamdays, the partnership with the Children's Centre, MADhouse

(our creative worship), Puppet Praise and our worship band. (We have registered MADhouse and H³artRhythms with Fresh Expressions, the national movement of the Church of England, the Methodist church and other ecumenical partners which encourages new forms of church for our changing world.)

For our third goal we have taken the first step with the provision of a kitchenette and toilet, which will enable us to explore St. Hubert's role in our new Mission Acton Plan.

What next?

For the next 5 Years, 2010-2014, we aim to develop a 'whole-life' approach to our worship and mission, encouraging us to keep applying our faith increasingly to all aspects of our lives and to support a 'whole week' use of our modern centre as both community and sacred space. We will look at how we complement this, at St Hubert's, through the use of our traditional building and grounds.

The aim will be to grow in our ability to share hospitality, healing and hope, with a mixture of activity and stillness; fun and faith exploration; community use and worship. We will also maintain and hopefully develop partnerships with community groups to share with them their service to the community.

The Plan

Our Plan looks at our mission from different aspects, called 'spaces'. These are already part of our life together; the plan is about developing each 'space' further.

The community and the sacred will meet in each 'space'.

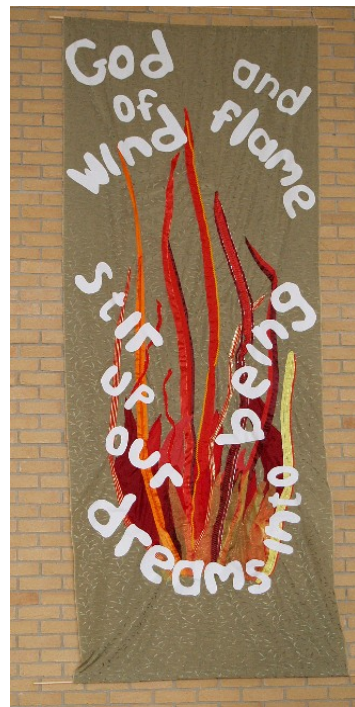
At the heart of all we are and what we do is **Prayer**, worshipping the Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit in a variety of ways, being a people who pray, individually and together.

Growing from Prayer and Worship and leading to Prayer

and Worship are 4 'Spaces':

Public Space, with an emphasis on community use, partnership with local groups, hospitality and exhibitions. This needs to include sport and outward-bound opportunities in due course. We need people willing to welcome, befriend and run a coffee-shop.

The Arts Space. Creativity releases in every human being the image of the



Creator and so is an essential expression of faith and mission. We now aim to grow deeper reflection and worship around our creativity.

Exploratory Space. Faith Zone is well established; we have held Alpha and Through the Bible courses. Now we begin Discipleship courses and develop mentoring, prayer triplets and mission training.

Eco-space. Care for the environment is a fundamental trust given to us by God. We are planning a 'Green Cart' project to use our grounds appropriately. We aim to become an eco-congregation.

This is an exciting vision for us to express the heart of God, present among His people through all the strands of life and using each and every strand to invite us to take the next step towards Him. I hope that each of us will find

our unique place within it, traditional or 'on the cutting edge'; worshipping, serving, sharing and respecting all the different contributions which could make a whole-life community and sacred space to the glory of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



Jesus said ,

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that all the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

Events in December

All events at St. Nicholas unless otherwise indicated

Friday 4th December	12.00pm	First Friday Lunch
Saturday 5th December	10.00am	Christmas Dreamday
	12.30pm	MU Communion Lunch
Saturday 12th December	10.00am	Stay and Play For Dads and Kids
Tuesday 15th December	10.00am	Ark Toddlers Christmas carols
Wednesday 16th December	12.00pm	Lunch Club Christmas Party

“God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son”

Christmas Services

Saturday 5th December	10am-4pm	Christmas Dreamday Hosanna Rock
Sunday 13th December	6.30pm	St. Hubert's Carol Service
Tuesday 15th December	10.00am	Toddler's Carol Service - All toddlers welcome (St. Nicholas)
Sunday 20th December	11.00am	MADhouse Christmas Celebration
	6.30pm	St. Nicholas Carol Service - 9 Lessons and Carols
Thursday 24th December	4.00pm	Crib Service (St. Nicholas)
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion (St. Nicholas)
Friday 25th December	8.00am	Christmas Communion (St. Hubert's)
	10.00am	Family Christmas Communion (St. Nicholas)

Hosanna Rock!

Hosted by ³Hart Rhythms

Family Fun Day

Saturday 5 December

St. Nicholas Church
Corfe Mullen

10.00am-4.00pm

Show starts at 3.30pm

Set painting

Christmas Crafts

Baking

Percussion workshop

Finishing with a multimedia performance and
opportunities for everyone to take part!



dreamdays [★][★]

dancing to the beat of God's heart
³Hart Rhythms
dream - create - live

www.h3artrhythms.org.uk

Mission-shaped Ministry

Do you dare to think outside the box?

Do you want to break through modern disregard for the Christian faith and grapple with new ways of sharing God's truths today.

If so please enrol for MSM starting January 2010

We are delighted that the national Fresh Expressions group is working with us to put on a training course for mission at St. Nicholas. 12 meetings in the year, including a weekend away: cost £250 (can pay in monthly installments)

Session leaders include

Bishop Graham, Andrew Roberts (Director of Training for Fresh Expressions), Lucy Moore (founder of Messy Church).

It would be good to have a group from this parish on the course, so we can develop a common approach to growing our church mission.

Please pick up an enrolment form from the office.



Discipleship Course

Thursdays 11am at St. Nicholas

For anyone wanting to think about the basic truths and tools of the Christian faith.

Please speak to Paul or just come along.

What does the Lord require of you?

'God has created me
to do him some definite service:
he has committed some work to me
which he has not committed to another.

I have my mission –
I may never know it in this life,
but I shall be told it in the next.
Somehow I am necessary for his purposes:
as necessary in my place
as an Archangel is in his.

I have a part in this great chain,
a bond of connection between persons.
He has not created me for nothing.

..... I shall do his work;
I shall be an angel of peace,
a preacher of truth in my own place.
.....I am here to serve you, to be yours,
To be your instrument.

John Henry Newman.



Finance #5

Our Giving

Isn't it strange how we all enjoy giving presents at Christmas as much as receiving them but when it comes to giving money to God we may struggle or feel resentful towards the church? Giving money to God, which we do through the church, should bring us as much pleasure as giving someone a Christmas present – and is a tremendous privilege as well. God, who gives us everything, is willing to receive a few pounds a week from us as the way He has chosen to enable His church to be the body of His Son in the world.

Over the last few months we have looked at the Diocesan Share, our parish running costs and capital and mission expenditure. I have explained that development and mission expenditure come from specific funds, not from our weekly giving and how the lettings' income goes towards repairs

and maintenance.

The costs which we must cover through weekly giving are the Diocesan Share and our parish running costs. These together come to around £10.20p per head per week.

This may seem a lot but it is nothing compared with the value of our salvation and the cost of that gift to Jesus on the cross. Let us remember to hold the gift of eternal life in one hand and £10.20p in the other and weigh them together. Is £10.20 too great a thank you to God?

A few members will not be able to give or will only be able to give a little. Jesus understood that profoundly and valued the widow's mite above all other giving. So if we are genuinely in that position the Lord promises that the tiniest amount we give

brings Him delight.

Most of us are fortunate to be able to give and every gift is appreciated by God as an offering to Him and we as a parish, in His shadow, are also grateful for every financial gift.

So thank you all for all the money given this year.

Sadly it does not equal £10.20 per head per week. Our total giving divided by the attendance figure used by the Diocese averages out at £4.22 per head per week.

We need to increase our giving to fulfil our commitment to God's Church. Please consider what proportion of your income £10.20 is. What

do you buy without much thought for that amount? Would you be pleased or embarrassed to let Jesus look at your finances?

Are you expressing your love for God through your generosity as much as you are able?

If you are, please continue to give as you do and may you receive God's blessing for your service. If the Lord touches you over this, please let Him guide our giving as it is to Him that we give.

If you are not yet giving financially, and would like to do so, please speak to Ian Skinner.

Again, many thanks for all that has been given this year.

Advent thought

Jesus says:

"Behold, I am coming soon!"

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!"

And let him who hears say, "Come!"

Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

Clubs and Organisations

Little Rascals Nursery

Weekdays 8.30am-6.00pm 01202 658385 P. Gardiner

Corfe Mullen Day Care

Monday 9.30am-3.30pm 01202 600066 D. Fowles

Dancing

Monday 4.30pm-8.30pm 01202 737244 K. Taylor

West Country Embroiderers

Monday 9.30am-3.30pm 01202 695164 A. Barlow

Cake Craft

Mon-Tues 6.30pm-10.00pm 01202 692675 L. Rathbone

Goju Ryu Karate

Tuesday 5.00pm-6.00pm 01202 650485 A. Morton

Wessex Judo

Tuesday 6.30pm-10.00pm 01202 697972 P. Jeffrey

Corfe Mullen Lunch Club

Wednesday 11.30am-1.30pm 01202 692720 S. Black

Jo Jingles (pre-school music)

Wednesday 12.45pm-3.30pm 01202 739444 L. Wilson

Slimming World

Wednesday 10am,6pm,7.30pm 01258 858645 L. Hopton

Badminton

Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm 01202 698258 M. Sains

Dancing Class

Thursday 2.30pm-6.00pm 01202 848052 N. Tompson

Pilates

Friday 12.30-4.00pm 013005851581 P. Whittet

Yoga

Friday 1.45pm-3.00pm 01202 568322 C. Holmes

Who's Who

Rector	Pamela Walker	The Rectory	01202 658817
Reader	Steve Richards	Trevilling, Blandford Road	01202 698567
Church Wardens	Geoff Dale		
Lay Associate Minister	Fran Lane	36 Wareham Road	07771 536755
	Hilary Richards	Trevilling, Blandford Road	01202 698567
Hon. Secretary	Lorraine Lawrence		
Planned Giving	Ian Skinner	6 Royster Close	07866030776
Lettings Administrator	Shelly Patenall	Church Office	01202 602948
L.P.A Coordinator	Jill Perry	Beech Cottage, Roman Heights	01202 605448
Organist and Choir	Andrew Jones	23 Central Avenue	01202 695619
Bellringers	Roy Lench	51 Highfield Road	01202 696219
Mother's Union	Heather Booth	23 Fairview Crescent, B'stone	01202 698170
Young Families	Lorraine Lawrence		
Distribution	Jim Hawkins	34 Albert Road	01202 602281

Office Hours

The Parish Office Monday-Friday 9.00am-1.00pm
 Telephone: **602948**
 Email: **office@h3artrhythms.org.uk**

The Finance Office Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9.00am-1.00pm
 Telephone: **602948**
 Email: **finance.st.n@btconnect.com**

The Rector's day off is Friday.

Please try to keep this in mind when making appointments or contacting her. Thank you for your understanding.

Submissions for the Newsletter

If you wish to submit an article for next month's Newsletter, you can do so in a couple of ways. You can send it to the editor via email at **newsletter@h3artrhythms.org.uk** or, if you prefer, hand it in to the Parish Office and it will be forwarded on. For more information,

please call 01202 602948. Please aim to submit all copy for next month's edition before the 11th of the previous month.

This newsletter can be downloaded at www.h3artrhythms.org.uk/newsletter.

Sunday Worship

St. Nicholas

Weekly

9.30am Holy Communion

11.00am MADhouse

Second Sunday of the month

7.30pm Informal Worship

St. Hubert's

Weekly

8.00am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong (up to 13th December)

Weekday Worship at St. Nicholas

Thursday

10.00am Holy Communion

If you require transport to the 9.30am service at St. Nicholas, please contact Jim Hawkins on 01202 602281. He will be happy to arrange this for you.

“You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. “

1 Corinthians 12:27

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