# **Prospect**

## The Parish Magazine of the Shingay group of Parishes



Francis Hoyland: "Nativity Polyptych" from the Methodist Modern Art Collection © TMCP, used with permission. www.methodist.org.uk/artcollection

Abington Pigotts + Guilden Morden Litlington + Steeple Morden Tadlow + Wendy

December 2020-January 2021

### **Prospect**

The Parish Magazine of the Shingay group of parishes www.shingaychurches.co.uk

Canon Shamue Williams MA

Doctor 0

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Deadline for February issue - January 15th. Please send all material for inclusion direct to Alex da Costa rather than via the Rector. Thank you.

#### **Rector's Letter**

#### Shamus Williams

The cover picture of *Prospect* is explained in the commentary to the Methodist Art collection: The central image is flanked by four smaller ones and one predella-like image across the bottom of the panel. Hovland's central scene shows Jesus in the manger, under a lantern with Mary propped up and Joseph asleep on the floor. The top left image shows the announcement to the shepherds; top right, the Magi's journey (three unregal figures, back-packing, through dangerous-looking Lickey Woods in Birmingham,); bottom right, the Flight into Egypt with Mary carrying the child and Joseph pushing a pram through Richmond Park. The remaining images portray the Massacre of the Innocents. The bottom left shows it as a nuclear attack, with burning buildings and a dead baby. The wider 'predella' shows it in terms of the warfare in the Congo when Hoyland painted the polyptych. I like this picture because the artist has related the story of Christmas to his own life very directly, rather in the manner of Stanley Spencer. It's been a tough year for billions across the globe. In our little corner, let's relate the good news of the coming of the Saviour to our own lives too.

The list of services in Prospect is based on the assumption that we will be able to use church buildings for worship again from early December. Even if that does happen, holding carol services in church is going to be impractical sadly. This is mainly because a carol service without the congregation being allowed to sing the carols defeats the object to a large extent. A further reason is that the potential numbers wishing to attend a carol service in church would be unsafe. Therefore we aim to hold one big carol service using Zoom on Christmas Eve at 4.30pm. That way, we can sing the carols at home. The music will be live, and at the home of the organist it is hoped some singers will be heard by us all too.

If you are not already receiving regular email updates from me, please email me to receive details of how to join the carol service or any of the Zoom services: shamuswilliams@waitrose.com

There will also be an enjoyable Christmas Service using Zoom on Sunday 13th Dec at 3pm, which will be aimed for children. There will be viewer participation so please email The Revd. Ann Bol to ensure you receive the required resources well in advance and are sent the zoom link for the service: RevAnn801@gmail.com or phone 01223 871058

This Christmas is certain to feel different for us all, but let's do all we can to join the angels and shepherds at the manger: "Behold, I bring you news of great joy which shall be for all people...".

Shamus Williams

## **Calendar** of

6th December (Advent 2)		
9.30am	Litlington	Family Service
10.00am	Abington Pigotts	Family Service
10.00am	Guilden Morden	Parish Communion+ baptism (Harrison Mills)
10.45am	Steeple Morden	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Zoom Service	
13th December (Advent 3)		
8.30am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion (PB)
9.30am	Litlington	Parish Communion
9.45am	Steeple Morden	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Wendy	Parish Communion
3.00pm	Zoom Children's service (also Guilden Morden's United service today). Please email RevAnn801@gmail.com for details.	
20th December (Advent 4)		
10.00am	Guilden Morden Holy Communion	
	It is hoped to livestream this service.	
10.00am	Steeple Morden	Nativity service
24th December (Christmas Eve)		
4.30pm	Zoom Carol Service. Please email shamuswilliams@waitrose.com for details	
11.30pm	Steeple Morden	Group Midnight Communion

## Services

25th December (Christmas Day)				
8.30am	Wendy Parish Communion			
9.45am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion		
9.45am	Steeple Morden	Parish Communion*		
9.45am	Litlington Parish Communion*			
11.00am	Guilden Morden	Parish Communion		
No Zoom service today. Please join Christmas Eve carol service				
27th December (Ct. John)				
27th December (St. John)				
10.00am	Litlington	Group Communion for all parishes		
3rd January (observed as Epiphany)				
8.30am	Steeple Morden	Parish Communion(PB)		
8.30am	Abington Pigotts	Morning Prayer		
9.30am	Litlington	Family Service		
10.00am	Guilden Morden	Parish Communion		
11.00am	Zoom Service			
10th January (Bap	otism of Christ)			
Ecumenical Service for	It is hoped that a service at St. Mary's, Guilden			
Week of Prayer for	Morden will be possible at 10.30am. Please see			
Christian Unity	Christian Unity notice boards nearer the time.			
17th Jan (Epiphany 2) - services for Epiphany 2 continued overleaf				
8.30am	Abington Pigotts	Parish Communion(PB)		
9.30am	Litlington	Parish Communion		
9.45am	Steeple Morden	Family Service		

#### Calendar of Services (cont)

17th Jan (Epiphany 2) - Epiphany 2 services continued from p.3			
10.00am	Wendy Morning Prayer		
11.00am	Guilden Morden Parish Communion		
11.00am	Zoom Service 11.00am		
24th January (Epiphany 3)			
10.00am	Guilden Morden Group Communion for all parishes		
	It is hoped to livestream this service.		
31st January (Epiphany 4)			
10.00am	Steeple Morden	Group Communion for all parishes	
	It is hoped to livestream this service.		

#### **Floodlight Diary**

#### St Peter & St Paul, Steeple Morden

David or Gilly McKee 852380.

	· •
November 7	To celebrate the return of Lorinda and Nancy to Steeple Morden
November 16	In loving memory of Ian Wallace Symington RIP
December 17	In loving memory of my beloved Grandson Sam Clarke RIP on his 33rd Birthday love Nan
December 18	Remembering our beautiful friend Sarah Matthews on her birthday
Christmas Eve	In loving memory of Kath Lunness RIP also Frank and Muriel Huffer RIP
If you would like	the lights switched on (£5 per evening) please contact

#### Floodlight Diary (cont)

#### St Mary's, Guilden Morden

- October 21 Remembering Linda Davies with love on her anniversary RIP

  October 25 Birthday wishes to Brenda Davies

  October 26 Remembering Zoe Dickman with love from all her family RIP

  October 31 For Linda Davies on what would have been her birthday RIP

  November 11 In remembrance of everyone who served who served in time of war RIP

  November 22 Remembering Rose Roberts on her first anniversary, with
- November 28 Remembering Hilda Williams RIP

love from Dave and Jane RIP

December 2 In loving memory of Bill Davies, husband of Brenda and father of Linda, on the first anniversary, from Brenda and all the family RIP

We want to remember Peter Wilson, the long serving and well respected Secretary of Guilden Morden Cherubs Cricket Club.

If you would like the lights switched on please contact Cynthia Worboys 853217.

#### St Catherine's, Litlington

- October 29 Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Tony and Helen Gray who were married at St Catherine's Church on 29/10/1960 by Rev. Punchard. Congratulations!
- November 9 For Sheila Robinson RIP forever missed and in our thoughts her loving family.

If you would like the lights switched on, please contact Pam Sharp 852425 or John Jenner 242127. The cost is still only £5.



Saturday, 5th December, 10-12 am

Provided the lock-down is not extended, we are holding cakes, produce and Christmassy bits stalls outside the Church

We look forward to seeing you - do come!

We ask you please to honour Government guidance - use a one-way system, wear masks and socially distance.

May we respectfully remind visitors to use hand sanitiser.

In the event of an extension to the lock-down, there will be goods for sale on line.

#### ST MARY'S NOTICES

#### PETER WILSON MEMORIAL CRICKET MATCH

The Peter Wilson Memorial Cricket Match has had unfortunately to be postponed until next year. We want to remember Peter Wilson, the long serving and well respected Secretary of Guilden Morden Cherubs Cricket Club.

#### ST PETER & ST PAUL'S NOTICES

#### TOYS, TOYS, TOYS etc. - THANK YOU!

The response to the request for toys, clothes, cots, baths etc. has been overwhelming and we have received wonderful things, not to mention highchairs, buggies, scooters ......

The Mothers' Union representative who will be passing it all on, Maureen Haigh, has asked me to express the heartfelt thanks of all the people who will be receiving such riches. Your generosity and thoughtfulness are amazing and will provide endless joy as we approach the Christmas period. Thank you on their behalf.

Anne Hassall

#### **PRAYER TREE**

St Peter & St Paul is open daily for private prayer in accordance with Government guidelines.

There is a prayer tree in the church, inviting anyone to write a private prayer or thought and hang it on the tree.

These will be dedicated over Christmas.

Will visitors please use the hand sanitiser that is provided just inside the door.

#### **DAILY HOPE**

The Church of England has a wonderful telephone line called Daily Hope which is designed particularly with people on their own in mind. 0800 804 8044. There are various options - hymns we love, hymn line, chair exercises, and daily reflection.

#### **Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary**

www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com

Given the current situation and the lack of certainty concerning future regulations, the following is a diary of events and services we would like to plan for December and January. Where face to face services are not permitted we will aim to provide online services. Please refer to our website (link above) or our facebook page for more up to date information.

DECEMBER			
Sun 6th	10.30am	Family service in the Chapel	
Mon 7th	10.30am	Men's Guild Zoom Meeting	
Sun 13th	2.00pm-3.00pm	Sunday School	
	4.00pm	Carol Service	
Sun 20th	10.30am	Joint service with St Mary's at the Chapel	
	2.00pm-3.00pm	Sunday School	
Thu 24th	4.00pm	Nativity Service	
Sun 27th	10.30am	Communion Service, led by Tony Frost. Please bring your own bread and wine	
JANUARY			
Sun 3rd	10.30am	Family Service	
Mon 4th	10.30am	Men's Guild Zoom Meeting	
Sun 10th	11.00am	TBC	
Sun 17th	10.30am	TBC	
	2.00pm-3.00pm	Sunday School	
Sun 24th	10.30am	TBC	
Sun 31st	10.30am	Communion Service	

Measures to enable the start of other activities in the Chapel and schoolroom are now in place, and the building will be available for hire once again from December 2nd. However, activities may only take place subject to the then applicable government rules and guidelines, and subject to the successful completion of a joint risk assessment.

## Litlington Congregational Church Meeting Lane SG8 0QF

Our friendly regular Sunday services commence at 11am. All are welcome.

Sunday 13th December 4.00 pm Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 20th December 11.00 am Christmas Service

There will be a notice in Litlington Live, and on the Church and Post Office notice boards providing further details and Covid requirements for the service on 13th December. This should be available on 5th December.

Our hall is available for your meeting or event for a voluntary donation.

The 7.4 X 5.7 metre room has an independent entrance and a separate kitchen, toilet, large lobby area, car park and garden. Chairs and tables available. It will accommodate up to 30 people for meals and up to 45 for meetings and buffets. Contact Gwen Biles 01763 852533.

#### MORE TREES FOR STEEPLE

Running a community project during a pandemic was challenging but Steeple Morden villagers responded brilliantly meaning there will be 85 new trees planted in the Parish this winter.

All will be native species to provide the most biodiversity benefit and were chosen to suit the sites available. The Parish Council are paying for the trees and two tree nurseries will deliver them this autumn: local company Herts Native Trees, who provided some trees and delivery for free, and Thorpe Trees, a Woodland Trust supplier.

We'll be planting trees in village gardens, on the recreation ground and conservation area, and in paddocks along North Brook End and Bogs Gap Lane. There were lots of other ideas for where to plant more trees such as roadside verges into the village and at junctions, and in the churchyard. It's proved difficult to get ownership details or permissions so far. Maybe next year? A small orchard at the top of the conservation area was suggested and will definitely be looked at again next year.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed Steeple Morden will be an even greener place to grow up and live in future!

Nettie Traverse-Healy



#### **In the Garden** Yasmeen Brigstocke

The blustery winter weather doesn't allow for much outdoor gardening, so my thoughts turn to houseplants. I find that having greenery indoors throughout the winter months really lifts the mood. I have been growing ginger and turmeric from roots I bought at the health food shop and they have produced really nice plants which I am intending to put outside next year, to add to my exotic planting scheme. Growing them is easy.

I find that shoots and leaves are produced more quickly from ginger roots which have small creamy nodules on them, so choose those when you buy them from the green grocer's or supermarket. Organic ginger seems to grow more quickly. Place the ginger root with the nodules facing upwards in a small flower pot filled with general purpose compost, with about two thirds of the root in the soil. Moisten the soil, so that it is damp but not too soggy and place the flowerpot in a plastic bag, knotting it at the top to form a sort of cloche which keeps the moisture in, and place in an airing cupboard or similar warm dark area. Small stems should appear after about ten days to two weeks. When they are 3 cms tall, place the flowerpot in a brightly lit, draft free place but keep the plastic bag around the plant for a couple of days to allow it to acclimatise to the new conditions. The stem, which will be pale, will soon turn green and elongate, producing long, willow-like leaves on either side. The ginger should go on to produce several stems and turn into a nice house plant. (See photos of them on my blog: https://yasgarden.blogspot.com/)

Turmeric roots produce plants which look rather like Peace lilies. The process of growing them is similar to ginger, except that the turmeric rhizome should be placed horizontally, below the surface of the compost, so that the line of bumps from which the leaf stems will grow are just visible.

Colocasias, (commonly called Taro in Asian greengrocers) also make interesting house plants. They are large plants about a metre and half tall with elongated heart shaped leaves on long stems and have become popular in an exotic border. Having discovered that a single tuber can cost £4 from bulb and seed suppliers, I decided to grow them from tubers I bought at an Asian greengrocers in Letchworth, where the same amount of money will buy a number of tubers. They are like a slightly hairy oval potato with ring markings around it. Try and find tubers which have buds on them as they will sprout quickly. It is worth soaking them in warm water for a couple of days before planting into a pot full of compost, slightly bigger than the tuber. Only the growing tip should be visible above the soil. Then treat as for turmeric and ginger. Within two weeks the tuber will start producing roots from around its sides and a shoot will appear at the top. It is good idea to acclimatise the plant more gently than turmeric and ginger, keeping the humid atmosphere of the plastic bag for several days and opening it up more slowly as the plant grows. All these plants enjoy a humid atmosphere. And when you get bored of the plants you can eat their tubers! (Cook colocasias thoroughly.)

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The Trustees of the 'Wheels for Martin's Friends' charity would like to hear from anyone who needs help with obtaining a permanent wheelchair or mobility aid. Call Peter Furmston 852125 or Heather Watts 852727 for further information.





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