

# **Bolton Parish Church**

**St Peter, Bolton-le-Moors**



**Parish News**

**January 2017**

50 p

# Calendar January 2017

- 1 Sunday The Naming of Jesus**  
8.00 Holy Communion  
10.30 Parish Communion (CW)
- 3 Tuesday 12.15 Holy Communion
- 5 Thursday 12.15 Holy Communion
- 6 Friday THE EPIPHANY
- 8 Sunday First Sunday of Epiphany**  
8.00 Holy Communion  
10.30 Parish Communion (CW)  
18.30 Evening Prayer (with hymns)
- 10 Tuesday *William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645*  
12.15 Holy Communion
- 12 Thursday **Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167**  
12.15 Holy Communion
- 15 Sunday Second Sunday of Epiphany**  
8.00 Holy Communion  
10.30 Parish Communion (BCP)  
18.30 Evening Prayer
- 17 Tuesday **Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356**  
12.15 Holy Communion
- 19 Thursday **Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095**  
12.15 Holy Communion
- 22 Sunday Third Sunday of Epiphany**  
8.00 Holy Communion  
10.30 Joint Service at Victoria Hall  
18.30 Choral Evensong
- 24 Tuesday **Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Teacher, 1274**  
12.15 Holy Communion
- 26 Thursday **Timothy and Titus, Companions of Paul**  
12.15 Holy Communion
- 29 Sunday Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**  
Services as on 15th January
- 31 Tuesday *John Bosco, Priest, Founder of the Salesian Teaching Order, 1888*  
12.15 Holy Communion

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year Everyone! I hope that 2017 has begun well for you and yours.

In the midst of the darkest months of the year, our celebrations for Christmas and New Year provide us with a boost to our systems with an injection of much needed light, colour, warmth and hopefully love too.

As I write this, the twelfth night of Christmas has passed and so our Christmas decorations at home have been taken down and carefully packed away for another year. In Church they will last a day or two longer as we keep the feast of the Epiphany on Sunday 8 January this year.

I wonder where you stand on this question. I know some folk who pack their decorations away on the day after Boxing Day (but then they may have put them up very early!); by the same token I know a few who keep theirs up until the Feast of the Presentation on 2 February – forty days after Christmas.

Either way once the decorations have finally gone back into their boxes, we are left with quite a lot of dark winter days to endure without such pleasant distractions. For many people January is a tough month of the year; not only is it dark and cold but it normally heralds the arrival of the (credit card) bills we have run up to make Christmas so special.

It always helps to have something to look forward to at such times – a forthcoming happy occasion for the family or a holiday in the summer perhaps. But there is something about this January which feels especially uncertain. After the excitement and turbulence of 2016 with the never-ending referendum debate, the terrorist attacks in European cities and the ongoing horrors taking place in Syria, there is a strong sense of uncertainty.

The nation has voted to leave the European Union but as yet we don't know when that will take place or what the consequences might be for us personally or as a nation (positively or negatively).

Such a heightened sense of uncertainty is exciting, exhilarating for a

time and then gradually it becomes unsettling and altogether more questionable as time goes on.

In 2017 I imagine that we will go on discussing such matters ad nauseam until we begin to discern a way forward and then be able to answer the deeper questions of what sort of nation and people we will become and how much of a change that will represent from the last forty years or so.

As human beings we have a need to know where we belong. As children, we learn that we belong to our parents, our family, our church, our school, our neighbourhood, our country and so on. We learn to enjoy and indeed depend on those things which symbolise that sense of belonging. It's all a part of feeling at home with ourselves and with the world.

As Christians, our deepest belonging is found in God. At Christmas we celebrated the incarnation, the coming amongst us of the Christ Child – God with us! If we know the reality of God's presence with us and within then we can never be lost or without hope for we always know ourselves to be found in God; our lives rooted in his life.

My prayer for us all is that this year we will know the presence of God with us every step of the way during 2017. At the beginning of the year we use a prayer in church which means a great deal to me. It is called the New Year Covenant and it is a prayer of self-offering to God which I find amazingly helpful and a powerful way to begin a new year. I will print the words at the end of this letter. If you like the words, then use them regularly in your prayers and allow yourself to be open to the presence of God day by day.

None of us know what will happen in 2017; neither do we know on what we will look back on at the year's end- whether we will look back with pleasure or simply relief that it has come to an end. However, if we own that our deepest sense of belonging rests in God then we can face whatever comes in 2017 with faith, hope and love.

With my love and prayers

Matt Thompson

## **New Year Covenant**

**I am no longer my own but yours.  
Put me to what you will,  
rank me with whom you will;  
put me to doing,  
put me to suffering;  
let me be employed for you  
or laid aside for you,  
exalted for you  
or brought low for you;  
let me be full,  
let me be empty,  
let me have all things,  
let me have nothing;  
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things  
to your pleasure and disposal.  
And now, glorious and blessed God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
you are mine and I am yours.  
So be it.  
And the covenant now made on earth,  
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

The annual Christians Together in Bolton Town Centre joint service is at 10.30am on Sunday 22 January at Victoria Hall. There will be no service at the Parish Church at 10.30am on that day, but there will be the usual 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion and Choral Evensong at 6.30 p.m.

## Flower News

Advent is a time of preparation, and this is true of the flower team, who use this time to plan and prepare for the decoration of church for Christmas. The Advent wreath was dressed as usual entirely in garden foliage: holly, spruce, ivy, and berries.

In the days before Christmas, the flower team, and some willing volunteers, gathered in church. Sunday school members had created stars and angels which were used to decorate the Jesse tree which was placed behind the crib. It was good to see that the flock of sheep had returned!

The altar had arrangements of white and ivory carnations and roses, and gold sprays. A pedestal of white and ivory carnations and roses, and white chrysanthemums, with gold additions was placed in the nave. Red carnations and roses were used in the pedestal by the war memorial, and in the lady chapel the arrangement was of foliage, white amaryllis and gold..

A triple gold wreath decorated with two stems of amaryllis, and two golden wreaths, decorated the pulpit. Holly garlands and festive wreaths were draped on the choir stalls.. Window ledges were decorated with candles, holly, and cinnamon sticks. A pedestal of foliage and gold sprays was placed in the north aisle. By the museum corner, an arrangement of white amaryllis and gold twisted sticks was placed, with festive wreaths hung on the wrought iron posts.

The west porch had a red wreath hanging from the lantern, a candle arrangement with white carnations, and a bough of twisted hazel decorated with tree baubles. In the south porch, candles, holly, ivy, and gold foliage decorated the ledges and window ledges. Our friendly robin had also made a return visit! Thank you to all who helped on the Thursday and Friday, gave donations to the flower fund, and for donation of garden foliage.

Our Charity Flower day on December 3<sup>rd</sup> was a wonderful day with stunning and inspirational demonstration pieces by Margaret Fazakerley and Julie Pearson, good food, and an enjoyable time had by all. £600 was raised for the Diabetic unit at the Royal Bolton Hospital. Our next Charity Day is planned for May 2017, with more details available soon.

Thank you from the flower team for interest and support shown in the past year, and our best wishes for 2017.

Flower team

## **Hand-bell Group**

New members are very welcome to join us – we meet in church (access via the south side door) on a Wednesday evening between 7 and 8.30pm.

## **Choir**

If you (or someone you know) enjoy singing and are interested in helping to maintain the tradition of Anglican Choral music, you may like to consider joining the choir. Some ability to read music is essential.

For 6<sup>th</sup>-form pupils considering a future application as a Choral Scholar at University, the experience of singing in a choir like this could be invaluable, and, even if you do not have such high aspirations, could still prove very rewarding.

We are always on the look-out for new singers. If you think you might be interested, contact the Director of Music, Michael Pain, on 07540 834 001 or [michaelpain18@gmail.com](mailto:michaelpain18@gmail.com), and he will be happy to discuss this with you.

## **Harrogate and Ripon Trip**

During summer, I booked the Choir's annual Cathedral visit for 2017, and I am delighted to tell you that we shall be singing Choral Evensong in Ripon Cathedral on Saturday 13th May. We last went to Ripon in August 2011, so it is certainly time we went back!

As Ripon is a good deal closer to us than some of the cathedrals we have recently visited, and the visit is on a Saturday, I hope this will prove to be a popular choice – as last time, it is likely that we shall stop in Harrogate for lunch, and still have plenty of time for sightseeing and shopping in Ripon before Evensong.

We are also very fortunate to have obtained the services of my predecessor Stephen Carleston as our accompanist.

Further details will be provided in due course.

MICHAEL PAIN.

## FROM THE ORGAN CONSOLE

One of the great pleasures of my job as Director of Music is the annual preparation of the Tuesday Lunchtime Concert Series, and this year has been no exception; there is something for everyone, and the quality of the performers I have persuaded to come is very high indeed. The full programme appears elsewhere in this magazine, so I do not need to refer to every concert, but there are some which perhaps deserve special mention. Jon Gjylaci, who has played for us several times in past seasons, will be giving a guitar recital on May 9<sup>th</sup>; he has now recorded his second CD, and was recently a featured guest on “In Tune” with Sean Rafferty on BBC Radio 3, playing a couple of pieces live on air, as well as being interviewed. As his playing career starts to “take off”, we are delighted that he is coming to play for us again – you heard him here first!

I am pleased that students from the Royal Northern College of Music Junior Department will be playing this year – they didn’t come last year, as the dates wouldn’t work out; this concert always shows what amazing talent there is among young people if you know where to look!

It is good that the church’s superb piano will be heard in recital again this season, and we have two brilliant recitalists to show it off to best advantage, Paul Greenhalgh (Director of the Blackburn School of Music) and Adam Taylor from Manchester, who has played twice for us in the past. Other delights there are too many to mention, although I must end by pointing out the vocal concert on 4<sup>th</sup> July by our very own Steph Ives, who is a wonderful soprano soloist in her own right, as well as a regular member of our choir.

The Saturday Morning Organ Recitals continue to attract a discerning audience, and I am pleased that Tim Harper, Assistant Director of Music of Ripon Cathedral, will be starting off this mini-series, on May 6<sup>th</sup>. His father Norman was for many years Director of Music at Bolton School, and his mother Marilyn (née Flemming) has close connections with this church, not least as a pupil of the great William Morgan.

I will write about the other two organ concerts in future issues; meanwhile, I hope you will make a note of the dates, and make the decision to come and enjoy all the wonderful music on offer!

MICHAEL PAIN.

## Lunchtime Concerts 2017

April 25th	Paul Greenhalgh (Piano)
May 2nd	“Champain” vocal trio
May 9th	Jon Gjylaci (Guitar)
May 16th	Gary Hulme, St. Mary's, Prestwich (Organ)
May 23rd	Young Organists from Bolton School
May 30th	“Quintessence” vocal group
June 6th	Adrian van der Schans, Haslingden Parish Church (Organ)
June 13th	Students from the Junior Royal Northern College of Music
June 20th	Adam Taylor (Piano)
June 27th	Vivien Chasey (Violin) with Robin and Claire Bowman
July 4th	Stephanie Ives (Soprano) with Catherine Hall-Smith (Piano)
July 11th	Music from the Movies – Judy and Michael Pain
July 18th	Liam Cartwright, High Wycombe Parish Church (Organ)
July 25th	Sounds of the 60s & 70s –Judy and Michael Pain
August 1st	Peter Morrison, St. Mary's, Chorley (Organ)

### OUT OF THE MOUTHS.....

Mother, to small boy who  
has been misbehaving  
“You're a very bad boy!”

Boy, to mother “No I'm  
not. I'm a good boy doing  
bad things!”



(There's a sermon in there  
somewhere...)

(A true story, appearing by courtesy  
of Mrs. D. L. Pain)

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There is a definite focus on Scotland at this time of the year. After the festivities of Hogmanay, the Scots have Burn's Night to look forward to. Here is a gentle Scottish 'swipe' at the English.

*The average Englishman, sitting in his home which he calls his castle, puts on his waterproof clothing as he goes out; a raincoat patented by Charles Macintosh of Glasgow, Scotland.*

*He drives a car fitted with tyres invented by John Boyd Dunlop of Dreghorn, Irvine, Scotland.*

*At the office, he receives his mail with adhesive stamps which, although they bear the Queen of England's head, were invented by John Chambers of Dundee, Scotland.*

*During the day, he uses the telephone; invented by Alexander Graham Bell of Edinburgh, Scotland.*

*At home in the evening he watches his son ride his rear-wheel-driven bicycle; invented by Kirkpatrick MacMillan, a blacksmith born in Thornhill, Scotland.*

*He watches the news on television which was invented by John Logie Baird of Helensburgh, Scotland and hears an item about the U.S. Navy, founded by John Paul Jones of Kirkbean, Dumfries, Scotland.*

*He has now been reminded too much of Scotland and in desperation picks up the Holy Bible, only to find that the first man mentioned in the good book is a Scot: King James VI, [the first king of both Scotland and England] who authorised the Bible's translation which was published in 1611.*

*Nowhere can an Englishman turn to escape the ingenuity of the Scots; he could take to drink but the Scots make the finest in the world. He could take a rifle and end it all but the breech-loading rifle was invented by Captain Patrick Ferguson of Pitfours, Scotland.*

*If he escaped death, he could find himself on an operating table, being injected with Penicillin, discovered by Alexander Fleming of*

*Darvel, Scotland, and given an anaesthetic, discovered by Sir James Young Simpson of Bathgate, Scotland.*

*When he comes round from the anaesthetic he would find no comfort in learning that he was as safe as the Bank of England which was founded by William Patterson of Dumfries, Scotland.*

*Then he might run away to Auckland in New Zealand, only to find that John Campbell from Glasgow founded the city.*

*He might then choose to study in Canada and would soon discover that James McGill, born in Glasgow, founded the University in Montreal.*

*Finally, he would try to settle in Chicago, USA, where he would find that the Pinkerton Detective Agency in Chicago was founded by Allan Pinkerton from Scotland in 1850.*

The **February** issue will be published on Sunday 5 February 2017.

Deadline for submissions: **Friday 3 February.**

Material may be sent to:

admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk

or

judy pain@gmail.com

### **Meditation Group Meetings**

Mondays 7.30 p.m. and Thursdays 2 p.m.

Venue: The Friends' Meeting House.

Tea & coffee and biscuits served after each session.

Please consult the pew sheet for any changes.

The Church is normally open on Tuesday and Thursdays 11.30am-1.30pm.

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Parish Office on 01204 522226.

For Funerals please contact the Vicar on 01204 845332.



## NAFAS Intermediate Certificate in Floral Art and Design

Tutor: Julie Pearson

[julie@juliepearsonuk.com](mailto:julie@juliepearsonuk.com) or 07922090226

### Venue

Bolton Parish Church Hall. Silverwell St. Bolton.

### Programme Aim

The aim of the programme is to increase knowledge of all aspects of floral design.

### Who is the programme for?

Those who wish to learn about the art of floral design  
Those who enjoy floral design and have no formal qualifications  
Those who wish to build on exciting skills or novice  
Those who wish to build a career in floristry

### Progression

Level three, The NAFAS Advanced certificate in Floral Art and Design

### Modules: Health & Safety

Elements and Principles of design  
Floristry: Wired work, buttonholes, corsages and body adornment  
Designs in floral foam and alternative mediums: for gift, wedding and funeral  
Hand Tied: parallel, traditional and contemporary design  
Packaging/ presentation of designs  
Introduction to contemporary design  
Interpretative design  
Botany & Horticulture  
Working to customer order & budget

### Dates & Times (dates to be confirmed with the groups at the first session)

Starting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 completing July 2017

Course runs for 20 Weeks

Times: session 5.00- 9.00

### Assessments

Portfolio evidence and projects - No exams

Fees: £440.00 including NAFAS & Awarding body registration £130.00

Additional costs: average weekly flowers & sundries £10 per week (if paid in advance, tutor will supply). Tool box, pens, paper, camera (or phone)

## Tallis and Byrd

The composers Thomas Tallis and William Byrd are responsible for two of our anthems this month. The Choir will be singing *Agnus Dei* from Byrd's *Mass for Four Voices* on 15<sup>th</sup> January and Tallis's *Verily, Verily I Say Unto You* on 29<sup>th</sup> January.

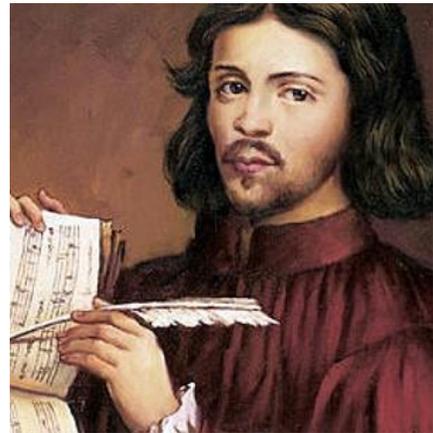
Both Tallis and Byrd composed their music while negotiating a difficult political landscape, yet they were still able to leave an enduring legacy. Their music was predominantly polyphonic (contrapuntal). You may have noticed different sections of the Choir coming in at different times and singing different lines, mainly in the Tudor/Renaissance anthems. This is polyphony – the technique of featuring more than one melodic line at a time – and Tallis and Byrd took it to amazing levels of beauty and complexity in the form of choral works involving multiple voices twisting and winding over each other in every imaginable way. This is evident in the two pieces we are singing this month.

At Bolton Parish Church, our Tallis repertoire includes *If Ye Love Me, Hear the Voice and Prayer, O Nata Lux* and *Salvator Mundi*, and we are looking at introducing the hauntingly beautiful *O Lord, Give Thy Holy Spirit* during the year. Byrd also features prominently in our repertoire, with *Ave Verum Corpus, Cibavit Eos, Gloria Tibi Domine, Misere Mei Deus*, and movements

from the *Mass for Four Voices* and the *Mass for Three Voices*.

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1583) had a long career, spanning the reigns of four very different monarchs, starting under Henry VIII, progressing through the brief reign of Henry's son Edward VI and the almost as brief but considerably more violent reign of Mary I until well into the reign of Elizabeth I.

Although a Catholic, Tallis's talent as organist for the Chapel Royal and as a



composer meant that each monarch considered him indispensable. Tallis was also able to change his style as the political and religious winds changed. Under Henry, he mastered the ornate style of writing church music to Latin texts. Under Edward, he simplified his style to reflect Edward's own Protestantism. Catholic Mary wanted a return to the old ways, while her half-sister Elizabeth did not decide unequivocally either way, allowing a compromise between styles.

However, Elizabeth liked spectacle. And so, for her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, Tallis pulled off the most spectacular technical achievement in Renaissance polyphony: the 40-part motet *Spem in Alium*. Michael and I were lucky enough to take part in a performance of this amazing work at Bridgewater Hall, joining 800 singers gathered from around the country in a performance shown on BBC 4. There are also many recordings of the piece, and it also is heard during the much-discussed film *Fifty Shades of Grey*. I wonder what Tallis would have made of that!!



There is evidence to suggest that William Byrd (c. 1543-1623) became a pupil of Tallis at the end of the 1550s, with one document stating that he was “bred up to musick under Thos. Tallis”. It would be difficult to imagine anyone but Tallis who could have provided the help needed by a pupil as gifted as Byrd.

From 1563 to 1572, Byrd was organist and choirmaster of Lincoln Cathedral, and in 1572, he obtained the prestigious post of Gentleman of the Chapel Royal.

In 1575, the Queen took the unprecedented step of granting Tallis and Byrd a 21-year monopoly for polyphonic music, and a patent to print and publish music.

#### ***LICENCE GRANTED TO THOMAS TALLIS AND WILLIAM BYRD IN 1575***

Elizabeth by the grace of God, Queen of England, France and Ireland  
*To all printers, booksellers and other officers, ministers and subjects, greetings. Know you, that we for the special affection and goodwill that we have and bear to the science of music and for the advancement thereof, by our letters patent dated the 12th of January, in the 17th year of our reign have granted full privilege and licence to our well beloved servants Thomas Tallis and William Byrd, two of the gentlemen of our chapel, and to the survivor of them, and to the assignees of them and over the survivor of them for eleven years next ensuing, to imprint any and so many as they will of set song or songs in parts, either in English, Latin, French, Italian, or other*

*languages that may serve for music either in church or chamber, or otherwise to be either played or sung, and that they may rule and cause to be ruled by impression any paper to serve for printing or picking of any song or songs, and may sell and utter any printed books or papers of any song or songs, or any books or quires of such ruled paper imprinted. Also we strictly by the same forbid all printers, booksellers, subjects and strangers, other than is aforesaid, to do any of the previous, or to bring or cause to be brought out of any foreign countries into any of our dominions, any song or songs made and printed in any foreign country, to sell or put to sale, upon pain of our high displeasure, and the offender in any of the previous for every time to forfeit to us, our heirs and successors forty shillings, and to the said Thomas Tallis and William Byrd or to their assignees and to the assignees of the survivor of them, all and every the said books, papers, song or songs. We have also by the same willed and commanded our printers, masters and wardens of the Masters of Stationers, to assist the said Thomas Tallis and William Byrd and their assignees for the due executing of the previous.*

Like Tallis, Byrd was a master of polyphony, and his Latin masses and motets are some of the greatest choral writing ever produced. However, while European composers were churning out masses of masses, things were not as easy for Byrd. Like his counterparts across the water, he was a Catholic. The difference was that they were safe in Catholic Europe, writing music for the Roman church, but Byrd's employer for his entire life was the Church of England – the enemy of his own faith. The second half of his career was spent secretly writing Latin masses and motets for his Catholic friends while turning out English church music as part of his day job as organist to the Chapel Royal. It is fortunate for him that Elizabeth considered his loyalty to the Crown more important than loyalty to the Book of Common Prayer. However, Byrd was frequently cited for recusancy, and his house was searched for incriminating literature on several occasions. He and his family were expected to pay annual fines because of their religion (£200 in 1587), but Byrd appeared to have sufficiently powerful friends at court for this sum to be waived, and it is probable that the Queen herself directly protected him.

When his teacher and colleague died in 1585, Byrd wrote “Tallis is dead and music dies”, expressing the high regard in which Tallis was held by his fellow composers. Although death conquered Tallis and Byrd, it was powerless to kill their music, and, 400 years later, we at Bolton Parish Church are testament to this fact.

## A Cold Coming

A cold coming we had of it,  
Just the worst time of the year  
For a journey, and such a long journey:  
The way was deep and the weather sharp,  
The very dead of winter.

*Journey of the Magi – T. S. Eliot (1930)*

A cold coming they had of it at this time of the year, just the worst time of the year to take a journey, and specially a long journey in. The ways deep, the weather sharp, the days short, the sun farthest off, in solstitio brumali, 'the very dead of winter'.

*Of the Nativity – Lancelot Andrewes (1622)*

The start of T. S. Eliot's famous poem was borrowed, almost word for word, and without his usual acknowledgement, from the opening of the sermon 'Of the Nativity', preached by the Bishop of Winchester, Lancelot Andrewes, to King James I. In an essay he wrote on Andrewes, he described him as the greatest preacher in the Post-Reformation Church who spoke with the authority of the past in the context of the new. Of all his sermons it would seem that the Nativity ones were particular favourites of Eliot. He admitted that Andrewes was not easy to read, but if one persevered, jewels would be revealed!

The sermon in question looked at many aspects of the journey and its goal – from 'vidimus stellam' (we have seen the star) to the end of their coming 'venimus adorare' (we have come to worship). Andrewes was particularly struck by the faith of the seekers. "Faith – in that they never ask 'Whether He be' but 'Where he is born', for born He is, that they steadfastly believe."

He then went on to examine the 'coming'.

*In this their coming we consider, first, the distance of the place they came from. It was not hard by as the shepherds – but a step to Bethlehem over the fields; this was riding many a hundred miles, and cost them many a day's journey. Secondly, we consider the way that they came, if it be pleasant, or plain and easy; for if it be, it is so much the better. This was nothing pleasant, but through deserts, all the way waste and desolate. Nor easy either; for over the rocks and crags of both Arabias, specially Petrsea, their journey lay. Yet if safe but it was not, but exceeding dangerous, as lying through the midst of the 'black tents of Kedar' a nation of thieves and cut-throats, to pass over the hills of robbers, infamous then, and infamous to this day.*

*Last we consider the time of their coming, the season of the year. It was no summer progress. A **cold coming** they had of it at this time of the year, just the worst time of the year to take a journey, and specially a long journey, in. The ways deep, the weather sharp, the days short, the sun farthest off, in solstitio brumali, 'the very dead of winter'. And these difficulties they overcame, of a wearisome, irksome, troublesome, dangerous, unseasonable journey; and for all this they came. And came it cheerfully and quickly, as appeareth by the speed they made.*

He lamented the fact that the people of his day would not have braved a long journey to adore Jesus.

*And we, what should we have done? Sure these men of the East shall rise in judgment against the men of the West, that is us, and their faith against ours in this point. With them it was but vidimus (we saw), venimus (we came); with us it would have been but veniemus (we will come) at most. Our fashion is to see and see again before we stir a foot, specially if it be to the worship of Christ. Come such a journey at such a time? No; but fairly have put it off to the spring of the year, till the days longer, and the ways fairer, and the weather warmer, till better travelling to Christ. Our Epiphany would sure have fallen in Easter week at the soonest.*

Their journey culminated in the act of falling down to worship Him and making their offerings. (*Worship Him with their bodies, worship Him with their goods.*).

*We can worship God but three ways, we have but three things to worship Him withal. 1. The soul He hath inspired; 2, the body He hath ordained us; 3. and the worldly goods He hath vouchsafed to bless us withal. We to worship Him with all, seeing there is but one reason for all.*

*If He breathed into us our soul, but framed not our body, but some other did that, neither bow your knee nor uncover your head, but keep on your hats, and sit even as you do hardly. But if He hath framed that body of yours and every member of it, let Him have the honour both of head and knee, and every member else.*

*Again, if it be not He That gave us our worldly goods but somebody else, what He gave not, that withhold from Him and spare not. But if all come from Him, all to return to Him. If He send all, to be worshipped with all.*

*Else if all our worship be inward only, with our hearts and not our hats as some fondly imagine, we give Him but one of three ; we put Him to His thirds, bid Him be content with that, He gets no more but inward worship.*

He concluded his sermon by pointing out that there now remained nothing

*but to include ourselves, and bear our part with them, and with the Angels, and all who adored Him on that day.*

*This was the load-star of the Magi, and what were they? Gentiles. So are we. But if it must be ours, then we are to go with them; vade et fac similiter, 'go and do likewise'.*

*We cannot say vidimus stellam; the star is gone long since, not now to be seen. Yet I hope for all that, that venimus adorare 'we be come thither to worship'. It will be the more acceptable, if not seeing it we worship though. It is enough we read of it in the text; we see it there. And indeed as I said, it skills not for the star in the firmament, if the same Day-Star be risen in our hearts that was in theirs, and the same beams of it to be seen.*



*For then we have our part in it no less, nay full out as much as they. And it will bring us whither it brought them, to Christ. Who at His second appearing in glory shall call forth these wise men and all that have ensued the steps of their faith, and that upon the reason specified in the text; for I have seen their star shining and shewing forth itself by the like beams; and as they. came to worship Me, so am I come to do them worship. Their star have I seen, and give them a place above among the stars. They fell down; I will lift them up, and exalt them. And as they offered to Me, so am I come to bestow on them, and to reward them with the endless joy and bliss of My Heavenly Kingdom.*

*Preached before the King's Majesty, at Whitehall, on the Twenty-fifth of December, A.D. MDCXXII*

## **Lancelot Andrewes**

Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626) was an English bishop and scholar, who held high positions in the Church of England during the reigns of Queen Elizabeth I and King James I. The latter is said to have slept with Andrewes's sermons under his pillow.

Lancelot was Bishop of Winchester when he delivered this particular sermon. He was learned in Latin, Greek, Hebrew and eighteen other languages and was considered one of the most erudite men in England.

Years earlier he had been very much involved in the production of the King James Version of the Bible, having been Director of the First Westminster Company. This company translated Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, and 2 Kings. He also oversaw the entire project and probably contributed more to that work than any other single person.

So next time someone cites “a cold coming we had of it”, why not give a little plug to the man who really coined the phrase.

### December Quiz

There were just two entries. The winner was Mrs G. Acklam, who answered all 120 questions correctly (with three permissible alternatives) and won a £25 voucher for her incredible efforts, while Peter Pemrick scooped second prize, which was a £10 voucher.

- 1) 3 B M 3 blind mice
- 2) B to S 1 back to square 1
- 3) O W T K O Worship the King
- 4) At S and S At sixes and sevens
- 5) 7 B for 7 B 7 brides for 7 brothers
- 6) 19 to the D 19 to the dozen
- 7) 1 F the R 1 for the road
- 8) L B at 40 life begins at forty
- 9) S 16 Sweet 16
- 10) Thou wast their \*\*\*, their fortress and their might rock
- 11) 1 F in the G 1 foot in the grave
- 12) 14 S of the C 14 stations of the cross
- 13) T as 2 S P Thick as 2 short planks
- 14) S W and the 7 D Snow White and the 7 dwarfs
- 15) 4 C of the E 4 corners of the earth
- 16) 'Worthy the \*\*\* that died', they cry lamb
- 17) 1 H on a U 1 horn on a unicorn
- 18) 50 Y in H a C 50 years in a half century
- 19) T F of T 5000 The feeding of the 5,000
- 20) 3 M in a B 3 men in a boat
- 21) 60 R A for W 60 retirement age for women (apologies; this is now outdated)
- 22) 6 W of H 8 6 wives of Henry VIII
- 23) 12 P in a S 12 pennies in a shilling
- 24) 7 W of the W 7 wonders of the world
- 25) C H 9 L Cats have 9 lives
- 26) J T T W Joy to the World
- 27) A B I T H is W 2 I T B A bird in the hand is worth 2 in the bush
- 28) 1 S D N M a S 1 swallow does not make a summer
- 29) 32 P on a C 32 points on a compass
- 30) 14 L in a S 14 lines in a sonnet
- 31) 12 S of the Z 12 signs of the zodiac
- 32) 31 D in J M M J A O and D 31 days in Jan, Mar, May, July, Aug, Oct and Dec
- 33) 10 C in a F 10 chains in a furlong
- 34) A T of 2 C A Tale of 2 Cities
- 35) And man, at war with man, hears not the \*\*\* which they bring love song
- 36) 10 P of E 10 plagues of Egypt
- 37) 1 F the R 1 for the road (those with sharp eyes will notice that this is a repeat!)
- 38) 3 L P 3 little pigs

- 39) 8 L on a S 8 legs on a spider
- 40) 4 W in a M 4 weeks in a month
- 41) T W A W Thou Whose Almighty Word
- 42) 1815 B of W 1815 – battle of Waterloo
- 43) 4 P B 4-poster bed
- 44) It T 2 T T it takes 2 to tango
- 45) The M 7 The Magnificent Seven
- 46) 5 G R 5 gold rings
- 47) 12 L of H 12 labours of Hercules
- 48) A W M Abide with me
- 49) 13 U F S 13 – unlucky for some
- 50) 4 G in the N T 4 Gospels in the New Testament
- 51) This is the famous \*\*\* that turneth all to gold stone
- 52) 1897- Q V D J 1897 – Queen Victoria’s diamond jubilee
- 53) 12 is a D 12 is a dozen
- 54) F T G F Fight the Good Fight
- 55) P 2 and 2 T Put 2 and 2 together
- 56) 90 D in a R A 90 degrees in a right angle
- 57) 8 N in an O 8 notes in an octave
- 58) 76 T in the B P 76 trombones in the big parade
- 59) M H B Morning Has Broken
- 60) 1 G L for M 1 giant leap for mankind
- 61) 64 S on a C B 64 squares on a chess board
- 62) 10 P B 10 pin bowling
- 63) 24 H in a D 24 hours in a day
- 64) 8 T on an O 8 tentacles on an octopus
- 65) J E T I S Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendour
- 66) 12 M of a J 12 members of a jury
- 67) 147 M B in S 147: maximum break in snooker
- 68) Born a child and yet a \*\*\* king
- 69) 1666 - G F O L 1666 – Great fire of London
- 70) 18 H on a G C 18 holes on a golf course
- 71) 26 L in the A 26 letters in the alphabet
- 72) 10 Y in a D 10 years in a decade
- 73) C H W M C Crown Him with Many Crowns
- 74) 9 M of P 9 months of pregnancy
- 75) 12 I in a F 12 inches in a foot
- 76) 1 F O the C N 1 flew over the cuckoo’s nest
- 77) G M I A M W God Moves in a Mysterious Way
- 78) Him exalting, self xxx – this is victory abasing
- 79) 40 D of L 40 days of Lent
- 80) 1215 - S of the M C 1215 – signing of the Magna Carta
- 81) G and the 3 B Goldilocks and the 3 Bears
- 82) 7 Y I 7-year itch
- 83) 11 P in a C T 11 players in a cricket team
- 84) The 12 D The 12 disciples
- 85) 4 H of the A 4 horsemen of the apocalypse
- 86) 100 C in a D 100 cents in a dollar
- 87) B O M B O G Breathe on Me, Breath of God
- 88) They rise and \*\*\* will have needs
- 89) 10 D S 10 Downing Street
- 90) C 22 Catch 22
- 91) K O G K O P King of Glory, King of Peace
- 92) 1 A B 1-armed bandit
- 93) 2 G of V 2 Gentlemen of Verona
- 94) 5 V in the A 5 vowels in the alphabet
- 95) 12 D of C 12 days of Christmas

- 96) **3 B F** 3 bags full  
 97) **The 7 L W on the C** The 7 last words on the Cross  
 98) **4 M M** 4-minute mile  
 99) **101 D** 101 Dalmatians  
 100) **A S in T S 9** A stitch in time saves 9  
 101) **The 10 C** The 10 commandments  
 102) **6 S on a H** 6 sides on a hexagon  
 103) **D D M O H** Ding Dong, Merrily on High  
 104) **12 G M and T** 12 good men and true  
 105) **10 G B** 10 green bottles  
 106) **On C 9** On cloud 9  
 107) **\*\*\* whence true peace doth spring** vision  
 108) **The 7 D S** The 7 deadly sins  
 109) **4 W and a F** 4 Weddings and a Funeral  
 110) **A M H T N R** All My Heart This Night Rejoices  
 111) **12 L a L** 12 lords a-leaping  
 112) **The F F (E B)** The Famous Five (Enid Blyton)  
 113) **A T W in 80 D** Around the World in 80 Days  
 114) **39 A of the C of E** 39 Articles of the Church of England  
 115) **7 C of the R** 7 colours of the rainbow  
 116) **Omega and Alpha he! Let the \*\*\* thunder** organ  
 117) **W I S T W C** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
 118) **The 39 S** The 39 steps  
 119) **\*\*\* happy he who here partakes that sacred stream, that heavenly good.** thrice  
 120) **12 T of I** 12 tribes of Israel

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## The unofficial rules of writing

*From the June 1986 issue of Writers' Digest and William Safire's Rules for Writers.*

1. Avoid Alliteration. Always.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. Avoid clichés like the plague. (They're old hat.)
4. Employ the vernacular.
5. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations etc.
6. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are unnecessary.
7. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
8. Contractions aren't necessary.
9. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.
10. One should never generalise.
11. Eliminate quotations. As an author once said, "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know."
12. Comparisons are as bad as clichés.
13. Be more or less specific.
14. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
15. One word sentences? Eliminate.
16. The passive voice is to be avoided.
17. Even if a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
18. Who needs rhetorical questions?
19. It behoves you to avoid archaic expressions.
20. Don't repeat yourself, or say again what you have said before.
21. Do not use hyperbole; not one in a million can do it effectively.
22. Never use a big word when a diminutive alternative would suffice.
23. Placing a comma between subject and predicate, is not correct.
24. Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.
25. Eschew obfuscation.
26. Don't indulge in sesquipedalian lexicological constructions.
27. Don't overuse exclamation marks!!
28. Writing carefully, dangling participles must be avoided.
29. Hopefully, you will use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.
30. Always be sure to finish what

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## EVENSONG

The choir has become used to singing evensong on the fourth Sunday of the month with a small congregation (“where two or three are gathered in my name.....”), and this experience reminded me of a story I heard a long time ago about a country parson whose group of parishes was on the South Coast, and one of whose churches was in an exposed position not far from the cliffs. One stormy autumn night he was about to depart from the vicarage, which was at some distance from this church, to say Evensong, and was preparing for a difficult bicycle ride through the rain to the small clifftop building, when his wife, concerned for his wellbeing, urged him not to bother, pointing out that the service was often very sparsely attended, that he had sometimes said the office on his own, and that no-one in their right mind would come to the service on a night like this anyway! However, he was adamant that he should take the service, and stubbornly set off into the night.

When he got to the church he found that, as his wife had predicted, he was alone, and duly said the service on his own (feeling, probably, considerably let down and possibly not a little foolish). One may imagine the reaction of his wife when he finally got home, soaking wet, and admitted that there had in fact been no-one in the congregation. Not until a few days later did he learn that, just at the time that he was saying Evensong, a fishing boat out at sea, having lost its bearings in the poor weather, had been guided to safety when its crew saw the lights of the church and were able to avoid the treacherous rocks on the coastline.

I like to think, while we sing our service on a dark Sunday night, with a congregation definitely of the ‘faithful few’, that some ‘poor wandering child of Thine’ (as the hymn has it) may perhaps see the lights on in church, and be encouraged, perhaps without even entering the building, by the fact that that prayer is being said, and the darkness (I suspect there may be a certain amount of spiritual darkness around in central Bolton in the evenings!) is not overwhelming it.

MICHAEL PAIN.

Choral Evensong is on 22 January at 6.30 p.m.

Psalm 33

Responses: Tomkins, arr. Leslie Iddon

Canticles: Stanford in B flat

Anthem: And I saw a new heaven—Bainton

## WILL IT BE HEAVEN OR HELL?

While walking down the street one day an MP is hit by a lorry and dies. His soul arrives in heaven and is met by St. Peter at the entrance. "Welcome to heaven," says St. Peter. "I have orders from above that you must spend one day in hell and one in heaven. Then you can choose where to spend eternity."

"Really, I've made up my mind. I want to be in heaven," replies the MP. But St. Peter takes him by the arm to the lift and he goes down, down, down to hell. The doors open and he finds himself in the middle of a green golf course. In the distance is a clubhouse and standing in front of it are all his friends and other politicians who had worked with him. They run to greet him, shake his hand and reminisce about the good times they had while getting rich at the expense of the people.

They play a friendly game of golf and then dine on lobster, caviar and champagne. Also present is the devil, who really is a very friendly guy who has a good time dancing and telling jokes. They are having such a good time that, before he realises it, it is time to go. Everyone gives him a hearty farewell and waves.

The lift goes up, up, up, and the door reopens on heaven where St. Peter is waiting for him. "Now it's time to visit heaven." The next twenty-four hours pass with the man joining a group of contented souls moving from cloud to cloud, playing the harp and singing. They have a pleasant time and, before he realises it, the time has gone by and St. Peter returns.

"Well then, you've spent a day in hell and another in heaven. Now choose your eternity." The man reflects for a minute, then he answers: "I would never have said it before – I mean, heaven has been delightful, but I think I would be better off in hell."

So St. Peter escorts him to the lift and he goes down, down, down to hell. Now the doors of the lift open and he's in the middle of a barren land covered in filth and rubbish. He sees all his friends, dressed in rags, picking up the rubbish and putting it in black bags as more falls from above.

The devil comes over to him and puts his arm around his shoulder. "I don't understand," stammers the man. "Yesterday I was here and there was a golf course and clubhouse, and we ate lobster and caviar, drank champagne and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of rubbish and my friends look miserable. What happened?"

The devil looks at him and says with a smile, "Yesterday we were campaigning. Today you voted."

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Administration	admin@boltonparishchurch.co.uk	01204 522226

### **Parish Church Schools**

Canon Slade School, Bradshaw Brow BL2 3BP

Headteacher: Mr Alan Mottershead

Tel: 01204 333343

Bishop Bridgeman Primary School, Rupert Street BL3 6PY

Headteacher: Mrs Jill Pilling

Tel: 01204 333466

Bolton Parish Church Primary School, Kestor Street BL2 2AN

Headteacher: Miss D. Meeking

Tel: 01204 333433