

Christmas Cards

THESE are ready now, for delivery to the Parish by 1 December. Please do help share God's blessings across the Parish.

Choir for Christmas

IF YOU have ever wondered about joining the choir, try a taster by singing with us at the Christmas carol services.

There are four Monday practices, all at 8pm in church. The dates are 12th & 19th November and 3rd & 10th December.

The services are on Thursday 13th and Sunday 16th December. If this invitation appeals to you, do have a word with me, or any of my lovely choir members.

Lin Cooper

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Planning Meeting

WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 7.30PM

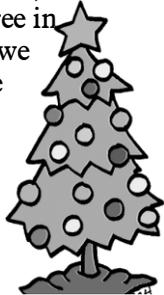
COME join the team in Church Room to plan our Family Fun Christingle Christmas Eve Services. Our theme this Christmas is: 'A STAR IS BORN'.

ST STEPHENS

CHRISTMASTREE!

FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER 9.30AM

GET in the festive spirit and join others decorating the Christmas Tree in church ready for the Fayre, we sure have fun together while doing so!!



www.saintstephensoundwell.org

ST STEPHENS CHURCH

Christmas FAYRE

SATURDAY 01 DECEMBER 2~4PM

PLEASE donate bottles of wine, and empty jam jars.

For more details, or offers of help please contact Sue Humphrey or Jenny Bishop.



CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

A BIG Thank you to folk who helped with the collection boxes and to those that donated.

The total amount raised was **£456.53**.

The support is much appreciated by the Church and the Children's Society.

A special thanks to Margaret Dodge and Lorraine Sanderson for counting the money in the collection boxes.

Sandra

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St Stephens
SOUNDWELL

11 NOVEMBER 2018

REMEMBRANCE

READINGS: REVELATION 21:1-7

ORDINARY PEOPLE...

100 YEARS AGO TODAY, the guns of WW1 finally fell silent. It was a war that most people thought would be over in just four months, never expecting it to last four long harrowing years.

Some 65 million men from 30 countries fought in WW1. Over half of the soldiers that went to war were killed, wounded or captured. They were ordinary people from ordinary families whose lives would never be the same after the war.

Every soldier was given a Bible as part of his kit during WW1. One such soldier did not believe in God, but he found, that in the hard and frightening times between battles, he turned to his Bible for comfort anyway.

And a miracle happened!

As he read the words, they came alive for him: the message from the pages of the Bible began to make sense and become real to him as he hunched down in the trenches. They offered him hope and a real sense that God was with him.

In Revelation 21:1-7, this hope is talked about as a new heaven and earth – God being present with us in a new and real way.

God with his people!

And this is true for each of us today... by the power of God's Holy Spirit and in knowing Jesus, God is with us, offering us hope in a new and better tomorrow and a life beyond our wildest dreams when we die.

For the unbelieving soldier, the Bible helped a miracle take place – because He came to believe in God and lived in the goodness and joy of having Jesus as his best friend. All things were made new for him – that promise is the same for each of us.

With Jesus guiding our lives, there is hope, there is peace.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

May we all respond: 'We will'. **Julia, Carolyn and Lisa**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:
DANIEL 12:1-3; MARK 13:1-8