



**The
Prince
of
Peace**

December
2023



Village View

Parish Magazine of Bradwell-on-Sea and St Lawrence

PAROCHIAL INFORMATION:
BRADWELL-ON-SEA

Rector	Revd Steven Poss	779620
Churchwardens:	Theresa Reed	776247
	David Thorpe	776846
School Head Teacher	Mrs L Wood	776219

Village View Co-ordinator Roger Scurrell 776341	Bradwell Women's Institute Secretary: Mrs T Reed 776247 Village Hall 2nd Wed 19.30	Crime Stoppers Anonymous Crime Reporting 0800555111
Church Flowers David Thorpe 776846	Age Concern 01245 264499 Two Rivers Association for Age Concern	Badminton/Table Tennis Village Hall Tuesdays 7pm John Noble jbn_bradwell@hotmail.com Fridays 10am Ann Barrett theannbarrett@gmail.com
Flowers at St Peter's Chapel David Thorpe 776846	St. Cedd's School Parent-Teacher Association Secretary: Contact School 776219	Bradwell Quay Yacht Club Secretary: Mr R. Price 890173
Bell Ringing - Tower Captains: Laurie Main 776438 John Pryke 776260 St Thomas Bradwell Fridays Practice 7.45, Sunday ringing 09.30 am	Parish Council Matthew Neall 776956 Parish Council meetings: Village Hall, 3rd Monday 8.00pm	Mobile Library Every three weeks Thursdays East End Rd. Bradwell 10.55 - 11.25am.
Thursday Club St Thomas' Chapman Room - 1st Thursday of month 2.00 - 4.00 Sheila Edwards 776517	P.C.C. Secretary Mrs Jayne Hill 776317	The Medical Centre Tillingham 778383 Out of hours 111
Rainbows 5 - 7 yrs Brownies - 7 - 10 yrs Guides - : 10 - 14 yrs for information phone 07757636446 or email enquiries@girlguidingesssexne.org.uk	Othona Community Warden Debbie & Richard Sanders 776564	The Trinity Medical Centre Mayland 745400 Out of hours 111
Parish Safeguarding Representative Graeme Eyre 776981/07985520634	St Peters Chapel Chaplain Rev S Poss 779620	Local Police Team Phone Non Emergency 101 Emergency 999
Pastoral Assistant: David Thorpe 776846	District Councillor Matthew Neall 776956	Bradwell Bay Football Club Youth Football Team Contact Krysta Collins Practice Village Hall Field Saturday 9am
	Bradwell Flower Show Committee Secretary: Teresa Fowler 776568	
	Village Hall Trustee's Chairman: R Scurrell 776341 Bookings: Mrs J Allen 776547	

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Roger Scurrell on 01621 776341

From the Vicarage

Dear Friends,

As we enter the season of Advent and then Christmas, this year's theme – **Follow the Star: Join the Song** – highlights how singing can help draw us closer to God and each other through the journey from Advent to Epiphany.

Our Diocesan Bishop, The Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, in her Christmas message writes:-

“In the Christian faith, the notion of home is frequently used to communicate the idea of being with God, and to knowing that presence as a place of comfort, security, and peace, regardless of what may be going on in our lives or the world around us. At Christmas we remember the astonishing fact that, in the birth of Jesus Christ, God came to dwell with us, to make his home among us. The events of the first Christmas are rooted in a particular time and place, but God's presence abides still and the invitation to draw near remains for each one of us.”

As we prepare ourselves to celebrate Christmas, may we do so at a sensible pace, thinking of the coming of God's Son to the earth, and may he fill you afresh with his love, peace and joy, Amen.

Happy Christmas and New Year Ahead!

God bless,

Reverend Steven

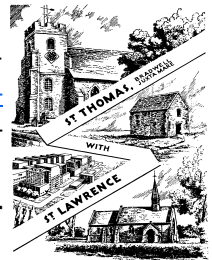
Village View

All copy for the January Village View should be sent to Roger Scurrall by phone (776341), posted through the letterbox of 6 St Thomas' Row, Bradwell, or by email to the address below, by December 15th.

Copy may also be submitted as a text or Microsoft Word or Publisher file, either on CD or, better still, by email to stthom-aspcc@btinternet.com. We ask you to limit your article to 300-350 words and please include a picture.

We apologise but **no articles will be accepted after December 15th**.

If you belong to an organisation that does not yet submit articles for the Village View we would like to hear from you even in longhand if you do not have access to a computer. Any news you have is always very welcome.



CHRISTMAS

Christmas Services for St Thomas Bradwell, St Lawrence, Tillingham and Dengie

- 3rd December 15.00 Christingle Service at St Lawrence Church Centre.
18.00 Light up a Life and Carols St Nicholas Tillingham.
- 10th December 10.00 Christingle and Toy Service at St Thomas Bradwell.
15.00 Carol Service at St James Dengie.
- 17th December 16.30 Carols by Candlelight at St Peters Chapel.
- 21st December 18.00 Carol Service at St Lawrence Church.
- 24th December 16.30 Crib Service at St Thomas Bradwell.
18.00 Crib Service at St Nicholas Tillingham.
18.00 Christmas Eve Communion at St Lawrence Church.
23.30 Mid night Mass at St Thomas Bradwell.
23.30 Mid night Mass at St Nicholas Tillingham.
- 25th December 9.00 Christmas Communion at St James Dengie.
10.00 Christmas Praise at St Thomas Bradwell.
10.00 Christmas Praise at St Lawrence Church Centre.
- 31st December 10.00 Joint Benefice Communion at St Lawrence Church. Centre



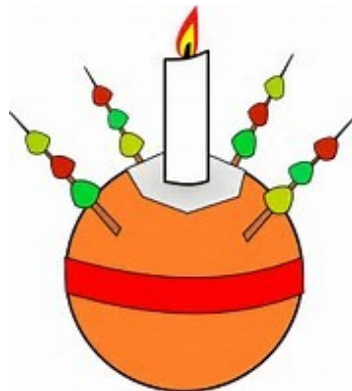
Sunday December 10th

St Thomas Church Bradwell-on-Sea

10:00am Christingle and Toy Service

All Welcome.

Please bring with you or leave in the Church: New Toys with a piece of Christmas wrapping paper separate. These are being collected by the Dengie Food Pantry for distribution to Families in need.



St Thomas' Church



Carol singing

&



**lighting the
Christmas Tree**



**Friday 1st
December
at 6:30 pm**



**Gather round the tree
in the churchyard to sing carols
and celebrate the lighting of the tree.**

Hot drinks available.

Bradwell WI

Wednesday 8th November at the
Village Hall

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

A sing-a-long with the Silver Darlings sea shanty group

For our November meeting, we were joined by the Silver Darlings – an all-female sea shanty group!

The ladies were fantastic and got us all singing along to shanties like The

‘Weatherman’, ‘Drunken Sailor’ and ‘Blow The Man Down’. At one point, they even had us hauling rope as we sang, which we were surprisingly good at! The meeting was an open meeting, and we had a great turnout, so thank you to everyone who came along (including Polly, the dog!)

Our next meeting is on the 13th of December in the village hall for our annual Christmas party, where we’ll be treated to food, games and a perfor-

mance by the Tillingham hand bell ringers. New members are always welcome, so please feel free to come along! If you have any questions about what we get up to, you can contact Sue Pirret on 07824696807 or sue@dailygrindimports.com



Alice Nightingale

The Othona Community

Time was when the Othona Community met for six weeks together over the summer holidays, then closed for the winter with sad farewells between those who had served the Community as summer staff, or

stayed and helped out for much of the holiday period. Gradually, opportunities were grasped, to expand the life and work of Othona as the twentieth century rolled on. A permanent presence was established at Burton Bradstock, West Dorset, in a beautiful setting beside the Chesil Beach.



At Bradwell The Bank was rebuilt in the mid-1970s, a temporary former Nat West Bank (Shepherd's Bush branch) that gave a boost to opportunities to stay for longer periods – but it was still pretty chilly in winter! By the turn of the millennium Othona Bradwell was well established in the L-shaped Norman Motley building you see today, and further buildings and staff accommodation have made it more comfortable to live here. Since the mid-90s Warden/Managers and a resident team have given life to the Community all-year-round – and are now working extremely hard to share the life and love of Othona at all times. Covering all the financial and practical tasks, the planning and response to the unexpected, above all you find a Christian welcome and generosity of spirit that generates from the body of people who live, serve and volunteer with Othona. You are always welcome to share time, or volunteer.

Othona Bradwell had a successful Half Term week for families, with over 50 people staying and half of them under 18 - lots of activities including pumpkin carving, games, crafts, baking and more. We attended the installation of the new Bishop of Bradwell Adam Atkinson at Chelmsford Cathedral and look forward to welcoming him to visit us here. Recent retreat programmes have been well attended including Greening our Souls, by Rev'd Imogen Nay; The Word became Flesh, led by Sister Hilda Mary; and Art and Soul, led by Genevieve Collier. Each of these retreats have been a blessing to all who attended and created a lovely sense of openness and community together.

We continue to welcome many different groups to the community too, including YMCA, Church groups, Environmental Groups and many others too. If you know of a group who would fit our ethos, or wish to hold a family gathering, do make enquiries.

Advent, Christmas and New Year 2023 are busy and will be a lovely time of community, Christian celebration and hope together. If you, or anyone local you know, need a bit of company and would like to share a meal at Othona,

including Christmas Day, please contact us by email or phone to book in advance. For those keen to hear about the 2024 Programme, we are updating our website with the new programme for next year –do keep checking it out.

Debbie and Richard Sanders are our Wardens, supported by resident team Phil Peter, Amanda and volunteers. Website: www.othonaessex.org.uk, contact bradwell@othona.org, telephone 01621 776564, or visit via the wind-powered electric gate, collect an exit token to leave.

6th December: St Nicholas – a much-loved saint

One account of how Father Christmas began tells of a man named Nicholas who was born in the third century in the Greek village of Patara, on what is today the southern coast of Turkey. His family were both devout and wealthy, and when his parents died in an epidemic, Nicholas decided to use his inheritance to help people. He gave to the needy, the sick, the suffering. He dedicated his whole life to God's service and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. As a bishop in later life, he joined other bishops and priests in prison under the emperor Diocletian's fierce persecution of Christians across the Roman Empire.

Finally released, Nicholas was all the more determined to shed abroad the news of God's love. He did so by giving. One story of his generosity explains why we hang Christmas stockings over our mantelpieces today. There

was a poor family with three daughters who needed dowries if they were to marry, and not be sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of their plight and tossed three bags of gold into their home through an open window – thus saving the girls from a life of misery.

The bags of gold landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. Hence the custom of children hanging out stockings – in the hope of attracting presents of their own from St Nicholas - on Christmas Eve. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols of St Nicholas.

The example of St Nicholas has never been forgotten - in bygone years boys in Germany and Poland would dress up as bishops on 6th December and beg alms for the poor. In the Netherlands and Belgium 'St Nicholas' would arrive on a steamship from Spain to ride a white horse on his gift-giving rounds. To this day, 6th December is still the main day for gift-giving and merry-making in much of Europe. Many people feel that simple gift-giving in early Advent helps preserve a Christmas Day focus on the Christ Child.



DECEMBER SERVICES

Time	Service	Church	Readings
1st Dec	Friday		
12:00	Communion with Lunch	St Lawrence Church	TBA
18.30	Carols and lighting up of the Christmas Tree	St Thomas Bradwell	
3rd	Advent Sunday		
10:00	Café Church	St Thomas Bradwell	Isaiah 64; 1-9 1 Corinthians 1; 3-9 Mark 13; 24-37 Psalm 80; 1-8, 18-20
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	
15:00	Christingle	St Lawrence Centre	
18.00	Light up a life Service & Carols	St Nicholas Tillingham	
4th	Monday		
10:00	Pebbles	St Lawrence Centre	
7th	Thursday		
13:00	Thursday Club Christmas Lunch	Burnham	
10th	Advent 2		
10:00	Parish Communion	St Nicholas Tillingham	Isaiah 40; 1-11 2 Peter 3 8-15a Mark 13; 3-9 Psalm 85;1-2, 8-13
10.00	Christingle and Toy	St Thomas Bradwell	
10:00	Communion	St Lawrence Centre	
15:00	Carol Service	St James Dengie	
18.00	Evening Service	St Lawrence Church	
11th	Monday		
10:00	Pebbles	St Lawrence Centre	
13th	Wednesday		
14:00	Bradwellians Group	St Thomas Bradwell	
15th	Friday		
09:00	Communion	St Thomas Bradwell	
17th	Advent 3		
08:00	Communion	St James Dengie	Isaiah 16; 1-4, 8-11 1 Thessalonians 5; 16-24 John1; 6-8, 19-28 Psalm 126 or Magnificate
10:00	Parish Communion	St Lawrence Church	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
16:30	Carol Service	St Peters Chapel	

Time	Service	Church	Readings
21st	Thursday		
18:00	Carol Service	St Lawrence Church	
24th	Christmas Eve		
16.30	Crib Service	St Thomas Bradwell	2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16 Romans 16: 25-end Luke 1: 26-38
18.00	Crib Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	
18.00	Christmas Eve Communion	St Lawrence Church	
23.30	Midnight Mass	St Nicholas Tillingham	
23.30	Midnight Mass	St Thomas Bradwell	
25th	Christmas Day		
10:00	Chridtmas Communion	St James Dengie	Isaiah 9; 2-7 Titus 2; 11-14 Luke 2; 1-14
10:00	Christmas Praise	St Thomas Bradwell	
10:00	Christmas Praise	St Lawrence Centre	
31st	Christmas 1		
10:00	Joint Benefice Communion	St Lawrence Centre	Isaiah 61; 10 – 62; 3 Galatians 4;4-7 Luke 2; 15-21
7th Jan	Naming and Epiphany		
10:00	Parish Communion	St Thomas Bradwell	1 John 5: 5-13 Psalm 147: 13-end Mark 1: 7-11
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	

St Lawrence Church Centre

St Lawrence Church Centre is available for private hire - £7 an hour. Please contact Eunice on 01621 778904

PEBBLES - carer and toddler group on Monday mornings during term time 10am to 12noon. Come along for playtime for your little ones, company and coffee.

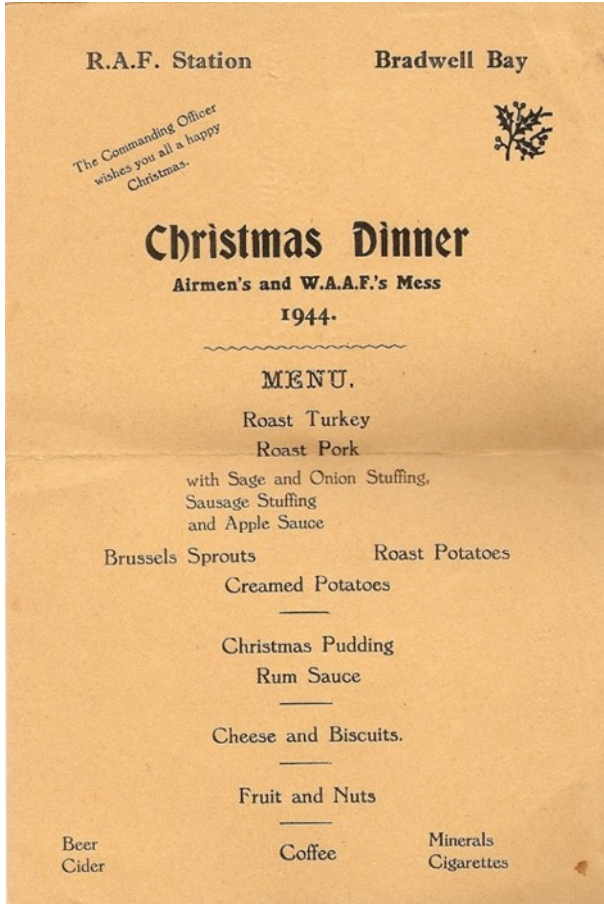
St Lawrence Church Centre, Main Road, St Lawrence CM0 7NR. Call Rev. Steven for more information 779620



News from RAF Bradwell Bay

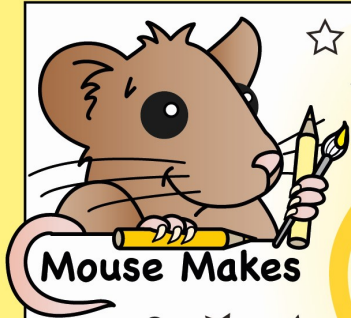
Seventy-nine years ago, all the personnel at RAF Bradwell Bay had been fighting the war for 5 years, they must have been exhausted but Christmas was a time to let their hair down. It was tradition on RAF stations for officers to serve the Christmas Dinner to other ranks. The menu for Airmen and W.A.A.F.'s is below.

Merry Christmas to you all



The RAF Bradwell Bay Preservation Group seeks to preserve the history of the RAF in Bradwell on Sea. We are planning for a museum near the memorial. You can help by donating via our website www.rafbradwellbay.co.uk





Mouse Makes



GOD'S PROMISE

Isaiah 9:6-7

CHILD • BORN • SON
GIVEN • WONDERFUL
COUNCELLOR
MIGHTY • GOD
EVERLASTING
FATHER • PRINCE
PEACE • LORD



AN ANGEL MESSENGER

Luke 1:26-38

ANGEL • GABRIEL
JOSEPH • MARY
FAVOUR • SON
JESUS • GREAT
THRONE • REIGN
FOREVER • HOLY
SERVANT • WORD

V	R	P	R	I	N	C	E	L	R	O	D
W	O	R	D	C	F	A	T	H	E	R	E
J	A	G	M	A	N	G	E	R	G	E	B
O	W	H	O	E	V	E	R	W	I	I	J
S	J	O	Y	B	O	R	N	O	S	G	E
E	S	L	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	N	S
P	P	Y	J	C	H	I	L	D	E	P	U
H	R	O	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S
F	A	V	O	U	R	E	F	R	W	S	O
B	I	R	T	H	S	W	O	F	O	D	L
I	S	A	V	I	O	U	R	U	R	L	O
F	E	C	O	U	N	C	E	L	L	O	R
A	N	G	E	L	B	J	V	K	D	V	D
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	G	E	S
L	A	N	G	E	L	S	R	G	O	D	V
I	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	T	D	S	M
F	P	G	I	V	E	N	A	H	U	O	A
E	E	H	G	A	V	E	S	R	W	N	R
S	A	E	G	R	E	A	T	O	N	L	Y
O	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	N	J	O
N	E	O	G	O	O	D	N	E	W	S	N
F	L	O	C	K	M	I	G	H	T	Y	B

ADVENT
comes from
the Latin
'AD VENTO'
which means
ARRIVAL

In Advent we
celebrate Jesus' birth
and look forward to
the time when Jesus
will come again.



A LONG JOURNEY

Luke 2:1-20

BETHLEHEM
REGISTER • BIRTH
MANGER • INN
SHEPHERDS • FLOCK
ANGELS • JOY
GOOD NEWS • PRAISE
SAVIOUR • CHRIST



THE BEST GIFT OF ALL

John 3:16

GOD • SO • LOVED
WORLD • HE • GAVE
ONLY • SON
WHOEVER • BELIEVES
ETERNAL • LIFE

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

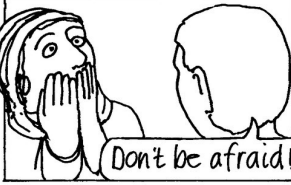
It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 1:26-56 & Matthew 1:18-25

In Israel, about 2000 years ago, a young woman, Mary, was going to marry Joseph. The weddings were in two stages.

In one year we will complete our wedding



Then God's messenger angel came to see Mary.



Don't be afraid!

You will have God's baby, and call him Jesus, 'God saves,' because he will save people



from what they do wrong.

How can this happen?



With God, nothing is impossible.

Your cousin Elizabeth, who couldn't have children, is now 6 months pregnant.



Mary visited Elizabeth.



When Joseph heard that Mary was pregnant, he was very upset



This will bring shame on me and my family.



He always did what was right so he decided to end their marriage, but quietly.



But the angel came to him in a dream.



Don't be afraid to marry Mary. The baby is God's, and you will call him Jesus.



So Joseph and Mary completed their marriage.





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Carols Around the World



Friday 8th December 2023

6:30pm for 7pm start

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PAROCHIAL INFORMATION:**ST. LAWRENCE**

Rector	Revd Steven Poss	779620
Churchwardens:	Jane Pudney	772345
	Gerry Lewsey	

Village View

Shirley Lea 779403

St Lawrence PCC SecretaryVictoria
Eley v.eley@icloud.com**Parish Council Chairman;****Gerry Lewsey:**clrlawsey.stlc@gmail.com

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Kevin Money
slparishclerk@gmail.com**District Councillor**Penny Channer 740607
Michael Helm**Stone Sailing Club**

(Weekends) 779344

Church FlowersMargaret Cowell 779219
Janet Cowell 779310**St Lawrence Singers**Friday at 5.45 - 7.00pm
Shirley Masterson 07956
799989 .**Children's Society**

Eunice Siggins 778904

Pebbles10.00 - 12.00noon
Carers and toddlers get together for tea, coffee and a chat
Rev S Poss 779620**Bridge Club Monday at**

1.30pm

St Lawrence Social ClubSecretary Gwen Adams
778386**Rainbow, brownies,****Guides**5-7 years for information phone
07757636446 or email
enquiries@girlguidingsexne.org.uk**Coffee Morning****Tuesday 11.00am** Maureen Storey**Women's Institute**

2nd Wednesday 7.30 pm at Church Centre

President: Cathie Bonich**Secretary: Eunice Siggins**
778904**Thursday****St. Lawrence Art Group**
10 - 12noon Stone Sailing Club
Bob Dorks 778392**The Friends of St Lawrence Newland Church**Carole Taylor 778523
John Barnes 779267**Church Centre Bookings**All Church Centre bookings:
Eunice Siggins 778904**St Lawrence Village Hall****Fund**Contact: K. Terkelsen 778742
Tara Pringle 779063**Mobile Library**Fridays 11.45am to 12.30pm
South Woodham Library
(01245) 29555**The Medical Centre****Tillingham** 778383**William Fisher Medical****Centre** 772360

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