



The Grayswood Runner



this banner was designed with assistance from Gold Class, Grayswood School 2006/2007

Dec 2010/Jan 2011

What makes a perfect Christmas?

It is difficult to answer "what makes a perfect Christmas". This is because what is perfect to one is quite the opposite to someone else! However, if we tried to agree then a list might include, spending time with loved ones, a beautiful Church service, snow, quiet children, thoughtful gifts, wonderful food. I am sure each of us could add to the list. It seems to me that many of us seek an 'ideal' Christmas each year, rushing around trying to find the perfect present, clean the house, stuff the turkey and so on.

Maybe the measure of the perfect Christmas is within us—in the peace and love that is generated from within our own hearts? It is in our thoughts and actions shown to our neighbours. Each Christmas can be perfect! As you celebrate Christmas this year I hope you have a wonderful time and can reflect on the love you have given over the past year and come to realise that the perfect Christmas is attainable, we just need to look at the love we have given and realise that is the perfect gift of all.

Have a perfect Christmas!



Dear Friends

A few years ago I was challenged to preach on the genealogy of Jesus from Matthew's gospel. I've known about the cultural importance of such family trees, but I'd never explored the details. It was a challenge I took up and – much to my surprise! – I enjoyed it and learnt a great deal from it.



It's divided into three sections: the first contains people with very obvious weaknesses as well as strengths (Gentiles and women as well as King David). Part two contains a list of corrupt or incompetent kings who were all, with two noble exceptions, power-seekers and women-chasers. In the third section, apart from the first two (puppet kings at the beginning of Exile) and the last two (Joseph and Mary) we have a collection of complete unknowns.

So it seems God entrusted to immoral people - liars, betrayers and schemers – to foreigners, to a hierarchical institution with rotten leaders, and to insignificant and unimportant people (including 5 women!) an essential role in the story of the origins of his Son.

Would you have chosen it that way? Matthew is faithful to the Old Testament insight that God does not choose the best, the noble and the worthy - people who consider themselves decent upright citizens. God is not controlled by our sense of our own goodness and uprightness. His grace is unpredictable. And where does that leave you and me? What story of origins would God write today I wonder? Who would he include? A few surprises I expect

*A very happy Christmas
and every blessing for the New Year.*

Barbara

HHH Concerts—Spring 2010

The second part of HHH Concerts' seasons opens on Saturday 19th February 2011 with a further concert on Saturday 19th March 2011. On Tuesday 8th March 2011, at 2.45pm there will be an afternoon concert in Grayswood Village Hall.

The brilliant young classical accordionist Milos Milivojevic from Serbia will join forces with violinist Harriet Mackenzie in a programme of music by Bach, Piazzolla, Bartok, Tartini and Brahms. This is a special event for the elderly and disabled in the area. It is free, but donations are welcome. The concert will be followed by tea. Space is limited, applications should be made to Sarah Barnes (643129) or Pauline Lamb (643798). Further information is available on the website www.haslemere.com/hhh



All Saints Christmas Fayre

Saturday 4th December, 11:30am – 1:30pm, Grayswood Village Hall

At this year's annual Christmas Fayre there will be a fantastic selection of stalls and entertainment on offer for a fun few hours out for all the family, including:- Father Christmas, Children's Toys & Games, Gifts Stall, Bric a Brac, Jewellery, Cakes and Produce, Books, CDs and Videos, Greetings Cards, Raffle and lots more.....

Soup, Hotdogs and Mince Pies served from 12pm – 1pm

To help make this day a success stall contributions are encouraged and much appreciated. Please call Daphne 643140 or Susie 642917 for more information.

Outside stallholders welcome (£10 per table + 10%)



Contacting the Runner : Telephone: 01428 656504, editor@grayswoodparish.org

All Saints Matters

CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER ...



Sundays: 8am Holy Communion every week
 5th December 10am Parish Communion
 12th December 10am Parish Communion
 19th December 10am Nativity Service, led by the Sunday School
 5pm Carols by Candlelight, Punch and mince pies

CHRISTMAS EVE 11.30pm First Communion of Christmas
CHRISTMAS DAY 10am All Age Celebration of Christmas followed by a shortened Holy Communion

26th December 10am All Age Worship

... AND JANUARY

2nd January 10am A New Year Covenant Communion Service
 9th January 10am Morning Worship
 16th January 10am Parish Communion
 23rd January 10am **Christingle** (All Age) (collection for the Children's Society)
 30th January **9.45am** Joint Service at St Bart's (no service at All Saints)



Contacting All Saints

Do contact us if you would like us to pray for you. Phone any number below, send an e-mail, write the name in the book at the back of church, pop a note into Church House, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and anything shared in confidence to anyone is ALWAYS honoured.

Sacred space

The church building is open every day from about 9am until dusk in winter, about 6pm in summer. It's a peaceful place to think, meditate, dream, pray.

Contacting All Saints

Barbara Steele-Perkins is officially on duty all day Sunday and Thursday, and Monday and Friday mornings; she also works part-time for the diocese, but both jobs allow for some flexibility. She responds to answer-phone messages every day except Tuesday and will get back to you as soon as possible.

tel: 656504 e-mail: barbarasteelerperkins@tiscali.co.uk

Janet Fry, our **church administrator**, works in **Church Office** (in Church House) which is open Mon, Thurs and Fri mornings from 9am-12 noon. At other times you can still leave a message.

tel: 656504 e-mail: office@grayswoodparish.org

Doreen Hutton is the coordinator of **pastoral care** in the parish. Please contact her if you would like someone to visit you - for whatever reason. You are promised complete confidentiality.

tel: 644178 e-mail: david@dhutton.mail1.co.uk

Fiona Gwynn is our **flower coordinator**. Contact her if you would like to help with an arrangement for a special festival or donate flowers at any time - in memory of someone or at a special anniversary, etc.

tel: 654728 e-mail: gwynnfamil@btinternet.com

USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

Church Office 656504
 Village Hall Bookings 643859
 Wheatsheaf Pub 644440
 The Grayswood Club 07748 065 821
 Grayswood School 642086
 Grayswood Cars (Garage) 642303
 Grayswood Nursery School 658931
 Barkers 642894
 Haslemere Herald 651271
 Haslemere Hall 642161
 Hairdresser 642821
 The Rockery B&B 643178
 Village Hall Payphone 658931
 Grayswood Taxi Service 644440
 Mobile 078877 14799

Grayswood School

Christmas Fair

Saturday 11 December

You are warmly invited to Grayswood School Christmas fair. It will take place on Saturday 11 December 2010 from 10am until noon. There will be lots of stalls and an opportunity for the children to meet Father Christmas! Come along and support this worthwhile event!

Events in December/January

Gardening Club 2nd / 6th
 Book Club 14th / 11th
 WI 8th / 12th
 Men's Breakfast 11th / 9th
 Good News Van 24th Jan
 Grayswood Toddlers — Each Term Time Wednesday
 Please contact: us using details overleaf for further information on any of these activities

VILLAGE PRAYER

We pray for those who live in Prestwick Lane, The Paddocks, Muddy Lane, Clammer Hill Road, Holdfast Lane, Three Gates Lane and Highercombe Road

Carol Singing

Come along and get into the Christmas spirit!
 A group of carol singers will be meeting on **Monday 20th December at 7pm, by the Lych Gate** to walk around the village and sing some carols. Wrap up warm and bring a torch. Adults and children welcome. We provide carol sheets. We are not collecting money, but we will offer you a sweet. Last call is usually The Wheatsheaf. Shirley: 653285; Doreen: 644178

Song Squad

Our singing group for youngsters will be meeting for practice on 22nd December (7.30pm-8.20pm in church, through vestry door). The group then will be singing in church for our Advent service on 28th November and on Christmas Day. January's practice on 21st, then in church on 23rd January for our **Christingle** service.

