

South Croxton Churches

The parishes of Ashby Folville & Barsby, Gaddesby, South Croxton with Beeby
and Twyford, Thorpe Satchville & John O'Gaunt

Newsletter December 2011 and January 2012

Letter from the Revd Peter Collins, Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of the Upper Wreake.

Make some time for God

**Christians, sing the Incarnation
of the eternal Son of God,
who, to save us, took our nature,
soul and body, flesh and blood.**



The Incarnation is the true reason why we celebrate Christmas, from the Latin '*incarnare*' meaning to '*make flesh*'. The Incarnation is the most wonderful gift ever given to humankind. It is the gift from a loving God to each one of us, a gift we receive not only on Christmas day but every day of every year.

Through this gift God became flesh, took on our nature, and shared in our humanity. Jesus Christ is the Incarnation. He is '*Immanuel*' which means 'God with us'.

When Mary held her new-born baby she held the Creator of the universe; when she kissed her tiny child she kissed the face of God.

This is the awesome wonder, mystery and miracle of the Incarnation, a Bethlehem birth among the hill country of Judah that is still changing and shaping our world. The Incarnation reveals God's love for each one of us. The gift of Jesus, his death

■ Continued on Page 2



and resurrection, has healed the relationship between humankind and God.

The Incarnation confirms a God who shares in our lives, who understands our strengths and weaknesses, joys and sorrows, beliefs and doubts, but who still loves us unconditionally; an unconditional love that enables and encourages each one of us to return our love freely and without fear. Can there ever be a greater gift to give or receive this Christmas?

Christmas is a time for celebrating love and relationships, a time to set aside the busyness of daily living to catch up with family and friends. Make some time for God this Christmas, enter into the true spirit of the season and receive the gift of the Incarnation; a gift that cannot be bought or sold, only given in love.

Peter

Church notices

from the Priest in Charge, Revd Susan Leighton

Hymn books

THANK YOU to all those who have offered to donate a book. Each church is aiming to cover the cost of 40 word books and two music editions. There is still an opportunity to give a book(s) so please contact one of the following people before Christmas if you wish to donate one.

Thorpe Satchville – Jane Smith 840876 or Janet Collins 840649

Gaddesby – David Wyrko 840385

Twyford and John O' Gaunt – Dorothy Edwards 840591

South Croxton with Beeby – Brian Piper 840627 or Ann Crawford 840231

Ashby Folville and Barsby – Rosemary Holt 840783

A hardback hymn book words edition costs £8, and a music edition £25.

Please give the payment, in an envelope, for the donated book(s) to the churchwarden/contact person listed above. Cheques should be made payable to 'South Croxton Benefice'.

The hymn books will be dedicated on **Sunday, January 1, at the New Year Service** – South Croxton Church at 10.30 am. All welcome.

Revd Susan Leighton and the South Croxton Benefice Council

It's happening . . .

■ Messy Church on Saturdays

Dates for your Diary:

Saturday, December 3, Christmas party fun!

Saturday, January 7, 'Follow the Star'

Epiphany special

Children of all ages welcome with a parent/carer

(£1 per family). Thorpe Satchville Village Hall **3—4.30 pm**

More information from Revd Susan Leighton (840245).

■ The **Sunday Club** (for 0–11 years) on SUNDAYS!

(Children under 5 years – please bring a carer to stay with you.)

Sunday, January 8, 2012

Held in South Croxton Church 11.30—12.30 pm

■ The group for teenagers, **Living our lives 4 Jesus** (LOL4J) is continuing on Sunday afternoons. All young people in school years 7 to 11 are welcome. Please contact Wendy Hardy (0116 260 7949) for more information

Looking back . . .

THANK YOU! Do you remember that a Parish Funding Programme was carried out by four churches earlier this year? Firstly a big 'thank you' to all who made this possible – writing letters, delivering letters, organising social events and visiting people.

Secondly, thank you to all who responded and are continuing to give/or have just started giving to support the church buildings and ministry.

How did we do?

Ashby Folville and Barsby increased their giving and achieved the target set.

South Croxton also increased their giving and achieved the target set.

Gaddesby received a slight increase of £600 per annum, but did not achieve the hoped-for increase (£5,000 a year still needed).

Twyford received some commitments from regular givers, but this amounted to less than the 2010 monies received. (£4,000 a year still needed).



■ Continued on Page 4

It's not too late . . .

If you feel you could participate with regular giving, and need a form, or would like to return your form please contact the following:

Ashby Folville and Barsby – David Patton (840964)

South Croxton – Brian Piper (840627)

Gaddesby - Daphne Tucker (841184)

Twyford – Sandy Johnson (840454)

Thank you all for your care and concern for our wonderful churches!

Baptisms: Congratulations to Ethan Clark Holland who was baptised at Twyford church on November 27.

To have your baby, child or yourselves baptised please contact Revd Susan Leighton (840245).

Confirmation for adults. If you would like to consider being confirmed please contact Revd Susan Leighton as a preparation group will start in the New Year.

Funerals: We offer our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Diane (Di) Batterham, of Thorpe Satchville. A Thanksgiving Service for her life was held at St. James, Birstall, on Tuesday, November 15.

Looking forward . . .



■ **All the carol services are on the services list**
— See Back Page.

Here are other forthcoming special services and events –

Christingle services :

Sunday, December 11, 3.30 pm, Christingle service for Ashby Folville, South Croxton and Gaddesby at **South Croxton Church.**



“You’ll be in deep trouble if the vicar finds out you’re not deeply meditating, just playing with your new iPad!”

Wednesday, December 21, 7.00 pm Anglican and Methodist United Carol and Christingle service for Twyford and Thorpe Satchville.at **Twyford Church**

Please take this opportunity to support the work of the Children's Society

■ **Nativity Service – Sunday, December 18, 10.30 am, Gaddesby Church.** *Children **and** adults!* — this is your opportunity to get out the dressing up box, be creative, and wear a costume (relating to the Nativity story).

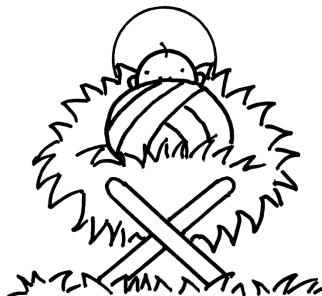
■ Start the New Year with worship, and renewed commitment at the special service on **Sunday, January 1, 10.30 am, at South Croxton Church.** This service will include the dedication of the new hymn book for the churches of the Benefice.

Events

You are invited to 'Sing Christmas!' Your opportunity to join with the Radio Leicester Carol Service '**Sing Christmas**' – on **Monday, December 19, at the Saddle Inn, Twyford. 7—8.00 pm.** All welcome.

*I look forward to seeing many of
you in this season of celebration.
Wishing you all a joyful
Christmas and peaceful New
Year*

Revd Susan Leighton and family



Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union is celebrating Christmas with a lunch at the Golden Fleece, South, Croxton, on December 1. There is no meeting in January but the annual meeting is on February 22 at 2.30 pm at Anne Seary's home at Ashby Folville. The Mothers' Union meets on the first Thursday in the month. Further information from Annette Piper (840627).

Council notices



Gaddesby, Barsby & Ashby Folville

Parish Council: The council's next meeting is on December 5 at Gaddesby Village Hall. The following meeting will be at Gaddesby Village Hall on Monday, January 9, and the February meeting on Monday, February 6, at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall. All start at 6.45 pm. People living in these villages can raise questions at the beginning of

meetings. Please contact the clerk, Mrs Trudy Toon (840490), for further details.

Twyford and Thorpe Satchville Parish Council: The council will meet on Friday, December 16, at 2.30 pm, in Thorpe Satchville Village Hall.

South Croxton: The council will meet on Monday, December 12, and Monday, January 9. Both meetings are at the village hall at 6.30 pm.

WI meetings

Barsby & Ashby Folville: There is a Christmas party on December 14. On January 11 Mr B Johnson will turn the spotlight on *Village Cinemas of Leicestershire*.

Gaddesby WI: It's Christmas party time on December 14 with a little bit of magic thrown in. The competition is a table decoration. On January 11, all being well, we start the New Year with part 2 of our travels down memory lane with Norman Payne. Table top sale in aid of funds.

South Croxton. The WI will hold a Christmas party on December 15 at the village hall at 7.30 pm.

Ashby Folville & Barsby

Display: After the carol service on December 11 there will be refreshments, a raffle and a display of Christmas trees, wreaths and table decorations in the village hall. Children are invited to make a paper angel. Open to everyone in the benefice. Bring everything to the hall between 3.00 pm and 5.00 pm on Saturday, December 10. All queries to Rosemary (840783).



Christmas Altar Flowers: If anyone would like to donate towards the altar flowers it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sylvia Favell (840259).

Harvest supper: Sylvia would like to thank all those who helped make delicious sweets and gave generously to the raffle. A total of £774.50 was raised to be divided between the village hall and church.

Village hall bookings: Please contact Sylvia Favell (840259).

Barsby and Ashby Folville WI: The handbells which the WI have traditionally rung at Christmas time to raise money for charity need refurbishing and will not be ready in time for Christmas this year. Instead, WI members will be carol singing in Ashby Folville on Friday, December 16, to raise money for the Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland Air Ambulance. *Angela Patton.*

Congratulations: Well done to Sarah Housby for completing the Great North Run and raising £1,000 for leukaemia and Alzheimer charities.

Dog appeal: The parish council is appealing to dog owners in Barsby to stop their animals fouling roadside verges and field footpaths in and around the village. Children and stock can be harmed by dog faeces. The parish council says: "We would ask that you act responsibly and clean up after your dog. Thank you."



Gaddesby

Christmas Fayre: The village hall will host a Christmas Fayre on Sunday, December 11, 10.00—4.00 pm. The theme is stocking fillers and we will have stalls selling jewellery, pamper products, handmade chocolates and much more. There is face painting for the children and lots of fun activities. The event is being supported by Gaddesby Primary School. Mince pies and mulled wine will get you in the mood for the festive season. Come along and help raise funds for Loros (the Leicestershire and Rutland Organisation for the Relief of Suffering). Entrance – adults £1, children free. Raffle prizes have been donated by local businesses. *Carol Richardson.*

Santa: People who gave time and donations to the rebuilding of the park on Paske Avenue will be rewarded with a visit from Santa on December 17 at 2.30 pm at the finish of the Gaddesby Gallop. Santa will also officially open the park. There will be a children's penalty shoot-out and basketball shoot-out competition. Everyone welcome. *Vic Smart.*

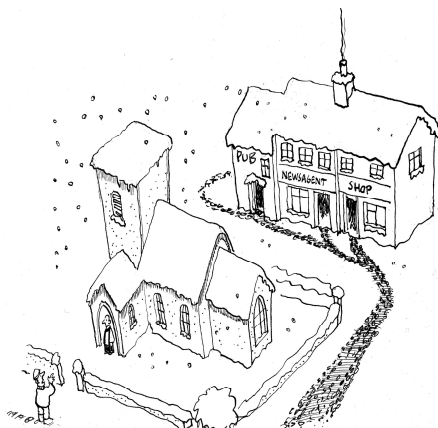
Aerobics: The last session at the village hall before Christmas is on Thursday, December 15, 7.00—8.00 pm. The next session starts on January 5. Come along and work off those extra Xmas pounds! Enquiries to Justine (840435).

Art: Gaddesby artist Andrew Geeson is running watercolour classes in the village, starting in January. The beginners' group is on Tuesdays 10.00—12.00 pm, starting January 10, and the intermediate on Sundays, 10.30—12.30 pm, starting January 15. Both classes last for five weeks and cost £48. Contact Andrew on 840162 or 07505 059682, email andrew.geeson@btopenworld.com. His website can be found at www.andrewgeesonartist.com

South Croxton

Concert: The village hall committee and the church council raised £269 with a lively concert of Christmas music by a group called Kudos. If you

missed this entertaining event they are performing in other village halls over the coming weeks, raising money for local charities. They will be at Waltham on December 3. *Caroline Baxter*. Many thanks to KUDOS, those who organised the evening and especially those who prepared the splendid refreshments afterwards.
Brian Piper



"I'm very sorry vicar, but with the snow this deep, no-one has managed to get to church."

Date for your Diary: Village hall organisers plan a coffee and book sale on Saturday, February 18, to be followed by a Murder Mystery in March.

Twyford

December

Village hall: For village hall bookings, charges and enquiries call 840774.

Karate: Sundays, December 4, 10—11.00am, December 10, 10—12.00pm, December 18, 10—11.00am; Wednesdays, December 7 and 14, 6—8.30pm

Aerobics: Mondays, 6:00—7.00 pm – phone Hannah (07932 403059) for details.

Carpet Bowls: Mondays, December 5 and 19, 8.00 pm

Drop In: Friday, December 9, 10.30—12.15 pm. All ages and visitors to the village welcome – join us to eat, drink, read the papers and chat!

Christmas Whist Drive, Friday, December 9, 7:30 pm

Special meetings: Jubilee plans and celebrations on December 2, 7.00 pm. Open meeting to discuss the provision of a community access emergency defibrillator for the village at 7.00 pm on December 8.

Christmas Blues and dance with Mojo Hand, Saturday, December 17, 8.30 pm. Great band – good start to seasonal celebrations.

Inns and outs: The Willow Man evening raised £206.60 for the air ambulance. Games, prizes and music on Tuesday, December 13. Bring a plate of food and drinks to share and make offers for the 2012 diary. Cost £2.50. Everyone welcome. Queries to Paula (840787) or Sandy (840454)



“Don’t cry darling. The man with the white beard and pointed hat who might be resigning is the Archbishop of Canterbury – NOT Father Christmas.”

January

Karate: Wednesdays, January 11, 18 and 25, 6—8.30 pm; Sundays, January 15, 22 and 29, 10—11.00am

Aerobics: Mondays, 6:00—7.00 pm – phone Hannah (07932 403059) for details.

Carpet Bowls: Mondays, January 9 and 23, 8.00 pm.

Drop In: Fridays, January 6, 13 and 27, 10.30—12.15. Catch up after Christmas – all ages and visitors to the village welcome. Join us to eat, drink, read the papers and chat!

Whist Drives: Fridays, January 13 and 27, 7.30 pm.

Inns and Outs: Village hall annual quiz, January 10, 7.30 pm, £2.50. Questions set by Christine and Peter. Please bring a plate of food and drink to share.



Who's who in the parishes of the South Croxton Group

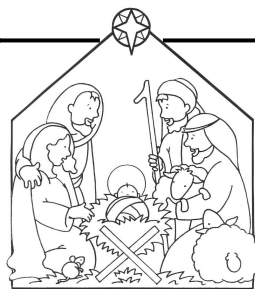
Priest-in-charge The Reverend Susan Leighton, 01664 840245
Churchwardens (all numbers preceded by area code 01664)
 Ashby Folville & Barsby: Rosemary Holt 840783
 South Croxton with Beeby: Ann Crawford 840231; Brian Piper 840627
 Twyford & John O'Gaunt: Dorothy Edwards 840591; Stephen Hardcastle 840733
Gaddesby contact: David Wyrko 840385
Thorpe Satchville contacts: Janet Collins 840649 or Jane Smith 840876

January Church Services

January 1 Christmas 1	10.30 am	South Croxton	Holy Communion – SL
January 8 The Baptism of Christ	8.30 am 10.30 am 11.30 am	Ashby Folville Thorpe Satchville South Croxton	Holy Communion – SL All Age Worship – MB Sunday School – WH/SL
January 15 Epiphany 2	8.30 am 10.30 am	Twyford Gaddesby	Holy Communion – MC Holy Communion – MC
January 22 Epiphany 3	8.30 am 10.30 am	Thorpe Satchville Ashby Folville	Holy Communion – MC All Age Worship – RT/LT
January 29 Epiphany 4	10.30 am	Kirby Bellars	Cluster Service – Ministry Team
February 5 Third before Lent	8.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Gaddesby South Croxton Twyford	Holy Communion – MC All Age Communion – PC Methodist CS – JC

Service led by: SL Revd Susan Leighton; PC Revd Peter Collins; MC Canon Michael Covington; WH Wendy Hardy; MB Malcolm Britton; RT Rhona Tomlyn; JC Revd Jane Carter; LT Local Team. CS Covenant Service.

December Church Services



Dec 4 Advent 2	8.30 am 10.30 am	South Croxton Gaddesby	Holy Communion – SL Holy Communion – SL/MB
Dec 11 Advent 3	8.30 am 10.30 am 3.30 pm 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Ashby Folville Thorpe Satchville South Croxton Ashby Folville Beeby	Holy Communion – MC All Age Communion – SL Christingle Service – SL Carol Service – SL/TL Carol Service – DH
Dec 18 Advent 4	8.30 am 10.30 am 6.00 pm	Twyford Gaddesby South Croxton	Holy Communion – SL Nativity Service – SL Carol Service – SL
Dec 21 Wednesday	7.00 pm	Twyford	United Carol and Christingle Service – SL/JC
Dec 22 Thursday	7.30 pm	Gaddesby	Carol Service – SL
Dec 24 Christmas Eve	6.00 pm 11.30 pm	Thorpe Satchville South Croxton	Carol and Crib Service – SL Midnight HC – SL
Dec 25 Christmas Day	10.30 am	Twyford	All Age Communion – SL

Service led by: SL Revd Susan Leighton; TL Revd Tony Leighton; MC Canon Michael Covington; DH The Very Revd Derek Hole; MB Malcolm Britton; JC Revd Jane Carter.
HC Holy Communion.