

View from the Pew

Andrew Povey-Richards

It hardly seems that summer has gone and what is happening – Christmas is upon us!!!

We are again having 'Travelling Cribs' going round the Parish during Advent, these will be blessed at the **Family Service on December 2nd** which will be a Christingle. More information is in the article on Page 5.

Don't forget the **Advent Carol Service at 6.30 pm on 2 December** – mulled wine and nibbles will be served afterwards. I hope you can find some quiet reflective time during the 4 weeks of Advent to meditate on Christ's coming in amongst all your preparations.

Our most important event in December is our **Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 8th – from 10am - 3pm in St. John's Hall**. We will hopefully be having some singing and other entertainment acts during the day by groups that use the hall. Lunch will be served in the same way it was last year. This is a very important fund raising event for us and is made even more important by our Treasurer predicting a considerable deficit for the year unless a lot changes this month. **I would urge you all very strongly to get the message out there in Herford and bring all your friends and children along**. I have posters if you know of places they could be put, (there is always plenty to buy but not enough people buying!) In addition, **if at all possible please get involved, help is always needed so please speak to Janet or myself**.

There are very many carol services between 6th and 20th and if you can help out in any way as a verger to meet and greet those arriving, that would be very much appreciated; again please speak to Janet or me.

The Nine Lessons and Carols service on 23rd December at 6.30pm is the real start of Christmas for me – please come and joins is for this unforgettable service leading up to Christmas day

Services on **Christmas Eve are at 4pm - the Blessing of the Crib** – very popular with young children and **11.30pm Midnight Eucharist**. On Christmas Day there is 8pm Said Communion, **10am Family Eucharist** followed by 6.30 Said Evensong.

We will mark **Epiphany** at the **Family Service on January 6th** and again with an **Epiphany Carol Service at 6.30pm on Sunday 13th January**. We will also be hosting the annual town-wide **service during the Week of Prayer of Christian Unity on Sunday 20th January at 3.00pm**.

Lastly there will be another **January Jolly on Saturday 26th January** – please put the date in your diary now!

Janet and I wish you a very blessed Christmas and look forward to seeing you at one of the services.

Andrew.

