

**Welcome to the  
Good Shepherd  
Magazine!!!!**

**Cathedral  
of the  
Good  
Shepherd**



**Catedral  
del  
Buen  
Pastor**

**Glory To God  
In The Highest**



**Advent and Christmas  
2023**

## Welcome from the Cathedral Dean

Welcome. It is such a joy to be able to invite you to celebrate Christmas with us. This is a difficult time for the world. There is terrible war in what we call the “Holy Land.” There continues to be a senseless and brutal war in the Ukraine. There are rumors of ethnic cleansing in the Sudan. Governments are electing increasingly right-wing politicians. Dictators seem to be unchecked in their pursuit of power. Our challenge is how to welcome the Christ Child.

The birth of Jesus, in an occupied country – occupied by a brutal and authoritarian regime – is a light “shining in the darkness.” He was born of a poor family, born amidst opprobrium for circumstances that could only be explained as somehow the will of God. He was born to a young woman who risked being stoned to death for becoming pregnant out of wedlock. Yet, she said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:38). The baby could have so easily been executed under the horrific decree of a jealous king called Herod. Herod had been visited by Magi (wise men) from the East who were looking for a recently born king. This unlikely birth is heralded as the **Incarnation**. God coming into the world as a baby, who, as an adult would bring salvation and deliverance.

*“ You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
to give knowledge of salvation to his people  
in the forgiveness of their sins,  
because of the tender mercy of our God,  
whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high  
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.” (Luke 1:76-79)*

So, according to the story, Jesus, born of Mary, enters the world. The family became refugees in Egypt.

A few years on, after their return to Israel, Jesus is taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. He meets an old man called Simeon, who proclaims:

*“ ... my eyes have seen your salvation  
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.” (Luke 2:30-32)*

Jesus is then met by Anna, an 84 year old widow. She, “began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.” (Luke 2:38)

What is the significance? For those of us who are Christians this is the miracle of miracles. St. John sums it all up in his memorable words:

*The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.  
He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*(John 1:9-14)*

It does take faith to accept the story. The story is retold each year around the world. The story is retold so that those who do not believe may perhaps catch a vision of God. God doing something extraordinary and inviting the people of the world to not just see the world differently but also to enter into God’s vision for humanity. That vision is called the Kingdom of God.

Come and join us in our worship.

**Merry Christmas to you all.** I will be back in early January if you want to have a conversation.

Fr. Ian Montgomery  
(Dean, Anglican Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, Lima)

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## Quotes.....

### What about Christmas gifts?

*The giving of gifts is not something man invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His Son.*

– Robert Flatt

### Christmas gifts we can all give.....

*To your enemy . . .forgiveness,  
To your opponent . . .tolerance.  
To a friend . . . your heart.  
To a customer . . . service.  
To all men . . .charity.  
To every child . . . a good example  
To yourself . . .respect*

—Author Unknown

## The Cathedral's Social Work Programs

**Student Support** assists young people who have had to abandon their studies for financial reasons, because illness in the family or loss of employment. We currently have 4 students: MP, finishing her psychology degree, DL in her last year as nursing technician, RR last year of psychology and EC studying his second year of medicine. We have other candidates and are always seeking more funding.

**The Arpillera Project** provides work for some 40 women and their families in Pamplona Alta, and has been going since 1997. It has made it possible for some families to buy plots of land build their houses, install their first proper bathrooms, and pay for their children's schooling or higher education. Most of their work is exported to the USA and the UK  
**Check the Arpillera stall here at the Bazaar!**

**Prison Ministry** Our Mama Lucha has been teaching handicrafts in the women's prison in Chorrillos for 43 years now, then selling their products. She also helps with the needs of the under-3s who live there with their mothers

**Lucha will be selling their creations at the bazaar.**

**Christmas Bag project** The annual project with donations from pupils and teachers of San Silvestre, whereby bags each containing a toy /game, school materials, toiletries and cookies or sweets are given to over 300 children in mainly rural areas. This year they will be sent to bilingual communities in Oxapampa, Apurimac, Abancay and Collique.

*If you are interested in making a donation for the student programme ordering an arpillera or providing something for the prison ministry, please contact Jean Samaniego at [samaniegojean@gmail.com](mailto:samaniegojean@gmail.com)*

## Introducing some of the members of our Congregation at the Cathedral

### **Tabor - Praying in Silence**

Silence, prayer and mindfulness are increasingly important in our times, when we are all so hyper connected to information that we become less sensitive to listening, to being silent.

When somebody asks me what Tabor is, I stay silent for a moment before I explain that it is the place where I would have loved to be 2,023 years ago... It was on Mount Tabor that our Lord showed himself to his disciples transfigured in Light, to give them comfort and encourage them to endure the difficult moments of the Cross.

The three synoptic Gospels recount the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-8 and Luke 9:28-36).

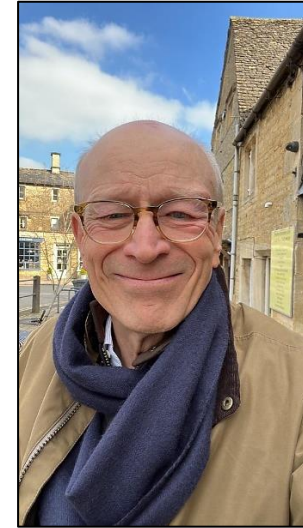
That moment was so beautiful that Peter wanted to build three tents, one for Jesus, another each for Elijah and Moses, who manifested themselves in that powerful vision.

Contemplating that moment, I understood that it could be reproduced following the instructions that Christ our Lord gave to the disciples before he manifested himself in Light... he said Pray, pray.

Understanding the enormous power that prayer has, this is how Tabor's Praying Movement began at the Good Shepherd.

**Join us in the Cathedral on Wednesday evenings at 6pm for an hour of silent prayer, to speak to God and above all to listen. A unique and calming experience.**

— H. Schofield



My name is **Andrew King** and I am a 68 year-old Brit married to Patricia. We arrived in Lima in 2009 and started attending the Good Shepherd soon after. Previously I worked in finance in various locations in Europe. Although I was sent to Sunday school as a child, in my teens I decided that God was not needed to explain the universe. What I didn't realize until much later was that I needed Christ. I have a personal relationship with Him through prayer and try to better understand His purpose through reading the Bible.

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My name is **Jesús Chirinos**. I'm originally from Venezuela. Music has been the center of my life since I was a kid, being part of "El Sistema", the orchestral project in Venezuela. I learned not only my music skills but other important human values that made me the person I am today. Now, I work as a music teacher and violinist.

I came to Peru in 2018, and found The Good Shepherd through the free English Class Program the church offered.

I started attending the Sunday English services and discovered a wonderful church, a congregation where I felt very well-received from day one, and the most important part, it reconnected me with God and my faith. This has been, for me, the most powerful resource in my process of leaving my country and setting roots in another. I currently try supporting the church through singing and sometimes playing violin during the Sunday services. I also help with the preparation of special events, like the Carol Service. I'm so thankful to God for bring the Good Shepherd into my life.

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My name is **Harold Schofield**, a medical doctor by profession, born in Peru and the third generation of an English family that came from Yorkshire, known for its Roman and Viking heritage, as well as its Norman castles and medieval abbey. The family came to Peru more than 100 years ago to build the first railways in the country, and of course they fell in love with the land and stayed.

Seeking to reconnect with my origins, I approached the Good Shepard Cathedral and was surprised to find the affection and closeness of a family. Every person I have met has shown me the love of Christ our savior and I have also had support for initiatives like "Tabor", a space for prayer and meditation in the church.

I am deeply devoted to the transformative power of prayer and in the cathedral I have found fertile ground to grow talents for the benefit of other seekers like me. I firmly believe that changes on the outside come from within. Thank you, friends and brothers of this great family under the protection of the Good Shepherd, our Lord and Savior.

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**Danielle and Billy** came to Peru in July 2022 and were grateful to have immediately found a welcoming congregation at the Good Shepherd. Danielle loves baking and singing in the church choir when she isn't traveling or working on scientific studies of tropical diseases. Billy is balancing his work in the US with his Master's program. We are the proud parents of three cats.

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My name is **Kirstie Maddison** and I started attending The Good Shepherd in April 2023, after moving to Peru in February to teach at Cambridge College. Having sung in church choirs and attending church in my hometown of Dover, Kent, UK, since I was 8 years old, and singing as a choral scholar at St Machar's Cathedral in Aberdeen while at university, being part of a Christian community has always been incredibly important for me and my journey through faith. Since attending The Good Shepherd and becoming part of the choir and helping with events, I have felt hugely welcomed by the community and have so much enjoyed getting to know our wonderful members of the church and visitors. Thank you so much for welcoming me with open arms.

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## Disguised Blessings



Hello! My name is **Sofi Doig**, and I have been a member of the Good Shepherd for almost half a century. I was born in Chiclayo, in the north of Peru, grew up here in Lima and finished school in Basel, Switzerland. I am a freelance translator and a full-time school teacher. My mum was the organist here at the Good Shepherd for around forty years and you can now see (and hopefully hear) me singing at the front of the church every Sunday.

I believe God is good and his blessings are all around us – all we have to do is look!

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Generous God, I am thankful for:

- The taxes that I pay - because it means that I am employed.
- The mess after a party - because it means that I have been surrounded by friends.
- The clothes that fit a little too snugly - because it means that I have enough to eat.
- My shadow who watches me work - because it means that I am out in the sunshine.
- A lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing - because it means that I have a home.
- All the complaining I hear about the Government - because it means that we have freedom of speech.
- The space that I find at the far end of the car park - because it means that I am capable of walking.
- The person behind me in church who sings off key - because it means that I can hear.
- The piles of laundry and ironing- because it means that I have clothes to wear.
- Weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day - because it means that I have been busy.
- The alarm that goes off in the early morning hours - because it means that I am alive.

**For all our many blessings, especially those that come in disguise, we thank you God.**

# CHRISTMAS TALL TALES

*From the Guardian Diary column, December 2004.*

The reward for the most desperate piece of PR goes to Travelodge, which is offering any couple named Mary and Joseph a free night's accommodation over Christmas. As the statement explained: "We are trying to make amends for the failure of the Bethlehem hotel industry."

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A woman walked into a post office to buy stamps for her Christmas Cards. "What denomination?" asked the counter clerk. "Good heavens," she said. "Let me see: I need 17 Anglicans, 5 Catholics, 7 Methodists and a Presbyterian."

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The brass band was performing at a carol concert, and the players soon noticed that the programme said – courtesy of one those spell-checker assisted errors – that they were to play "The Shepherds go to the Manager." By the end of the concert, one programme had an addendum that read "... to negotiate the rate for Christmas working."

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## Wise men?

*From Parish Pump*

I was telling my three boys the story of the Nativity and how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for the infant Jesus. Clearly giving it a lot of thought, my six-year-old observed, "They must have been Wise Men, a Wise Woman would have brought nappies (diapers)."

# Mystery Christmas Carol

The words listed below are from a familiar Christmas Carol. What is it? Find and circle all the words hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters will spell the name of the Christmas Carol.

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

- |        |          |        |         |        |
|--------|----------|--------|---------|--------|
| all    | cattle   | heaven | makes   | sweet  |
| and    | children | his    | manger  | take   |
| ask    | close    | Jesus  | morning | tender |
| asleep | crib     | laid   | near    | thee   |
| away   | crying   | lay    | nigh    | there  |
| baby   | dear     | little | poor    | thy    |
| bed    | down     | live   | pray    | wakes  |
| bless  | forever  | looked | side    | where  |
| bright | from     | Lord   | sky     | with   |
| but    | hay      | love   | stars   |        |
| care   | head     | lowing | stay    |        |



# Wordsearch

Angels are very much part of the Christmas story, speaking with Zachariah, Mary, Joseph and the shepherds.

The well-known carol "Hark the herald angels sing" was written by Charles Wesley in 1739 to express the wonder of God incarnate coming to earth in order to reconcile with Him men and women, separated from Him by sin. A sombre man, he preferred solemn music, and envisioned the song being sung to the same tune as his hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today".

A hundred years later, in 1840, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) composed a cantata to commemorate Johann Gutenberg's invention of the printing press. English musician William H. Cummings adapted this music to fit the lyrics of "Hark the herald angels sing", and this is the tune usually sung today.

The underlined words from the carol may be found vertically, horizontally or diagonally, in any direction.

Hark the herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With the angelic host proclaim:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see  
Hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings  
Ris'n with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

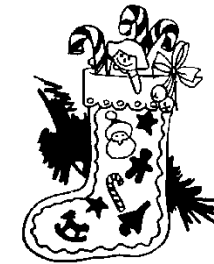
A	R	V	R	B	D	E	I	T	Y	H	T	R	A	E
N	M	I	T	E	A	P	H	A	R	K	S	N	S	A
G	G	S	G	T	E	G	S	R	O	H	I	I	G	L
E	O	E	E	H	I	H	E	A	L	I	N	G	N	D
L	D	C	T	L	T	D	L	O	G	N	G	R	I	E
S	H	O	A	E	H	E	F	R	E	O	O	I	K	L
H	E	N	N	H	D	P	O	R	S	B	D	V	N	I
P	A	D	R	E	L	E	S	U	N	L	I	F	E	C
M	D	B	A	M	A	A	G	V	S	A	L	D	J	N
U	L	I	C	A	R	C	A	N	L	N	M	I	E	O
I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

# Is Rudolph the reindeer a – girl?!

Rudolph the reindeer may have a splendid bright red nose – but there is something else rather odd about him: he has antlers. And anyone who knows reindeer will tell you that Father Christmas's favourite reindeer for foggy nights cannot be male because only female reindeer have antlers at Christmas time.

Two professors at Edinburgh University have been looking into this problem. They found that female reindeer grow antlers in time for winter in order to dig in the snow to reach lichens and so provide food for their young. Males, on the other hand, grow antlers only in order to fight with other males during the mating season in the autumn. Once that is over, they cast their antlers away, well before Christmas.

So – who are the reindeers pulling Father Christmas's sleigh? We have always assumed that all those antlered reindeer were male. But perhaps this is not so.... perhaps we should rename Rudolph Rudolpha!



## Where did Christmas stockings come from?

No one is really sure, but a story is told of St Nicholas, a bishop who lived in the 4th century, who may have started the custom by accident. St Nicholas was of a wealthy family, and of a generous heart. As Christmas approached one year, he wanted to help a poor family whom he knew, but he did not want them to know it was him. So he climbed up on their roof on Christmas Eve and dropped some coins down the chimney.

The next morning the coins, to the great surprise of the family, were found in the stockings of the ladies, who had hung them to dry by the fire the night before. Every year after that they put their stockings out, in the hope that some more money would fall into them. They told the story of this amazing appearance to their friends and neighbours, and the custom caught on.

# Advent and Christmas Services

Every Sunday, all through the year, there is a Eucharist service at 10am, to which all are welcome.

Apart from the Sunday Services there are also special services for Christmas:

Wednesday 6 December 7:30 pm	Traditional Carol Service
Thursday 21 December 4.30 pm	Christingle Service
Monday 25 December 10.00 am	Christmas Service

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## Cathedral Staff:

- Rt. Rev. Jorge Luis Aguilar (Bishop, Rector Spanish Cong.)
- Very Rev Dr Ian Montgomery (Dean, English Cong.)
- Rt. Rev. Greg Venables (Interim Rector, English Cong.)
- Mrs Penny Marcés (Lay Minister, English Congregation)
- Mr Bliss Spillar (Lay Minister, English Congregation)
- Ms. Romy Llontop (Secretary)
- Ms. Rocío Cancho (Organist)

**Please  
come and visit us**

*May God bless you richly: this Christmas,  
in the coming year 2024, and always*