

**CLERGY
PRAYERS**
Every Monday at
9.10am

Dec: URC
Jan: St.Michael's
Feb: Springdale
March: St Bart's

OPEN TO ALL

**Did you come to
Springdale on All
Hallows' Eve?**
**If not, you missed a
treat! Not to
mention some good
tricks! Enjoyed by
all ages.**
**Many thanks to
Amy, Mark &
helpers**

DEC 5th is CHRISTMAS FAIR Day!
Lots of ideas for gifts. Bring the children to
see Santa. Refreshments.
Springdale from 12
URC from 2pm

THE WAVE: DEC 5th 2010

**CHRISTMAS
CARDS for PENN**

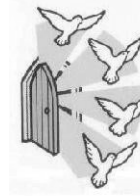
Who will deliver
them?

Could you help?

Ask in your church
NOW!

Young people in Penn have made a banner to be carried in "the Wave". (See Cafod website for a picture)

Archbishops Rowan Williams and Vincent Nichols will lead a Christian Service to start this demonstration of concern about the widespread effects of climate change.



Penn Churches' **NEWSLETTER**

December 2009

Dear Friends

Many times when I ask people if they are looking forward to Christmas they reply with, "Christmas is for the children really". Is it?

In the story of our Lord's birth and in all the nativity scenes you have ever seen – how many children are there? Just the one, granted he is the main centre of attraction – but only the one child and a mixture of others fill our advent scenes. Kings and shepherds. Shepherds were left out of everything in Bible days. They were unpopular because they weren't fussy about whose land their sheep wandered onto and they spent most of their time in an unclean state. But here they are welcome.

Christmas is for children, but also for everyone, rich or poor, black and white, young and old – it can break down barriers and unite people in peace, if we would only let it.

I still get that feeling of excitement as Christmas Day approaches, a sort of tingling of expectancy. I am also privileged to read these words from the first chapter of John's Gospel:

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.....All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being....he came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him and believed in his name, he gave power to become the children of God.....And the word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.'

I feel lifted by those words and I hope you do too. Christ was born for each of us we are all able to be the children of God.

I pray that this Christmastime you will be filled with the excitement and expectancy of a child of God and your homes and families will be full of Christ's blessings and love.

God's Blessings, Colin

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2010

United Worship 2010
(provisional arrangements)

JUBILEE YEAR FOR PENN COVENANT

Come to celebrate the 25th Anniversary
Sunday 24th January
3pm
St Bart's
Preacher : Rt Rev Gordon Mursell
Bishop of Stafford
To include installation of new Chairman
Keith Watts (Springdale)

SHROVE TUESDAY SOCIAL

16TH FEBRUARY

at ST MICHAEL'S

Details to follow

Good Friday 2nd April
St Bart's, early evening

Christian Aid Sun 9th May
Springdale 3pm

One World Week
(17th-24th Oct)
URC 3pm

Advent Sunday 28th Nov
St Michael's



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Fri 5th March
Prepared by women of
Cameroon
Service at Springdale 7.30 pm

Speaker : Val Campion

Painting in Penn
for 12 – 15 yr olds

A day workshop
in the Oak Room, St Barts
Sat 16th January, 9.15–4.30
Details Ron Mottram, 343528

Lent Groups 2010

LENT IS EARLY THIS YEAR!

**Ash Wednesday is 17th February
and groups will begin in the week of 22nd**

WATCH FOR DETAILS