

# Christmas Greetings



## **This card comes with love and best wishes from your Parish Church**

In this card you will find information on services and events to which you are warmly invited. If you need help to get to any of them please do get in touch with the church office on the number printed below and we will endeavour to arrange transport for you.

Most of us probably have an idealised view of what Christmas should be like, whether from our childhood or the countless Christmas themed films we have seen. However, the first Christmas was hardly idyllic from a human perspective, as Mary gave birth in a place to keep animals far from home, and at a time when her country was under occupation by a foreign army.

Christmas is really a love story, of God laying aside his majesty to share the difficulties and pain of all his beloved children. And there is so much pain in the world at the present. The message of Christmas is that God is with us, and he offers us his peace and a loving relationship with him. May God bless you and those you love and care for in this holy season.

**Reverend Helena Buqué**

**Reverend Colin Cox**

*November 2024*

*The Rectory, School Hill, Findon BN14 0TR, Tel: 01903 873601,*

**Website:** [www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com](http://www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com) **Email:** [findoncrectory@gmail.com](mailto:findoncrectory@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** *Parish of Findon, Clapham and Patching*

## Church Services for Advent & Christmas

Date	Findon St John the Baptist	Clapham St Mary the Virgin	Patching St John the Divine
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Advent Sunday	8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Worship & Praise		10am Eucharist
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> Advent 2	9.30am Eucharist	8am BCP Holy Communion	
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> Advent 3	8am BCP Holy Communion 9.30am Eucharist	10am Eucharist	
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Advent 4	9.30am Eucharist 3pm Family Carol Service with a Nativity tableau		8am BCP Holy Communion
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve	3pm Christingle Service 11.30pm Midnight Mass		
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day	8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Christmas Eucharist		10am Christmas Eucharist
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> Christmas 1	8am BCP Holy Communion	10am Family service	

## Findon, Clapham and Patching Christmas Celebrations

Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	5:30pm	Christmas lights are switched on in Findon Village. Enjoy mince pies, mulled wine, carols and a visit from Santa
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10am – 12.30pm	Cinnamon Trust Christmas Fair in Findon Village Hall.
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.15pm	Walking Nativity in Findon Village starting at the Village Hall. Carols in the garden of the Gun Inn.
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.15pm	'Carols round the coals' at Patching Church, (starts at the Old Forge, to follow the donkey to the churchyard). Father Christmas is expected to make a visit too!
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7pm	Carol singing with The Monarch's Way Singers, meeting outside the Post Office.
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2:30pm	Carol singing with the residents of Clapham Lodge

*The picture is from a photo taken by Colin Cox in Bethlehem in 2009.*