



ShelterBox - our St Cross
Lent Appeal 2022

'A TENT FOR LENT!'

ShelterBox is a well-established international disaster relief charity that was set up in 2000. It provides emergency shelter and other aid items to families around the world who have lost their homes to disaster or conflict. Having somewhere dry and warm to sleep, to prepare meals and be with your family is vital for starting the long process of rebuilding your life. Every disaster is different and so is every community, so time is spent with those affected to make sure that the right support at the right time is offered to help them recover. Tents, at a cost of £385, Shelter Kits and solar lights that are essential for survival can be provided to stricken families, all of which can help to turn a shelter into a home. ShelterBox teams can travel by boat, helicopter or tuk-tuk

to get to the people who need our support. Families continue to be helped in Syria, Mozambique, Haiti, Yemen, Nigeria, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and the Philippines.

You will be hearing and seeing much more about our appeal over the coming weeks and one of our services (yet to be decided) on 27th February, 6th or 13th March will be dedicated to this, but if you have any queries please contact

either Hil or Mary
(Readers at St Cross)

Lenten Reading

Reflections for Lent £5

Journeying through Lent £3

Details of both books and information for ordering can be found on flyers and the notice board in church, the church website or by speaking to Mary.

St Cross Newsletter February 2022



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The Vicar writes...

The season of Epiphany is behind us, and now we have a short period of 'Ordinary Time' before we enter the season of Lent. And yet, as we go through the liturgical year, a relationship with Jesus does mean that we should always be in a season of Epiphany; Epiphany means 'something is revealed or shown to us.'

The Wise Men came to see Jesus having interpreted what was probably a natural event. I believe that the heavenly brilliance we read about in Matthew's gospel was not anything outside the natural order of things, but nonetheless, the wise men sensed through that event that they needed to go to Bethlehem (Mk. 2.2).

If we are attentive to the world around us, we may be fortunate to see the unexpected around us from time to time. Perhaps when we are out in the countryside there are times when we see moods changing on the landscape. I can recall sitting on hillsides watching in silence, shadows cast by clouds which moved across the hillside under the effect of the prevailing gentle breeze. We may sit down and think and pray in these moments, sensing a special moment that God is with us.

We don't even have to go outdoors to see things like this. I am fortunate in that I must go into the church regularly during the day to do some mundane tasks as part of the day to day running of the church. Around two weeks ago, early one afternoon, I had a reason to go in and as I walked to the sacristy via the crossing, I looked east, as I always do.

There was an image on the far wall of the church under the east window that immediately grabbed my attention. I had to stop and look, and to gaze in wonder at what I saw. The longer I lingered, the more it seemed like a 'God moment.'

Fortunately, I had my camera phone with me and took the opportunity to take a photograph of the shadow cast by one of the angels onto the far wall in bright sunshine. The angel was illuminated brightly, but it was the shadow that drew the attention. Having taken the photograph, I rushed home to get my camera and tripod with the aim of getting a more professional image. Alas, when I returned the moment had gone. However, the image I took below is sufficiently good enough to convey the beauty of this moment. Each time I look at this picture something different may come to mind.

May the season of Epiphany continue for all of us on our own journeys of faith through Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter and beyond until one day we will all see and experience the full glory of God, and his son Jesus, the angels and all the saints, face to face.

Yours, in Christ
Paul



*The Angels at St Cross.
How often sunlight can produce such beautiful results inside churches which were cleverly designed and built to help transform us from one world to another.*

Occasional Offices

None during January

Readings for Services - Sundays and Wednesdays

	MP = Morning Prayer (Audio) E = Eucharist	Evening Service
2 February Wednesday	E 2 Samuel 24.2,9-17 or Psalm 32.1-8 Mark 6.1-6a	
Sunday 6 February Fourth Sunday before Lent	MP/E Isaiah 6.1-8 [9-end] or 1 Corinthians 15.1-11 Luke 5.1-11	4.30pm Celtic Eucharist Hosea 6.4-6 or Colossians 3.12-17 Matthew 13.24b-30
9 February Wednesday	E 1 Kings 10.1-10 or Psalm 37.3-6, 30-32 Mark 7.14-23	
Sunday 13 February Third Sunday before Lent	MP/E Jeremiah 17.5-10 1 Corinthians 15.12-20 Luke 6.17-26	7pm Compline (Zoom)
16 February Wednesday	E Psalm 15 or James 1.19-end Mark 8.22-26	
Sunday 20 February Second Sunday before Lent	MP/E Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end Revelation 4 Luke 8.22-25	
23 February Wednesday Polycarp	E Wisdom 5.15-20 Revelation 2.8-11 Mark 9.38-40	
Sunday 27 February Sunday next before Lent	MP/E Exodus 34.29-end 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2 Luke 9.28-36 (37-43a)	

To access the Audio Online Services from St Cross
<http://www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk/media/>