

Church of All Saints in the Vendée  
"To know and to share Jesus Christ"

 *The Grapevine* 

**January 2021**

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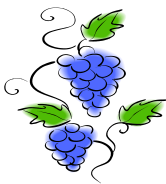
[www.allsaintsvendee.fr](http://www.allsaintsvendee.fr)

**GOOD NEWS:**  
**Online Zoom**  
**Services at**  
**Christmas and**  
**beyond**



**See you there!**

(More information inside)



*4 thought*  
*January 2021*



I imagine you may well be reading this late in December? Maybe even before Christmas, if that is the case and you have not already done so, please make sure that your name is entered on the members list. This is NOT the electoral roll, but the only means we have of contacting you legally under the Data Protection legislation. It is up to you to give us permission, so that we can keep you informed of special events, and services. (We are having an Advent 4 service, and have planned a service for Christmas Eve at 16.00. both by Zoom) So, don't miss out, get your details to Doug Green as soon as possible. We are also going to start a regular pattern of 1st Sunday, 2nd and 4th Sundays, for as long as restrictions continue. Our prayers are that those restrictions will soon no longer be needed.

As we approach the Church's season of Epiphany, the visit of the "wise men" or Magi, it has been of great interest to me, that some publications are claiming that a conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn, might have been the original star in the east. Naturally, there are many theories around. According to one source Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions happen every 20 years; the last one was in the year 2000. But these conjunctions aren't all created equal. The December 21st 2020 great conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn will be the closest since 1623 and the closest observable since 1226! 2020's extra-close Jupiter-Saturn conjunction won't be matched again until the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction of March 15, 2080. So was such a conjunction the star?

The Magi probably visited Jesus when He was 2 or three years old, inadvertently betraying Him to Herod. Traditionally the gifts they gave were, gold, frankincense and myrrh. Following their visit, Joseph, Mary and Jesus were warned that they had to escape into Egypt. They reached Egypt after a 65 kilometre journey, living there for three years until after the death of Herod in 4 B.C. when Joseph was told by an angel via a dream, that it was safe to return to Israel. So, on Sunday 3rd January, we shall be commemorating the visit of the Kings, during our Zoom service.

Please stay safe, stay well, and keep in touch....

Every Blessing,

Hazel



This from Revd Hazel :



# Prayer List

*Please remember in your prayers:*



**Ann Fraser-Wilson**

**Barbara**

**Carol**

**Chris and Julie**

**David and Susan**

**David and Chris**

**Dick**

**Heidi and her**

*parents, Joël and Jo*

**Isi and family**

**Ken Ivin**

**Malcolm**

**Millie-Jean, Hazel and Martins'**  
*granddaughter*

**Pat and David**

**Pat and Roy**

**Peter**

*....and for the bereaved:*

**The family and friends of:**

*Janice Adams*

*Pam Davies*

*Ken Ferguson*

*Terry Fraser-Wilson*

*Sue Stock*

*Tim Johnson*

*Jenny Thorpe (Marian's friend)*

*Tim Bravington*

*Dot (Julie Taylor's mother)*

*[If you would like a name to be added to the Prayer List, please contact David Pearson.*

*Tel: 02 51 61 05 04 or Email: davidlpearson@orange.fr]*





## *Churchwardens' Report for January 2020:*

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**MEMBERSHIP LIST .....**

**MEMBERSHIP LIST.....**

**HAVE YOU REPLIED?**

We are now holding on-line Zoom services but we can only send out the link to those on the membership list who have given their permission for us to hold this information (Data protection regulations). Thank you for everyone who has replied but there are still many, many members of the congregations who have not sent us their name, address, email address and phone numbers (fixed and mobile) as detailed in the October and November 2020 Grapevines. Please send details to Doug Green, La Vialiere, 79240 Largeasse, or ([greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk).)

We have now held several , very successful, on-line Advent services with grateful thanks to Hazel for preparing and leading the worship and Fiona for handling the technical aspects. We also held an on-line Christingle Service with the members of the Sunday Club taking part - in one case with a reading from William from Bordeaux where he is studying. If anyone wishes to donate to the Childrens' Society, please send your donation to Chris Green, La Vialiere, 79240 Largeasse.

Hazel proposes holding further Services in January starting on the 3rd January 2021 and then on the 10th and 24th - but again, we must stress , you must be on the membership list to enable Fiona to send you the Zoom link.

We send you our "meilleurs voeux" for 2021 and look forward to when we can resume worship in church.

*Doug and David*



# LECTIONARY READINGS January into February 2021

*With the closure of all our services until further notice, our Lectionary Readings are included so you can use them for your personal devotions*

*If, and when, the Covid-19 Restrictions are lifted, please refer to the Church Wardens or website for service times.*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> January *Epiphany*

Isaiah 60.1-6  
Ephesians 3.1-12  
Matthew 2.1-12  
*Psalm 72.[1-0] 10-15*

## 24<sup>th</sup> January *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany* (white)

Genesis 14.17-20  
Revelation 19.6-10  
John 2.1-11  
*Psalm 128*

## 10<sup>th</sup> January *Baptism of Christ* *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany*

Genesis 1.1-5  
Acts 19.1-7  
Acts 19.1-7  
*Psalm 29*

## 31<sup>st</sup> January *Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)* *4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany*

Malachi 3.1-5  
Hebrews 2.14-end  
Luke 2.22-40  
*Psalm 24.[1-6] 7-end*

## 17<sup>th</sup> January *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany* (white)

1 Samuel 3.1-10 [11-20]  
Revelation 5.1-10  
John 1.43-end  
*Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18 [or 139.1-9]*

## 7<sup>th</sup> February *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent*

Proverbs 8.1, 22-31  
Colossians 1.15-20  
John 1.1-14  
*Psalm 104.26-end*

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## *Sunday Club*



will take place once again in

the Salle at Puy de Serre when our services recommence.

If you know of any children who would like to join our Sunday Club please bring them along at 11a.m. They will be most welcome.

All children welcome from all denominations, we have lots of interest

*Please contact Jenny if you require more information:*

*email: [jennywilkinson213@gmail.com](mailto:jennywilkinson213@gmail.com)*

*turn to the end of this edition of Grapevine for our January project.....*



# Dates for your Diary

January 2021



1<sup>st</sup> Friday

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 11.00 Zoom online service

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11.00 Zoom online service

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11.00 Zoom online service

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday



# Dates for your Diary

February 2021



1<sup>st</sup> Monday

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11.00 Zoom online service

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11.00 Zoom online service

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11.00 Zoom online service

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**Please note:**



**The Training Day for Emergency First Aid**  
[Training to HSE standard, leading to a certificate valid for 3 years]  
**Was Tuesday April 7<sup>th</sup> 2020**  
**Has now been postponed indefinitely.**

## Grapevine Treasurer's report: November 2020:

Income: 892.00 €  
Expenditure: 525.48 €

With slightly fewer outgoings this month,  
the balance, therefore, is positive for the month: 366.52 €.

However, overall this year, we have been losing approximately **300 € per month**, and we really need some more people to join the Planned Giving scheme, or to make a donation if they feel able.

*Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a Joyful New Year!*

Iain McGregor  
(Treasurer)



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### *PLANNED GIVING THROUGH THE STANDING ORDER SCHEME.*

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**Some people have been asking how to make a donation to ASV.**

**Here are the details:**

**Account at the Banque Postale: The Congregations of All Saints, Vendée**  
**IBAN: FR57 2004 1010 1110 8046 5C 032**  
**BIC: PSSTFRPPNTE**

**If you need any help, please do not hesitate to contact me: [mcgregor@lalogette.com](mailto:mcgregor@lalogette.com)**

**ADVANTAGES:**

**If you set up a standing order (virement) through your French bank, online, it is cost-free.**

**You stay in total control of what you give – the standing order (virement) can be changed at any time, but only by you!**

**Only the Treasurer knows how much you give per month.**

**You know what you are giving, and exactly when the money comes out of your account, and so your budgeting is much easier.**

**If you complete a French tax form, then you will get a significant rebate (depending on your situation) at the end of each financial year.**

**If your French tax bill is small, then you will pay no tax at all!**

**ASV can plan ahead much more effectively, as it knows what contributions are coming in, rather than guessing who is going to be at church!**

**DISADVANTAGES:**

**I can't think of any, so why not come and join the party!**

**British residents:**

**If you do not have a French bank account, but would like to support the work of ASV, then please contact me, and I can help you. Please note, you cannot use tax-efficient giving in both France and the UK.**



Mike Mylod is our link with  
**Restos du Coeur**



He will continue to collect your gifts of dry goods, etc. which are particularly important now and which will be delivered to the local depot at Coulonges-sur-L'Autize.

Please phone Mike before leaving goods with him at Mouilleron-en-Pareds: 02 51 51 07 36



**EAST & WEST VENDÉE – CHURCH SERVICE ROTA**

DATE 2021	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRES-IDENT	PREACHER	WORSHIP LEADER	ORGAN-IST	CHALICE	INTER-CESSOR	READERS	WEL-COME RS	NOTES
3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Zoom	11.00	<p><b><i>All church services have been cancelled until the Restrictions are lifted</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Please check with the Church Wardens or website for updates</i></b></p>									Epiphany
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Zoom	11.00										Baptism of Christ
17 <sup>th</sup> January												1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany
24 <sup>th</sup> January	Zoom	11.00										2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany
31 <sup>st</sup> January												3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Zoom	11.00										Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

**WEST VENDÉE – FORWARD PLANNING ROTA**

Date 2021	Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)	Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)
3 <sup>rd</sup> January	<p><b><i>All church services have been cancelled until the Restrictions are lifted</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Please check with the Church Wardens or website for updates.</i></b></p>	
10 <sup>th</sup> January		
17 <sup>th</sup> January		
24 <sup>th</sup> January		
31 <sup>st</sup> January		
7 <sup>th</sup> February		



# These are YOUR pages.....



My thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine"

"Hanging Hearts" Update from Mair Pugh; Ken's Home Town;  
"Women's Fellowship" from Maggie and Marian; Gini and Martyn Crompton;  
That was the Year that was – Quiz; Polly's Quiz results;  
"European Health Card" and "Carte de Séjour" urgent information from Doug G;  
Restos de Coeur; Sunday School Project; French Nativity notice.



## ASV WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

For more information about get-togethers in 2021,  
please contact: Maggie Calton at email: [magandant@orange.fr](mailto:magandant@orange.fr)  
and Marian Rackham at email: [richard.rackham@cegetel.net](mailto:richard.rackham@cegetel.net)



Gini and I wish you all a happy and peaceful New Year. I expect that like you will have expressed those wishes many times over the Christmas period but I wonder what 2021 will bring for us.

We hope to be back in France and to meet you all after Easter, but with Covid 19, Brexit and the effects of anno domini nothing is certain.

As I write we are hoping and praying the relaxation scheduled over the Christmas period will not provoke the feared increase in the spread of infections. The New Year will begin with us living with Tier 3 restrictions, praying and waiting for things to improve and the vaccination programme to get under way.

The only certainty we can hold on to is Emmanuel, God with us, as we celebrate at Christmas, sharing our hopes, pains and fears and offering us His peace.

We are looking forward to our next visit to the Vendée, whenever that may be. In the meantime, we pray we will all share His presence and His love, whatever may come our way.

With love from,

Martyn and Gini

## Hearts Update



Just an update on my fundraising for Resto Du Coeur.

To date, Dec 18th, I have made 100 hearts and have given Mike €200 which I am very pleased with. As none of the orders came from ASV members the money has gone in as private donations rather than from ASV. The requests for hearts came from my advertising on facebook local selling sites but the end result was good and I am very happy to have been able to support such a worthy cause.... and to have been kept occupied for many hours during the last few weeks!

As we begin 2021, we are all, I'm sure, praying for a quick roll-out of the covid-19 vaccine and for a return to a more normal pattern of life. We look forward to meeting up and worshipping together in the not-to-distant future!

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2021 from Mair and John Pugh.



*This from Ann Brechet – to make you smile....*

### 2020 CHRISTMAS CRÈCHES ESTABLISHMENT PROTOCOL

*(translated from a French Church notice)*



- 1.- A maximum of **4 shepherds** will be allowed in the crèche. All will have to wear the mask and respect social distancing.
- 2.- **Joseph, Mary and the Child Jesus** will be able to stay together, given that they are part of the same family bubble.
- 3.- **The donkey and the ox** must have a certificate of non-contamination, issued by the AFSCA.
- 4.- **The Three Kings** will be held to a quarantine of 15 days, whether or not they have a negative Covid test, since they come from outside the Schengen area.
- 5.- **Straw, moss, fir branches and others decorations** will be disinfected with alcohol.
- 6.- **The angel flying over the crib** will not be allowed, due to the aerosol effect produced by the flapping of its wings.
- 7.- **The choir** will be restricted to one participant, due to the risk of contamination.
8. **No shepherd will be 65 years of age or over**, a risk category.
- 7.- **All non-essential participants** (Romans, fishermen, ...) are forbidden.
- 8.- **Pilate will explain to all authorized participants how to wash your hands.**

# IMPORTANT NEWS about the Carte de Sejour

If you are British and plan to continue to live in France then you **MUST** apply for a new "Titre de Sejour" and be issued with a new "Carte de Sejour" even if you hold an existing 10-year CDS. Not wishing to "re-invent the wheel" I have copied the information published in "Jubilate", the magazine of the Chaplaincy of Christ the Good Shepherd, Poitou-Charentes.

"We expect that by now you will all have heard that it is necessary for every Briton living in France to apply for a new Withdrawal Agreement ("Brexit") Carte de Sejour if you are planning to continue living in France. This applies even if you hold an existing 10-year permission to stay. You must apply before 30 June 2021, so that all the cards can be issued by the 1 October 2021 deadline. The French government have launched an on-line application process.

The French government have advised that they are taking a sympathetic approach and this application process is rather simpler and less demanding than the one used previously. The process does vary depending on whether you already have an existing Carte de Sejour, current or lapsed, and how long you have been resident here (more or less than 5 years).

For those with an existing Carte de Sejour all that is needed at this stage is a digital copy of that existing card and normal personal details.

For others there is a requirement to provide evidence similar to before, for instance about period of residence, income and health cover, depending on circumstance but rather less demanding. **BUT YOU MUST** apply. The sooner the better. Don't put it off!

You can go about obtaining your residency permit by going to

<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F35032>

OR <http://invite.contacts-demarches.interieur.gouv.fr/BREXIT>.

At the bottom of the first page, **CLICK** on the Blue (Brexit) Box which says "Accéder au service en ligne"

At the bottom of the next page there is the opportunity to click on a Union Flag in order to get all the information, including the application form, in English.

We hope that this does not prove too difficult for you all to do."

**Can I repeat , YOU MUST apply, don't put it off!!!**

*Doug*

# HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR YOUR NEW EHIC CARDS?

If you live in France, and currently have a EHIC card issued by the U.K. government, then you need a new card from JANUARY 2021. The following information has been shared by the RAFA Sud-Ouest.

"You may not be aware but if you live in France and have a current EHIC issued by the UK Government, it has just been announced that you will need a new card valid from 1 January 2021. Unlike the old system you can order the new EHIC online. The new card will be valid for all EEA countries and Switzerland but not France for obvious reasons. Here is the link and good luck:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-ehic-european-health-insurance-card/>

	<p><a href="#">Apply for a free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) - NHS</a></p> <p>A European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) gives you the right to access state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in another EU country, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Switzerland. On this page you can find out: if you're eligible to apply for a new UK EHIC valid from 1 January 2021 how to ...</p> <p><a href="http://www.nhs.uk">www.nhs.uk</a></p>
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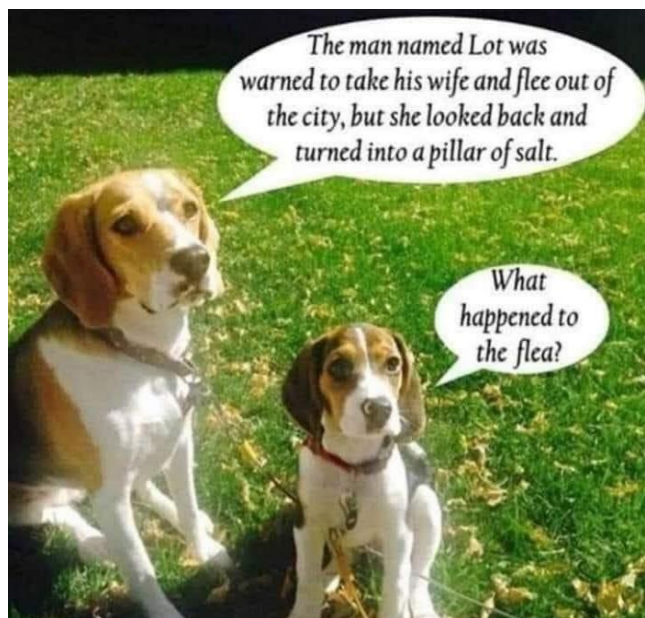
If the link does not work, just use your search engine to find EHIC applications. Chris and I have applied for ours online and it was, surprisingly, a very straightforward process.

*Doug.*

*(Note: If needed, you can also apply for your EHIC over the phone, by calling the automated EHIC application service on 0044 300 3301350. Jacqui)*



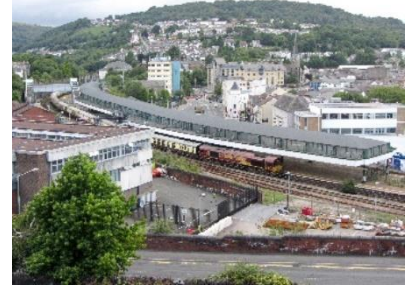
and this from Trudy...



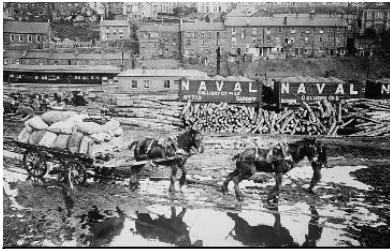
*This from Ken Ivin about his home town....*

## Then and Now - Pontypridd railway station

The main platform at Pontypridd was the world's longest island platform (a station platform surrounded by tracks) when it opened in 1907.



The Taff Vale Railway, the first company established in Wales to build railways for steam traction. The first sod was cut in Pontypridd by Lady Charlotte Guest, wife of the TVR's chairman, industrialist Sir John Josiah Guest.



Fodder for pit ponies off-loaded at local railway line

The TVR's first line, from Abercynon to Cardiff docks, opened in 1840. The TVR quickly spread to Merthyr Tydfil and into other Valleys, primarily to serve the coal and iron industries. Isambard Kingdom Brunel advised on the TVR's initial construction and designed a spectacular skew bridge across the Taff north of Pontypridd station.

The TVR rebuilt Pontypridd station, mainly in 1907, on a scale reflecting the prosperity of South Wales during the industrial boom. Passenger services were concentrated on the east side, leaving the western tracks clear for the endless processions of freight trains. Although the station is on a cramped ledge on a hillside, the island platform was spacious enough to host six buildings. There were seven platform faces, including five dead-end platforms for trains which terminated at Pontypridd from the north or south.

In the 1890s, the busy station was targeted by pickpockets from Cardiff, Swansea and other towns. Some were caught by plainclothes police after "exciting" chases along the platform. On a market day in 1892, five men of a suspected gang of six pickpockets were caught in various locations. One was hiding in a toilet urinal, another leapt onto a departing Merthyr train.

Margaret Mardy-Jones and one of her daughters made a train journey from Pontypridd to London in 1930 for which she and her husband Thomas were later fined. Thomas was the Labour MP for Pontypridd and had allowed Margaret and the girl to use House of Commons travel vouchers, which MPs weren't allowed to transfer to anyone else. He resigned his seat in February 1931 as a result of the scandal.

By 1970, Pontypridd had lost all its passenger rail routes except the hourly services to Cardiff from Merthyr and Treherbert. One platform face was enough, and the easternmost track was removed to reduce maintenance. In 1987 the Treherbert trains became half-hourly, and in 1988 the Aberdare line reopened to passengers. One platform face was now inadequate. British Rail built a new platform on the west side, to avoid expensive relaying of track.



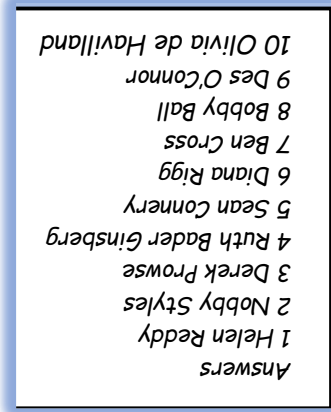
In 2011 Network Rail refurbished the station, including the long canopy. If you're waiting for a train, take a closer look at the wealth of architectural detail, including the terracotta and red brick walls and the ornate ironwork around the stairwells leading to street level (there's a disused one to the north). Notice too the cast-iron ovals forming the feet of the columns which support the canopy.


# That was the Year that was -- 2020

(This Quiz courtesy of Sue Marshall - via Polly)

Gone but not forgotten - how many of them do you remember?

- 1 'I am woman'
- 2 BEST BY LIONS (Anag)
- 3 Who links Postman Pat and Darth Vader
- 4 Long serving US judge
- 5 He starred in the 'Name of the Rose'
- 6 Has she been Avenged?
- 7 Played Harald Abrams in 'Chariots of Fire'
- 8 He's rocked on
- 9 DONOR SCONE (Anag)
- 10 Finally, gone with the wind



<b>ANSWERS</b>  To the December <b>CARIBBEAN QUIZ</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Cuba</li><li>2 Haiti</li><li>3 Dominican Republic</li><li>4 Jamaica</li><li>5 Cayman Islands</li><li>6 Bahamas</li><li>7 Puerto Rico</li><li>8 Trinidad and Tobago</li><li>9 Turks and Caicos</li><li>10 Barbados</li></ol>
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I hope you have enjoyed this edition of "Grapevine".  
My thanks to all the Contributors.

Please consult the website for updates at [www.allsaintsvendee.fr](http://www.allsaintsvendee.fr)

**Please send your items for the February edition to:**

Jacqui at: [sjfamily66@hotmail.com](mailto:sjfamily66@hotmail.com)

**before 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

*Requests to be included on the emailing list should be addressed to:*

*Jacqui Stainton-James at: [sjfamily66@hotmail.com](mailto:sjfamily66@hotmail.com)*





# Sunday Club

January 2021



**It's December - "Happy Birthday Jesus"**



**It's time to celebrate, but let's not forget why we are celebrating on the  
25th December:  
"A CHILD HAS BEEN BORN FOR US"**

**QUESTION:** who said this? .....

*(Here is a clue, rearrange the letters to find out and read John 3:16 to help you ISIHAA).*

**Good luck**

**Now Fill these words into the spaces below: Son, life, God, world,  
everyone.**

.....loved the .....so much that he gave his only ....., so that.....

who believes in him may not die but have eternal .....

*(Fill in the missing words - Read John 3:16 to help you)*

**MANY BLESSINGS,  
HAVE A WONDERFUL SAFE CHRISTMAS,  
LOVE GOD  
BLESS  
XXJENNY WILKINSON**