



## LOGIE & ST. JOHN'S (CROSS) PARISH CHURCH

### NEWSLETTER No.38



Hands up who remembers the Blue Peter Advent crown? I wonder if any of you who are old enough to remember actually made one. Nowadays, the health and safety elves would warn against mixing candles and tinsel but in the '70s it was deemed to be OK. I have a vague memory of a 'half-crown' in our house. Wire coat hangers, tinsel and baubles being put together but no candles.

Today we are all familiar with an Advent Wreath – something similar to what we have in church. 4(or 5) candles in a ring with each one lit on the Sundays leading to Christmas Day And, if there is a 5th candle in the centre it is lit on the 25th December. The candles and

the light they produce are a reflection of the light that came into the world with the arrival of Jesus Christ. The four candles signify love, hope, joy and peace. And this week, on the third Sunday of Advent, we look forward to lighting the candle of joy, reflecting the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation he has gifted us. This third candle is sometimes referred to as the 'Shepherd's Candle' to highlight the joy the shepherds experienced when they received the good news about Christ's birth. This Christmas may we have the same excitement and joy that the shepherds had and find time to share that joy with those that we connect with (either virtually or in person).

## WORSHIP

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December our online service will be available from 9am. Usually, we would have an evening Candlelit Carol Service. Obviously, that is not possible so Sunday's worship will take the form of Nine Lessons and Carols. We hope you enjoy it [www.logies.org](http://www.logies.org)

There will still be a Zoom Coffee meet at 11.45am.

## CONNECT WITH A CUPPA

'Connect with a Cuppa' successfully resumed on Wednesday 2nd December and will meet again this week, **16<sup>th</sup> December 2pm – 3.30pm**. The photograph shows how the Hall has been set up to comply with all government and Church of Scotland guidelines regarding social distancing, cleaning etc.

It is a BYOM affair - bring your own mug and mask – but if you feel like venturing out for a cuppa and a chat the Guild would love to see you there.



## **FOR OUR YOUNG MEMBERS (AND YOUNG AT HEART)**

What do you put on the top of your Christmas tree? An angel or a star? We put an angel on the top of ours. She's quite old now – this will be her 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas with us – but our tree wouldn't be the same if she wasn't there.

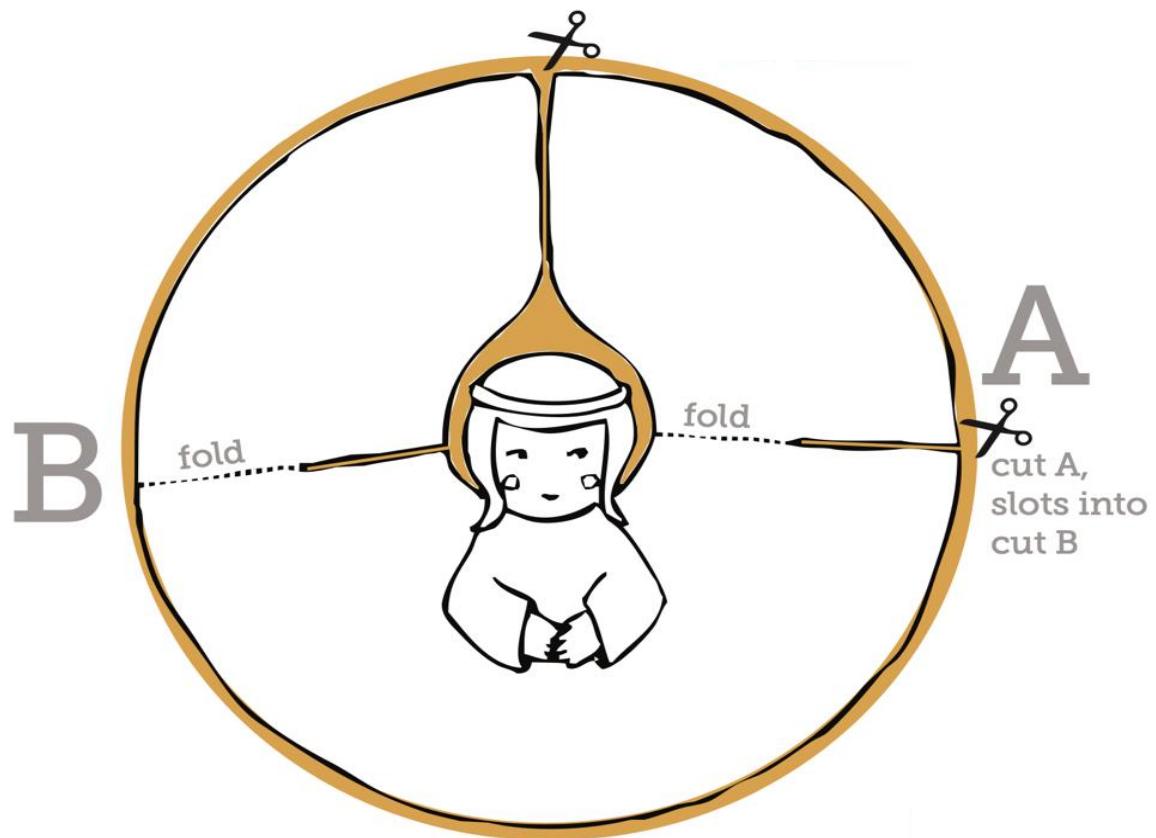
But why an angel? The obvious answer is that it reminds us of the angel Gabriel telling Mary that she was going to give birth to God's son. Or is it because the angels told the shepherd's that Jesus had been born?

The word angel actually means God's messenger and so the most important thing to know about angels is that God made them. He sends angels to help deliver messages to us just like Gabriel spoke to Mary. But they're definitely not more important than God, they serve God and worship him continually.

You might wonder what angels look like. Well, there is no clear answer to this. When people saw angels in Bible times they were often afraid at first (imagine if you saw an angel all of a sudden) but I think it's okay to imagine angels as friendly, beautiful creatures.



CRAFT: Colour and cut out the template below to make your own angel.



## **PASTORAL CARE**

If you, or anyone you know, is in need of pastoral care then please contact our Session Clerk, Mike Duffy, by emailing [sessionclerk@logies.org](mailto:sessionclerk@logies.org) or by leaving a message on the church answerphone T: 01382 668514