

# ST CHAD'S CHURCH, BAGNALL —NEWSLETTER 03.12.23

## Christingles:

The roots of the practice lie with John de Watteville in Germany and an attempt to get children to think about Jesus. He started the tradition in 1747 in his Moravian Church congregation. At the time it was just a candle with a red ribbon given to each child. This represented Jesus being the light of the world and the final prayer of that first service was "Lord Jesus, kindle a flame in these children's hearts, that theirs like Thine become". The custom went around the world with the church. Missionaries brought the Moravian Church to England in the 1700s.

The word Christingle could have come from several sources. It might be an 'English' version of the German word 'Christkindl' (meaning little Christ child), which is by far the most popular theory. It could also be a the putting together of the words Christmas and ingle. Ingle is an old Scots word for fire and so that would make it mean the 'Christ Light

Christingles were made popular in England by The Children's Society (one of the earliest children's charities in the UK and it has strong connections with the Church of England). The first Christingle service held in the Church of England was in 1968. The idea came from John Pensom who was also known as "Mr Christingle"! People didn't think the service would work as making the Christingles would be too complicated - but they were wrong! The custom has spread through to all kinds of churches and is one of the most common and popular Christmas services in the UK, especially among children.



The orange represents the world.



The red ribbon indicates God's love wrapped around the world and the blood Christ shed on the cross.



The dried fruits and sweets are symbols of God's creations. For many people, they also represent the four seasons.



The lit candle symbolises Jesus, the light of the world, who brings hope to people living in darkness.

## CALLING ALL SINGERS:

We have been invited to go to the Stafford Arms on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30 to sing a few carols. Santa is visiting the pub in the morning till midday and then there is a ukele band on at 3pm so we would be middle of the bill..

I have said yes and am hoping enough of you will join me otherwise its going to be a pretty poor show.

We will be singing outside so will need to wrap up warm – though we should be able to use their shelter.....

If you could let me know who can come asap then I can confirm to the pub. They will fuel us up with mince pies, coffee and tea.

*Julia*



## CHRISTMAS MESSAGES:

You can now include your Christmas messages on the newsletter. Just let me know what you want to say by email, phone or in person (please write it down in this case as I've a terrible memory!)

I'm just getting everything ready for my two stalls at the Christmas Fayre tomorrow. I hope that I'll see you there and I don't have to bring too much stuff home!

Hopefully, I'll give you a write up of it all next week. So, fingers crossed for a good turnout and some much needed funds for our church.



# CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

Pat Saul has donated to 'Sightsavers'  
charity, this year, instead of  
sending Christmas cards.  
God bless you all,  
*Pat*

