

## The journey to Bethlehem in Gosforth



## Celebrating Christmas 2020

(COVID secure of course!)

## Over 2000 years ago, Bethlehem was in chaos... no room left for the birth of Jesus Join in the journey in Gosforth as it turns into Bethlehem to help us all to celebrate Christmas

7 Trails to follow.....from 1 Dec – Christmas Eve. Maps and photos will be available on our Facebook page and website



- 1. The Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus
- 2. The innkeepers
- 3. The angels
- 4. The shepherds
- 5. The Wise men
- 6. Herod
- 7. The donkey

- a census , Mary and Joseph had go to Bethlehem.
- is there any room? No!
- sang Glory to God in the highest and peace
- to His people on earth.
- heard the angels song and rushed to Bethlehem
- wandered around following a star
- a King threatened by the news of the birth of Jesus
- not in the bible but part of the Christmas tradition

The trails commence on the evening of Ist Dec 1st Dec with one house window per trail revealed to begin the story. 2nd Dec there will be two windows on each trail, 3rd Dec there will be three windows on each trail and so it continues until Christmas Eve.....until there are 24 windows on each trail. The church lights will be lit each evening as a beacon of hope for us all.



**On Sunday 20 Dec and on Christmas Eve 2pm – 4pm**, as you wander along the trails, carols will be played from sound systems in houses with an open window, or families and friends will be on doorsteps singing familiar carols..... you will be met by innkeepers, angles, shepherds and wise men who will tell you about the chaos in Bethlehem and how Jesus the saviour of the world was born. They will give you a clue about where to find Jesus in a manger with Mary and Joseph taking care of Him...... follow the star. And, the innkeepers might have some mulled wine and roasted chestnuts to share

The four Sundays of Advent...

The Vicarage windows on Rectory Road will be decorated to depict the themes of Advent, revealing one on each Sunday of Advent



29 Nov The Candle of Hope The Patriachs. We hear the message of hope told to Abraham 6 Dec The Candle of Peace The Prophets. We hear from Isaiah of one who will be born Prince of Peace

13 Dec The Candle of Love John the Baptist. John the Baptist spoke bravely that we should share what we have with others, treat each other kindly and show God's love 20 Dec The Candle of Joy Mary the Mother of Jesus, with Joy when she knew that she would become the mother of Jesus

Watch for details of carol services in the church and on Zoom Contact Rev'd Jane Nattrass, Vicar of Gosforth Parish Church of St Nicholas, <u>nattrassjane@aol.com</u> 07568530503