

Gulworthy Notes January 2021

Christmas was not exactly what anyone had planned in our community, let alone in the country. For many of us it meant that meetings with loved ones could not happen. Celebrations planned for, cooked for and longed for, had to be put in the freezer. Literally!

But, there are good things to be remembered.

The children of Gulworthy School made “stained glass” hangings for the windows and decorated the church with tinsel and paper angels. We had an evening of recorded music, readings and prayers instead of our usual carol service and it was different but incredibly beautiful. Afterwards we stood outside well spread apart in a bit of drizzle and sang carols in the safety of the fresh air. We were a bit rusty, but it was joyous!

On Christmas Day, we had a morning service where Barry our organist played carols and we gave our thanks to God for his great Christmas gift. We managed to share the joy of Christmas day with our community even if some of us could not do so with our families. After church, one of my friends talked of how we all had people who we missed seeing this year, especially at Christmas and who missed seeing us; but, even more poignantly, how there were so many people around the world who would have been seeing no-one anyway; who were not missed by anyone at any time, let alone during a pandemic - people who had no-one with whom to celebrate. It really put my own sadness into perspective.

So, we look to 2021 and to hope: hope that we will manage to protect everyone; hope that we will soon be able to hug our loved ones; hope that there will be joy again for the lonely, made lonelier by enforced isolation. Above all, hope in the knowledge of the love of God even in the darkest times.

Wishing you many blessings for a very Happy New Year, from all of us
at Gulworthy.