

St. Teresa's Parish Magazine



Advent & Christmas 2011



Sunday Mass Times

Enstone 9.00am

Charlbury 11.00am

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...and more

Thank you to everyone who
contributed articles to this
4th edition of the parish
magazine.

We hope to distribute the
next issue during the Easter
season.

If you have anything that
you would like to contribute,
please contact Alison Offer
(813063)

email
alison@wychwoodtigger.com



Thanks to Max for the cover picture and to Hannah and Zoe for other drawings - if anyone would
like to design a picture for the next issue, their contributions would be very welcome



INTRODUCTION

It is always a pleasure to introduce St Teresa's Magazine. In this edition there is an array of articles and photographs that provides a record of parish life at St Teresa's. We are a small community but need all the infrastructure of the larger parishes of the Diocese, who have a greater number of people to call on for these essential tasks. One of two of the articles ask for help in particular ways. I am sure people will respond generously to these requests.

The magazine shows how parishioners contribute to the lives of the towns and villages in which they live and how their faith affects their contacts with the wider world. Faith is God's gift to us and our gift to the people among whom we live. St Teresa's Magazine is another way of fostering the identity of our parish and promoting communication and conversation. I am grateful to Alison Offer for looking after the production of the Magazine and to everyone who has contributed to it.

Canon Evans

Churches Together in Charlbury Events

Sunday 22 Jan - 9.45 am:

United Service for Christian Unity - hosted by the Methodist Church in St Mary's Church

23 or 24 Jan TBC - 7.30 pm

The Lindisfarne Gospels - an illustrated talk given by Sue Mathews of St Teresa's

Tuesdays 28 Feb to 27 March

Lenten series on the PSALMS

Friday 2 March

Women's World Day for Prayer - hosted by the Baptist Church.

♪ *Hark a Herald Voice is Calling* ♪



Join us for the annual service of
Carols and Readings

**St. Teresa's Church
Charlbury
Sunday 11th December
3.30pm**

Followed by refreshments
All Welcome

♪ *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* ♪

The Angel Gabriel
♪
Ding Dong Merrily on High

Unto Us is Born a Son
♪
Gaudete
♪
In Dulce Jubilo

CLEANING GOD'S HOUSE

A memory came back to me when I was a teenager of a very loud voice shouting at me: "whose child is this?"

I asked my Mum about this and she told me that when I was small she had set me cleaning the old wax off the candle votive stand; apparently I then went on to scrape the floor and accidentally dug up some of the mosaics. This is when Canon Sharrat came upon my "vandalism". He was very upset, and so were we. Mum did not take me cleaning again till we moved into our new church, St Teresa's. Our parish priest then told us in the Junior Legion of Mary that the parish church was God's house and we should be like Mary cleaning Jesus' house with love and care, a nice thought.

When I came to St. Teresa's, Charlbury, I started to clean the church with another friend, and our two toddlers. My friend moved on but David continued to "help" me till he went to school. He got quite proficient at dusting the benches and sorting the hymn books. Since then, various members of our church have helped clean "God's House". It is our church also. Please could some of our younger parishioners give serious thought to helping clean our church?

Hilda Joy-Jones

FLOWERS IN THE CEMETERY

When we lived in France we were always impressed by the way in which every town and village made an annual event of the celebration of All Saints by turning their cemeteries into a sea of colour, every grave decked with flowers. People came not only to visit their own loved ones, but to take pleasure in the beauty of the display. Here, in Charlbury, we also have a lovely cemetery, embellished in a more British, understated way. We have chosen the theme of a Nature Reserve, by encouraging wild flowers and by providing a haven for birds and other small creatures. There is a feeling of deep peace and tranquility which makes it a good place to take a walk or to sit on the bench to drink in the view. Newcomers may not have yet discovered it so it is worth a mention

Dawn Willson

Discipleship means complete dedication. It demands everything – the whole heart, the whole mind, and the whole of life, including one's time, energy and property in the cause of love



*J.Heinrich Arnold
(contributed by
Dawn Willson)*

WHAT USE IS PILGRIMAGE?

Bishop Kenney visited us at the start of 2011 and heard about our concern that the lack of priests will make it impossible for our grandchildren to hear weekly Mass. In response, he asked us to pray, mentioning a pilgrimage as one powerful method of prayer that we might adopt.

I agree and I hope you will: I think we should make a pilgrimage, and at a talk on 15 September the handful of parishioners who heard me speak were all of the same mind. We even resolved that going to St Chad's Cathedral in the spring of 2012 would be a good destination: and hopefully Rome in 2013.

The church in England and Wales is currently at about half its 1970s strength and will be half that size again in another 40 years. You can access these truly frightening statistics (and read the talk) by emailing peter@romewalk.co.uk. As you might suspect, as someone who made a pilgrimage to Rome mainly on foot over 1,000 miles in 2001, I have views about pilgrimages: that they are about changing things. The Holy Father has said *'if your pilgrimage does not change you, it is a waste of time.'* I go further for prayer about the Church: if it does not change the Church, it is a waste of time.

Something has got to change, and it's not just us. According to Canon 212.3 the Christian faithful *'have the right and even at times the duty to manifest to the sacred pastors their opinion on matters which pertain to the good of the Church'*: they are free to make known... *'their needs'*, and it is indubitable that **we need more priests**. Our pilgrimage to our Archbishop can make our needs *'manifest'*: especially if we can gain an audience with him.

A pilgrimage is a time of concentration on God through a journey with fellow Christians to a place where we find a new closeness to God. In pilgrimages we seek an encounter with God: the first Christian pilgrimage was the walk to Emmaus. Two baffled Christians, with a desperate need for their lost Lord, go walking and meet a stranger who talks with them and reveals the truth about His death and resurrection in His breaking of bread. That is what we want in our Emmaus pilgrimage of need: we need to speak to Christ's representative, and we need to have the hope that our children and grandchildren remain in a growing and Eucharist-fed Church. The Church must not fade and we can be part of its resurrection if we put heart and soul into our pilgrimage: all of us.

Peter Clifton

THE LINDISFARNE GOSPELS

The Anglo-Saxons were fascinated by metamorphosis – living in early 8th century Britannia they were surrounded by the inexplicable changes of nature. This focus on the nature of change found expression in their conversion to Christianity and that transformation which is at its heart. Thus the Lindisfarne Gospels, created in the early years of 8th century, are testament to the transformational effects of faith and the more material changes of 150 calves' skins, oak galls, and juices from wild plants and mineral extracts into an illuminated marvel.

Britannia in the early 8th century was a mixture of Celts and Anglo-Saxon now largely intermarried. Britannia had been largely Christian since the 2nd century, and faith had been kept alive, particularly in the North, by Irish missionaries. In late 6th century Britannia was reconnected to Rome with the Augustinian mission to Kent.

The Gospels took about three years to create in the Abbey of Lindisfarne, just off the coast of the Kingdom of Northumbria, to commemorate St. Cuthbert who has been Bishop of Lindisfarne and was a much revered saint. The monks on Lindisfarne would have been both Celtic and Anglo-Saxon. The Gospels were almost certainly modelled on Italian Gospels perhaps brought by in the mid 7th century by Benedict Biscop the founder of Jarrow Monkswearmouth where Bede was a monk.

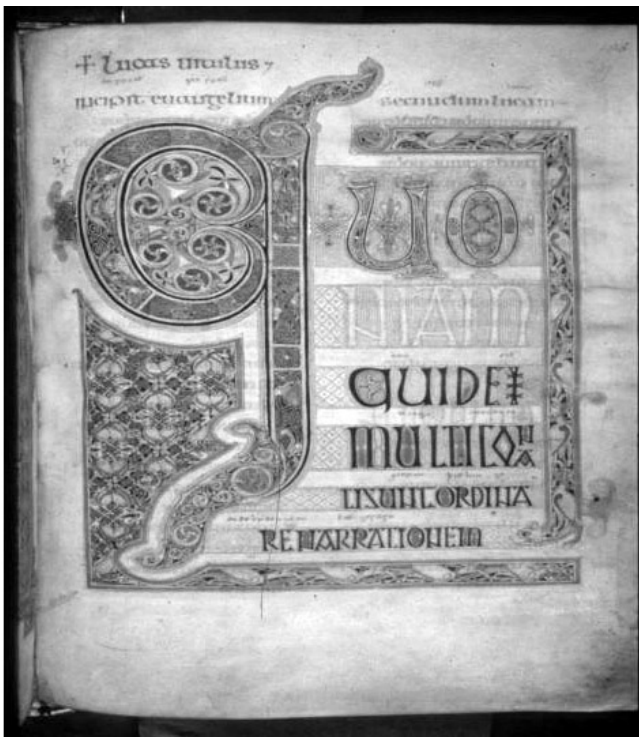
The fusion of Anglo-Saxon and Celts had profound effect on the visual creativity evident in the Lindisfarne Gospels. Gospels show the two cultures blended together to generate an integrated vision of decoration. The Anglo Saxon patterns are animals or mythological monsters and dragons. However, the Gospels also give us glimpses of the domestic world of the monastery as the scribe included the monastery cat and depictions of the local bird life. The Celtic influence, which dominate in these Gospels, are geometric, abstract or other regular patterns which create the dominant themes.

There are two Gospels contained within it: one in written by scribe/artist EADFRITH and another written in 10c (970) in Old English by ALDRED, (as an inter-linear Old English translation) when the Gospels were in Chester-Le-Street to avoid the Viking raids. The Gospels are the earliest surviving example of Gospels in Old English. They contain not only the

four Gospels in a version of St. Jerome's Vulgate, a revision of the Latin Bible made in late 4th century and largely adopted throughout the western world, but also a copy of St. Jerome's letter to Pope Damasus in which this revision was commanded to be carried out. There are also collections of instructions on usage on appropriate saints' days and tables of gospel concordance. However, it is the 15 decorated pages: Portrait, Carpet and Incipit for each Gospel for which now the Gospels are famous.

The Portrait pages are of the four evangelists based on late Roman classical models, each with his attribute (from the Book of Revelation):

- Matthew, the Man – humanity, reason
- Mark, the Lion – courage, fortitude
- John, the Bull – strength, steadfastness
- Luke, the Eagle – vision, farsightedness



The Incipit page for the Gospel of St. Luke

The Carpet pages, so called because they have the intricate and highly decorated patterns only then found in Turkey carpets. The patterns based on forms of crosses are designed to look like jeweled reliquary caskets. The Incipit pages (from *incipere* – to begin) offer us those highly decorated initial pages for which the Gospels are famous. The Incipit page for St. Luke contains 10,600 red dots and a stylised cat eyeing some ducks.

The Gospels remained at Lindisfarne until 875, when it accompanied the monks on their flight from the invading Danes. From 883 to 995 the Lindisfarne community remained at

Chester-le-Street, near Durham, finally settling at Durham itself in 995. The manuscript probably lost its original binding at the time of Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16th century. Early in the 17th century it was acquired by Sir Robert Cotton from Robert Bowyer, Clerk of the Parliaments. His collection came to the British Museum in the 18th

century, and from there to the British Library where it is now on permanent public display

The Lindisfarne Gospels are not the only early medieval highly decorated manuscript, but they are considered by many to be the greatest in the elegance of their script, the purity of the Latin, the ingenuity of the illustrations, the beauty of the decorations and the skills used to create this *opus dei* - work for God.

*Sue Mathews
Stonesfield
November 2011*

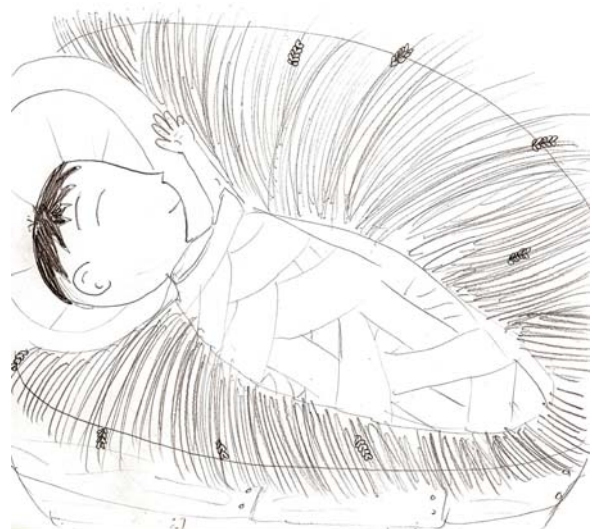
MEMORIES



After the war was over, my Mother retired from nursing and became a foster-mother. Our house became a temporary home for a succession of babies and often a place of fleeting friendships for the struggling parents trying to patch their lives together after the dislocation of the conflict. It wasn't always the fathers of these little ones who had vanished or been killed: I

especially remember a devoted Dad who came most evenings to "top and tail" his baby son. He was Dutch, and he was on his own, so we had him for Christmas day. This story has a happy ending because he did eventually manage to trace what remained of his family so he and the baby went back to Holland – he was, of course, Jewish.

Dawn Willson



Baby Jesus by Hannah Lewis

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHARLBURY

Hilda Joy Jones took her fourth turn at being Chairman of CTC in November 2010 and has been busy all year.

There have been three United Services, in January for Christian Unity, in March for Christian Aid and in October for One World Week.

United Services are usually held at 9.45 am in St Mary's Church. This is convenient as the Catholics and Quakers can still attend their own services. As a rule only two or three people from St Teresa's attend, which is a shame. It would be good to work together and share worship with our fellow Christians. When St Teresa's host the United Service, it is on Sunday afternoons at 3.30 pm. It is always very well supported by members of all the other Charlbury churches.

On 4th March, St Teresa's hosted Women's Word Day of Prayer for Chile. This was a colourful celebration and was well attended by many younger women. It was followed by the Christian Aid Lunch, which was organised by Bob and Liz Tait of St Mary's.

The series of Lent lunches was very successful with all churches taking part on a rota system. St. Teresa's turn was ably supported by women in the parish, cooking and baking and serving on the day.

The Lenten series this year was in honour of the 400th anniversary of the St James' Bible and was called **Sacred Words**. Hilda Joy Jones, as Chairman of CTC, introduced all the speakers and was instrumental in attracting one of the speakers - Nicholas King SJ - who talked about the difficulty of translation. .

CTC had a strong Street Fair presence - parishioners were active in working on the Home Grown and Home Produce stall. Funds collected went towards famine relief in the Sudan.

The AGM of CTC was held in November and the special speaker was Luke Walton from the Bible Society. He talked about Media and the Bible. An Anglican minister living in Bristol, he recalled with great warmth and fondness his youth in Charlbury. The new Chairman of CTC is the Rev. Peter Goodhall of the Methodist Circuit.

Madeleine Wheare has been Hilda's assistant for two years but is looking for a replacement as she is unable to make the meetings due to heavy time commitments.

Anyone willing to support Hilda in her CTC work please contact Hilda on 01608 811 181

Hilda Joy Jones, Madeleine Wheare



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Now that the November winds and chills are upon us, the TRAIDCRAFT stall at St Teresa's has shut up shop for the winter. It will reopen after Easter when the clement weather returns.

From April to October 2011, parishioners gave VERY GENEROUS support to producers in the developing world by buying over £400 worth of TRAIDCRAFT goods through the parish stall and at the Church Bazaar in October.

In addition, there was a sale of TRAIDCRAFT Christmas Cards at the Bazaar and that raised a further £121.44.

Madeleine Wheare would like to thank all her patrons for their humorous

support and genuine interest. She organises the St Teresa's stall in conjunction with Charlbury Fair Traders - a group of Charlbury Churches which band together for bulk ordering and supply to keep costs down. No handling charge or profit is made. The items are passed on at cost.

Madeleine holds a small stock (£50) of popular items, throughout the winter, if anyone feels they need to order something. This can be arranged easily and quickly by calling before any given Sunday. Handover can happen after 11 am Mass in Charlbury.

A TRAIDCRAFT Christmas catalogue can be obtained by contacting Madeleine on 01608 810092 or mad@wheare.org. Alternatively, orders can be handled with TRAIDCRAFT direct by using their website: www.traidcraftshop.co.uk

MEDITATION

"Prayer unites the soul to God. For though the soul be ever like to God in nature and substance, restored by grace, it is often unlike in condition by sin on man's part. Then is prayer a witness that the soul wills as God wills, and it comforts the conscience and enables man to grace. And so He teaches us to pray and mightily trust that we shall have it. For He beholdeth us in Love and would make us partners of His good deed. And therefore He moves us to pray for that which it pleases Him to do."

*JULIANA OF NORWICH (14th-15th century)
contributed by Damayanthi Winder*

THE OCTOBER BAZAAR

The Bazaar was held on St Teresa's Day as an extension of the parish celebrations of our patron saint's feast day.

The organisation followed the format of previous parish bazaars and consisted of 9 stalls, a French style Café and a Raffle of at least 20 items - first prize being an extremely well furnished luxury Christmas hamper.

Local businesses were approached and invited to make a donation to our raffle. They responded with characteristic generosity. We thank:

The Good Food Shop

The Post Office

The Co-Op Pharmacy

News and Things

Cotswold Frames

Peter's Gentlemen's Hairdressers

Evenlode Books

The Co-Op Supermarket

Rachel Cooper's Ladies Hairdressers

Ye Olde Three Horsehoes Pub

The Bull Inn

The Rose and Crown Pub.

Many parishioners from both St Kenelm's and St Teresa's congregations participated and had the opportunity of working together on the stalls and getting to know each other better. Some parishioners who couldn't attend gave cash donations. Full financials are here:

STALL NAME	
DOOR (20p entry)	45.30
RAFFLE	160.20
CAKE STALL	179.68
BRIC A BRAC	116.47
BOOKS	105.62
BOTTLES	194.70
GIFTS	98.05
PLANTS	35.50
CHILDREN'S THINGS	50.40
CAFÉ	114.43
SALE OF CROISSANTS	20.80
DONATIONS	15.00
SUB-TOTAL:	1136.15
EXPENSES	
SAINSBURYS	39.27
LIDL	28.27
POST OFFICE	7.18
PRINTING	5.00
SUB-TOTAL:	79.72
BALANCE:	1056.43

Funds raised were in excess of one thousand pounds after costs.

Sale of Christmas cards (121.44) and Fairtrade goods (78.10) amounted to 200 pounds in addition to the Bazaar fundraising. So we were able to fund raise not only for the parish but also for charity.

All in all it was a tremendous effort by a large number of people.

Charlbury people who attended the Bazaar have stopped me in the street and made many favourable remarks about the atmosphere and friendly buzz in the Hall. They all thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Special thanks go to Ian Parsons, the Hall Caretaker, who allowed us to set

up tables on Friday afternoon and start moving boxes of goods into the Hall. This saved us from a mad panic on Saturday morning. I would go so far as to say that, without this help, we would not

have been ready and able to enjoy the day.

Thank you for the privilege of acting as the Bazaar Coordinator and your support.

*Madeleine Wheare
6 Oct 2011*



Gathering for Mass, Youth Hall, Enstone 1987

Prior to 1970, most Catholics in Enstone used to attend Mass at Heythrop College, (now Heythrop Park), then run by the Jesuits from 1920-1970. After 1970 they either went to St. Teresa's or else to the Youth Hall in Enstone (now the School Hall). Father Bulbeck, our parish priest at the time, said Mass there for well over 20 years. This picture shows such a gathering in 1987. Some of you may recognize Mrs. Blanche Duncan, who used to play the piano, standing and talking to people seated in the front of the picture, and in the right hand corner are Mrs. Capes and Mrs. Harling, both from Enstone. It is only since July 2005 that Mass has been held at St. Kenelm's, Church Enstone, by kind permission of the Vicar and Church Wardens.

Andrea Bates

PRESBYTERY GARDEN MAKEOVER - 7 May

After a rainy start to the day, the sun did make an appearance on Saturday 7 May. Parishioners trickled in at various times, in small groups, to give 2 hours of their precious time and energy, to undertake some GROUND FORCE ventures in the Presbytery Back Garden.

The plan was to attack some large-scale jobs beyond the scope of the regular gardener. Clearing the debris and unwanted weeds and vegetation was top of the list in preparation for an ulterior second phase of planting. Teams were assembled to concentrate on different areas.

SLOPING FLOWER BEDS

One team removed and bagged up the bark chips from the surface of the larger of the two beds to be stored for later use. They then weeded the deep-set weeds and bagged them up for the tip. This was a lengthy and tedious job and a number of people took turns in this area throughout the day. Perseverance won the day as we conquered all the weeds by end of play. The bed was then covered up with black horticultural fleece, to protect it from further weed infestation, awaiting the planting phase.

RIGHT SIDE HEDGE

This hedge had become misshapen and in one place was bulging precariously into the garden, pulling

the bush out of line with the rest of the hedge. Some major surgery was required to re-establish the proper alignment with hedge trimmers and secateurs. A great deal of old dead wood needed to be removed, to allow space for the bush to spring back into shape. After a few hours the effect was extremely pleasing. Now the regular trimming by the gardener can be done more easily and provide a much better effect.

DEBRIS REMOVAL

At the bottom of the garden a nasty tangle of metal, rotten wood and rubble had accumulated over the years. One team attacked this and it has reduced in size. Uppermost in our minds was the threatened closure of our local Dean Tip and the terrible thought of having to arrange removal of the debris to a more distant location at a later date. Due to lack of manpower we could not shift the whole pile but we have still made a considerable impression.

IVY OVERGROWTH

Armed with electric hedge trimmers it took several hours to reduce several years of overgrowth of ivy along the rear right side fence and bring the invasion under control. The cuttings filled three hippo bags!

PRIVET HEDGE

Another overgrowth of hedge riddled with bindweed was attacked and brought back into shape. This occupied three people throughout

the day. Two more hippo bags were filled.

The Makeover team was orchestrated by Madeleine Wheare, who is very grateful for the support and enthusiasm for the idea, shown not only by those who worked hard on the day parishioners, and well wishers alike, but also parishioners who donated flowering shrubs and perennials for the planting phase.

EPILOGUE

After discussion with Canon Evans, it was decided to leave the structure of the sloping beds as it was and proceed to the planting phase. Gradually over the summer, all the plants were placed. These were watered regularly in the dry spell and have all settled in successfully. There is now plenty of colour and structure to the border and it should be very pleasing in the Spring. Next summer's Bar B Q will be a good time to witness the change.

WHAT MY ROSARY MEANS TO ME

In the past few years and having been Confirmed my faith has become very important to me and it has changed the way I live life. It has given me confidence, knowing that God is there guiding me.

Zoe Foster



For my First Communion, I was given a rosary and although I never really used it, it became a symbol of security and God's love for me. I wasn't sure how to use it, but still felt that it's important to me, which was why I wrote about it for an English project based on 'significant objects'.

A few weeks ago, I went with my mum and brother to say the rosary in church. I wasn't sure of what to expect, and although there weren't many of us, I found myself feeling very peaceful and focussed. I was worried at first that I would just find it ... well, a bit repetitive! But with every prayer, it was almost as if I could physically feel my belief strengthening.

I think that saying the rosary has also changed the way I pray every day, and I hope to make it something I do more often.

Zoe

YOUTH MASS ON THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING



On the 20th November, the feast of Christ the King and Youth Sunday, the young people of the parish, who have started meeting monthly, helped organise the 11am Mass in St.Teresa's

Zoe: "I think that it was the best youth mass we've had so far as we were able to participate so much in it."

Hannah: " I thought the mass went very well and it's a great start to youth meetings and activity at St. Teresa's"

Oliver: "It was good fun to take part."

Brek: "The young people were so passionate about taking part in the mass on Youth Sunday and making it a memorable for the parish, it made me very excited for their own futures and that of St.Teresa's."

ST TERESA'S ACTION NETWORK

St Teresa's action network is an email based mailing list for facilitating the organisation of parish events, for example the coffee morning, garden days, autumn bazaar. In the past e-mails about parish events have gone to a haphazardly compiled list of people with no way for people to say if they wish to be on the list. The network is a list that parishioners can join and leave as they wish. It has been up and running since May and has currently has 25 parishioners on the list. Being on the list does not commit you to anything but help keeps you in touch with the things that are happening. It is easy to unsubscribe yourself from the list if you are no longer interested in receiving the e-mails.

If you would like to join the list please send an e-mail including your name to StTerasasNetwork-owner@yahoogroups.com.

"The prayer of the heart is the source of all good, which refreshes the soul as if it were a garden."

St Gregory of Sinai , Died 1360. (Contributed by Damayanthi Winder)

If only it were Christmas
Every single day.
Being nice to everyone
You meet along the way.
Buying lots of presents
Seeing those you love
Remembering the good Lord
Who came down from above.

If only it were Christmas
Every single day.
No more wars or fighting
Impossible? I hear you say.
Keep that special feeling
Of love within your hearts
Spread a little bit each day
Go on, get ready to start.

Yes! It can be Christmas
Let it begin today
Peace and love to everyone
Be in your hearts to stay.

Sheila Peacock



God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Anonymous (Contributed by Damayanthi Winder)