







## REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8	O come O come  Emmanuel, redeem thy captive Israel...	Donate to the MU Big Give 1-8 December	Phone a friend 	Pray for people in care homes, their relatives and the care home staff. 	Visit the MU Christmas tree in the Cathedral cloisters 
Donate toiletry item to foodbank	Cut out a foil star for your window	Pray for all children and their parents	Plant a seed, such as an acorn	Donate some biscuits to the foodbank	Shop for presents for others
Write to a friend you have not been in touch with	17.12.20 @ 8pm facebook and Youtube, MU carol service!	Write Christmas cards	Sing an Advent carol to yourself and the Lord	Pray for healing for all in hospital. 	Pack presents for others 
Pray for those living on their own	Bake a cake, give half to a neighbour	Buy a bar of chocolate for the foodbank	Put some money in your charity box	Send a card to someone who lives far away	Pray for our nation's leaders

Why not colour in the pictures overleaf and stick them on cardboard, or stones, and put them into your own nativity scene. Or cut stars or angels out of cardboard or aluminium foil, and decorate your windows, so that you shine your light out into the darkness! Don't forget to decorate your Christmas biscuits: as a child, my job was to

put pieces of marzipan into dates and roll them in grated chocolate.  Why not write down your Christmas memories! Every family has its traditions. I remember real lighted candles on the Christmas tree, and my first sight and taste of tangerines one Christmas in the 50's. They were full of pips.

What have you been knitting? I have knitted angels, going to a local school.

Pershore Deanery Poetry group enjoyed a lovely afternoon at Holland House just before the ongoing lockdown, sharing poems on Fauna and Flora. They shared much mirth!

I have also been part of a virtual Canterbury Province conference... We have more challenges ahead.

Our plans for the future include next year a celebration of 100 years since Mary Sumner died, possibly teaming up with Herefordshire and Gloucestershire.



Pershore Deanery Poetry Group

We had a powerful session on modern day slavery, so please please keep looking out and reporting whatever looks strange: people unkempt, looking hungry for example. There maybe some 136,000 slaves in this country: we really don't know. They live in such miserable hopelessness. Please pray for them.

We debated how to make next year special, to give renewed hope and encouragement. I thought that planting seeds is the most hopeful thing I know, so I shall be sending out seeds with the branch Christmas cards. Please pass on the seeds if you yourself have no pot or garden to plant them in.

I wish everyone a happy Christmas, whatever form it takes, and every good wish for the New Year!

*Judith xxx*

Judith Grubb

# THE CHRISTMAS STORY

