

CONNECTING MEOTA December 6th, 2023

This newsletter is meant to inspire, engage, and encourage everyone in the Meota Parish to seek God and reach out to one another throughout the week.

**Our next church service will be
Sunday December 10th, 10:30 am
at St. George's or Christ Church Millarville
and St. James invites you to join us
at Christ Church or St George's this Sunday !**

Please enjoy our autumn weather and attend one of our lovely churches in the Meota parish. The stained-glass windows at each church are beautiful. The services are upbeat and the fellowship is friendly. Please join us.

**Join Us For Worship
In Person Services Sunday @ 10:30am
Christ Church, Millarville & St. George's, Diamond Valley**



COME PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR ADVENT
JOIN US ONLINE FOR THE GENTLE EVENING SERVICE OF COMPLINE
DEC 7, 14, 21 & 28 , 7 PM

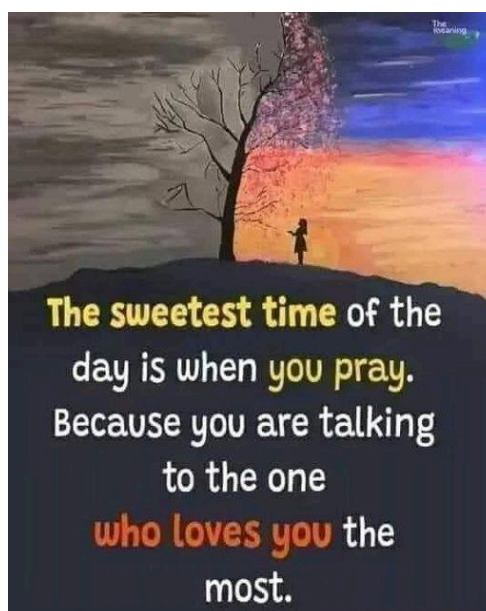
CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR THE ZOOM LINK FROM MEOTA PARISH
Or request the link by emailing meotaparish@gmail.com



Join us for Evening Compline
Online through Zoom

Thursday's in December
(7th, 14th, 21st and 28th) @ 7pm

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86449260961?pwd=Qm9PaTEzWlJKUmwranRuaF16Qk9oQT09>
Meeting ID: 864 4926 0961
Passcode: 760136



Meota Christmas Service 2023

Join us for the holidays!

Lessons & Carols (Sunday Dec. 17th)

Single Service @ St. George's 10:30am

Christmas Eve (Sunday Dec. 24th)

Single Service @ Christ Church 10:30am

St. George's 4:00pm

St. James 6:30pm

Christ Church 9:00pm

Christmas Day (Monday Dec. 25th)

Single Service @ St. George's 10:30am

New Year's Eve (Sunday Dec. 31st)

Single Service @ Christ Church 10:30am



Sunday Dec 10th 10:30 am at St. George's and Christ Church

Sunday Dec 17 is ONE SERVICE

at St George's Diamond Valley. 10:30 am

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS CAROL????

Does your friend or neighbour like Christmas carols?

This would be a great time to invite them to church!



CHRISTMAS EVE IS A SUNDAY

Sunday morning service will be a SINGLE SERVICE
10:30 am St. George's

Christmas Eve services:

4:00 pm St. George's Diamond Valley

6:30 pm St. James Priddis

9:00 pm Christ Church

Just a reminder, that at every Christmas Eve service, each household will receive a special gift for their tree from Ven. Alan, Kim and their family. I have attended Christmas Eve services over the years and have quite growing collection. Thank you, Getty family !!

Invite a friend for songs, candles and Christmas peace!

CHRISTMAS MORNING Monday DECEMBER 25

Single Service at St. George's Diamond Valley 10:30 am



The Power of an Invite:

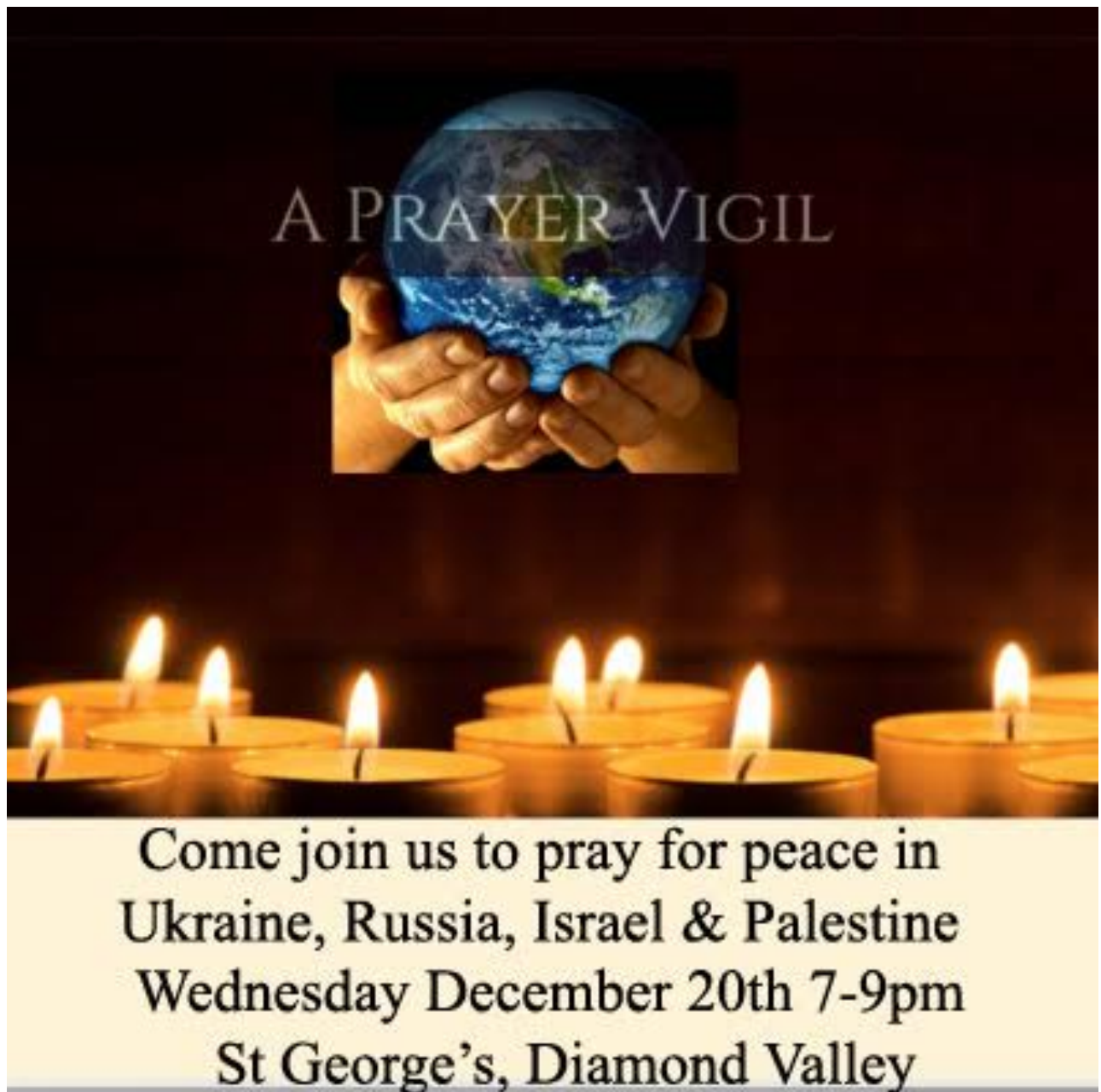
Why people came to church:

- 6-8% Came by own initiative
- 8-10% Liked the clergy
- 3-4% Had a need met by the church
- 1-2% Were evangelized
- 75-85% Were invited by a friend

The average is that 83% of people came to church because a friend invited them to come.



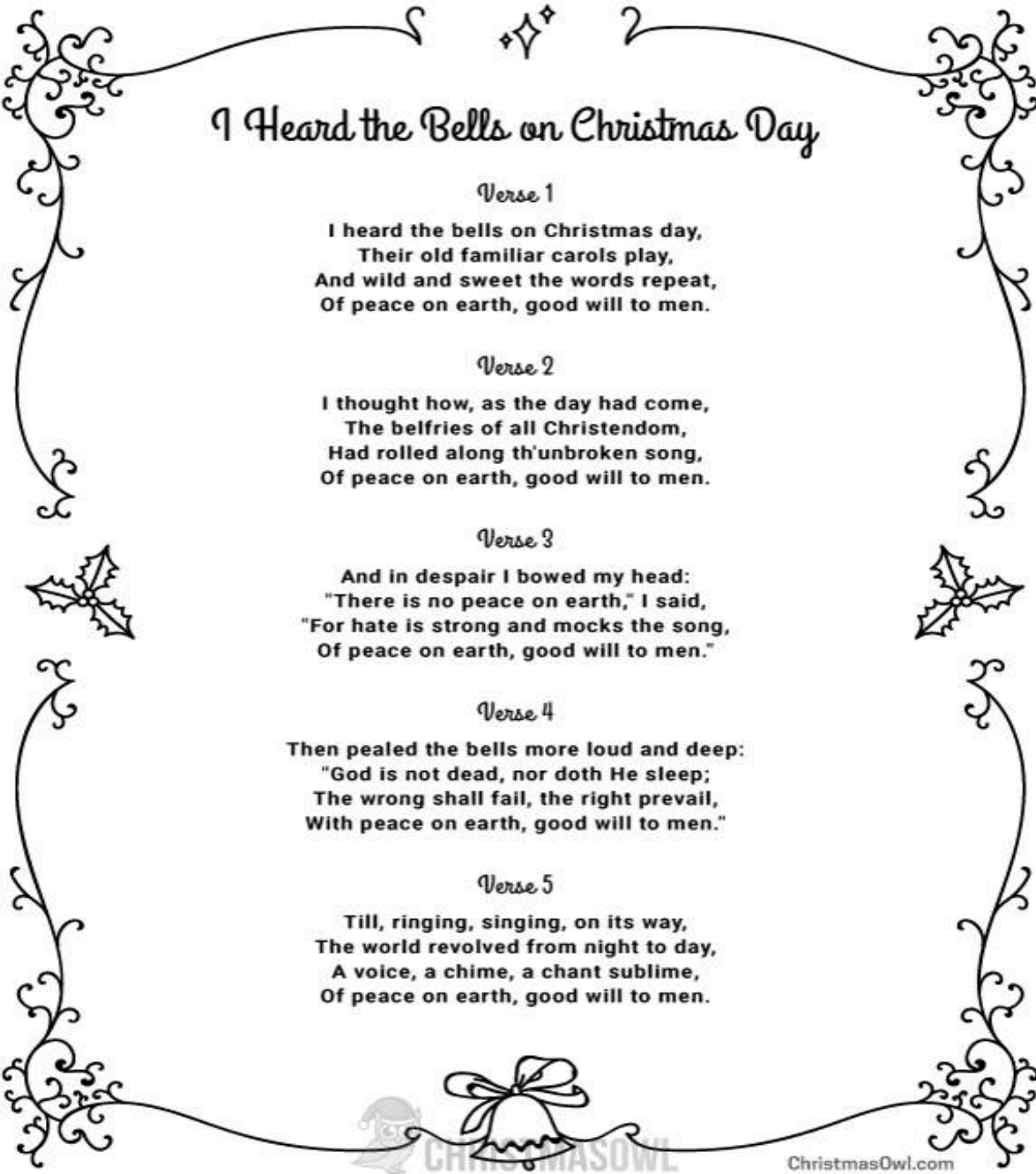
Invite a friend or neighbour to church this Christmas; they likely will say “No,” but they might say, “Yes.”

The image is a vertical poster for a prayer vigil. At the top, a pair of hands holds a small globe of the Earth. The text "A PRAYER VIGIL" is overlaid in a serif font across the globe. Below this, a row of lit candles is shown, their flames glowing against a dark background. At the bottom, a white banner contains the event details in a black serif font.

A PRAYER VIGIL

Come join us to pray for peace in
Ukraine, Russia, Israel & Palestine
Wednesday December 20th 7-9pm
St George's, Diamond Valley

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR A CHRISTMAS CAROL ABOUT PEACE ON EARTH!!!



I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Verse 1

I heard the bells on Christmas day,
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Verse 2

I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom,
Had rolled along th'unbroken song,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Verse 3

And in despair I bowed my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong and mocks the song,
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Verse 4

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men."

Verse 5

Till, ringing, singing, on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.



ChristmasOwl.com

A carol based on the 1863 poem "Christmas Bells" by American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The song tells of the narrator hearing Christmas bells during the American Civil War, but despairing that "hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men". After much anguish and despondency, the carol concludes with the bells ringing out with resolution that **"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep" and that there will ultimately be "...peace on earth, good will to men"**.

BEGINS JANUARY 8, 2024. Offered by our Diocese of Calgary



Grief Support for Loss of a Loved One

With Facilitator, Deacon Elizabeth Short, MTS
Six Weekly Sessions
1:30 pm *or* 7:00 pm
In-Person *or* on Zoom

Course Information

*Sessions will meet for 6 consecutive weeks on Zoom or in person (Hybrid Format) at All Saints, Parish House, 404 4th Ave. N Cochrane,

*Mondays, beginning January 8

*Choose 1 pm OR 7 pm

*Register by email, eshort@calgary.anglican.ca

*Suggested donation of \$120, payable to All Saints Anglican Church

*You are encouraged to contact Elizabeth with any questions.

en^{ccc}courage

*using stories to
navigate our lives...*

403-660-5636
eshort@calgary.anglican.ca

The loss of a loved one is one of life's most difficult experiences. There is no right or wrong way to "do grief". Nor is there a specific timeline to follow or on which to rely. Every individual is unique and it is to be expected that his or her journey of grief will be unique. It has been said that one cannot truly understand this experience unless he or she has gone through it. Strength and insight can be gained as people share their personal reflections of this shared experience.

What can I expect? The purpose of this group is to gather people together who have lost a loved one. Elizabeth creates an atmosphere of safety and confidentiality which allows you to share aspects of your grief. Elizabeth specializes in life transitions and grief will be examined from this context. Each week she will introduce an aspect of transition and will then facilitate conversation among the participants, encouraging them to share their insights with each other, so that they might support and be supported. Grief often creates situations and feelings of isolation and loneliness. Your journey through this difficult stage in life can be helped by sharing your story with others and listening to others' stories. Not only will you realize you are not alone, but you will gain insight from the interactions in the group, learning from hearing their stories—and yours – as you tell it aloud.

What will I take away? You will learn 6 components of transition, which will give you a context for your own experience. It is hoped, that through the insights and encouragement received from the process, you will begin to make sense of this difficult time in your life and begin to move from a place of grief and loss to a new way of being.

December 10th Second Sunday in Advent

Advent Wreath Prayer Week 2 — Peace

Heavenly Father, You are the God who gives peace. This second week of Advent causes us to remember that because of Jesus we can experience a Christmas free from turmoil and chaos.

Regardless of our circumstances or our situations, you offer us peace that passes understanding. In Jesus we pray, amen.

What Does the Bible Say about Peace?

Not surprisingly, the Bible has a lot to say about peace, as it attributes peace to Jesus himself: the Prince of Peace ([Isaiah 9:6](#)).

In fact, the word peace appears somewhere between [200-400 times](#) in the Bible.

In addition to the items listed above, biblical peace:

- Guards our hearts from the devil ([Philippians 4:7](#))
- Brings us joy ([Proverbs 12:20](#))
- Is a blessing from God ([Psalm 29:11](#))
- Assists us during dire circumstances ([Isaiah 54:10](#))



Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 10th, 2023

Readings

ISAIAH 40:1-11; PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 PETER 3:8-15A; MARK 1:1-8

First Reading

A READING FROM ISAIAH 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. **A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.** Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. **He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.**



Gospel

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: '**Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,**'" **John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.** And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

MARK 1:1-8



EVERY YEAR IT'S
JOHN THE BAPTIST
ALL OVER AGAIN!
(



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG THX 2 XP/CSTONE!

HE'S "THE VOICE CRYING
IN THE WILDERNESS."
)



YEAH, WELL
SOMEONE NEEDS
TO GET THAT BOY
A MAP!
(



MATTHEW 3:1-12

© WETZSTEIN 23-11-05

Preparing the Way

"A voice calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Mark 1:3

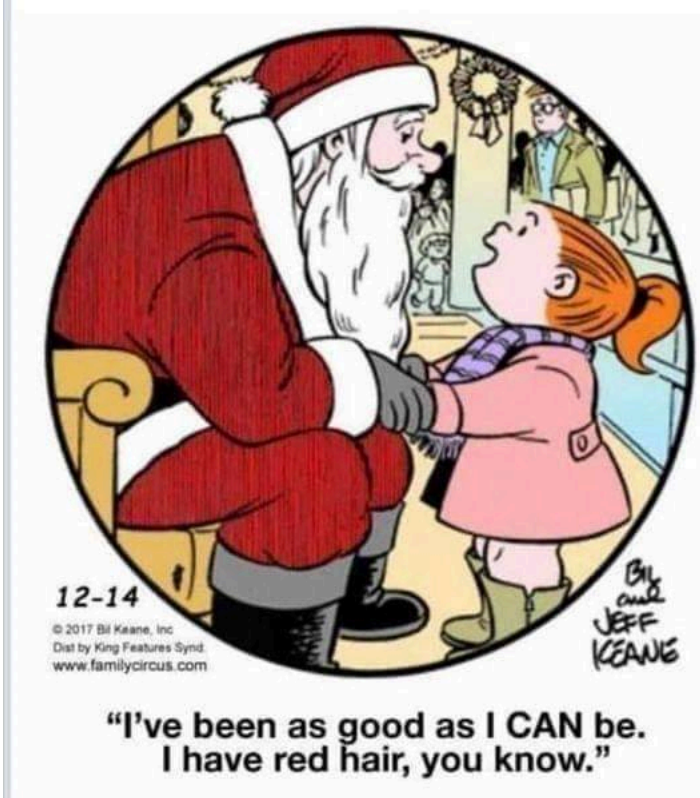
The puzzle is based on Mark 1:1-8



J Z P T V R I V E R T U W T P
 T L U S E L K X B A P T I Z E
 N B X U Y R K G Y S L Z L D Q
 M D E S E R T W J O R D A N P
 F O P S A H N I O F Y B J O R
 U H T T J W R U W R O C K S E
 E J O R J C A F V I T Z B O P
 A V H A H W O F D D L H Z G A
 S U J I O N F N L O O G Y N R
 I H I G N I I I F C C L R J E
 N X I H E E W V Y E U L I Q G
 S O A T Y P R O T K S X H I T
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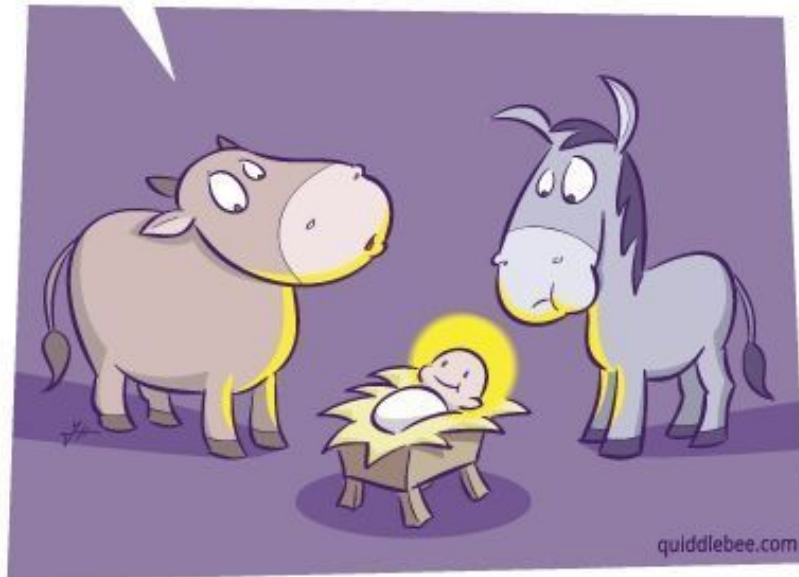
HONEY	BAPTIZE	SINS	LOCUSTS	JORDAN
PATHS	RIVER	VOICE	WORTHY	CONFESS
STRAIGHT	WILD	DESERT	PREPARE	SANDALS

FUNNY BONES

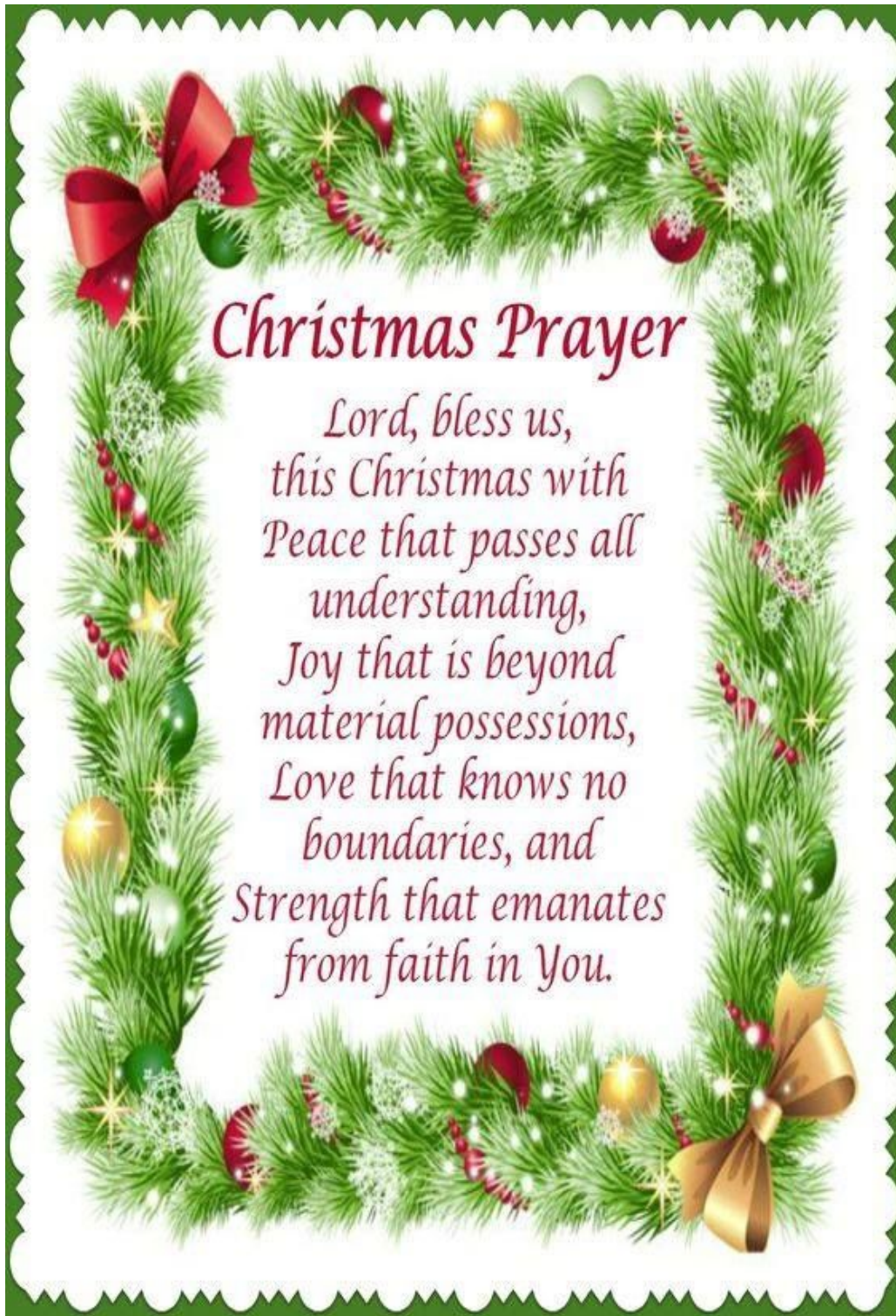




Dude, there's a **baby** in the salad...



GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD!



ALLELUIA!