



Northall Baptist Church – 200

years and still going.

A little Church with strong local links.

Do You Believe in Miracles?

Most little children looking forward to Christmas, think about Father Christmas coming down the chimney, delivering all the presents they are hoping for before eating the mince pie and drinking the toddy left out for him.

When we visited New Zealand in November 2010 after the huge earthquake, there was great concern from all the small children. The earthquake had toppled so many of the chimneys. How was Father Christmas going to get down the chimney with their presents?

We later realise that it wasn't a miracle at all but we continue to play this out with our own children. Who is more excited? The children or the parents at the prospect of some lovely new presents?

Have you ever thought about how many miracles there were that first Christmas? I've counted eight!

1 – Mary, a young unmarried girl saw an Angel who told her that she was going to have a baby, Jesus, who was God's son.

2 – Mary's Cousin Elizabeth, an elderly lady was going to have a son called John.

3 – An Angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, telling him to marry Mary, rather than be ashamed of the situation.

4 – Jesus was born. Not in a palace as would have been fitting for such an important child, but in a stable and his bed was the animals' feeding trough.

5 – Suddenly some shepherds arrived. They had been told by a whole choir of Angels that a precious parcel had arrived and where he was. They went to discover if this was true and found Joseph, Mary and Jesus as they had been told.

6 – Some while later the little family were visited by some Wise Men from the East who decided to investigate a new star, following it until they found this very special child. They brought gifts and realised how special he was.

7 – Then another Angel turned up in Joseph's dream and warned him that they had to escape to avoid great danger. They hurriedly left and were saved from King Herod's plan to kill all the baby boys.

8 – After King Herod had died another Angel appeared in Joseph's dream telling him it was safe to return.

As you open your presents this Christmas remember all the exciting miracles from 2,000 years ago.

Come and join us sing Christmas Carols in the Swan Inn, Northall at 8pm on Thursday 15th December and at our Carols by Candlelight Service on Sunday 18th at Northall Baptist Church at 4. 30pm.

Our Sunday services are at 11 am. We'd love you to join us for our worship and song. You will get a warm welcome. For those unable to attend in person we also stream our services.

For those interested in the history of Northall Baptist Church, a free copy of the booklet, Rebels in Green Pastures can be supplied or downloaded from our website: <http://northallbaptistchurch.org/>
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