

Thought for the day – Friday 9th December 2022

By Revd John Marshall

The Christmas Life Wendy Cope

If you don't have a real tree, you don't bring the Christmas life into the house.

- Josephine MacKinnon, aged 8

Bring in a tree, a young Norwegian spruce,
Bring hyacinths that rooted in the cold,
Bring winter jasmine as its buds unfold,
Bring the Christmas life into this house.

Bring red and green and gold, bring things that shine,
Bring candlesticks and music, food and wine.
Bring in your memories of Christmas past,
Bring in your tears for all that you have lost.

Bring in the shepherd boy, the ox and ass,
Bring in the stillness of an icy night,
Bring in a birth, of hope and love and light
Bring the Christmas life into their house.

The young Oxford Book of Christmas Poems

I like Wendy Cope's poems. We usually had an artificial tree, it was so old that the branches were just wire, the house was filled with Christmas life.

The birth of Christ is time for rejoicing, and there are many ways of doing that. But we also bring our sadnesses, (my Dad died one Christmas Eve.)