

8.00am

Please take this home with you

The Parish Church of St Andrew

**Sunday 2 December
Advent Sunday**

8.00am

HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd Dr Ian McIntosh

10.00am

PARISH EUCHARIST

Celebrant: The Revd Dr Ian McIntosh
Preacher: The Revd James Reveley with Vicki Edwards
Reading: Jeremiah 33. 14-16 *read by Brenda Mayoh*
Gospel: Luke 21. 25-36
Hymns: NEH 11, Celebrate (see Order of Service), SASP 82,
NEH 3, SASP 14, SASP 88, SASP 154
Intercessions: Suzanne Clackson

Everyone is invited to the Main Hall for refreshments.

The Revd David Powell is at All Saints, Renhold, this morning.

6.00pm

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Officiant: The Revd Belinda Searle-Barnes



**Please ask a sidesperson if you would
like a large print version**



Prayers and Readings

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING - Jeremiah 33.14–16

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING - 1 Thessalonians 3.9–13

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the

Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL - Luke 21.25–36

We say or sing

Alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

²⁵'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

²⁹Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, ³⁵and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

POST-COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

This week we pray in particular for:

- Duncan Goldthorpe, as he continues his recovery, and for Ruth, Katie, Samuel and Matthew
- the family and friends of Richard Frederick Smith, who died on 9 November
- Veronica Kahn and family following the recent death of her husband Ray

Prayers for our December Outreach Partner

ST JOHN'S HOSPICE MOGGERHANGER

Providing specialist care and support
for people with life-limiting conditions
living in Bedfordshire and bordering
parts of Cambridgeshire.

Eucharist Readings for 9 December

Advent 2

Year C

Malachi 3. 1-4

Phillipians 1. 3-11

Luke 3. 1-6



MONDAY	3	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		9.30am	Noah's Ark	Main Hall
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
		7.45pm	Book Circle	1 Brickhill Drive
TUESDAY	4	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		2.30pm	Julian Group	Quiet Room
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
WEDNESDAY	5	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		10.30am	Holy Communion	Holt Room
			<i>Celebrant: The Revd Peter Littleford</i>	
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
		7.30pm	St Alban's Study Centre course	Dent Room
THURSDAY	6	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		10.30am	House Group	1 Charlbury Court
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
		7.45pm	Tower Bell Practice	Church
FRIDAY	7	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		10.00am	Coffee and Company	Foyer
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
		7.00pm	Treble Choir	Dent Room
		7.30pm	Choir Practice	Church
		8.25pm	Christmas Choir rehearsal	Church
SATURDAY	8	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
		7.00pm	Film Night	Main Hall
SUNDAY	9	8.00am	Holy Communion	Church
		10.00am	Parish Eucharist	Church
		12noon	Defibrillator Commissioning	Foyer
		1.30pm	<i>Friends of St Andrew's</i>	
			Tea Dance Class	Main Hall
	8.00pm	Sung Compline	Church	

Notice Sheet Deadline

Please send all notices to Karen Parrott, Church Centre Office,
email: office@standrewsbedford.org by **12noon on Wednesday**.
This notice sheet is usually printed on Wednesday afternoon.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2018

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE: Today at 6.00pm. This service includes some wonderful Advent Carols, Anthems and Readings and offers a reflective candlelit service. It explores the theme of the light of God's love shining in the darkness bringing hope, forgiveness and reconciliation to the world as we await in wonder at the coming celebration of the birth of the Christ child at Christmas. It offers a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas as we watch and wait in expectation of receiving God's love anew for our friends, family, the world and ourselves.

THE TRAVELLING CRIB starts its annual journey from home to home around the congregation **today**. There is still time to sign up to host the crib for a night. Please add your name to the list at the back of the church. If you would like to know more about the crib, please speak to Vicki Edwards.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR THE PARISH: There are still some bundles of cards to be distributed throughout the parish. If there is a bundle with your name on it, we hope you will take it and deliver to your "adopted" road, please. There are some "unadopted" roads (red print labels) - if you are able to deliver to one of these, please do take a bundle (and if you would be willing deliver to this road for future deliveries, please let the Church Office know). Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: We recommence rehearsals for the augmented choir on Friday 7 December, 8.25pm - 9.25pm. Singers of any voice part are welcome and it is preferable if you can attend as many of the weekly rehearsals as possible. Please direct any questions to Ian Smith or Paul Searle-Barnes.

SEEKING CAROL SINGERS: Bedford Town Centre Churches have been invited to sing carols in the Harpur Centre on Saturday 15 December, meeting at 11.45am. If you would like to take part, please let the Church Office know, so we can let Revd Kelvin Woolmer, Town Centre Chaplain, know how many volunteers from St Andrew's can be expected. The more, the merrier!

CAROL SINGING IN RESIDENTIAL HOMES: We will soon be on the look-out for carol singers to join with others from St Andrew's to sing carols and/or recite poetry and readings in local nursing homes. On Tuesday 18 December at 11.00am a group will be going to Kimbolton Lodge. On Wednesday 19 December we will be visiting Dorothea Court at 6.15pm and then Hepworth House at 7.00pm and the final visit will be to Airedale at 10.30am on Friday 21 December. Please make a note in your diary and add your name to the sign-up sheet.

MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE SERVED AFTER THE NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE 23 DECEMBER: Please sign the lists in church if (a) you can provide some mince pies and (b) if you can help prepare, set up the Hall before the service and/or serve wine after the service and help clear up. Members of the Events Committee would appreciate some extra help, if you would like to know more please contact Hilary Papworth.

SIDESPEOPLE - CHRISTMAS SERVICES: There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for the additional Christmas services. Please could you sign up for services that are convenient to you.

DUNCAN GOLDTHORPE: As you might have heard, our curate suffered a heart attack whilst on a trip to Israel. Duncan returned back from Israel late on Wednesday evening and will be on sick leave for the time being. Please hold him in your prayers and send messages of support for him, Ruth and the family to the office and we will forward them.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: A huge thank you to everyone who supported the recent service. £260 was raised for the vital work of the Children's Society. The Crafty Mrs Noah stall added a further £476 to the total, making an overall total of £736 to date. Liz Lacey.

BOOK CIRCLE: The next meeting is tomorrow, Monday 3 December, 7.45pm at 17 Brickhill Drive when we will be discussing "Walking with Gospel Women" by Fiona Stratta. Do hope you can join us.

COFFEE AND COMPANY: Join us for conversation and friendship over real coffee and delicious cake this Friday 7 December from 10.00am - 12noon in the Church Centre Foyer.

FILM NIGHT: The next film night is on Saturday 8 December at 7.00pm when the film to be shown will be *Maid in Manhattan*. Orders for food to Bedford 360583 by Wednesday this week please.

DEFIBRILLATOR: It is wonderful to have our Defibrillator installed outside the Church Centre entrance and ready for use in emergencies. Please dial 999 for the access code. It will be officially commissioned in the presence of our local ward councillors at 12noon on Sunday 9 December to which all are welcome. Any contribution to the cost of the Defib can be brought to the Church Centre Office.

RAYMOND KAHN: The funeral service for Veronica's husband Ray Kahn will be held on Tuesday 11 December at 12.15pm at the Norse Road Crematorium. No flowers by request. Please think of and pray for the family at this time.

'LEADING YOUR CHURCH INTO GROWTH': Are you under 30? We would like to send you for a few days in Derbyshire in March 2019. Contact James or Ian Smith if you would like to express an interest in attending.

ST ANDREW'S MEN'S WEEKEND AWAY– 22 - 24 March 2019 at the Horstead Centre in Norfolk. The theme is Making a difference where we are. Leaflets are available at the back of the church with further details.

EDNA STRINGER would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and cards on her recent birthday.

KITCHEN TIDY-UP: The recent kitchen clean revealed several items which individuals have brought in for events over the past few months and which have not subsequently been reclaimed (for example, cake boxes). They will be in the Main Hall after the 10.00am service today, so please take a look and take away any that belong to you. We will be disposing of any items not reclaimed after Sunday 9 December. Thank you. Events Committee.

FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S

PANTOMIME: Please can those who signed up for the pantomime at Milton Keynes Theatre on 11 January 2019 confirm their continuing interest by making a payment for £16 per ticket as soon as possible. Please submit your payments to the Church Office in an envelope marked for the attention of John Thynne re: Friends Pantomime Visit. Thank you.

COMMUNITY

MEDITATION, MUSIC AND SILENCE: A short lunchtime service on Thursdays in November and December at St Paul's Church from 1.05pm - 1.30pm. Led by members of the Anglican Town Centre Churches. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTERNOON: On Saturday 15 December, 1.30pm - 4.30pm, in the Holt Room. We will be making Christmas Tree decorations, gift bags, covered notebooks, Christmas cards and more. Raffle and refreshments. All ages welcome. Entry £1; Crafts £1 to £3 per craft. All proceeds going to Mind. Donations of raffle prizes would be appreciated and can be given to Kathy or Hugh Johnstone or left in the Church Office. Thank you. Emma Johnstone.

ALMHOUSE VACANCY: The Frederick Ray Trust (Rays Close, Bedford) offers accommodation for deserving older single people or couples in need of housing. Applicants must be capable of independent living and meet certain other criteria. Please see the notice board in the Church Centre corridor for details of how to apply, should you be interested. Application deadline 31 December 2018.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The Friends of Bedford Hospital invite you to a charity Christmas Concert featuring Kempston Musical Society, The Ouse Valley Singers, and others. Saturday 15 December, 7.30pm, at St Peter's Church, Bedford. Adults £10; Students & Over 60s £7; Children £4 includes light seasonal refreshments.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, KIMBOLTON ROAD, BEDFORD MK40 2PF

VICAR: THE REVD JAMES REVELEY (*Day off - Friday or Saturday*) 01234 354234

E-MAIL: vicar@standrewsbedford.org

CURATE: THE REVD DUNCAN GOLDTHORPE (*Day off - Friday or Saturday*) 01234 268689

E-MAIL: curate@standrewsbedford.org

CHURCH CENTRE OFFICE: 01234 216881

(Open Monday - Friday 9.00am-1.00pm & 2.00-4.00pm)

E-MAIL: centremanager@standrewsbedford.org

WEBSITE: www.standrewsbedford.org

Charity Registration number 1130171

This Notice Sheet is also available on the website

