



# St Andrew's Church Bedford

**12th January 2025**

The Baptism of Christ

## **Welcome to St Andrew's Church**

### **New to St Andrews?**

Please introduce yourself to one of our Welcomers, or to Lucy the Vicar. You might also like to fill in one of our welcome cards, found by the main door, so that we can stay in touch.

If you receive Communion in your own Church, please do share with us today. If you would rather have a blessing, come forward holding an order of service so we know your preference. Gluten free wafers are available; please ask a welcomer to help.

### **Accessibility**

There is a loop system in Church if you are a hearing aid user. An accessible toilet (with changing table) can be found by going down the left-hand aisle and through the door. The Quiet Room is available if you need a break-out space - you can still hear the service there.

### **Children in Church**

We love having children join us in worship! Feel free to feed your baby in Church. Our children's group meet in the hall during the 10 am service (except for the first Sunday of the month) 'Whispering Booklets' are available to help children follow the service.

**Please join us for coffee in the Main Hall after the 10.00am service**

Large print copies are available.

## Readings

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Isaiah 43. 1 - 7	(OT page 520)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	Acts 8.14 - 17	(NT page 96)
<b>Gospel:</b>	Luke 3.15 - 17, 21 - 22	(NT page 46)



The readings are available to view on our website - the QR code above right will take you directly to the webpage. Page references refer to the pew Bibles, should you wish to follow the readings.

## Music

<b>Opening Hymn:</b>	NEH 436 Praise my soul
<b>Gradual:</b>	NEH 495 God is working his purpose out
<b>Offertory:</b>	SASP 127 Lord, for the years
<b>Communion:</b>	NEH 58 t.94 The sinless one to Jordan came SASP 135 Make me a channel of thy peace
<b>Anthem:</b>	Come down O love divine - Harris
<b>Final Hymn:</b>	NEH 352 Crown him with many crowns
<b>Voluntary:</b>	Concerto in A minor 1st movement - Vivaldi / JS Bach ( <b>Duration:</b> 4 minutes.) <i>Please feel free to leave before the end.</i>

## In Our Prayers

For our charity partners - WorldVision link with Pajule, Uganda  
- Home for Good  
- Emmaus

For discernment as we review our Mission Action Plan.

**The Vicar:** The Reverend Canon Lucy Davis

Tel: 01234 354234 Email: vicar@standrewsbedford.org

Day off: Friday

**Curate:** The Reverend Joseph Barnes

*Joseph is currently having some time away from the Parish*

**Church Centre Office:** Monday to Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm

*The office is closed this week, and will reopen on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January*

Tel: 01234 216881 Email: operationsmanager@standrewsbedford.org

## Notices

**MAP Review:** It is three years since we drew up our current Mission Action Plan (MAP), and so the time is right to discern whether this is still God's will for St Andrew's, and where we might be called to next. We are therefore asking all members of the Church family to contribute their thoughts ahead of a PCC strategy day on 25th January, by completing an online questionnaire or the leaflet available in Church, by 19th January. Please reply online, if possible, to help speed up analysis. To access the online form, scan the QR code on the right (you may need a google account to access this.)



**Flu Season:** With rates of flu infection running very high locally, please do feel able to wear a mask to Church if this feels safer for you or for others. If you have symptoms, you may like to consider receiving Communion in one kind (not having wine.) Thank you.

**First Communion Preparation:** We will be running sessions to prepare children to receive Communion again this term. If you think your child might be ready to take this step, for example if they have been asking questions about Communion, please do speak to Lucy or Elisabeth.

**To avoid confusion:** Some confusion has emerged about which way the congregation faces at the end of the 10am Sunday Eucharist. Confusion is never conducive to worship! So, for clarity's sake: please do turn to face the back of Church during the last verse of final hymn (as the choir passes) and for the dismissal, turning back to the front as the organ music starts, and sitting once the cross leaves down the side aisle. I hope this is helpful. Lucy.

**Friends of St Andrew's - "Bess of Hardwick" talk by Amanda Goody:** Thursday 23rd January 2025 in the Holt Room. This is a pay on the door event with refreshments provided afterwards. Admission is £3 for members of the Friends of St Andrew's and £4 for non-members.

**Film Night:** Saturday 25th January 7.00pm, in the Main Hall. Please contact Martin Johnson ([ufpfilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:ufpfilmclub@gmail.com) or 07985406796) with any enquires and if you are planning to attend, with your food order by 12pm on Wednesday 22nd January.

**B and L Cards live on:** The Fairtrade shop has now closed. However, Brenda and Lionel still have a range of cards so look out for an update!

# The Week Ahead

## Monday to Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer. In the Chapel and on Zoom.

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January

8.00am Holy Communion. In Church.

10.00am Parish Eucharist. In Church.

2.00pm Tea Dance. In the Main Hall.

5.30pm Toastie Club. In the Main Hall.

6.00pm Evening Prayer. In the Chapel.

## Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January

9.30am Noah's Ark. In the Main Hall.

## Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January

10.30am Holy Communion. In Church.

## Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January

10.30am Silent Meditation. In Church.

8.00pm Compline. On Zoom.

## Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January

3.00pm Messy Church. In the Main Hall.

## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January

8.00am Holy Communion. In Church.

10.00am Parish Eucharist. In Church.

2.00pm Tea Dance. In the Main Hall.

6.00pm Sacred Space for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.  
In Church.

*Key dates for the month ahead are listed on the sheet available at the back of Church. A full listing of what's on at St Andrew's can be found on our website [standrewsbedford.org](http://standrewsbedford.org) under 'Calendar.'*



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