



# St Andrew's Church Bedford

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

First Sunday of Advent and Patronal Festival

## **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 57.7 - 10	(OT page 532)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	Romans 10.12 - 18	(NT page 122)
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 4.18 - 22	(NT page 3)



*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

- Hymn: Sheet - O Come, O come Emmanuel
- Hymn: SASP 204 - Will you come and follow me
- Hymn: SASP 125 - Longing for Light
- Hymn: Sheet - Advent Celebrate

## In Our Prayers

For our charity partners - WorldVision link with Pajule, Uganda  
- The Trussell Trust  
- Emmaus

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

Tel: 01234 354234 Email: vicar@standrewsbedford.org

Day off: Friday

**Curate:** The Reverend Joseph Barnes

Tel: 07853 564699 Email: curate@standrewsbedford.org

Day off: Thursday

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

Tel: 01234 216881 Email: operationsmanager@standrewsbedford.org

## Notices

**Patronal Festival and Advent Sunday:** Today we celebrate our patron saint, St Andrew, as well as Advent Sunday. Please join us for 'enhanced' refreshments after the 10am service. This evening we enjoy the wonderful seasonal music and readings of our Advent Carol Service at 6pm.

**Advent Course: Women of the Nativity:** Wednesday, 4th, 11th, and 18th December at 7.45pm, in the Holt Room and on Zoom. A mixture of Bible study, discussion, and sharing our own experiences will help us to be drawn into God's story in this season of preparation and prayer.

**Fairtrade Bazaar - a good result:** Many thanks to all who supported this event; total sales were over £900! The Shop still has quite a bit of stock, looking for a good home, so please come and have a browse today.

**Christmas Services:** Please do pick up a flier with details of our Advent and Christmas events from the back of Church. Sheets are also out if you can offer help in various roles at our Christmas services, including acting as sidespeople. To publicise our services round the parish, Centred magazines are now laid out at the back of Church; if you can take a bundle and deliver them, that would be wonderful.

**CDs for sale:** The Concerts at St Andrew's team sponsoring the composition a new song by Deborah Pritchard based on a text by the poet John Clare; Carolyn Sampson will be premiering the song at St Andrew's in November 2025. To raise funds, a selection of Carolyn's CDs will be on sale after the 10am service on 1st and 8th December. They would make a wonderful Christmas gift!

**Christmas Tree Decorating:** Next Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, we will be decorating the Christmas tree after the 10.00am Service. Please join us to put up a bauble or two and hang some Christmas lights.

**Update from our local mission partner:** This Advent, instead of the Reverse Advent Calendar, we are asking you to donate items to Emmaus at Carlton. There will be a donation box at the back of church on *Sunday 15th December ONLY*. Donations of clothes, books, CDs, toys, jigsaws and bric-a-brac are all welcome but no electrical goods please. Tim Papworth and I attended the Emmaus AGM and the continued support from St Andrew's is very much appreciated. Thank you for your anticipated generosity. - Jenny Tomlinson

## The Week Ahead

### Monday to Saturday

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

5.00pm Evening Prayer (except Saturday). On Zoom.

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Patronal Festival and Advent Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion. In Church.

8.45am Breakfast after 8.00am Service. In Holt Room.

10.00am All-Age Worship. In Church.

6.00pm Advent Carol Service. In Church.

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

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

7.30pm Book Circle. Please ask the office for the location

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Holy Communion. In Church.

7.00pm Advent Course: Women of the Nativity. In the Holt room.

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December

12.00pm Talking Elephants. In the Hulbert room.

### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December

10.00am Coffee and Company. In the Foyer.

8.00pm Compline. On Zoom.

8.20pm 9 Lessons and Carols Choir Practice. In Church.

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December

8.00am Holy Communion. In Church.

8.45am Breakfast after 8.00am Service. In Holt Room.

10.00am Parish Eucharist. In Church.

4.00pm SANDS Memorial Service. In Church

6.00pm Evening Prayer. 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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