



ST ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON

*A thriving, open and welcoming church community
for all ages*

www.standrews-chesterton.org

Weekly News Update, 1 December 2023

We share the sad news that **Jill Pratt has died**. Jill was a valued member of the flower group, and, together with her late husband Brian - a long-standing bellringer, they were both members of The Friends of St Andrew's and regular attenders at the lunchtime concerts. The Funeral will be at Jill's parish church of St Mary's, Fen Ditton, and is on Thursday 14th December, at 12.30pm.

There will be a **Sunday Lunch Club** this Sunday, 3 December, 12 for 12.30pm. This much appreciated club is open to anyone who may be eating Sunday lunch alone. Pre-booking is necessary: please contact Jean Welham (01223 710686). This will be Sheila and Ian's last SLC, as they step back in 2024. We say a big thank you to all they have contributed to the lunch of the years, and send them love and prayers for the year ahead.

There will be an Advent Choral Service this Sunday evening, 5.30 pm to mark the beginning of Advent and St Andrew's Day - the 'patronal festival' of our parish. All welcome to this traditional candle-lit service of scripture readings, Advent carols and reflective pieces sung by St Andrew's Singers. Philip will give an Advent reflection.

Youth Group also meets this Sunday at 5.30pm in St Andrew's Hall.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the St Andrew's Fayre - which ran so smoothly last Saturday. To Sheila and Michael in the kitchen who worked tirelessly all afternoon, to all the stall holders who brought such wonderful gifts. And to those who came along to support them with some pennies in their pocket and plenty of good cheer. Thank you to those who cleared tables at the end of the day. A special thank you to John Reynolds who was with me setting up in the morning and still with me as we locked up the Church after a very lovely concert put on by students from Chesterton Community College - Rachel

The new December 2023 –January 2024 edition of Chesterton Chimes, which contains news from our church community and details of services and events coming up in the next two months, is available [here](#).

Service details

Sunday 3 December, Advent Sunday

8.00 am [Holy Communion](#) (BCP; live-streamed and in church).

10.00 am [Family Service](#) (live-streamed and in church), followed by a short Communion Service in church.

5.30 pm Choral Evening Service for Advent and St Andrew's Day.

5.30 pm Youth Group meets in St Andrew's Hall.

Sunday 10 December, 2nd Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP; live-streamed and in church).

10.00 am Sung Eucharist (live-streamed and in church).

4.00 pm Christingle Service in church.

Weekdays

Every weekday, except Tuesday: [Morning Prayer](#) online at 9.00 am.

Tuesday: Morning Prayer in church (Common Worship) at 9.00 am.

Monday: Coffee Morning in the Hall, 10.45 am to 12 noon.

Tuesday: Morning Prayer in church, 9 am.

Please pray for...

The family of Jill Pratt.

Please continue to pray for peace in all parts of the world where there is conflict and violence.

From the Book of Remembrance: Ivy Lillian Bayley, Richard Arthur Crosby, Dorothy Crosby

More news and some reminders...

Advent reading and reflection - Advent is a season in the church's year when Christians have traditionally been encouraged to set aside time for reflection and personal prayer, as also in Lent - though, frankly, it's good at any time of year! It is during *Lent* that St Andrew's has a custom of meeting together in organised small groups, often centred on reading a devotional book together; and the intention is to revive these in February. Yet, as we enter Advent, if anyone would like a book recommendation for your personal reading and devotion in this time, I recommend Paula Gooder's *The Meaning is in the Waiting: the spirit of Advent* (Canterbury Press, 2008). Philip

Are you interested in singing in the choir for our Christmas Eve Carol Service? If so, Chris (chris.pountain@standrews-chesterton.org) would love to hear from you! Practices will be held on Friday 8 December 7.30-9.00, Friday 15 December 7.30-9.00, Friday 22 December 7.30-9.00 and immediately before the service from 5.15; of these Chris asks that you attend at least two including 22 December as well as on Christmas Eve itself. He needs to know numbers involved by the end of November so that music copies can be printed in time for the first practice.

Happy news! Maggie Tate Druiff had a baby girl 2 weeks ago: Vera who weighed 6lb. 13oz. All are well. Congratulations to Maggie and Toby and also to the new grandparents, Helen and Harry Druiff.

More good news! On 26th October, Adrian, St Andrew's former Time for God volunteer 2012/13, became engaged to Siegfried, after 10 years of being together. We send our heartfelt congratulations to them both.

Supporting Crossways hostel this winter

Last winter, as a church we supported the new Crossways pop-up homeless hostel in our parish by supplying milk (later milk and bread) on a daily basis from early November to the end of March. This project is part of the Cambridge Churches Homeless Project <https://www.cchp.org.uk>

There are three ways you can support the Crossways hostel project this winter. 1) As a volunteer (visit www.ittakesacity.org.uk/support-us/ for more information). 2) Financially: If you would like to make a

one off or monthly donation here are the details: "**St Andrews Chesterton PCC**" Sort Code: **20-17-35** Account no: **80263524** using the reference: **MILK**. Taxpayers: Gift Aid can be reclaimed on your donation. And/or 3) In Prayer - committing to pray regularly for the residents, staff and volunteers.

If you have further questions please speak directly to Sharon Neufeld or Patricia Abrey over coffee or on 07761 478499 or pcc.secretary@standrews-chesterton.org Thank you.

Lighting in church. Those of us who have been in church recently on darker mornings or for evening events and services will have noticed that fewer lights are working than we would expect. Unfortunately, recent attempts to solve this by changing the bulbs have revealed that the fault lies with many of the light fittings - a number of which have failed at the same time. To improve the lighting in the short-term, we plan to introduce some stand-alone lighting. The PCC has recognised and agreed the need to bring forward a long-planned project to upgrade to an energy-efficient and flexible lighting system, and to find the funds for this as soon as possible. Please bear with us while the project is planned and implemented. If you have any views about our future lighting needs in church, you are most welcome to share them with Philip in the first instance.

The Allcomers Group sings regularly at the All-age Communion Service on the third Sunday in the month. If you would like to take part in future months, please let Chris know at chris.pountain@standrews-chesterton.org

The next meeting of the **Book Club will be on Tuesday 23rd January, at 8 pm**, at the home of Ewa Allen (42 Hawthorn Way, Tel. 367351). We will be discussing *Light Perpetual* by Francis Spufford, a novel that follows the fictionalized lives of five children killed during a V-2 attack in London in 1944, imagining an alternate world in which they lived. As ever, new and occasional members are most welcome.

Community News & Notices

The Chesterton Community Choir will be performing **Vivaldi's Gloria** and a selection of seasonal favourites at a festive concert to be held in City Church (12-16 Cheddars Lane, Cambridge, CB5 8LD) on **Wednesday 6 December at 7.30 pm**. Tickets cost £10 (cash on the door). www.chestertonchoralsociety.org.uk

ESOL Cafe in Chesterton: A friendly group meets on Tuesday mornings at St Laurence's Church to help anyone who would like to improve their English speaking for whom it is not their first language. Each session deals with a different useful topic. Please see this [flyer](#) for details and visit www.esolcafe.co.uk, where the programme for this term can be found.

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation has launched this year's Surviving Winter Appeal to raise £20,000 to support local households facing fuel poverty. The Foundation appeals to those who are in a position to help, to please donate to support those who will struggle to stay warm this winter: justgiving.com/campaign/survivingwinter2023. The Foundation will then work with partnering charities across the county to distribute the raised funds, by making direct payments towards energy costs, like topping up prepayment meters, financing upcoming gas and electricity costs or paying for heating oil deliveries.

Please email any notices for inclusion in the next Weekly News Update by 12 noon on **Thursday 7 December** to admin@standrews-chesterton.org. Thank you.