



# ST ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON

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

[www.standrews-chesterton.org](http://www.standrews-chesterton.org)

## Weekly News Update, 22 & 29 December 2023

**A very happy Christmas to you all!** We hope to worship and celebrate with many of you at our different services in the coming days. If you are spending Christmas and New Year elsewhere, or are otherwise unable to join in person, do remember our Sunday morning and Christmas Day morning services are live-streamed, and available for catch up on YouTube. We look forward to welcoming you back to St Andrew's in 2024. May you all know God's peace, hope, love and joy this Christmas - Philip.

**Funds for Wintercomfort:** We have heard from Wintercomfort that **£1655.42** was raised at the Community Carols on Thursday evening. Wintercomfort sends very grateful thanks to everyone involved. These funds will make a significant difference to many people.

**The Weekly News is taking a short break** over the festive period and so this Update covers two weeks of news. The next Update will go out on Friday 5 January. It is only possible to give live service links for this coming Sunday (24th) – see below – but the links for the Christmas morning services and Sunday 31 December will be uploaded to the website and can be accessed there: [www.standrews-chesterton.org](http://www.standrews-chesterton.org).

**Office Closure** - The Hall and Church Office will be closed from 4 pm on Friday 22 December until 9 am on Thursday 4 January. During this time you may contact Philip via email up to 24 December. After this time contact details are to be used for urgent pastoral matters only. You can call Philip 25 to 28 December on 07579 831643. From 29 December to 1 January Chris Pountain is who you must contact on 07838 709746.

### Service details

#### **Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve**

8.00 am [Holy Communion](#) (BCP; live-streamed and in church).  
10.00 am [All-age Communion](#) (live-streamed and in church).  
6.30 pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols  
11.30 pm Midnight Eucharist

#### **Monday 25 December, Christmas Day**

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

#### **Sunday 31 December, 1st Sunday after Christmas**

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

## Weekdays

Our usual weekday services and events will pause next week and resume from Tuesday 2 January. The pattern through the week will continue to be:

**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, and all those who are mourning loved ones at this time. Please continue to pray for peace in all parts of the world where there is conflict and violence.

**From the Book of Remembrance:** Bertram Arthur Osborne, Ida Annetta Osborne, Reginald Eaden, Mabel Annie Eaden, Elizabeth Headdon, Percy Venn Pestell, Ian Warbick Robertson, Barry Elliott Eaden, Ivy Knock

## More news and some reminders...

**Church furniture arrangements and adjustment for Christmas season and beyond** - Some of the services in the Christmas season will require us to make some adjustments to the regular position of items of furniture near the front and back of church - for example, to accommodate a larger choir for Nine Lessons and Carols, and potentially to improve space for welcome and serving refreshments. When you are in church, you may therefore notice these adjustments as we pilot arrangements for how best to use the worship space for our uses at this time. The PCC has recently agreed the need for this, and committed itself to working this out sensitively and together. *Philip*

**Looking beyond Christmas...: North Cambridge Prayer Night - to be hosted by St Andrew's, Monday 22 January, 7.45pm.** In this last year, several churches in North Cambridge of different denominations have been partnering to hold a regular prayer event, involving sung worship, sharing issues which our different communities are facing and helping with, and praying for this in different ways. In January, St Andrew's will be the venue for the next such event - previously held at St George's in June and Arbury Road Baptist in September. If you would like to learn more, or explore opportunities to be involved in prayer themes or music, contact Philip. More details to follow in the new year.

### 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/](http://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](mailto:pcc.secretary@standrews-chesterton.org) Thank you.

**Instrumentalists needed!** St Andrew's has a small band of musicians (including singers) who lead worship at the family service (first Sunday of each month). We are **valiant** but **rather few** in number. Please consider dusting down that instrument languishing in your loft! Come and join us! We welcome a variety of instruments as this adds to the breadth of sound in worship. We meet to practise a day or two before the service. There is a google sign up sheet where you can register your monthly availability.

We plan to have an informal musical gathering sometime in the New Year TBC. But you don't have to wait for this to relay your interest.

You can chat to any of the leaders or current musicians if you've got questions, and/or contact Catherine Blydenstein at [c.bly127@gmail.com](mailto:c.bly127@gmail.com) If and when you're happy to have a go, we can add you to our email list for communications, and invite you to a practice session.

**Don't delay - Come and play** with us! - Catherine Blydenstein.

**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](mailto:chris.pountain@standrews-chesterton.org)

The next meeting of the **Book Club will be on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**The 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](#).

## Community News & Notices

**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](https://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.

This is the last Weekly News Update of 2023! Please email any notices for inclusion in the first News Update of 2024 by 12 noon on **Thursday 4 January** to [admin@standrews-chesterton.org](mailto:admin@standrews-chesterton.org). Thank you.