St Andrew's Church

Open • Inclusive • Involved

Welcome to St Andrew's - may God's peace be with you

Advent Sunday
29th November 2026

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

President and Preacher : The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster

10.30am Choral Eucharist

President : The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster
Preacher : The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey
Deacon : Tom Nettey
Healing : Sharon and Mike

6.00pm Advent Carol Service

Officiant : The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Mass Setting: Penitential

Introit : Matin Responsory *Palestrina*
Anthem : And the glory of the Lord *Handel*

Processional Hymn **41: Lo, he comes with clouds descending**
Gradual Hymn **38: Hark , a thrilling voice is sounding**
Offertory Hymn **45: O come, O come, Emmanuel**
Communion Hymn **54: Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling**
Recessional Hymn **30: Come, thou long-expected Jesus**

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.

Reading : Isaiah 64.1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Gospel: Mark 13.24-end

Jesus said, 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the

watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Post Communion Prayer:

Almighty God,
who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:
by the power of the same Spirit
strengthen us to witness to your truth
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Healing prayer: George W, Luci & Sophie, Gillian M, Caroline, Lily, Denise, Mary S, Mary G, Cheryl W, David, S.M, Jane B, William B, Rosemary & John K, Sue P, Carol S, Patricia T, David P, Margaret S, Nick B & family, Prem M, John D.

In memoriam: Graham Hardwick, Elaine Cumberbatch

News and Notices

Any item to be included should be with the office by Wednesday, 12noon

Advent begins today, the beginning of the Church's year.

- The **Advent Carol Service** our choir-led, traditional carol service is tonight at 6pm.
- **Advent Reflective Eucharists.** The Tuesday 9.30am Reflective Eucharist during Advent will offer an opportunity to reflect and pray together on the themes of Advent. A related prayer station in the Lady Chapel will be available through the week.
- **The Big Table Gospel group will be reading an Advent book together:** Paul Dominiak's *The Love that Moves the Sun*. The group meets every week around the talking table in the cafe, alternating on Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact John on shoparound1938@gmail.com

Our annual **Festival of Christmas Trees** is now open – do spread the word!

Bereavement Point 2.15pm - 3.45pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (plus the 5th if there is one!). Opportunity for group conversation and relationship building where everyone is welcome and comfort is offered https://compassionaterugby.co.uk/

Church Mice Stay and Play Group 10-11.30am and 1pm-2.30pm on Fridays (term time) for ages 0-4 years and it's free! Please spread the news where you can. Volunteers are warmly welcome—have a chat with Lydia, Joyce or Heather for more information.

St Andrew's Day. Our Patronal Festival is tomorrow, Monday 30th November. We will be celebrating it with Choral Evensong, sung by the Bilton Grange Choristers and the Lay Clerks of Rugby

School, at 6pm. Afterwards the Friends of St Andrew's will be hosting mulled wine and mince pies in church. All are warmly welcome.

Christmas Publicity. We are in the process of getting postcards printed to distribute to the houses in our Parish. We'd really appreciate help in doing this, so please take a look at the list of roads at the back of church and maybe think of a group of people you could share the job with. Thank you.

Stewarding If anyone would like to join our excellent stewarding team to help welcome the public in to church over Advent and Christmas, please speak to Joyce, Hash or email the office. There are daytime opportunities as well as evening.

The Snowman Live Celebrate Christmas with the whole family on Saturday 5th December, with a film screening of The Snowman. Live music by The Brass Band of Central England (formally Jaguar Landover band). It promises to be a very special afternoon. There are 2 performances at 2pm & 5pm, tickets available through standrewrugby.org.uk/events.

Funerals. Elaine Cumberbatch's funeral service will take place on Wednesday 16th December at 1pm and Canon Graham Hardwick's funeral service will take place on Friday 8th January at 1.15pm, both at St Andrew's.

Diary for the week 30th November - 6th December
Church Community Café open Monday - Friday 9.30am-2pm
Saturday 9.30am-12noon

Monday 9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Ball of Yarn knitting & crochet group 10.30am Art with Aish 6.00pm St Andrew's Day Evensong 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice	**Tuesday** 9.00am Morning Prayer 9.30am Reflective Eucharist 1.00pm Tuesday Lunchtime Concert 2.15pm Bereavement Point 6.30pm Blue Light Service
Wednesday 9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Community Conversation 12.00pm Holy Communion *2.00pm Private booking until 6pm*	**Thursday** 9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Big Table Gospel group 4.00pm Warwickshire Music concert 6.00pm Holy Communion 7.15pm Choir practice
Friday 9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Big Table Gospel Group 10.00am Church Mice 1.00pm Church Mice 6.00pm Air Ambulance service	**Saturday** The Snowman Live 2.00pm and 5.00pm
Sunday 6th December **Second Sunday of Advent**	8.00am BCP Holy Communion 10.30am Choral Eucharist 6.00pm Celtic Evening Prayer



St Andrew's Staff Team

Rector: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey rector@rugbychurch.org.uk

Curate: The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster
james.sampsonfoster@rugbychurch.org.uk

Associate Minister (Mission Hub):
The Rev'd Alison Baxter missionhub@rugbychurch.org.uk

Associate Minister (Compassionate Communities):
The Rev'd Sharon Crofts sharon.crofts@rugbychurch.org.uk

Wardens: Joyce Woodings warden1@rugbychurch.org.uk
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Community Engagement Lead: Joanna Bryan
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Parish Office: Kate Foster office@rugbychurch.org.uk

Bookkeeper: Gaynor Farthing bookkeeper@rugbychurch.org.uk

Technical Coordinator: Ben Foster ben.foster@rugbychurch.org.uk

Website: standrewrugby.org,uk
Livestream: twitch.tv/standrewrugby
Facebook: St.Andrew Church Rugby

After the service, please feel free to join us for coffee—a chance for us all to get to know each other better.

If you have felt something special in this service and want to talk about faith, have a chat with one of the clergy or ministers after the service.

Toilets are available through the arch beside the main entrance

This link will allow you to give to St Andrew's online: