Welcome

Welcome to St Andrew's, especially if you are visiting for the first time. Refreshments are served after the service - it would be lovely to meet you.

No one belongs here more than you

Children and Families

All children are welcome at St Andrew's, do not worry if yours make a bit of noise. Junior Church meets every Sunday in term time except during the All-Age Service. *No Junior Church today*

Toastie Tuesday After-School Club

For Secondary School Years. In St Andrew's Church, Tues in term time from 3.30-5.00pm. *Now on a break - returning on Tuesday 14 January 2025*

TMM Youth Group

For School Years 7+. Twice a month on Sundays, 4.30-6.00pm. **Now on a break – returning on 12 January 2025** See our website for more details.

Supporting St Andrew's

If you would like to support the work of our church, there is a **contactless card reader** by the church entrance or you can donate to our Barclays account: **Hertford St Andrew PCC A/C No: 50715050 Sort Code: 20-20-37** Alternatively, you can speak to our Treasurer, Nick Sharman, or our Chair of Finance Committee, Chris Seward.



29 December 2024 First Sunday of Christmas

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Rev. Bill Church

10.30am Holy Communion

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Bill Church First reading: 1 Samuel 1. 21-27, 2. 18-21, 26 (Richard Taylor) Gospel: Luke 2. 41-52 Intercessions: Rod Willis Chalice: Jennie Gray, Mary Horne, Frances Wilby

Hymns

- 35 Angels from the realms of glory
- 83 Child in the manger
- 475 Of the Father's love begotten (vs1-4)
- 427 Love came down at Christmas
- 716 What child is this?

SERVICES ON ZOOM

29 December No online services

Sunday 5 January on Zoom

10.30am Sunday Morning Worship (Compline returns on Sunday 12 January)

Zoom links are emailed and on our website

Collect and Readings

Collect: God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love: gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

First Reading:

1 Samuel 1. 21-27, 2. 18-21, 26 The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only-may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him.

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home.

And the Lord took note of Hannah; she

conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the Lord.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people. For the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Luke 2. 41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour. This is the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you, O Christ

News and Notices



Everyone is welcome to join our **St Andrew's & St Mary's New Year's Day Walk**. We will begin the walk at 11.00am from the car park of the Golden Griffin (opposite The Sele School), but do not park in the car park (see below), instead find a space on-street or in the car park in Calton Avenue. We will head into Panshanger Park for a stroll along a circular route for about an hour. Walkers will then be welcome to head into the Golden Griffin for drinks (please bring a means to pay).

Not only will the walk help to blow away any cobwebs from the night's celebrations, it's an opportunity to chat with friends and get to know people you may not have spoken with before. You don't have to be a regular member of either church to be very welcome on the walk.

The pub car park is now managed by Euro Car Parks. Please read and comply with the notices to avoid a penalty notice.

If there is anything you want to ask, please call Richard on 07703 197707.



prayer gathering on Saturday 4 January, 8.30am in the Chapel at St Andrew's Church & livestreamed on Zoom We give thanks for the year that has passed, for the people that matter to us and for our church.

Soul Food Sunday 5 January

7.00pm in the St Andrew's Centre More details over the page

All-Age Worship Sunday 12 Jan, 10.30am, St Andrew's



St Andrew's January Coffee Morning

Our first Coffee Morning of 2025 - **Saturday 4 January, 10.30am-12.30pm** - will be raising much-needed funds for the choir and the maintenance of our organ at St Andrew's! Should you have any unwanted gifts, please consider donating them to our Surplice to Rechoirments sale – just leave in a labelled bag at the back of the church or give to a Choir member. Thank you!

Christmas Appeal 2024 thanks!

To all who were able to contribute to our Christmas Appeal on behalf of Haven First – THANK YOU! Your generous donations have helped many single homeless people in Hertfordshire feel more cared for this Christmas and New Year. Soul Food Sunday 5 January, 7.00pm in the St Andrew's Centre Led by Rev. Alan Stewart

'First footing'

In some cultures, it is believed the person who is the first to step over your threshold after midnight on New Year's Eve will bring good luck and blessing. As this New Year begins, an opportunity to reflect on the past year and to invite Christ over the thresholds of our lives and to bring His blessing to this New Year.

Please pray for: Shelley Ives, Robert Ramsay, Lucy, Graham Mitchelli, Oliver Clark, Georgina Laval, Trevor, Pauline Rhodes, Paul Roe, Mike Watson, Julie, Mark, James, Phoebe, Gordon, Jennifer, Dino

Rest in Peace: Galina Vasilievna, Jim Neat, Muriel Mills, Eileen Burns

Years' Mind: Sid Wighton, Jill Reeves, Joan Robertson, Peter Church, Julia Spring, Christina Ditton

St Andrew's Diary – the week ahead Monday 30

8.00am Morning Prayer in the Chapel Wednesday 31 - New Year's Day

[There's no 10.30am Holy Communion] 11.00am Walk at Panshanger (please see notice)

Thursday 2

8.00am Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Saturday 4

8.30am **Breathe prayer gathering** in the Chapel at St Andrew's and livestreamed on Zoom 10.30am-12.30pm **Coffee Morning**

Sunday 5 – The Epiphany

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Rev. Alan Stewart 10.30am Holy Communion Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Alan Stewart 10.30am Sunday Morning Worship on Zoom Leader: Kath Oates, Lay Leader of Worship Sermon: Rev. Alan Stewart (recorded) 7.00pm Soul Food in the St Andrew's Centre

Rev. Alan Stewart (please see details above)

Quick Contacts

CLERGY

Rev. Alan Stewart 01992 582726 h.alanstewart1@gmail.com Rev. Bill Church 01992 410469 churchwj@hotmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Julie Markey 07801 236003 Lesley Self 07952 958963 churchwarden.hertfordstandrews@gmail.com Deputy Churchwarden Chris Seward 01992 554217

ADMINISTRATOR

Office Hours: Tue, Wed, Fri 9-2 Philippa Probert 01992 504373 standrew.hertford@btinternet.com ON ANNUAL LEAVE UNTIL 3 JANUARY

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