



8th Dec- 15th Dec 2025

Services Across The Benefice

Thursday 11th December

9.30am @ St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe (Holy Communion)

Sunday 14th December

11am @ St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe (Morning Praise with Holy Communion)

Welcomer: Sue J

Reader: Nikki

Refreshments: Lynn S

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 & Matthew 3:1-12

4pm @ St Bartholomew's Church (Carol Service)

6pm @ St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe (Carol Service)

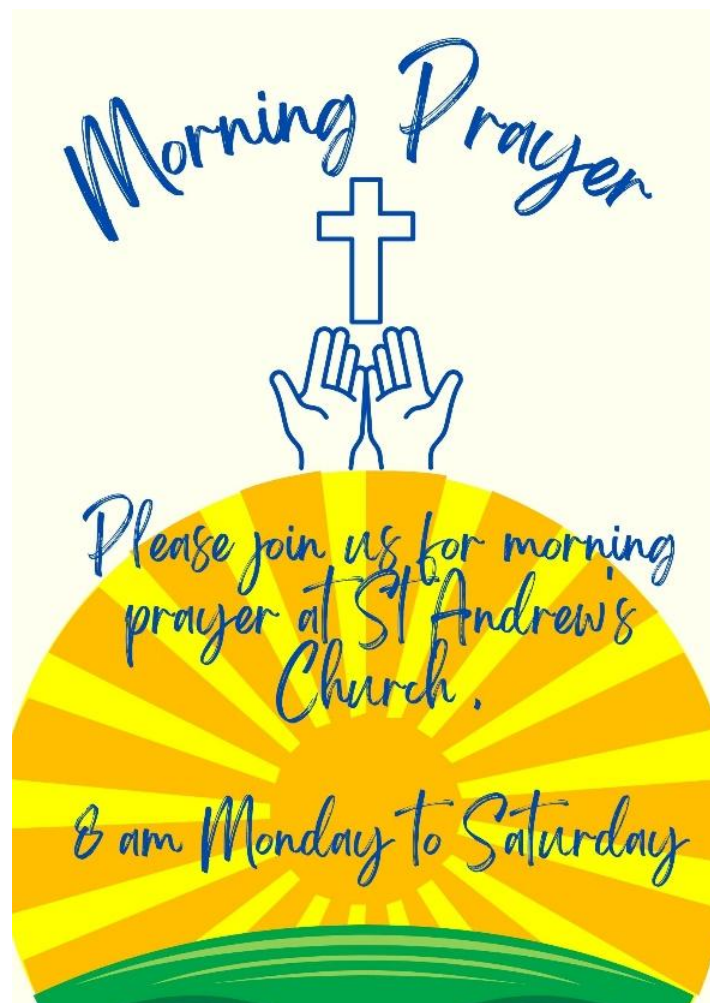
We'll be serving refreshments after the Carol Service at St Andrew's on the 14th at 6pm, and we're still looking for a few more mince pies and helping hands. If you're able to bring some along or assist on the evening, it would be greatly appreciated.

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way
before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the
hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an
acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the
Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Morning Prayer

Please join us for morning prayer Monday- Saturday 8am- 8.30am
This is a time for prayer and reflection and a lovely way to start your
day, so please come along everyone is very welcome.



Thursday Morning Communion

Join us on Thursday mornings from 9:30am to 10am for a quiet Holy Communion service.

JOIN US

St Andrew's Church



HOLY COMMUNION

9.30AM - 10AM

EVERY THURSDAY

Notices

Advent Course- Don't Miss Out!

We are very blessed to have Sue Rebis coming to deliver a two-session Advent course on the Christmas story in its original social, political, and religious context. Sue is a very gifted Bible teacher and will guide us through the story as it would have seemed to the people at the time. It promises to be a brilliant opportunity to stretch ourselves theologically, learn some new things, build our faith, and understand the Christmas story in a new way. Sue's teaching is very engaging and accessible, so come and enjoy! The two sessions will take place on **the 3rd and 10th December in the Bridge, from 7.30-9pm.**

Christmas Fayre Update

We're delighted to share that last weekend's Christmas Fayre raised an amazing £1,000! A huge thank-you to everyone who came along, supported the stalls, and helped make the day such a success. We are especially grateful to all those who worked so hard behind the scenes to organise and run the event —we truly couldn't have done it without each and every one of you. Your support means so much to our church community.

Cherry Tree Residential Home Carols

We'd love your help spreading Christmas cheer! Our church will be singing carols at Cherrytree Residential Home on **11th December at 6pm**, and we're looking for volunteers to join us. If you can lend your voice—or simply your presence—to bless the residents, please come along. For more information, please speak to Brenda.



Christmas Services across the Benefice

14th December, St Bartholomew's Church, Foston– Carol Service @ 4pm

*14th December, St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe– Carol Service @
6pm*

18th December, All Saint's Church, Peatling Magna–Carol Service @ 7pm

*24th December, St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe– Christingle Service
@ 3pm & 4.30pm*

*24th December, St Mary's Church, Willoughby Waterleys– Holy
Communion @ 6pm & Carol Service @ 7pm*

*24th December, St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe– Midnight
Communion @ 11.30pm*

*25th December, St Bartholomew's Church, Foston– Holy Communion @
9.15am*

*25th December, St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe– Holy Communion @
10am*

*28th December, St Bartholomew's Church, Foston– Holy Communion @
9.15am*

*28th December, St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe– Morning Praise @
11am*

Help Needed: Joinery Skills Welcome

Following the sad passing of Malcolm Payne, we are now in need of someone with basic joinery skills who can kindly assist with some maintenance in the church. Several of our chairs require re-gluing, and there are a few other small joinery tasks that will need attention over the coming months. If you feel you could help or know someone who might be willing to lend their skills, please speak with Geoff Kirk.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Restoration Project Push

We are now really starting to push forward with our **Restoration Project**, as the work required on the tower is becoming critical and cannot be delayed. To help raise the £50,000 needed, I've begun sharing our appeal with the wider Countesthorpe community to build awareness of the situation and encourage local support. It would make a huge difference if you could also share our **JustGiving page** with friends, family, neighbours, and on social media. The more people who see it, the closer we get to saving our historic church tower. Here's the link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/standrewschurch>

LOOSE CHANGE APPEAL

Here we are at the end of another month and a big thank you to all who have placed their loose change in the Jar.

During November £39.00 was donated in the Loose Change Jar
& the total raised to date is £1600.60

Please continue to place your loose change in the jar so we can maintain the buildings as best we can. If you haven't seen the Loose Change Jar it is on the table by the glass doors.

Funeral of Patricia Linnett

We will be holding the funeral service for **Patricia Linnett** on **Thursday, 19th December**, at **St Andrew's Church**, beginning at **9:30am**.

Patricia was a valued member of our wider community, and we invite all who knew her to join us as we come together to give thanks for her life and to support her family in their loss.

Please keep Patricia's loved ones in your thoughts and prayers over the coming days.

Christmas choir and music

Would anyone like to join a small bunch of singers and musicians for the carol service at St Andrew's on Sunday 14th December? If so, please let Helen Stokes (07711612648) or Cam know. There will be a couple of short rehearsals on Thursday 4th and Monday 8th at 8.00 in the church.

Helen x

On a side note, if there is anyone who would be able to help with the readings at the above service, please see Cam- Thank you 😊

Carols & Cake



EasyFundraising for our church

Sign up to support St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe on the #easyfundraising app today or on the website and you can raise free donations for them when you shop online with all your favourite retailers,

That's right, you can raise money every time you buy Christmas presents, Black Friday bargains or anything else you buy online at no extra cost.

Plus, for a limited time only, they will get a bonus £2 donation when you sign up via the app:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app>



<p>Rev. Richard Reakes Rector Tel. 0116 2780907 Email: richard.vicarage@gmail.com Day off: Monday</p>	<p>Rev. Mick Gillespie Asst. Minister (PTO) Tel. 2781130</p> <p>Rev. Cam Wiltshire-Plant (Curate) Tel. 07397197427 Email: cwpfoursaints@gmail.com Day off: Saturday</p>
<p>June Ainge Reader Minister Tel. 07803 000285</p>	<p>Helen Stokes Associate Minister Tel. 2778643</p>
<p>Lindsey Jelves Reader Minister</p>	<p>Mike Oates Associate Minister Tel: 2478078</p>
<p>Gail Mackley Associate Minister Tel: 2778982</p>	<p>Jacqui McAughey Associate Minister Tel 07985 322 362</p>
<p>Joan Burn Enrolling Member for the Mothers' Union Tel. 2775369</p>	<p>Eva Morris PCC Secretary Tel. 2774622</p>
<p>Alison Dale Treasurer Tel 2772829</p> <p>Benefice Administrator Emma Adams Tel. 0116 2778643 Email.standrewsoffice@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>Church Wardens @ St Andrew's Church</p> <p>Anne Jelves Tel. 07970681199</p> <p>Church Warden Steve Bailey Tel. 07970738760</p>
<p>Deputy Church Warden @ St Andrew's Church</p> <p>Sally Bailey Tel. 07969103993</p> <p>Honorary Church Warden Josh Stokes</p>	<p>Premises Officer @ St Andrew's Church & Kitchen Manager</p> <p>Tony Cuthbert Tel: 07713441254</p>
<p>Foston Church Contacts and also Church Wardens:</p> <p>Ros Dudley (2771856) Ron Brookes (2789876)</p>	<p>Church Wardens @Peatling Magna</p> <p>Warren Langley (07770 604213)</p> <p>Church Warden at Willoughby Waterleys</p> <p>Vacant</p>

Safeguarding Contact: For any Safeguarding issues please contact Rev. Richard Reakes: 0116 2780907