

“CHRISTMAS STARTS HERE!” - with the Cringleford Singers’ concert on Thursday evening, 7.30 pm in church. This will be the last concert for the choir which will be closing at the end of December after 52 years! Just a handful of tickets left £12 (including a Christmas gift to take home!) from Audrey Welch or Margaret Smith.

ST ANDREW’S CHRISTMAS CARD - very many thanks to everyone who has helped to deliver to homes in the parish. If you haven’t received one, or live outside the area, please take one from the pile at the back of church - and take more if you can invite friends and neighbours to join us this Christmas.

DOES ANYONE NEED A CHRISTMAS TREE STAND? - because there’s a sturdy one going free! Contact Chris Smith (details below)

TERM CARD - for January to April 2025 has been printed, and you will find copies at the back of church. Please take one, save it, note dates and events, keep it to hand, and take extra copies to invite friends along.

“ENCOUNTER” AND “DAILY BREAD” BIBLE NOTES - have arrived! If you ordered copies from Margaret, do collect them from her during coffee time today - and if possible pay for them! The cost is £5.90 - a bargain for understanding God’s Word each day! A few spare copies have been ordered if you would also like to try them for yourself. Have a word with Margaret today.

321 COURSE - inviting you to see life the way Jesus does. Just 4 sessions considering God’s Three-ness, the world’s two-ness and your one-ness. Stories, commentary and conversations in a friendly environment. Wednesday evenings, starting 8th January at 7.30 pm at the Vicarage, 28 Bluebell Road. Interested? Contact James (james@standrewseaton.org.uk).

Please send notices for this sheet direct to Margaret Smith, tel. 01603 453010, or email; margarethsmith@btinternet.com by 12 noon on Tuesdays.

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar- Revd Dr James Cook (01603 454940)
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The Office is open to visitors from 10 am to 12 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. At other times please email or leave answerphone messages.
Office Administrator: Ruth Thorp office@eatonchurches.org.uk
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Website: www.standrewseaton.org.uk Charity Number: 1130712

News Sheet for 15th December 2024

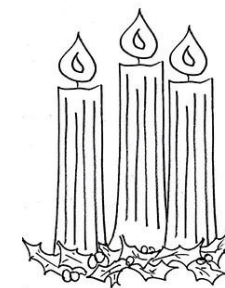
3rd Sunday in Advent



‘a church for all - a place for you’

Welcome, everyone!

And a special welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today. During this season of Advent, may we know God’s presence with us as we prepare for the Christmas season, and as we worship in church or via the livestream in our homes this morning.



Here are the details of today’s services:

10.00am Morning Worship led by James; Diana Timms is preaching.
Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20 (church Bibles, p.891 OT)
Luke 3:7-18 (church Bibles p.57 NT)

After the service refreshments are served in the hall - do come and join with other church members and meet new friends!

6.30 pm.....“SILENT NIGHT” CAROL SERVICE with a special act of remembrance for those who have died in the past year. Refreshments afterwards in the Hall. Everyone is welcome - invitation cards are available at the back of the church.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH --NORWICH YOUTH FOR CHRIST- is all about seeing young people’s lives in Norwich and the surrounding areas, changed by Jesus, by showing and speaking about him in a way which is relevant. To this end, there is a team of youth workers who are reaching out to young people in schools, youth clubs, events, camps and through one-to-one contacts. We also run Boost, an alternative curriculum scheme whereby schools send us pupils who find mainstream education difficult and are liable to drop out of school.

We have had to revise our budget figures for 2025 as the Government has increased the National Living Wage scales, and also as cuts in the education budgets in schools mean we will have to fund more of our projects in schools ourselves. Please see the display in church and put your donations in the blue envelopes and post in the wall safe or put in the collection bowl. Thank you.
Margaret Smith

PRAYER THIS WEEK

“The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness”. (Exodus 34:6)

SUNDAY Pray for those in need of God’s healing, especially for J W, J B, D and J R (both unwell at home) R G (at home), and also N R and K M. Pray for the bereaved including the family and friends of D B and M D.

MONDAY Now that Syria has been drawn into the turmoil of the Middle East, let us pray for God to intervene and prevent further bloodshed and violence, asking that the UN, leaders of all the nations involved, and the peace-keeping forces will show restraint and compassion on civilians caught up in conflicts.

TUESDAY Today is the last time for Toddlers who have their Christmas service in church at the end of their playtime. Pray that, young though they are, they will understand something of the love of God as they celebrate the birth of his Son, and that families will be welcomed into church this morning.

WEDNESDAY CMS is working with the Anglican Church in Ituri Province in Congo, a region rocked by tribal fighting. They ask for prayer for people trapped in trauma after war, for provision for those in desperate need of food, water and shelter, and for many women and girls arriving at a Peace Centre who have suffered sexual violence and therefore have been rejected by their families.

THURSDAY Today we pray for people living in Birkdale, Blakeney Close and Bluebell Crescent, praying especially for new residents as they make friends.
Pray for local businesses in Eaton facing an uncertain future with the prospect of extra taxes and expenses during the winter months.

FRIDAY The tragic case of the murder of Sara Sharif highlights the need for vigilance for children who are at risk of harm through physical and mental abuse. Pray for local authorities, the police, school staff and social workers to work together to prevent further tragic loss of life, and pray for children currently suffering abuse, especially as the Christmas holiday season approaches.

SATURDAY The Christingle Workshop brings many young families into the church. Pray for everyone to enjoy the activities, for newcomers to feel at home, for those leading the session and for the message of the Christingle orange to be clearly given. Pray too for the Candlelight Carol Service tomorrow, especially that it will attract many local people to come and worship.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS INCLUDING:
Those coping with long-term health problems, and those who care for them

WHAT’S ON this week and NOTICES

Mon. 16th

4.00 pm Carol singing for an hour, inside Waitrose! All welcome!

Tues. 17th

10.00 am Toddlers meet in the hall

11.15 am Toddlers’ Christmas Service in church

Thurs. 19th

10.00 am Midweek Holy Communion (BCP) led by James (Collection for Mothers’ Union Overseas)

10.30 am Community Café in the Hall - everyone warmly invited! This is the last one before Christmas - re-opening on Thursday, 9th - January.

7.30 pm “Christmas Starts Here” with the Cringleford Singers (see note)

Fri. 20th

7.00 pm St Andrew’s Singers rehearse

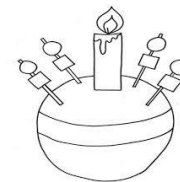
Sat. 21st

2.00 pm Christingle Workshop for children aged 5-11.

Sun. 22nd

10.00 am Holy Communion led by James. Rev. Mike Marshall is preaching

7.00 pm CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE led by James



CHRISTINGLE WORKSHOP - for children aged 5-11, next Saturday 21 December, 1.45 - 4 pm in the Hall. A free event with games, crafts, Bible drama, refreshments and fun!! To book a place email: eatonchildren@gmail.com.

CHURCH OFFICE AT CHRISTMAS - will be open on Monday 23rd, then closed from Christmas Eve onwards, re-opening on Monday 6th January.

BOOK GROUP - will meet on Thursday 9th January at 8 Peshurst Mews to look at books that we have enjoyed during the past year. For more information please contact Ann Copey (249257).

FOR THE NEW YEAR - AN ART CAFÉ - monthly, on Saturday afternoons in the Hall from 3 - 5 pm. Pick up an invitation card from the back of church today.