

FOODBANK COLLECTION - will be next Sunday, 29 December. Most wanted items are long-life juice, soup (tinned/cuppa), tinned meat, shower gel and deodorant. They are currently well stocked with baked beans, cereal, pasta and sanitary items. Please bring your donations and put them in the boxes provided in the Welcome Area. Many thanks for your help.

LAST CHANCE TO GIVE TO 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.

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 (Chair of Trustees)

MANY THANKS - to those who came to Waitrose and sang carols last Monday afternoon. We must have made a good sound because Waitrose staff said customers had commented very positively. Although it was not intended to "earn" money, the donations given amounted to just over £41 which has been added to the Cringleford Singers' charity collection for Toybox, providing birth certificates for impoverished families in Guatemala who cannot afford to register their babies (and who are therefore unable to access education, health facilities or employment).

Margaret Smith

A NEW VENTURE - ART CAFÉ will be held monthly on Saturday afternoons in the Hall, so if you are of an artistic bent, or would like to learn how to watercolour or try your hand at origami, pick up an invitation card from the back of church today. Alternatively, go to www.standrewseaton.org.uk/artcafe for more information.

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

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News Sheet (2 weeks) for Christmas 2024



Welcome, everyone!

We wish you all a peaceful and blessed Christmas!

Here are the details of our services over the Christmas period:

Sunday 22 December 4th Sunday of Advent

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

Readings: Micah 5:2-5a (church Bibles p.880 OT)
Luke 1:39-45 (church Bibles p.54 NT)

7.00 pm **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE**, in church, followed refreshments in the hall. We hope you will stay!

Tuesday 24 December CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30 pm **CRIB SERVICE** in church - families especially welcomed

11.00 pm **MIDNIGHT HOLY COMMUNION** led by James

Wednesday 25 December CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) led by James

10.00 am **ALL-AGE WORSHIP** followed by a short service of Holy Communion

Sunday 29 December

10.00 am Morning Worship led by Rev. Ian Johnson, who is also our preacher.

Readings: Colossians 3:12-17 (church Bibles p.199 NT)
Luke 2:41-52 (church Bibles p.57 NT)

Refreshments will be served in the hall after the service.

N.B. Foodbank Collection today - see note on back page!

Thurs. 2 January 2025

10.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) led by James

Sun. 5 January

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) led by James

10.00 am Morning Worship led by James, Jonathan Mason is preaching

6.30 pm Café Church - New Year Celebration led by James (see note)



PRAYER THIS FORTNIGHT

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us ... and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)

SUNDAY 22nd

Pray for those unwell in hospital and at home, and for those who care for them.

MONDAY 23rd

Pray for clients of Leeway, YMCA My Place, St Martin's Trust and Archway and the staff preparing to help them celebrate Christmas.

TUESDAY 24th CHRISTMAS EVE *‘For unto us a child is born’*

Pray for those leading and those attending the services today.

WEDNESDAY 25th CHRISTMAS DAY *‘unto us a Son is given’*

Spend a moment today imagining the scene in Bethlehem and give thanks to God for his great gift of the Christ child.

THURSDAY 26th *‘and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor’*

Pray for those who have been at work over Christmas Day to find time for rest.

FRIDAY 27th *‘mighty God’*

Pray for the ongoing situation in Gaza, Ukraine and Syria, and for humanitarian aid to reach those most in need of help.

SATURDAY 28th *‘everlasting Father’*

Pray for those who face loneliness at this time, even in our own community.

SUNDAY 29th *‘Prince of peace’*

Pray for God's peace to rest on the abused, the lonely and the frightened.

MONDAY 30th *‘Emmanuel - God with us’*

Let us pray for those in prison, especially those who face long sentences; for their families and support workers; for prison staff and governors

TUESDAY 31st *‘You shall call his name Jesus’*

The last day of the year - look back and give thanks to God for his goodness and faithfulness to us as a church fellowship.

WEDNESDAY 1st January 2025 *‘to you is born a Saviour’*

Let us pray for those who act as carers for family members, that God will strengthen them and encourage them.

THURSDAY 2nd *‘who is Christ the Lord’*

Pray for all those who are unwell or grieving the loss of loved ones.

FRIDAY 3rd *‘Glory to God in the highest’*

Pray for all those working in the NHS at this time of high patient numbers.

WHAT'S ON and NOTICES

START THE NEW YEAR - by coming to the special New Year Celebration at Café Church on Sunday 5 January! The evening will take the form of a meal (jacket spuds with toppings and desserts) during which there will be discussion times, chat and James will lead our thinking as we begin 2025. Come and celebrate! Vegetarians will be catered for but please let Margaret Smith know if you have dietary needs - we want to cater for everyone! The service will begin at 6.30 pm.

BOOK GROUP - will meet on Thursday 9 January at 8 Penshurst Mews to look at books that we have enjoyed during the past year. For more information please contact Ann Copsey (249247)

BOOK THE DATE! - Saturday 8 February in the Hall from 6.30 till 9 pm, a special come-and-share dinner is planned to celebrate the Chinese New Year! An excellent opportunity to invite friends along who do not normally attend church. All ages are welcome. Pick up a “Chinese New Year Dinner” leaflet from the back of church and book your place.

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- and if possible pay for them! The cost is £5.75 - 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).

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.

SATURDAY 4th ... “and on earth peace ...”

Remember our Mission Links, Dick and Caroline Seed, working from Cape Town, as they continue their training programmes for theological students.