St Andrew's, Reading Street

One family, with Christ at the centre, welcoming all!

29th November 2026

Advent Sunday

&

St Andrew

Verse of the Week:

"The Lord bless you and keep you." — Numbers 6:24

Welcome

We welcome Rev Peter Russell, who is standing in for Philip at our 8.00 am and 10.00 am Advent services this morning; and this evening at 6.30 pm, we welcome Rev Jeffrey Foulger who will deliver the address, and also our friends from St Peter's Church, who will be joining us for the St Andrew's Patronal service tonight, followed by the lighting up of the Memorial Christmas tree after the service, followed by refreshments in the hall.

Christmas Fayre

Many thanks to all those involved in organising yesterday's Christmas Fayre, and to all those who helped, donated and supported this important event. The result will be published in next week's newsletter.

Prayer Zoom

Our next Prayer Zoom meeting will take place on Thursday 3rd December from 7.00 to 7.30 pm. For those wishing to take part, the Zoom details are: the ID is 817 2320 0704 and the Password 961835. The link is: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81723200734

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS AND NAMES OF LOVED ONES

If you would like the names of loved ones hung on the inside Christmas tree, please sign the list at the back of the Church. A small donation to MISSION ACTION would be appreciated. Thank you.

Processional CP 32 "O come, O come Emmanuel…"

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.

Readings

Isaiah 64: 1-9 p. 752 read by Janet Graham.
1 Corinthians 1: 3- 9 p. 1144

Gradual CP 449 "*God mercy, God of grace…"*

Gospel Mark 13: 24-end p. 1019

Intercessions led by John Vince.

Offertory CP 26 *"Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding…"*

Anthem The Lord's Prayer *Robert Stone.*

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Recessional CP 36 *"The advent of our King …"*

Please remember in your prayers

Kate Barrett, Shirley Frye, Denyse Haywood, Pauline Jackson, Thomas Kemp, Mary Stockwell, Penny Turp.

From the Book of Remembrance

Bill McParland, Florence Miles, Elsie Shepherd.

This Week: Monday 30th November to Sunday 6th December.

Tuesday	10.30 am	Philip's Bible Study.
	7.30 pm	Michael's Bible Study via Zoom.
Wednesday	9.30 am	Toddlers group.
	1.45 pm	Women's Group.
Thursday	10.00 am	Write Away – Creative writing group, all welcome

Dates for your Diary:

Fri	4th Dec	Mission Action Christmas lunch – "Racing Greyhound".
Wed	9th Dec	Advent Celebration event in church – 2.30 pm.
Mon	14th Dec	Holly Wreath workshop with Pam.

Nine Lessons and Carols

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be held at St Andrew's Church on Wednesday 23rd December at 6.00 pm, and all are invited to attend and participate in this mixture of traditional carols, seasonal readings, and choir carols.

Christingle service – 24th December at 3.00 pm

This year's Christingle service will not be ticketed, and everyone is very welcome to attend. However, please be aware that, due to fire safety regulations, our maximum capacity is strictly limited to 250 people. Entry will be on a "first come, first served" basis, and unfortunately, once we have reached capacity, we will be unable to admit anyone else.
Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to welcoming you!

Intercessions

Currently there are six members in this team, and we would welcome some more volunteers to help spread the load. If this is something you could help with, or you would like more information, please contact Michael or Richard.

Thanet Food Link

A reverse Advent calendar has been created by TFL for anyone who wishes to create a hamper or box or just to commit to an item a day from December 1st to Christmas Eve. If anyone would like ideas of what to buy, it's Day 1, jam or spread; Day 2, tinned veg. etc. *Jenny Matterface*

CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT MAURICE HOUSE

Members of our congregation (maximum 12) are invited to attend a Christmas Service at The Lodge, Maurice House on Sunday 13th December 4.00-5.00pm. Please sign the list at the back of the Church if you would like to attend, to ensure Maurice House are aware of numbers. Thank you.

Christmas Coffee Morning - Friday 11th December

We will be celebrating Christmas early at our regular Coffee Morning from 11.00 am onwards on Friday 11th December.
Please come along and join us, bring a friend or neighbour for a light buffet lunch and Christmas Cheer.

Could you please let Pauline know (07903 817165) if you will be there, so we cater accordingly. Thank you.

Coffee Rota 2027

I am currently in the process of scheduling next year's rota for the Sunday coffee mornings. I would welcome a couple of more teams to help spread the load with those whose names are already on the list. If you feel you could be part of a team, would you please let me know a.s.a.p. so that I can issue next year's rota. *Richard.*

Prayer Diary

The December Prayer Diary is now available from the back of the church.

Contacts

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