

## WEEKLY REFLECTION

### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Have you made any New Year resolutions for 2026? maybe yes, maybe no! But I believe New Year's resolutions are worth making. Let me tell you why.

We all need changes in our lives. At the beginning of the New Year, when we change 'calendars', that is a good time to look at the previous year and assess, how did last year go? What do I want to do differently this year? This time of year reminds me of a passage of scripture, better interpreted by a farmer:

***"Break up your unploughed ground, and do not sow among thorns"* (Jeremiah 4:3).**

Let me ask you a question; what percentage of your life is producing something of value to God? How much "unploughed ground" do you have that ought to be broken up in this coming year and made useful?

New Year is an excellent time for course correction. Sure, we might fail in what we set out to do, but if we fail to plan, we plan to fail. Failure should never be seen as failure, for those willing to learn from it, failure is a friend.

The Apostle Paul talked about failure! Throughout his life he was opposed, persecuted, shipwrecked, stoned and left for dead, deserted by trusted co-workers, slandered, and scorned. Sometimes it seemed that projects to which he had devoted years were turning to dust before his eyes. But we can see from his letters his unwillingness to quit. ***"Forgetting what is behind" he wrote, "and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus"*** (Phil 3:13-14, NIV) No wonder he made a mark on his world. He stopped looking back and looked forward instead. He didn't let the fear of failure keep him from trying again.

Apostle Paul went further, saying, ***"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength,"*** (Phil 4:13). And God's strength saw him through a lot - through pain, through joy, and through accomplishment.

If in the last year, you didn't practice relying on the Lord as much as you should have, there is no time like the present to make a New Year's resolution. In fact, why don't you say a short prayer right now--use these words if you like: ***"Dear God, I want the new year to be different for me, I know that I'm going to need a lot of help for this. So right now I place myself in your hands. Help me to receive Your strength. Amen."***

Now you've got a much better chance of a Happy New Year.

**Rev. Patrick Samuels**

11TH JANUARY 2026

(1 ST SUNDAY OF  
EPIPHANY/BAPTISM OF CHRIST)

## WEEKLY NOTICES

### Key Contacts @ CHW Churches

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**Wardens at St Andrew's Wraysbury**

**Tony Hermes**

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**Tony Kimber**

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**Notices**

To Diane Miller, by Tuesday for the next publication M: 07919895899

email: Notices@CHWChurches.org

**Annexe at St. Andrew's:**

M: 07399 673374

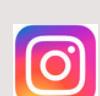
email: bookingannex@CHWChurches.org

**Prayer Requests :**

prayer.requests@CHWChurches.org



CHW CHURCHES



CHW.CHURCHES

## DURING THE WEEK @ CHWCHURCHES

**W/C SUNDAY 11th JANUARY 2026**

### **Saturday 10th January**

**10.00 Church & Annexe Cleaning at St. Andrew's**

**10.00 Flower Arrangers at St. Andrew's**

### **Monday 12th January**

**09.10 Morning Prayer at St. Michael's**

**10.00 Horton Community Coffee Morning at Champney Hall**

**19.30 CHW Churches Team Meeting at The Vicarage (Team only)**

### **Tuesday 13th January**

**09.10 Morning Prayer at St. Thomas'**

**11.00 Midweek Communion at St. Michael's**

**14.00 St. Andrew's Cafe in St. Andrew's Annexe**

### **Wednesday 14th January**

**09.10 Morning Prayer at St. Andrew's**

**10.00 Little Lambs Mums & Toddlers at St. Andrew's Annexe**

**17.00 Connect Youth Group at St. Thomas'**

**19.30 Bell Ringing Practice at St. Andrew's**

### **Thursday 15th January**

**19.30 Contemporary Service Review Meeting at The Vicarage**

## **PRAYER CYCLE @ CHWCHURCHES**

**(TERM TIME ONLY) FOR APPROX. 20 MINS.BASED ON THE PATTERN BELOW**

**MONDAYS ST. MICHAEL'S HORTON 9:10 A.M.**

**TUESDAYS ST. THOMAS' COLNBROOK 9:10 A.M.**

**WEDNESDAYS ST. ANDREW'S WRAYSBURY 9:10 A.M**

### **MONTHLY COMBINED PRAYER**

**First Tuesday of every month**

**3rd February 2026 7:30 p.m. St. Thomas'**

**3rd March 2026 7.30 p.m. St. Michael's**

**7th April 2026 7:30 p.m. St. Andrew's**

***Rotating to Wraysbury, Colnbrook, Horton venues***

**11th January 2026 (1st Sunday of Epiphany/Baptism of Christ)**

Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 29; Matthew 3:13-end

**ST. MICHAEL'S HORTON - 9.30 a.m. All Age Family Service**

**ST. ANDREW'S WRASBURY - 11.00 a.m. Parish Communion**

**ST. THOMAS' COLNBROOK - 11.00 a.m. Parish Communion**



**18th January 2026 (2nd Sunday of Epiphany)**

Readings: Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Psalm 40:1-12; John 1:29-42

**ST. MICHAEL'S HORTON - 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion**

**ST. ANDREW'S WRASBURY - 11.00 a.m. Parish Communion**

**ST. THOMAS' COLNBROOK - 11.00 a.m. All Age Family Service**

**LITTLE LAMBS MUMS & TODDLERS GROUP (TERM TIME ONLY)**



If you're looking for a stay and play, drop in baby and toddler groups in Wraysbury then look no further. Little Lambs Toddler Group is based at St Andrews Church in Wraysbury, where you can drop in without prebooking a place.

There is a small fee of £2.00 per family to cover the cost of drinks and snacks, and it's a great way to get out and entertain your children and meet other parents, carers, grandparents and childminders too.

For more details email: [LittleLambs@CHWChurches.org](mailto:LittleLambs@CHWChurches.org)

**SAFEGUARDING**

ST. ANDREW'S, ST. MICHAEL'S AND ST. THOMAS' CHURCHES ARE COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF ALL CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS WHO FALL WITHIN OUR CARE. A COPY OF OUR SAFEGUARDING POLICY MAY BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBPAGE. IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNs AT ALL ABOUT THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN OR VULNERABLE ADULTS YOU CAN CONTACT OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER HEATHER HERMES EMAIL: [SAFEGUARDING@CHWChurches.org](mailto:SAFEGUARDING@CHWChurches.org), 01784 391417, OR YOU CAN CONTACT THE DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING TEAM: EMAIL: [SAFEGUARDINGREFERRALS@OXFORD.ANGLICAN.ORG](mailto:SAFEGUARDINGREFERRALS@OXFORD.ANGLICAN.ORG) 01865 208295, OR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY SOCIAL SERVICES TEAM ON 01628 683150.

# FOR YOUR PRAYERS

## For Your Prayers

Paul Friar, Lorna Pullen, Annie, Mark Blackman, Greg Scott, Judy Osborne, Olga Cheeseman, Anne Munday, Bea Tucker, Sue Wynne-Davies, Roy Talbot, Kelly Hughes, Sue Waller, Margaret Lenton, Pauline Blackman, George Blackman, Alison, Helen, Jilly and her family, Curtis, Louise Swanston, Carole, Lesley West.

## Our Mission Partners

- St. John's Mission Gwelutshena, Zimbabwe.
- Open Doors, the international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide.
- Operation Restoration working with street children in Bolivia.
- Canaan Ministries and Bookshop in Staines.

## 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY SERVICES

Please see below the upcoming COMBINED services of 2026 for your diaries:

**25<sup>th</sup> January St. Andrew's 11.00am (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)**

**22nd February St. Michael's 11.00am (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)**

**PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU REQUIRE TRANSPORT FOR THE COMBINED SERVICES, PLEASE EMAIL SUE ON [office@CHWChurches.org](mailto:office@CHWChurches.org) OR PHONE 07543 539569**

## CHURCH NEWS

MONTHLY ON THE LAST SATURDAY

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Gather for a morning filled with encouragement, connection, and a nourishing meal. Begin your day with company and a chat.

STARTS  
**SATURDAY JANUARY 31ST**  
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

07543 539569  
[office@chwchurches.org](mailto:office@chwchurches.org)

## STEPHEN GAMBLE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

David Gamble would like to let you know that Stephen's service will be held at

**12 noon on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

**St. Andrew's Church, Wraysbury  
All welcome**