



St Andrews Church
Taunton

Reaching lives for change and hope

Registered Charity no: 1196804

Triple Issue **21st December 2025**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10.00am Parish Eucharist

6.00pm Community Carol Service

Welcome to St Andrew's; we hope you enjoy the service.

Pre-school children are welcome to use the Children's Area in the South Aisle during the service but must be looked after by their parents or carers.

School age children will have their own activities led by today's helpers.

Tea and coffee will be available from the servery after the service. If you need help with anything, do ask one of the welcomers.

Collect (Prayer):

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Bible Readings:

Isaiah 7.10-16, Romans 1.1-7, Matthew 1.18-end

Prayer After Communion:

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Zoom Morning Prayer - Tuesdays at 9am

The joining details are below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85499166351?pwd=6X3IOW57eX84bvG1t2E2ejfLQNvtjF.1>

Meeting ID: 854 9916 6351 Passcode: 360825

Please note there will be no Morning Prayer on 30 December.

Thank you from the Fundraising Team to all who helped at the Christmas Market AND everyone who attended. You all helped in many ways to raise the highest total that we have ever raised. The £1920.00 amount has now turned into a total of £2000.00 thanks to an anonymous donor making up the difference.

WaterAid Christmas Appeal

This Christmas, we invite you to support our WaterAid appeal and help bring clean, safe water to communities in need. Even a small gift can make a life-changing difference. Together, let's share Christ's love in a practical and powerful way. There will be a collection plate at the back of church during Advent. Thank you.

Children's Society Blue Box Appeal

Just a reminder that it is almost time for the annual Children's Society Blue Boxes to be collected..... I usually collect them during January. You can bring them to church or contact me to arrange collection. If anyone would like to make a donation I am happy to accept at any time, with or without a Blue box. I have spare boxes if anyone would like one.... just ask me. All donations are most gratefully received by the Children's Society who do such good work with young people in times of need and crisis. Thank you, Joyce

Late Christmas Lunch – Sunday 25 January

Names and money are being taken for the Late Christmas Lunch on 25 January. The cost is £15 (same price as last year). There will be a full Christmas Meal followed by, Trifle, Mince Pies & Coffee.



December Light up the Spire



In loving memory of Alan Geoffrey Aish

Our thanks to God for the gift of an amazing and adored daughter Sarah (Bayon).

We remember at this time of year all the wonderful memories and happy times.

We also celebrate the lives of Valerie and Cyril Huish, devoted and loving parents.

May you be resting in glorious peace together

| Church Diary <i>The Parish Office will be closed from 19 December 2025 reopening on 6 January 2026</i> | | |
|---|-------------|---|
| Tuesday | December 23 | 9.00am Zoom Morning Prayer |
| Wednesday CHRISTMAS EVE | December 24 | 10.00am Parish Eucharist, <i>followed by coffee</i> 4.00pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Mass |
| Thursday CHRISTMAS DAY | December 25 | 10.00am Family Eucharist |
| Sunday | December 28 | 10.00am Parish Eucharist |
| Please note: No mid-week Eucharist on 31 December | | |
| Tuesday | January 6 | 9.30am Zoom Morning Prayer |
| Wednesday | January 7 | 10.00am Parish Eucharist, <i>followed by coffee</i> |
| Thursday | January 8 | 1.30pm Tea and Talk, <i>Church</i> |

*Robin and family will be off duty from 26 December until 6 January.
If anyone needs to see a priest in an emergency, please leave a
message on the Vicarage voicemail.*

For Your Prayers...

Those who are unwell: Joanna, Neil, Paul, Julia, Catherine, Gilly, Les, Sheila, Dave, Frida

Those who have died recently: John Rumble

Years Mind: **22/12** Sam Bower
24/12 Barbara Campbell
25/12 Sheila Gay
28/12 James Mann
31/12 Steve Smith

- For a just and lasting peace in Ukraine
- For the ceasefire agreement to hold between Gaza and Israel



*Wishing you a Happy Christmas
and a peaceful New Year*

28th December 2025

Holy Innocents

10.00am Parish Eucharist

Collect (Prayer):

Heavenly Father,
whose children suffered at the hands of Herod,
though they had done no wrong:
by the suffering of your Son
and by the innocence of our lives
frustrate all evil designs
and establish your reign of justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Bible Readings:

Jeremiah 31.15-17, 1 Corinthians 1.26-29, Matthew 2.13-18

Prayer After Communion:

Lord Jesus Christ,
in your humility you have stooped to share our human life
with the most defenceless of your children:
may we who have received these gifts of your passion
rejoice in celebrating the witness of the Holy Innocents
to the purity of your sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross;
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever.

4th January 2026

Epiphany

10.00am Parish Eucharist

Readings: Isaiah 60.1-6
Ephesians 3.1-12
Matthew 2.1-12

Parish Directory

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Vicar: | Revd Preb. Robin Lodge | 01823 352471 |
| <u>Day Off Monday</u> | Email: robin.lodge1@btinternet.com | |
| Warden: | David Budd | 07485 091694 |
| Readers: | Ruth Cook | 01823 973787 |
| | Jeremy Harvey | 01823 276421 |
| Safeguarding Person: | Stephen Grimshaw | 07543 697664 |
| | Email: Stephen.grimshaw@outlook.com | |
| Parish Office: | Lesley Gold | 01823 332531 |
| | <i>Office Hours: Tues-Fri 8.30-11.30am</i> | |
| | Email: standrewstaunton@gmail.com | |
| Church Hall: | Cherry Hingston | 07578 395159 |
| | Email: hallstandrews45@gmail.com | |
| Website: | www.standrewstaunton.org.uk | |

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<https://www.instagram.com/standrewschurchtaunton>



You can make a donation to St Andrew's online through Give a Little. To do this, please click on the QR code.