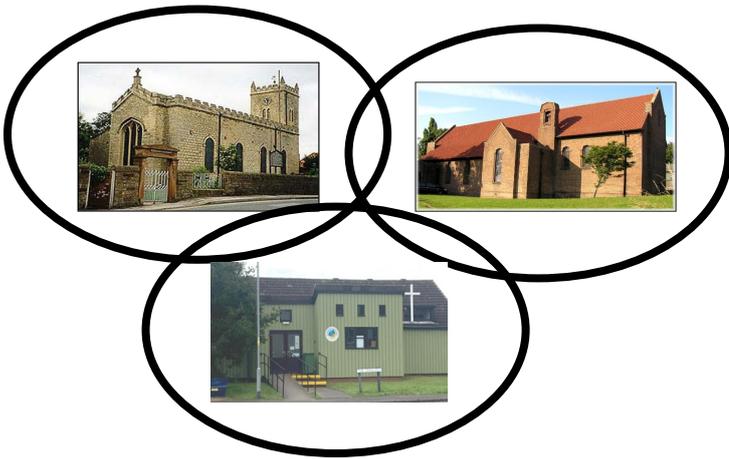


# THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BLIDWORTH AND RAINWORTH



**St Mary of the Purification Blidworth**

**St Simon and St Jude's Rainworth**

**St Andrew's Blidworth**



## *PARISH LINK*

*FEBRUARY*

**The Annual Rockings Ceremony will be held on Sunday 1st February at 4pm in St Mary of the Purification Church in Blidworth.**

This service commemorates the 'Presentation on Christ in the Temple'. (Luke Ch 2: 22-40).



**Healing and Wholeness Service**

*With anointing with the oil of healing*

**Sunday**

**22nd February**

**St Simon & St Jude's Rainworth**

**4pm**



### **New service pattern from January 2026**

Most noticeably, there will be a 9.00am Reflective Service, sometimes using the **Book of Common Prayer**, in St Mary's on the 4th Sunday of the month.

## Prayer Suggestions for this Month

- Our Rockings Baby, Josef Anthony Elliot-Vogel his parents and God-parents and his wider family
- Those who will host and take part in 'the Wilderness Course; beginning this week;
- As Lent begins, we will be quiet, reflective and prayerful letting the Holy Spirit into our lives;
- The hurting world and all those who are suffering because of war, conflict and oppression;
- The leaders of the nations, that they will serve their people with sincerity and truth, and bring peace to the world;
- Those who are ill in mind, body or spirit, that they might find peace and healing.
- We remember those who have died, either recently, or whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they find consolation and peace in the love of God.

### Explore the Wilderness Experience God in unexpected places.

A new course from the Bible Society Starts week beginning 2nd February Mondays at 7pm at the Vicarage, or on Zoom

Tuesdays at 2.00pm at Robin and Debbie Skilton's home

Thursdays at 3pm at Maureen Garner's home



**Lent begins on  
Ash Wednesday,  
18th February**

Holy Communion with Ashing  
at St Simon and St Jude's  
7.00pm

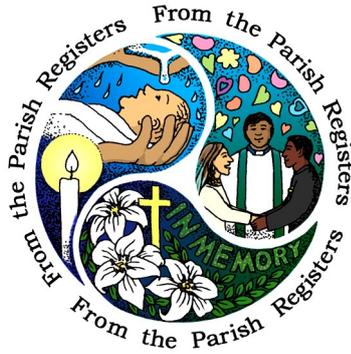
### **WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN EVERY STREET WITHIN THE PARISH BOUNDARIES ON A ROTA BASIS.**

**1st February:** The Crescent in Blidworth and The Close, The Fields, The Furrows, The Grasslands, The Hayfields and The Hedgerows in Rainworth

**8th February:** Heath's Yard, Hillside Road, Hillside Walk and Hilton Park in Blidworth and Helmsley Road, Holbeck Way, and Holmwood Road in Rainworth

**15th February:** Keane Close in Blidworth and Hurst Close, Jeacock Drive, John Barrow Close, Kestrel Rise, Kingfield Close and Kingsmeadow in Rainworth

**22nd February:** Kirby Close, Kirk's Croft and Leach Way in Blidworth and Kirklington Road, Lake Farm Road, Leeway Road and Lind Close in Rainworth



## From the Parish Registers for January 2026

**Baptisms**  
Brodie Stephen Baker

**Funerals**  
Mary Hibberd

### **Flame of a Candle**

See the candle flame a-burning  
See its flick'ring, dancing light;  
See how it, the darkness spurning  
Burns throughout the darkest  
night.

Light of faith, of God reminding  
As His Spirit, long ago  
Lit the first apostles, finding  
Faith within the Spirit's glow.

Light of life – God's life eternal  
Won through Christ's atoning  
death  
Sparing us from Hell, infernal  
Granting *us* His living breath!

Light of hope, in God victorious  
For we know that He will win  
When we'll see His flames of glori-  
ous  
Vict'ry o'er the pow'r of sin!

Light your candle, kneel and praise  
Him  
Kneel and praise the Lord of  
Hosts;  
Let your prayers and praises raise  
Him  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*By Nigel Beeton  
From Parish Pump*

### **Prayer – of thanks for Candlemas and the Presentation at the Temple**

Dear Lord,

The shortest month, the snowdrop month! February brings those beautiful, hopeful little flowers, also called Candlemas Bells. Thank You, Lord, for the beauty and the hope.

Thank You for the reminder of when Jesus was presented at the Temple as a baby. Thank You, for Simeon recognising in that vulnerable baby the promised Saviour of all the world.

Oh Lord, how this world needs to hear afresh that message of salvation.

Open eyes to see You and to know You. Open ears to hear Your message of hope and reconciliation. Open hearts to receive Your love and to share it, for the sake of all the suffering people of the world.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

**TALK & TEA**  
St Andrew's  
Mission Hall,  
The Crescent,  
Blidworth



Come and join us for a chat and a cuppa.

Donations of about £3 towards refreshments and the use of the Hall welcomed.

For more information contact:  
Rev Zoe Burton 01623 793758  
Marilyn Brown 01623 794977 or  
Maureen Garner 01623 793232



**Sunday Lunches**  
at St Andrew's  
Holy Communion Service  
and lunch

on the 3rd Sunday of every month.  
The next is Sunday  
15th December  
Do not forget to book your lunch with  
Vivienne on 07435561506.



**Every Tuesday**  
**2.00pm St Andrew's.**  
**Bingo with Stephen**

**ALL WELCOME CASH PRIZES**

**Coffee Shop and Drop-In**  
at St Simon and St Jude's Church  
Come and meet up with old  
friends and make new ones

Every Saturday and on 2nd and  
4th Fridays of each month from  
10.00am to 12noon  
except 3rd Saturday  
open until 1pm for  
soup lunch.



1st Saturday offers  
bacon and sausage cobs.

### WINNING NUMBERS

**200 CLUB DECEMBER 2025**  
1st-496, 2nd-327, 3rd-223, 4th-74

**50/50 CLUB DECEMBER**  
1st-86, 2nd-67, 3rd-153, 4th- 207

**JANUARY**  
1st-138, 2nd-85, 3rd-214, 4th- 142

If you would like to join either of these  
Clubs, please contact:

Susan Payne 01623 798777  
or Sue Daunt 07890674665



Bored?  
Empty  
House?

Drop in to  
St Andrew's  
Mission Hall  
Thursday  
mornings  
9-11am

Fancy a  
cuppa  
and a  
chat?



**Fridays**  
**9.00-10.30am**  
in  
**term-time**  
at St Andrew's  
*Except last Friday*  
*in month*

2nd Thursday of the month at  
The Mission Hall Blidworth  
4th Thursday of the month  
at The Social Action Hub  
Rainworth  
6-7.30pm



## DONATIONS FOR CHURCH FLOWERS



Our churches always look beautiful with flowers arranged by a team of people in Rainworth, and by Stephen Fox in Blidworth. Often the flowers are bought by those who arrange them, and they are, of course very expensive these days.

We are building up a Flower Fund, in order to be able to pay for flowers, and other materials, e.g. foam blocks etc. Sometimes, people want to have flowers in church in memory of someone or for a special occasion, and donations for these are always welcome. Donations should be given to Stephen Fox, or to Sue Daunt, our treasurers, and are kept in a separate fund, so that our churches will always be decorated to the glory of God.

## Donations to our Churches.

Donations to the ongoing work of our churches are very important, and we rely on them to keep our churches solvent. We are very grateful for those who give regularly, through the collection plate, standing orders and weekly envelopes.

However, there are other ways to give to St Simon and St Jude's:

1. Search for 'St Simon and St Jude's, Rainworth'. This will open the homepage in A Church Near You, scroll down our home page until you come to '**Please give to the ongoing work of the church**' and follow the instructions.
2. By scanning the QR codes at the end of each pew...just follow the instructions.
3. By using our 'Sumup card reader...Speak with our treasurer Susan Daunt, who will be able to take your donations.



# Diary for the month of February 2026



## ST MARY'S SERVICES

**Sunday 1st February: CANDLEMAS**

**HOLY COMMUNION WITH BAPTISM OF ROCKING BABY 10.00am**  
**Rocking Ceremony 4.00pm**

**Sunday 22nd February LENT 1**  
**THE REFLECTIVE SERVICE 9.00am**



## ST ANDREW'S SERVICES

**Sunday 8th February : Messy Church 10.30am**

**Sunday 15th February HOLY COMMUNION 10.30am**  
**and Lunch 12.00pm**  
*(booking essential)*

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**TALK AND TEA:**

**Mon 16th JFebruary: 2:30pm**

**BINGO: Tuesdays 2-4pm**

**DROP IN FOR CUPPA AND CHAT: Thursdays 9-11am**

**Thursday 12th February: 6.00pm**

**WOMEN FOR WOMEN:**

**DAWN'S DINER: 9.00am**

**Drop in for a cuppa after school drop-off**

**Fridays 6th, 13th 20th**

**Youth Club: 1st Friday in Month: 5.00pm**



## ST SIMON AND ST JUDE'S SERVICES

**Sunday 1st February : CANDLEMAS MORNING WORSHIP 10.30am**  
**(blended with Zoom)**

**Sunday 8th February: HOLY COMMUNION 10.30am**  
**(blended with Zoom)**

**Sunday 15th February: Morning Worship for the Transfiguration: 10.30am**

**Ash Wednesday 18th February Holy Communion with Ashing 7.00pm**

**Sunday 22nd February: 10.30 HOLY COMMUNION**  
**(blended with Zoom)**

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**Wed 18th February: 2.00pm**

**COFFEE AFTERNOON FOR ALL, INCLUDING THOSE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA**

**COFFEE SHOP 10.00-12.00pm**

**Fridays 13th and 27th**

**Saturdays**

**7th, with breakfast baps, 14th, 21st, (with Soup lunch 10am-1pm), and 28th.**



**ZOOM: as SSS&J, plus**  
*(Codes by email on request )*

**Sunday 15th February 6.30pm**  
**TAIZÉ FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION**

**Wilderness Course: Mondays at the Vicarage 7pm, Tuesdays at Robin and Debbies, 2.00pm, Thursdays at Maureen's 3pm**

**On Sunday 12th April we will be holding our Annual meetings**

We will be electing members to serve on the church councils in Blidworth and Rainworth. There will be a number of vacancies.

Revd Zoe would welcome conversations with any one who feels called to serve on our church councils.

Church councils at their best are diverse in age, skill sets and giftings - their members are church members who have a heart to see their churches and communities flourish and develop, use their resources wisely to enable members of our communities to come to know the transforming and saving love of Jesus for themselves and are themselves, church members who are growing as disciples of Christ in faith, hope and love. We have a purpose statement to help people to understand what the church councils do:

**"The PCC (Parochial Church Council) is an elected body of church members who serve and are held accountable as charity trustees. The PCC is called to work with God and seek God's will for the life of the church and community as members assist the Vicar to promote the whole mission of the church, oversee church finance, and manage and maintain church buildings and churchyards."**

**SHERWOOD FOREST FOODBANK**

**HELPING LOCAL  
PEOPLE IN CRISIS**

**The top 3 items  
needed by the Sherwood  
Forest Foodbank are:**

**Tinned Tomatoes,  
Semi Skimmed UHT Milk and  
Tinned Fruit and Rice Pudding**



*There is always a box in St Simon and St Jude's, and items can be donated in any of our church buildings.*

*Monetary donations can be given to Marilyn or Stuart Brown.*

On Monday, 15 December 2025 in 36m (4-0-26 in B),  
prior to the Candlelit Carol Service

**The Bell-ringers at St Mary of the Purification in Blidworth rang:  
1260 Plain Bob Minor**

- 1C B Richards
- 2Jane Aked
- 3Nicola L Eves
- 4Jill Lindsay
- 5C Aked
- 6J S Brown (C)



# **THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BLIDWORTH AND RAINWORTH**

## **Churchwardens:**

### **St Mary's**

Angela Penny 01623 403791

### **St Simon and St Jude's**

Lynn Holland 01623 797165    Nick Prescott 07792253593

**Website:** <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/17726/benefice>

**FaceBook :** The United Benefice of Blidworth and Rainworth

**Follow the page:** and follow this one too - Rev Zoe Burton

**Room Hire:** For information and for bookings please contact:

### **St Andrew's Mission in Blidworth**

[missionhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:missionhallbookings@gmail.com)

### **Foyer or Upper Room in Rainworth.**

Please contact churchwardens

### **Weddings Baptisms etc:**

Please contact the Vicar.

## **TEAM OF MINISTERS IN OUR BENEFICE:**

**Vicar:**        Revd. Zoe Burton 07983946930

**email:**        revzueb@gmail.com

### **Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers):**

Steph Smart

Stephen Fox 01623 795327

### **Recognised Lay Minister:**

Maureen Garner 01623 793232        07401087007

### **Benefice Safeguarding Officer:**

Mrs Clare Harris. 07752 639684

### **Music Director:**

Gordon Foster 01623 794281