

## Ways of Giving

We are very blessed to have a most generous congregation who give freely of their time, talents, energy, compassion, hospitality, and their financial resources; and to make this giving as easy as possible we have a number of ways :-

- Standing Orders.
- Inter-bank transfers.
- **Cheques payable to: PCC St Andrew Rushmere**
- Pre-numbered weekly brown envelopes.
- Collection plate at each Sunday service.
- Our contactless terminal for debit & credit cards.
- White pre-printed envelopes for one-off Gift-aided donations, which need to be signed & dated, and with all the required information.
- The "Donate now" button on the Home page of our website <https://standrewschurchrushmere.onesuffolk.net>
- Our QR code printed below, scanned by a mobile 'phone camera and connecting to the Give-a-Little page linked to our website.



Gift Aid can also be claimed by our Church, adding a further 25% at no extra cost to givers, so long as they pay sufficient Income Tax (or Capital Gains Tax) in the current tax-year to cover their donations.

If you have any queries please ask a Warden or our Treasurer Chris.

Standing Order and Gift Aid forms are available.

Thank you very much for your continuing generosity to our Church.

Rev'd. Alan

Chris Gibson



**St Andrew's Rushmere**  
**Focus for weeks**  
**3rd – 30th December**



## Christmas Services



***Come and celebrate Christmas with us here at St Andrew's Church.***

***All are welcome!***

### **Sunday 17th December**

8am Holy Communion

10am Service of the Word (non-Communion)

6.30pm Carol Service, followed by mince pies.

### **Thursday 22nd December**

10am Holy Communion

### **Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December**

8am No service

10am Holy Communion

4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion Service

### **Christmas Day Monday 25th December**

10am Family Communion



### Christmas Special

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December @ 3-5pm  
in St Andrew's Church,  
The Street, Rushmere St Andrew  
*Christmas crafts, food  
and great fun for all the family!  
Free entrance! All welcome!*



### Messy Church Christingle

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January @ 3-5pm in Scout Hall, Dumbarton Road,  
*Crafts, food and great fun for all the family! Free entrance! All welcome!*



Children must bring an adult.

For more information email [alancomfort11@gmail.com](mailto:alancomfort11@gmail.com)



### THANK YOU.



Thank you to all who purchased The Real Advent Calendar. You've supported the Meaningful Chocolate Company which includes their charity donations and Fair Trade.

A special 'thank you' for the 26 calendars for FIND.

May all the givers and receivers be blessed especially during this coming month.

Margaret Mellor.



### MONDAY PRAYERS

**A time of coming together to pray**  
for the church and parish from 4.30-5pm  
every Monday in church. All welcome.

*'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful' (Col 4:2)*

The deadline for items to be included in

**OUTLOOK SPRING EDITION**  
**February - March - April is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

Send to: The Editor, 8 Crofton Close, Ipswich, IP4 4QR

### Advent Evensong

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
at  
6.30 pm



*All welcome.*

### New Year Fellowship, Walk, and Treasure Hunt.

**Sunday 7th January 3 - 4.30pm.**

You are invited to join others at Dumbarton Hall (Dumbarton Road) for a New Year catch up.

A gentle walk on the field for those who are able, a treasure hunt for children, with hot chocolate and light tea.

**All are welcome.**



## Defibrillator Update



We are pleased to announce that we have purchased and set up a Zoll AED Defibrillator, which is ready to use and at the moment is in the church vestry, if required. The next step is to provide an external cabinet to be fitted on the outside of the church hall and to register the location on the British Heart Foundation Circuit List with a guardian name. If you feel able to take on this important responsibility which involves checking the battery displays and pad expiry dates, on a regular basis, we would be extremely grateful. Thank you.  
Ruth.

## Reaching the Unreached Sale



Thank you so much to all our supporters, donators and helpers in making this event such an amazing success. We have sent close to **£3,500** to RTU, which we hope will help with rebuilding the Health Clinic at Kalliputti.  
Ruth.

## Recycling at Christmas !

Please consider:

- Saving used postage stamps in our box in church, which are then sent to RTU.
- Christmas card and wrapping paper without glitter can go in the recycling bin.
- Christmas tree recycling via the East Anglian Children's Hospice on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January, registration required on EACH website.
- Scout Christmas Post locally for 35p a card.

Thank you, Ruth.



## FIND Christmas Appeal 2023



It's time again when we support our local charity FIND, at Christmas.

It is following the same format as last year. Maureen has requested;


- Supermarket vouchers with accompanying receipts to the value of £10.00 upwards.  
These can be obtained from; Sainsbury, Aldi, Coop, Tesco, M&S, Primark or any Toy Stores.
- Tins/Tubs of chocolates.
- Boxes of biscuits or sweets

Please place them in a festive bag and bring to church by the last collecting date of **10<sup>th</sup> December**, so that they can be delivered to FIND.

A festive tree is in church during service times for you to collect your labels.

Once again thank you,

Gloria.



*Where can we find a hope that won't disappoint us?*

**Why not come to our Hope Explored Course**

starting on Tuesday  
9th January 7.30pm

**in St Andrew's Church Parish Hall.**

This three-session series shows that Christianity is about real hope: a joyful expectation for the future, based on true events in the past, which changes everything about my present.

**Sign up sheet at the back of church, or via an email sent to [alancomfort11@gmail.com](mailto:alancomfort11@gmail.com)**



**Humbug and Happiness  
Advent House Group  
Fridays 10.30-12 noon.**



Our group will continue through Advent using the book 'Humbug and Happiness' by Sheila Jacobs. This explores the key themes of the film 'Scrooge', which starred Alistair Sim, in a biblical way. Hopefully the course will be rewarding and enable us to continue in the New Year with a fortnightly House group.

The course will be hosted by Paul Hesketh.

For more information contact Chris Yule [chris.yule2@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:chris.yule2@tiscali.co.uk)

**Our Next Joint Service:**

**All Saints Church Kesgrave  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024  
6.30 pm  
All Welcome**



**Scouts Christmas Delivery**  
Don't forget to use this service.  
**35p per card**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

- Please put your cards and money together in the special Scout Christmas post boxes.
- Please write the **full address with postcode** and any special instructions on the envelope clearly.

This offers fantastic value for money compared to the ever-increasing prices of Royal Mail.

For more information re-collecting boxes and delivery areas go to <https://scoutspostipswich.org.uk>



**Mothers' Union – Christmas Meeting**

In December we have our Christmas meeting. On **Wednesday Dec 20<sup>th</sup>** we shall meet in the Church Hall for our Service before going into the Church (we shall ask Bob M to have the heating on!) to be entertained by The Ukulele Group 'What No Cake'. I am sure they will be as good and entertaining as usual. We shall then return to the Hall for our sumptuous Christmas Tea (try not to eat too much lunch!)

We have invited Linda Ginn our Diocesan President to join us and also Rev Alan and Jill Comfort to come and celebrate with us.

As always we welcome any visitors who would like to come. We shall have our Programme for 2024 ready to give out -we hope you will all enjoy what we have arranged!

Tricia Tyler

**FOCUS – Can You Help?**

We are looking for someone to help compile Focus.

This is currently produced once a fortnight so your obligation would be once a month to edit an issue on your home computer and then print it at church.

If interested please talk to Gill Crisp 253743 or Claire Driver 623419.

In the interim the Focus will now continue to be printed monthly.

**The next Focus is 31<sup>st</sup> December – 27<sup>th</sup> January**  
Please email items to [standrewr@outlook.com](mailto:standrewr@outlook.com)  
**By 9pm Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December!**

## **Readings and Collect for Sunday 3rd December**

### **The First Sunday of Advent**

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 Mark 13: 24-end

Eucharistic Prayer G

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 forever.

## **Readings for Thursday 7th December**

Isaiah 26: 1- 6 Psalm 118: 18 - 27 Matthew 7: 21, 24-27

## **Readings and Collect for Sunday 10th December**

### **The Second Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 40: 1-11 2 Peter 3: 8-15a Mark 1: 1-8

Eucharistic Prayer A

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and forever.

## **Readings for Thursday 14th December**

Isaiah 41: 13-20 Psalm 145: 1, 8-13 Matthew 11: 11-15

## **Readings for Sunday 17th December –Third Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end, 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24, John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Eucharistic Prayer B

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **Readings for Thursday 21st December**

Zephaniah 3:14-18 Psalm 33:1-4, 11-12, 20-end Luke 11: 47-end

## **Readings for Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve**

### **The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16 Romans 16: 25-end Luke 1: 26-38

Eucharistic Prayer C

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ; grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **Readings and Collect for Midnight Communion**

Isaiah 9: 2-7 Matthew 1: 18-25

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night you sent your almighty Word to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation; give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven through our Saviour, Jesus Christ

## **Readings and Collect for Christmas Day**

Isaiah 9: 2-7 Luke 2: 1-14 Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our saviour and our eternal God.

*Please note: These readings and collects may be subject to variation.*

Keep up to date with all the news.

See all this and much more on our website at:

<https://standrewschurchrushmere.onesuffolk.net/>

Also find us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/standrew.rushmere>