



St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

Open Hearts, Open Minds -
Exploring the Mystery of God

Sunday 15th December **Third Sunday of Advent**

10.30 am **Holy Communion** **Rev Naomi Cooke**

Collect God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns

Song	My Lord he is a coming soon
StF 264	Make way, make way, for Christ the King
StF 397	The Spirit lives to set us free (verse 1)
StF 182	On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
StF 183	Praise to the God who clears the way
MP 605 or 208	Soon and very soon we're going to see the King
StF 188	There's a light upon the mountains, and the day is at the spring

Readings Isaiah 12.2-6
Luke 3.7-18

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday 22nd December **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

10.30 am **Holy Communion** **Rev Naomi Cooke**

6.00 pm **Carols by Candlelight** **Rev Naomi Cooke**

Please remember all those who are in need of our prayers

We pray for those with health concerns: Pam Frost, Q Ackom-Mensah, Helen Mannion (Barbara and John Booter's daughter), Tom Reavey, Hilary Jowett, Mark Stone, Blanca and Fiona, Trevor Mann, Maggie and Pete, Luke, May and Leon, Jan Birch

Please continue to pray for the people of Gaza and for the West Bank.

NEXT WEEK

Monday **10.00 am – 12 noon - Knit and Natter Group in Room 1, Shirley House**

Everyone welcome to come and knit, sew, craft or just chat and enjoy a drink and a slice of cake.

1.30 pm Housegroup, Shirley House

Tuesday **2.00 to 4.00 pm** **The Tuesday Café in Room 1, Shirley House**

The café is for those living at home with memory loss and their carers, and older people living alone. Hot drinks and cakes, music, games, crafts and more. For further information ring the church office (0114 2678289) or email office@standrewspsalterlane.org.uk

Wednesday **10.30 am** **Wednesday service in Church**

Thursday **7.00 pm** **Taizé Prayer for Advent**

7.30 pm Housegroup in the Narthex after Taizé Prayer

SAPLC NOTICES

The deadline for items to be included in the Notices is close of business Wednesday

Wanted! Christingle Makers

We will be gathering on **Monday 23rd at 10.30 am** in church to make Christingles for our Christingle and Crib service, all materials and on the job training will be provided. Please let Cheryl know if you can spare time to help with this. Thank you

A Christmas Carol Friday December the 6th.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the great success of the Saltmine production of 'A Christmas Carol'. It was a wonderful evening and it was so lovely to see so many people enjoying the show, the refreshments and the beautiful cards and stockings. There were lots of positive comments from the actors and the audience, and Saltmine are keen to come back! Many thanks again to everyone who gave their time and skills to make the evening so special. Anna Calvert

Christmas Card Tree for HARC

The tree, collecting box, card to sign and gift aid forms for those who need them are in Church now. For anyone new to our Church, those of us who wish send one card to the whole congregation and the money saved on cards and stamps is donated to the Sheffield charity, Homeless and Rootless at Christmas (HARC). Rodney and Marilyn

Choir for the Carol Service

The Carol Service is on **Sunday, 22nd December** at 6.00pm. We are planning for a choir to sing during the service, both for the congregational carols, as well as for three items on their own. Rehearsal dates and times are as follows:

2. Sunday 15th December after the service until 1.00pm at the latest
3. Monday, 16th December 7.30pm to 8.30pm
4. Saturday, 21st December 6.30pm to 7.30pm
5. Sunday, 22nd December 4.30pm to 5.30pm

Please let Liz Bentley, Kit Swanson or Mary Mitchell know if you wish to take part and we will ensure that you are sent a copy of the music (sheet music +/- a recording).

Reflections from Bethlehem for Advent

If you would like to access the Reflections from Bethlehem for Advent that was used in the prayers last week, it can be downloaded here:

https://redletterchristians.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Red-Letter-Christians-Reflections-from-Bethlehem-Advent-Devotional.pdf?blm_aid=38516

Taizé in Advent

Quiet reflective worship with gentle repetitive singing for the final time on Thursday 19th December at 7.00pm in the Church.

Housegroups in Advent

There will be 2 housegroups meeting during Advent. We will be using the London District of the Methodist Church Watching and Waiting 4-week course.

The daytime housegroup will meet weekly on **Monday** at 1.30 pm in Shirley House Room 1, finishing on 16th December. The evening group will meet weekly on **Thursday** at 7.30 pm, in the narthex after Taizé prayer. We would love to welcome more members! For the daytime group, contact Judith Roberts (Tel 236 1531 Email robertsjm4@gmail.com), for the evening group contact Janet Loughridge (Tel 258 4164 Email janet.loughridge.45@gmail.com)

Family Epiphany Party

Family Epiphany Party, 4.00 - 6.00 pm on **Sunday 5th January** at SAPLC. Crafts, games, songs and tea - if you're 9 months, nine, nineteen or ninety you can come along!

Hospitality Sunday - Please Note the Date!

On **Sunday 9th February 2025** members of the congregation will share lunch with one another in their homes.

Green Box

Better Buses Consultation

The Public consultation on franchising of South Yorkshire buses opened on 23 October and runs to 15 January. Please respond, whether or not you are a frequent bus user. There is a strong case for public transport to be publicly owned and now is the time to say so. Please encourage friends and neighbours to respond too. You can have your say by using either the long or the short survey at www.southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/busreform. The link to the forms is at <https://t.co/5ngXKMnZeN>

Eco Tip – December - Enjoy the feast of Christmas! Don't forget to recycle your rubbish. Don't waste unwanted presents, find new homes for them through charity shop or on ebay

For more eco-tips, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email: arocha.org.uk/wild-christian

OTHER NOTICES

Journey to Bethlehem

Bakewell Methodist Church to invite you to A Festival of Nativity Scenes, telling the story of the birth of Jesus from the visit of the Angel to Mary, through to the journey made by Wise Men to see the long-awaited Messiah. Come and see this meaningful story of Christmas pictured in over 100 beautiful Nativity Crib Scenes and discover again how the birth of Jesus came about, and why that brings so much to celebrate in this season.

There will also be Christmas refreshments

Why not make your own journey and join us during the weekend of **Friday 13th December 2024 to Monday 16th December 2024**? Our doors will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Friday, Saturday and Monday, and from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Sunday.

Big Queer Carols, St Mark's, Broomhill and Broomhall

St Mark's church is proud to be holding its annual Big Queer Carol Service on **Sunday 15th December** at 6 – 7pm. An affirming and joyful service to remind us that in this festive period we are loved by the God who created us and who chose to live like us. Everyone is welcome so please do come along and bring your friends, family, neighbours and colleagues. No ticket is required. After the service stay for a drink and a mince pie. There will be stalls from Amnesty International and Sayit.

The Big Carol Sing

Tuesday 17th December, 6.30 pm, **Walkley Ebenezer MC**. Come along to this community event to sing carols with the Walkley's 115th Sheffield Brownies and Walkley Ebenezer Methodist Fellowship! Drinks and mince pies will be served after the singing.

Christian Aid Carol Singing

Hello Friends - An enormous thank you to everyone who came to sing carols on Saturday. The weather was not pleasant, so the amount we raised, £660.49, was brilliant. So a big thank you to everyone who came. The date for next year is Saturday 6th December -please put it in your diary. Jo Chamberlain has set up an e-envelope for us to encourage online giving if people didn't have cash and I thought it would be useful to share the link here and help us raise even more money for Christian Aid's Christmas appeal. Feel free to share as widely as possible. The link to our

“online envelope” is <https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2024/city-centre-carol-singing>

Millhouses Methodist Church Christmas Tree Festival

Free hot fruit punch and mince pies are on offer on the following dates for the Christmas Tree Festival, admission is free and any donations will be shared between church funds and St Wilfrid's Centre.

21st December 2pm-5pm,

22nd December 2pm-5pm,

Christmas Eve 2pm-5pm.

The Longest Night Carol Service

The Longest Night is a carol service with a difference! The Metal Methodists will join with St Paul's Church in Norton Lees, Angerford Avenue, Norton Lees, S8 9BG, on **Saturday 21 December 2024** at 6.30pm. The event will bring metal and alternative music, a chance to lay down burdens and to find hope in the noise in a carol service like no other. Expect the amps to be turned up! Refreshments will also be served.. Further details of The Longest Night service can be found via the Metal Methodist's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/metalmethodist/>

Chanukah Keilidh with live Klezmer music and dance caller.

Come and celebrate Chanukah, the Jewish Festival of Light, with our Klezmer Keilidh on **Sunday 29 December 2024 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM** at Walkley Community Centre, S6 3TG.

We have many musicians from Sheffield & Nottingham including Klezmer Tants Nottingham, and musicians from Seven Hills Kapelye – Sheffield's own Klezmer band with a variety of textures and yearning Yiddish music from our lively fiddle section.

A Klezmer Keilidh aims to be a happy and inclusive evening of Yiddish dance for everybody. No partners are needed and all dances are explained and then led by our dance leader, Judith.

Book at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/jewishmusiceducation/1488849>

All We Canary

The idea is simple: do all the *something* you can in January 2025, and fundraise for All We Can in the process! Whether it be running all the miles you can, reading all the books you can, or knitting all the hats you can – it's up to you what challenge you set yourself, because only you know what you need to fulfil your potential.

In the process, you'll have the chance to learn and share inspiring stories from All We Can's local partners in Liberia. As they fulfil their potential, journey with them as you seek to fulfil yours!

Find out more here: <https://www.allwecan.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/all-we-canuary/>

Foodbank and Baby Basics

The Foodbank at Firvale really appreciate us and tell us what a difference we make. Please bring your badly-needed donations to Church on Sunday mornings from 10.30 am, or to the Church Office on Thursday mornings. If you would like to give money, it can be sent online via <https://localgiving.org/charity/firvalefoodbank/>. If you cannot do this, Joe Dey can pass on a cheque made out to St Cuthbert's (write Fir Vale Food Bank on the back of the envelope) when he and Liz deliver donations.

Baby Basics Donations can be left in Church on Sunday mornings, or in the Church Office on Thursday mornings. See the full list of what is needed at

<https://www.facebook.com/babybasicssheffield/>

**If you are worried, isolated or just need to chat
to someone from the church,
Naomi Cooke (Tel. 0114 250 8251) and
Judith Roberts (Tel. 0114 236 1531)
are available**