



Thursday 10th December 2020

Dear all,

I wonder if some of us may be approaching Christmas with a degree of apprehension and sadness this year. 2020 has been a difficult year for us all – isolation, fear of catching the virus, some working harder than ever before and others being forced to stop and have a period which felt purposeless and empty. For some this year has been a year of loss and sadness – somebody we love has died or we have missed those significant occasions of celebration and family gathering. Our Christmas Tree Memorial service on Sunday was an opportunity to spend some time with one another and alongside guests taking a moment to remember those we love and will miss this Christmas. I have also invited people to add the names of those they might usually see at Christmas but won't be able to this year. If you missed out on Sunday, there's a box of stars and pens under the tree if you would still like to add yours – and there's more at the vicarage which I can post to you if you'd like one. Please do get in touch.

This Christmas is going to be very different for us all, Church gatherings outdoors or



online, limits in our interactions and family time and much more but I want to encourage you to reflect on the things that remain the same. Christmas is about the birth of a baby, Christ the Lord, Immanuel, the light who has come into the world. And as with every year, we come to that story seeking to understand it in a new and engaging way – but the story stays the same. And the story of Christmas is a story of hope, a story of the greatest gift we could ever receive, which is a gift of freedom, peace and everlasting joy. We pray that this truth would fill your hearts and give you hope this Christmas.

With our love, James & Zara



News



A massive thank you to Rob & Pam and Nicola & Nathan for the worship night many of us enjoyed on 29th November – we are hoping to do another one on Sunday 3rd January – more details to follow.

Thanks too to Martyn and Karen for erecting our fabulous Christmas trees – and to Jenny for keeping our Church looking lovely.

Thursday 10th December

Please do join us for our weekly prayer meeting tonight at 7pm on Zoom as part of our **Thursdays of prayer and fasting**. Contact us for the Zoom code.

Sunday 13th December

We're delighted to be back in the building at **9am for Communion** and following our usual 10:30am service on Facebook, there will be **coffee time on Zoom** at 11:45am. Contact us for the Zoom code.



DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING

MORNING PRAYER 8:30AM
LIVE ON FACEBOOK

CHURCH OPEN 9AM-12PM
FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

PRAYER MEETING 7PM &
COMMUNION 8PM ON ZOOM

INVITATION TO FAST
8PM WED - 8PM THU



EVERY THURSDAY

Tuesday 15th December



CHRISTMAS FOOD PARCELS



This is the deadline for donations towards our **Christmas Food Parcels**

which will be distributed to local families in time for Christmas. We are looking for general non-perishable items – tins, jars, cereals, pasta/rice, packets of food, biscuits, crisps etc. – but we're also hoping to gather some specifically Christmas treats, puddings, chocolates, crackers etc as well. Please bring any donations of food to Church or

to the Vicarage before 15th December. We're so grateful to all those who have donated already – my hallway is bursting!



Christmas at St Andrew's!



Sunday 20th December

- 9am** Holy Communion Service for fourth Sunday in Advent in Church
- 10:30am** Online worship service with Nativity featuring our own children telling the Christmas story!
- 3pm** Interactive outdoor service on the front lawn – please bring a decorated lantern along with you!



Please join us for our
Outdoor All-Age Christmas Special!
Sun 20th Dec
3pm on the front lawn

For a fun filled interactive celebration with the Christmas story, craft, songs and so much more. Don't forget to bring your decorated lantern.

For info: sarah@standrewssneydgreen.com Tel: 07888669233



- 7:30pm** **St Andrew's Christmas Quiz!!**
- Join us for a fun evening of all-age festive quizzing with prizes too! Each family/household should bring three questions on general knowledge including one or two with a Christmas twist if you wish. Don't forget to have your answers too! Have your favourite drinks and snacks handy and wear your best Christmas attire.
- Please contact Phil Dabbs (either direct or via the office) if you would like to attend and we will send you the Zoom link.

ST ANDREW'S SNEYD GREEN

CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT

SUNDAY 20TH DEC
7.30PM - 9.00PM
LIVE ON ZOOM



Christmas Eve 24th December

6:30pm Outdoor Carol service

Join us on the front lawn, please bring a lantern. We will be able to sing at this service but would recommend wearing a mask.

Christmas Day 25th December

10:30am Online Christmas service



Sunday 27th December

Please note that there won't be a 9am service in Church or an online service on 27th December however there will be a couple of videos available on Facebook. More details will follow.

Sunday 3rd January 2021

9am Holy Communion Service in Church

10:30am Online worship service



Christmas
CAROL SERVICE

CHRISTMAS
EVE 6:30 PM

ON THE FRONT LAWN
BRING A LANTERN

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, SNEYD STREET



WE HAVE A WINNER!

Thanks to everyone who entered our Nativity Christmas Card Competition, we had some fabulous entries and choosing a winner wasn't easy! Congratulations to our winning entry, this fabulous angel from Holden Lane Primary Reception Class.

And Finally!

Each year the Church gives away 10% of our un-restricted income to charities and causes both local, national and international. We have allocated around £7000 to be shared out this year – the charities chosen by the PCC are detailed in the attached document. Should you have any questions or comments, please let me know. We continue to be incredibly grateful for all of the income that the Church has received this year in light of the situation many have found themselves in financially, and are committed to a value of generosity as a Church.

Please know that we are thinking and praying for you all,

James and Zara
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Mobile: 07579 795328

james@standrewssneydgreen.com

Services at St Andrew's

Sunday 9am: Holy Communion IN CHURCH (not 27th)
Sunday 10:30am: Morning Worship ONLINE (not 27th)
Thursday 8:30am: Morning Prayer ONLINE
Thursday 7pm: Prayer meeting

Facebook: www.facebook.com/standrewssg

YouTube: [St Andrew's Sneyd Green](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCStAndrewsSneydGreen)

Website: www.standrewssneydgreen.com

