

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick: Shelagh Almond, Pauline Baker, Harry Banks, Polly Barday, Charlie Bartlett, Mary Bartlett, Bob Bodsworth, Emma Brindle, Karen Brown, Harley Byrne, Diane, Frankie Cooper, Rhiannon Crick, Mandy Daly, Debbie, Win Dennis, Gary Downes, Eric Edwin, Sam Fathers, Ed Fuller, Emma Hayward, Laura Hearne, Heidi, Gill Hynes, Enid Ingle, Julie, Margaret Keech, Helen Macabe, Victoria Martin, Paul Merry, Jackie O'Shea, Carol Page, Cliff Page, Susan Pearson, Donna Prior, June Simmonds, Heid Simon, Darren Smith, Robin Stokoe, Hazel Suffolk, Carol Vanner., Gary Williamson, Hilary Wilson and Sarah Wilson.

The departed: Audrey Savage

We endeavour to keep this list up-to-date; if you have any questions, please speak to Beverley, Elizabeth or one of the Readers.

Year's Mind

2nd	Joan Almond, Alan Hutley, Stanley Ingle, Robert White
3rd	Mary Elmore, Albert Richardson
4th	Aubrey Smith, William Smith
5th	Emily Barton, Ruth Bunker, Georgina Hudson, Millicent Miller, John Powell
6th	Philip Clitheroe
7th	Thomas Armstrong, Darrell Harman
8th	Tracey Ginette

NOTICES

BIBLE STUDY meets every Wednesday on Zoom at 7.00pm. If you would like to join us please contact David Young on 01525 404947 or dryoung1@btinternet.com Each meeting is independent and you can join as many, or as few, as suits you.

ANNUAL REPORTS If you have any reports for 2024 please send them to Elizabeth ASAP elizabeth_neil@hotmail.com

QUIZ Saturday 8th February 7.30pm Teams of up to 6. £5 per person including nibbles. Licensed bar. To book contact Beverley. A fun evening for all.

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL has to be prepared this year and so anyone wishing to be on it must complete a new application form by 9th March. Forms are available at the back of church, from Gordon Hodges (Electoral Roll Officer) or from Beverley. Any questions, please ask Gordon, Beverley or Elizabeth.

Please ensure that notices are with Beverley by Wednesday for inclusion in the next pew sheet.

ST ANDREW'S | AMPTHILL

WITH ST MICHAEL'S, MILLBROOK, AND ST LAWRENCE'S, STEPPINGLEY

Sunday 2nd February

8.00am	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's, Ampthill	<i>Pippa Kilgour</i>
9.30am	Parish Eucharist	St Andrew's, Ampthill	<i>Rev'd David Powell</i>
	Hymns: 115 – Dear Lord and Father of mankind; 312 – Jesus calls us; 162 – Jesus, where'er thy people meet; 249 – Take my life and let it be Anthem: The Call – Vaughn Williams Recessional: Toccata in E minor – Buxtehude		
11.15am	Worship Together	St Lawrence's, Steppingley	<i>Stella Brooks</i>
11.15am	Parish Eucharist	St Michael's Millbrook	<i>Rev'd Pual Lanham</i>
6.30pm	Evensong	St Andrew's Ampthill	

Candlemas

DURING THE WEEK

Monday 3rd	7.30pm-9.30pm	Childbirth Trust in the Chapter House
Tuesday 4th	9.15am-11.00am	Little Stars in the Chapter House
	7.30pm-9.30pm	Childbirth Trust in the Chapter House
Wednesday 5th	10.15am-11.30am	Baby Yoga in the Chapter House
	12.30pm-2.30pm	Tai Chi in the Chapter House
Thursday 6th	10.00am	Said Eucharist at St Andrew's Rev'd Clare Harald
	10.15am-11.30am	Baby Yoga in the Chapter House
	6.45pm-8.15pm	Yoga in the Chapter House
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice at St Andrew's
Friday 7th	7.00pm	Choir Practice in the Church
	7.30pm-9.00pm	Yoga in the Chapter House
Saturday 8th	9.30pm-3.30pm	Childbirth Trust in the Chapter House
	7.30pm	Quiz in the Church

Morning Prayer is said at 9.00am each weekday at St Andrew's.

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday 9th February

8.00am	Said Eucharist
9.30am	Parish Eucharist
11.15am	Parish Eucharist
11.15am	Parish Eucharist

Fourth Sunday before Lent

St Andrew's, Ampthill	<i>Rev'd Dominic Holroyd</i>
St Andrew's, Ampthill	<i>Rev'd Dominic Holroyd</i>
St Lawrence's, Steppingley	<i>Rev'd Dominic Holroyd</i>
St Michael's, Millbrook	<i>Rev'd Paul Lanham</i>

CONTACTS

Rector:	Vacant		
Churchwardens:	Beverley Hodges	01525 404625	a_bhodges@btinternet.com
	Elizabeth Neil	01234 740931	elizabeth_neil@hotmail.com
Lay Readers:	Stella Brooks	01525 860370	stardrift0@gmail.com
	Pippa Kilgour	01525 406696	pippa@kilgour.org
	Paul Watson	01525 406996	paul.watson33@outlook.com
Treasurer:			

Bank Details for internet payments:

AMPTHILL PCC	Sort Code: 20-05-74	Account no.: 40063762
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COLLECT

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

¹⁴Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the word of the Lord.

Hebrews 2: 14-end

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the

law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Luke 2: 22-40

Praise to you, O Christ.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**