



St Andrew's Westlands

LINK

Christmas 2023

www.churchinthewestlands.org.uk
Vicar: Andrew Dawswell 01782 619594



Welcoming the
whole community

Discovering
God's love

Following
Jesus' teaching

Christingle Service



Sun Dec 3rd 4.30pm
All are welcome to our annual
candle-lit service which is ideal for
children—to enable us to begin
celebrating the coming of Jesus as
The Light of the World.



Christmas Services

All Age Carol Service

Sun Dec 10th 10.45 am

Open Air Service at Guildhall

Sat Dec 16th 12 noon

Candlelit Carol Service

Sun Dec 17th 6.30 pm

Christmas Eve

Crib Service 3.30 pm

Midnight Communion 11.30 pm

Christmas Day

All Age Service followed by 10.45 am
Holy Communion

*We are also offering a warm
welcome to Seabridge,
Coppice, Friarswood, Langdale
& Westlands schools for their
Christmas Services during the
week of 18-22nd December.*



Christmas Message

The coming of God's Son into our world was, according to the bible, accompanied by several extra-ordinary events: a virgin birth; a star directing travellers from afar; and the appearance of angels. Unsurprisingly, many who experienced these signs were initially rather awe-struck. Yet the heavenly messengers reassure the shepherds with the following message:

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

These words are designed to bring real comfort. First of all, by declaring that Christ's coming represents Good news, the cause of great Joy. But as well as that, they make clear too that Jesus is for **all** people. For a variety of reasons, shepherds were unlikely to have been participating in regular worship. But this is the very group that is specifically chosen to bear witness to Jesus' coming.

That's why, along with churches across the world, we delight in extending a welcome not just to some, but to the whole of the community, to hear more about the coming of Jesus. There is, of course, an invitation to join us at any time of year. But it's our joy and privilege to welcome quite a few local schools for their Christmas services. And there are plenty of opportunities for all ages to join us at Christmas too. To discover that Jesus did not just come for a certain type of person, but for all.



Welcoming the whole community

Andrew Dawswell

Sunday Services

Each week at 8.30, 10.45am and 6.30pm

At 10.45 am this includes Sunday Club for 3-11's

Activities, Games, Quizzes and Bible Stories to help children learn about the Christian faith. This meets initially at 10.45 in church, to enable children to join in with the first few minutes of our worship. On All Age Sundays (10 Dec & 14 Jan) we remain together in church for a 45 minute service.

We also continue to offer a half hour online service each week on Youtube, details on our website.

If you don't have access to the internet you can instead listen on 01782 454883.

Toy service

Please bring your nearly new toys to our 10.45 service on Dec 10th. Toiletries welcome too—all to be given to support local families linked to the Glow refuge in Newcastle.



Crib service



Christmas Eve 3.30pm

All children are invited to take part in the Christmas story.

Come dressed as your favourite nativity character or borrow a costume when you arrive! Bring a handmade decorated sheep and you can hang it on our Christmas tree.

Little Sparklers For 0-3's and their parents or carers, with Bible stories, toys and a chance to chat. From 10-11am on Tuesday mornings in St Andrew's parish room (round the back of the church.) Meeting till 12th Dec then restarting from 9th Jan.

Just turn up or contact Naomi on 07864 127523

Xcite After School Club For Years 6, 7 & 8

With games, crafts, cooking, quizzes, Bible stories, chats, chill time, refreshments, and fun!

Term-time Mondays 4-5pm in the Parish Room

Messy church—For Children and Parents

Saturdays 7th Jan & 4th Feb 2.30-4pm in the Hall

Afternoon Tea—monthly re-starting on Tues 9th

Jan 3.00pm in St Andrew's Hall £4—book by

contacting Glenys on 01782 625924

mrsglenysgill@gmail.com Special diets can be catered for if you let us know in advance.

Forget me not Café

For all who are bereaved, whether recently or some time ago. An opportunity to meet with others in a similar position over coffee, tea and biscuits,. We meet in our parish room—directly accessible from the rear car park. The café operates each month on a Friday between 10.30-12noon (15th Dec, 19th Jan, 23rd Feb)

Renew Westlands Café

Every Wednesday (except 27th Dec) in the parish room, drop in anytime between 1.30-4.00.

Especially for any who are ● a bit lonely and want a chat ● anxious but would value a safe place. Including a cuppa and the option of crafts, jigsaw, games etc.