



## NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2011



St Andrew's Church Wraysbury

St Michael's Church Horton

[www.stmichaels-orton.org](http://www.stmichaels-orton.org)

[www.standrewswraysbury.co.uk](http://www.standrewswraysbury.co.uk)

THIS NEWSLETTER CAN BE VIEWED ON THE PARISH WEBSITES BY CLICKING ON THE APPROPRIATE LINKS: NOTE THE NEW ST ANDREW'S WEB ADDRESS

**THE PURPOSE OF OUR CHURCHES IS TO SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS AND TO INCREASE THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY THROUGH OUR PRAYERS, OUR WORSHIP AND OUR GOD CENTRED LIVES**

### MINISTRY TEAM

VICAR: Fr Simon Douglas Lane CURATE: The Rev'd Andrew Parry

LICENCED LAY MINISTER: Beryl Walters PARISH EVANGELIST: Mike Miller

**A HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A CONTENTED NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL, FROM US ALL AT ST MICHAEL'S AND ST ANDREW'S.**

### EDITORIAL

Dear Friends,

What an eventful year it has been, and most of the events unpleasant: the riots in August, the continuing levels of violent crime amongst the young and perpetrated by them on others, the widening gap between rich and poor which has led to the world wide explosion of the "occupy" movement and one could go on: having been a duty chaplain at St Paul's Cathedral for 14 years on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays the news there is not good: whatever the objectives of pointing out the excesses of the super-rich I have to say that the descent into squalor outside and even inside the Cathedral is now starting to blunt the message. The Church has not come out of the situation well and is now caught between the encampment and the legal action being prosecuted by the Corporation of London. To date the Cathedral has lost £800,000 in income, schools are cancelling their visits, the numbers attending services have plummeted and the shops in the area, let alone the outlets in the Cathedral itself are suffering mightily: enough is enough! If we are to preach the message of thinking of others before self, then those facing severe financial hardship should be considered. We pray that the situation will be resolved fairly and speedily.

So if 2011 has been a year to forget, 2012 (apart from the economic situation) should be one to remember: the Olympics, the Diamond Jubilee, the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Rector of Wraysbury and lots of landmark birthdays and wedding anniversaries will hopefully allow us to forget financial gloom and celebrate! So, let us lay the foundations to 2012 with a peaceful and spiritually filled Christmas to remember what this season is really about.

### THE REV'D ANDREW PARRY

Andrew contracted a nasty bout of flu at the beginning of November and complications set in and he will have been hospitalised for nigh on a month by the time we hope he will be able to come home: he faces a longish period of recuperation and the ministry team have not given him any rota duties until 19<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you to Beryl and Mike for relieving me of some preaching duties and we have re-allocated the duties on the rotas for the next two months: we all pray for a speedy recovery and we send our prayers to Andrew, wife Nicky and daughter Ruth.

### FABRIC/FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S

The Quinquennial Inspection report for St Michael's received with much to consider: thank you for the offers to tidy up the porch at St Andrew's (done and it looks lovely), the lych gate and the notice board too and there is some remedial work to do to the lych gate at St Michaels.

My thanks as always to all those who help. The time of year is here for the Friends of St Andrew's subscriptions to be renewed and the letter that has gone out lists the improvements that have been carried out at St Andrew's not least (with our thanks again to the Parochial Charity) the new disabled loo and refurbished facilities in the annexe: **both loos now unisex! Thank you as always to the Friends for all that they do.**

### THE ST ANDREW'S AND ST MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARDS

Thank you to everybody who continues to keep both churchyards looking so good: **can I remind you that dogs ON LEADS are allowed in St Andrew's as a public footpath passes through it**

**but NO DOGS at all are allowed at St Michael's: please note these conditions.** We have now had three wheelie bins stolen from St Michael's (always on refuse collections days) and we gather they are used to store animal feed.

We would be grateful if this criminal practice could cease!

### **PASTORAL SERVICES**

At the time of writing this we have 20 (17 confirmed / 3 awaiting confirmation) weddings / blessings booked in up to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013; I am sorry to those people who have been disappointed in not getting the dates they wanted. We have managed to arrange services for all the baptism families who wanted a service this year and we have four already booked in for 2012. Wedding and baptism preparation sessions continue and wedding couples are now being given bibles signed by members of the congregation (Wraysbury and Horton) as a sign of our prayerful support for those coming to marriage. It is important that the spiritual and sacramental importance of these events are made known to those who wish to receive them

**ANNEXE BOOKINGS** If you wish to book the annexe please contact Lorna Pullen at:  
[lornawateersmeet@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lornawateersmeet@hotmail.co.uk)

### **SITUATIONS VACANT!**

**The St Andrew's Choir needs new members: this is a cry heard throughout the land so please see Fr Simon if you are interested and the cry is still being issued!!**

**PASTORAL VISITOR** Vicki Lipscombe is our pastoral visitor so if you hear of anybody who needs a visit for any reason please contact Vicki on 483551

### **PARISH WEBSITES**

Andrew Parry is the editor for the parish websites and so if there is any information you need or wish to put on it, contact him or visit the sites which are linked inter parish.

With the Parish Secretary (see information elsewhere) now in post, the websites give you email contact with Vicar/Curate/Secretary for parish business. Thank you too for all those who have worked so hard in setting up the St Andrew's website, linked in with St Michael's.

**PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT ANDREW FOR THE TIME BEING: SEE ELSEWHERE IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**

### **REGULAR EVENTS:**

Better Portion: First/Second Saturdays at the St Andrew's Annexe from 12-2.00pm ladies only and look out for publicity on the actual date of the meetings.

Mens' Pub Nights: 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays: see what's on section for location (not August/December)

Benta's Craft Afternoons: normally 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays at St Michael's from 2.00-4.00pm

### **STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL CAMPAIGNS**

These started on Advent Sunday (27/11) and please take your leaflets from the back of both churches: if there are names of people that live near you please take theirs and post it through their door: thank you! From 2013 the financial rules of engagement will change and the parishes will have to pay for what they receive in terms of full time ministry: if everybody in the C of E gave 5% of even net income we could fill the land: at 2-3% we can't!!

### **YOUTH WORK IN THE VILLAGES**

For once I might have better news: plans are afoot for running a club based in Champney Hall at Horton with a youth worker provided by the Royal Borough and funding has been found I gather: fingers crossed as I await contact with the lead member in this area Cllr Dee Quick to discuss these proposals.

### **PARISH REGISTERS:**

Holy Baptism: Rachel, Charlotte and Harriet Fitzpatrick: 23<sup>rd</sup> October: St Andrew's.

William Doel: 6<sup>th</sup> November: St Andrew's. Emily Hueting: 20<sup>th</sup> November: St Andrew's.

Interment of Ashes: Sarah Lyndon-Stafford: 23<sup>rd</sup> October: St Andrew's.

### **CONCLUSION**

So my friends another year ends: I continue to pray for the re-conversion of this nation to Christian principles as we can see how unpleasant many aspects of modern living really are. Just applying love of God and love of neighbour and the end of violent disparities in income would I believe make a significant difference. We also need the leadership to effect this.

***With affectionate best wishes and every blessing for a joyous Christmas and New Year,  
Fr Simon***

### **CRAFTY CHURCH AT ST MICHAEL'S.**

Benta Hickley is organising craft afternoons at St Michael's once a month: ring Benta on 01753 686600: hopefully new dates will appear for 2012 in the January newsletter.

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER/NEW LIFE**

Review meetings take place regularly to make sure that the services are relevant to those who attend and these are on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at St Andrew's at 11.00am: we are also discussing how to replace the New Life Plus service and what form that should take.

## **STREET WARDEN ALERT**

If somebody new moves into your road (in either parish) please let Mike Miller (01753 689751) know so that a welcome pack can be put through their door and this will include the Wraysbury News (Christmas 2011 edition.). Churches together have revised the welcome pack and it will be available now: as usual this goes through the door of all new residents in the villages and if somebody new moves in near you, please let Mike Miller know. Thank you!

## **PARISH SECRETARY**

Jill Wheal has started and within 6 weeks or so she will be the first point of contact for booking baptisms, weddings and funerals: it is a steep learning curve but the IT is now in place through the websites and we look forward to receiving your feedback as the new system comes in to play: for those who are worried this is the system that operates everywhere else!! Ansaphone message at the Vicarage about to change!

## **HOUSE GROUPS**

If you'd like to join a House Group please contact Beryl. An excellent information pack on each House Group has been produced by Andrew and can be viewed on the web site. Again my thanks.

## **Services :**

### **St Andrew's**

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Parish Communion at 11.00am (prayer and healing ministry 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at 8.00am

New Life Service: 11.00am

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Parish Communion for both parishes (at St Michael's)

Tuesdays: 11.00am: Midweek Communion for both Parishes: at St Michael's

Wednesdays (fortnightly) 1.30pm: Informal Service for Angels Delight Mums & Toddlers

Prayer & Healing Ministry during 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Service

Tuesday morning prayer time: 9.30am-10.30am in Church.

### **St Michael's:**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: Parish Communion

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: 9.30am: Parish Communion

3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: 9.30am: Parish Communion

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: 11.00am: Parish Communion for both parishes.

Tuesdays: 11.00am: Midweek Communion for **BOTH** Parishes followed by coffee.

(BCP 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays)

Prayer and Healing Ministry during 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Service

## **What's on in December as known at 28/11/11**

3<sup>rd</sup>: Better Portion from 12 noon to 2.00pm in the Annexe.

6<sup>th</sup>: Pop In Service: 1.30pm: St Andrew's.

8<sup>th</sup>: Lighting of the Christmas Tree on Horton Green at 7.00pm

with the Mayor of the Royal Borough and the tree blessed by the Rev'd Carolyn Urwin.

**9<sup>th</sup>: NO MENS' PUB NIGHT THIS MONTH**

12<sup>th</sup>: Lighting and blessing of the Christmas Tree outside the Frost Partnership: 6.30pm (SDL)

Parochial Charity Meeting: Village Hall: 7.30pm

13<sup>th</sup>: Wraysbury Primary School Carol Service: St Andrew's: 7.00pm (SDL)

14<sup>th</sup>: Wraysbury Baptist Church Candlelit Carol Service: 7.30pm

15<sup>th</sup>: Choir Practice: 8.00pm Vicarage.

16<sup>th</sup>: Carol Singing in the Perseverance from 7.30pm for the Shooting Star Hospice

17<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Lights Trip in RT 3491: leaving the George at 4.30pm (**Full with waiting List**)

**18<sup>th</sup>: New Life Tree Service: 11.00am St Andrews**

**with the baptisms of Emilia and Lewis Marks: (SDL)**

**18<sup>th</sup>: Parish Carol Service: 6.00pm: St Andrew's (SDL).**

**24<sup>th</sup>: Parish Christingle 6.00pm: St Michael's**

**Parish Midnight Mass: 11.30pm St Andrew's**

**25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day: Parish Communions: 9.30am St Michael's.**

**11.00am St Andrew's. (SDL)**

## **COMING EVENTS**

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EVENTS AND SERVICE DETAILS ON POSTERS AROUND THE**

**VILLAGES.**

**JANUARY 2012 NEW YEAR'S DAY: 1/1/12:**

**ST ANDREW'S: PARISH COMMUNION FOR BOTH PARISHES AT 11.00AM.**

**ST MICHAEL'S: INFORMAL SERVICE AT 12.30PM AT FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT 1.00PM.**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL DATES FOR 2012:**

These will be published in the January 2012 issue.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: ANNUAL PARISH QUIZ Saturday 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2012**

**(date to be confirmed) AT WRAYSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL: DETAILS WILL FOLLOW**