

News Letter

Brigstock with Stanion, Lowick and Sudborough
Sunday 30th November to Saturday 6th December 2025.

Two for the price of one!

Two for the price of one this weekend. We celebrate St Andrews Day coinciding with Advent Sunday. An eye witness to the first coming of Christ on the day we look forward to *His* return. A special service at St Andrews Brigstock (Sunday 4 pm) will mark the occasion.

Andrew is of course the Patron Saint of Scotland as well as of our Church in Brigstock. I am unsure as to how big the celebrations are in the northern end of our nations, in modern times. They do get a Bank Holiday which seems great timing as the winter darkness kicks in. The stories of how he became Scotland's Saint do vary a little. Ranging from clouds in the shape of the Saltire to some of his remains being shipped to various places around Eurasia including near what is now Fife on the east coast. Certainly the Scottish flag representing the Cross of St Andrew (Saltire) is among the oldest national flags still in use. Watch the World Cup Finals next June and be sure to see it painted on the faces of thousands of hopeful football fans.

St Andrew is also Patron Saint of many other cities and nations too, including Romania, Ukraine and Barbados! Indeed he is believed to have done significant missionary work in Kyiv. As far as the Gospels are concerned he is only mentioned a few times but all occurrences are significant. He is the first to recognise the Messiah has come after being introduced by John the Baptist. He connects his brother Simon Peter to Jesus as they are both called to be 'fishers of men'. Alongside his brother and cousins James and John he is part of the inner circle of disciples and is present at the amazing incident up a high mountain that we call the Transfiguration.



After Jesus' death and Resurrection he travelled far and wide in sharing the Gospel message. A big part of that message was that The Light had come into the world and that Light could never be snuffed out. And one day that Light would return to shine in every corner.

And that hope is what the season of Advent is all about.

Go well.

Sunday Services



Sunday 30th November (Fifth Sunday) St Andrew's Church, Brigstock. This will be a St Andrew's Day Celebration at 4.00 p.m. followed by food. **There will be no morning service.**



Sunday 7th December 11.00 a.m. St Peters Stanion – Including the renewal of Captain Alan Lowes License to Minister by Archdeacon Rev'd Alison Booker and Holy Communion
3.30 p.m. All Saints Sudborough – service of reflection for Advent

Sunday 14th December 10.00 a.m. St Andrews Brigstock

Christmas timetable can be found below.

For further information and updates please visit our website www.harpersbrookanglicans

Collect Prayer for First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mid-Week Services

Thursday 4th December 10.00 a.m. St Andrews Brigstock Holy Communion

- **This week's Mind** – Walter Mayes 1993, Alan Pemberton 2015, Audrey Tew 1993, John Gray 2004, Mary Lean 2009, Peggy Buckle 1996, Ann Gough 2022, Joy Thompson 2022

Christmas 2025 Timetable

| | Brigstock | Stanion | Lowick | Sudborough |
|---|--|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Saturday 6/12 | | 3 p.m. Community Carol Service | | |
| Sunday 7/12 2 nd Sunday Advent | | 11.00 Holy Communion | 11.00 – 2 p.m. Christmas Fair | |
| 11/12 | 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion | | | |
| Sunday 14 th December 3 rd Sunday Advent | 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion | | | |
| Tuesday 16 th December | | 7.00 p.m. Blue Christmas | | |
| Wednesday 17 th December | 5.30 p.m. Brigstock school Carol service in church all welcome | 6.00 p.m. Stanion School carol service | | |
| Thursday 18 th December | 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion | | | |
| Friday 19/12 | | | | 6.30 Carol Service |
| Sunday 21/12 4 th Sunday Advent | | 11.30 a.m. Christmas Story All Age | 4.00 p.m. Carols Details to be confirmed | No service |
| Wednesday 24/12 | 5.30 p.m. Christingle 9.00 p.m. First Communion | 3.00 p.m. Christingle | | |
| Thursday 25/12 | | | | 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion |
| Sunday 28/12 | | 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion | | |
| Thursday 1 st January 2026 Bank Holiday | No Holy communion | | | |

Parish Notes

Rector: The Reverend Heather Lowe

Associate Minister (Church Army): Captain Alan Lowe,

Telephone: 07548 892020

heatherlowe020@btinternet.com

Address: 14 Willow Lane, Stanion, Northamptonshire, NN14 1DT

Reader & Safeguarding Officer – Jackie Makepeace

Telephone: 01832 358978

Churchwarden Contact telephone numbers:

Lowick – Jo Boyers 07542 555249

lowickchurchwarden@gmail.com

Sudborough – Jeremy Crouch 07990 651116

(Also Lay Worship Leader for the Benefice)

Brigstock – Vacant

Stanion – David Lafferty 01536 200175

Benefice Administrator – Allison Porter email: beneficeoffice5@btinternet.com or telephone 01536 373509 or 07933 804432

Benefice website: <https://www.harpersbrookanglicans.org.uk>

Alan is having his 'Bishops License to Minister' in the Benefice, renewed on the 7th December at St Peters Stanion at 11 a.m. The Archdeacon Revd. Alison Booker will be leading the Licensing before we receive Communion. All welcome.

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB – 1st Sunday of the Month.

Sunday Lunch group meets monthly for good food and company for folk who would otherwise be eating dinner on their own. If you are interested, please contact Carol on the following number and leave your contact details 07894261164. If a lift is required it may be possible for people from the same locality to liaise with each other.



Little Treasures Baby and Toddler Group meet at Stanion

Village Hall on a Friday in school term time from 10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. For Parents and Carers with their children.

Craft, sensory play, toys, jigsaws, drinks and snacks. £3.00 for first child and siblings over 6 months £1.00 each.

Concessions for those on Universal Credit.

Stanion Indoor Bowls Club meets each Thursday 2 - 4 p.m. in Stanion Village Hall. New members are always welcome, whether beginners or more practised.

For more details contact Alan Lowe on 07480 113673. Good fun!



Church News and Dates for your Diaries

St Peters Lowick

Tuesday 25 November brings our final Coffee Morning of the year. Please join us at Lowick Village Hall from 10 a.m. to midday for drinks, treats, chat and good company. We also have festive raffle prizes! £2 per person, hope you will join us!

We are really excited about the number of stalls and the variety of wares which will be presented at the Christmas Fayre at St Peter's on Sunday 7 December from 11am to 3pm. Please come along to stock up on festive goodies and unique presents from talented local crafts folk whilst supporting our beautiful church. There will also be games and - fingers crossed - a visit from Father Christmas, if he isn't too busy! We look forward to seeing you.

St Andrews Brigstock

St Andrews Brigstock Christingle Service



Please note the Christingle service at St Andrews Brigstock is on Christmas Eve at 5.30 p.m. For Health & Safety reasons admission will be **strictly** by ticket (free of charge).

Tickets will be available from:

Rosy Briggs 07526 002231

Allison Porter 07933 804432



We are looking to prepare the Christingles on Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December at 10.30 a.m. in church. If you are able to help, please let Allison Porter know or just turn up, many hands will make light work.