



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS

Ayia Kyriaki, Kato Paphos; St. Luke's Prodromi
and St. Stephen's, Tala

A Parish in the DIOCESE OF CYPRUS AND THE GULF

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are committed, through Jesus, to sharing God's love
for all peoples and growing in our love for Him
and for one another.

Sunday 17th December 2017
Advent 3 - Year B

Parish Priest: The Reverend Andrew Burt

Associate Priest: The Reverend Canon Anthony Stidolph

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS
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E-mail: anglicancofp@cytanet.com.cy

Website: www.paphosanglicanchurch.org

Weddings: www.churchweddingspaphos.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/anglicanweddings/>

Readings for Sunday 17th December

Page Numbers for St. Stephen's only

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11
Canticle: The Magnificat
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24
Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Organ Music for Services at Ayia Kyriaki

Before: Ricercar - J. Pachelbel
After: Fuguetta Sur L'Ave Maris Stella - A. Decaux

11.00am Carol Service at St. Stephen's - Special Readings

6.00pm Six Lessons & Carols at Ayia Kyriaki

Sunday 24th December - Advent 4

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16
Psalm: Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26
Second Reading: Romans 16: 25-27
Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at St. Stephen's

First Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10 -- Page 523
Psalm: Psalm 98 -- Page 426
Second Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-12 -- Page 846
Gospel: John 1: 1-14 -- Page 750

Monday 25th December - Christmas Day

First Reading: Isaiah 62: 6-12 -- Page 529
Psalm: Psalm 97 -- Page 426
Second Reading: Titus 3: 4-7 -- Page 845
Gospel: Luke 2: 1-20 -- Page 724

COLLECT & PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

COLLECT: God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anglican Communion: Please pray for a healing of tensions between Palestinians and Israelis, caused by outside political decisions affecting their statehood; may common sense prevail to bring peace and reconciliation in the Land of the Holy One.

The Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East of which our Diocese is a part: We pray for the Diocese of Iran and the Vicar General, the Revd Dr Albert Sundararaj Walters, and all Christians living and working in this predominately Muslim country; may they be free to worship their Lord and Saviour corporately at this Holy Time.

Our Diocese: We pray for John, Archdeacon in Cyprus, for the Parishes of Cyprus and for peace and justice across the island. This week we pray for St. Andrew's Abu Dhabi, with its daughter congregation in Al Ain called St. Thomas.

In our own Parish of Paphos: We pray for our Parish Priest the Revd Andrew, our Associate Priest Canon Anthony, and our worship team; also, special prayers for our newly Licensed Reader Ray Elliott, may God bless him in his future ministry.

Please keep in your prayers Charles Sweetlove and Andrew Bates.

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## WHAT'S GOING ON TODAY & THIS WEEK

### Sunday 17th December

8.15am Holy Eucharist - Ayia Kyriaki  
9.30am Holy Communion - St. Luke's  
11.00am Carol Service - St. Stephen's  
6.00pm Six Lessons & Carols - Ayia Kyriaki

### Wednesday 20th December

9.00am Holy Eucharist - Ayia Kyriaki

### Friday 22nd December

2.00pm Craft and Coffee - St. Stephen's

### Sunday 24th December - Advent 4 - Christmas Eve

8.15am Holy Eucharist - Ayia Kyriaki  
9.30am Holy Communion - St. Luke's  
6.00pm No Service at Ayia Kyriaki  
**11.30pm Midnight Mass - St. Stephen's**

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Monday 25th December - Christmas Day

8.15am Holy Eucharist - Ayia Kyriaki
11.00am Holy Communion - St. Luke's
11.00am Holy Communion - St. Stephen's
6.00pm No service at Ayia Kyriaki

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### **Treasurer's Insight (or best guess)**

My last two pieces have let you all know what our actual financial position was at the end of October and the estimated €21,500 being spent from reserves in 2018 to keep our Church operating broadly as it

is today.

It is too early to give an accurate position for the end of November but as at the 28<sup>th</sup> November we have spent some €13,000 more than has come in from your giving, the wedding ministry and all fund raising. This is what was expected, as November is always the same in that spending exceeds income. Our year to date 2017 is now around break even.

Sarah has outlined the planned (pledges) giving scheme and I have suggested that we need an average of €10 per head for every week of the year in 2018 to make up the income shortfall. It is fully acknowledged that some can afford more, others less. Please consider planned giving and how much you want to give to maintain your Church. No-one but us financially supports the Anglican Church of Paphos.

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THIS PARISH OF OURS

Duty Wardens for this week

Ayia Kyriaki - a.m. Gill Powell; **p.m.** Jacquie Hammond + week

St. Stephen's - Chris Hoskins

St. Luke's - Jayne Preston

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**Gift Aid can boost Church finances:** If you pay UK income or capital gains tax please help the Church by using the blue Gift Aid envelopes for your Open Plate donations. This will add approximately 25% to any donations you make, as the Church can reclaim the basic rate of tax from your donations. If you are or intend to donate via the Pledge Giving Scheme, you can complete a one-off Gift Aid declaration. **Please ask for a pen if you need one.**

To make a Gift Aid declaration, you will need to pay UK Income Tax

and/or Capital Gains Tax in any tax year greater than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all your Gift Aid donations in that year, or you will be responsible for any difference. Income tax includes tax credits on UK dividend income. Boosting the Church income in this way will be a very welcome additional contribution to finances.

**For our visitors and any residents eligible to Gift Aid:**

**PLEASE**, if you are putting your donation in a Gift Aid envelope, would you make sure that the details on the front of the envelope are completed; if this is not done we are unable to claim the tax refund.

*GENERAL NOTICES*

**Christmas, a time for a caring Christian presence**

Noisy, overcrowded, bustling, yet a place of peace, calmness and safety. The inn in the Christmas story stirs a variety of thoughts.

Imagine knocking on the front door and asking for a room knowing that your new wife was about to give birth. And then to be told there's no room – please move on! Frustration, rejection and perhaps even anger were Joseph's lot as he tried to take responsibility and to be the caring husband. Try as he might, there was no comfortable room available. And, maybe, this is also our experience when in desperation we turn to God and ask for his help.

Perhaps like Joseph and Mary, we are surprised by the answer. A stable was offered, smelly, dark and none too clean and yet it becomes a place of safety, new beginnings and celebration. How like God to weave his surprises, once more.

As this Christmas approaches, we, too, can be caught up in so much festive busyness and excitement that we miss the small but important things - even miss God's obvious answers. The unlikely stable became a place of new beginnings on God's part. Don't miss the excitement of the 'stable' in all your busy Christmas life.

Look for God in the small things and in the unlikeliest of places and prepare to be surprised. And rejoice as the shepherds did when you experience these surprises. But remember, we cannot remain in the stable – a needy world calls us to bring Christ’s love, peace, provision and joy to those who wait outside. Even the shepherds could not stay for ever in this safe place – let, alone, ourselves.

The weary world calls for our caring Christian presence.

With every wish for a very happy Christmas.

The Reverend Andrew Burt. Parish Priest, Anglican Church of Paphos

**Bishop Michael to visit the Parish:** Bishop Michael has agreed to preside and preach at Ayia Kyriaki at 8.15am on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December and at St Stephen’s at 11.00am on the same day. On the following Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> January, Bishop Michael will be presiding and preaching at St Luke’s at 9.30am. It will be lovely to welcome our Bishop on these two Sundays and I hope that you will mark the dates in your diary and plan to be with us for these important services. Revd Andrew

**From: The Reverend Andrew**

**Welcome to our new Reader:** a warm welcome is extended to Ray Elliott from Polis, who, on Thursday afternoon in the Cathedral, was licensed by the Bishop as our new parish and Diocesan Reader. He joins Trevor Sait and Ann Bailey as Readers in our Parish. A party of nearly forty parishioners travelled to Nicosia for the special service and thoroughly enjoyed the day. Ray has worked hard to get to this point having gained Diocesan approval of his calling to this role and then undergone a rigorous programme of study over three years. Our warmest congratulations to Ray especially for his faithful perseverance and dedication in reaching this significant moment. He will be formally welcomed into his role in the parish, at St Luke’s, today. I look forward to him leading services and preaching in the parish.

**Diocesan Prayer Guide:** The newly published Diocesan Prayer Guide

(which runs from December to June 2018) is now available in all three churches. Please take a copy if you would like to pray for the parishes and Chaplaincies in our Diocese. The Guide also contains interesting information about each parish and chaplaincy and about the people who lead in each place.

**Resourcing your daily spiritual walk:** how imaginative are you in nourishing your Christian life? I was reminded, recently, that the internet can be a surprising resource to assist us in this area. Do you know, for instance, that there is a free app which provides the daily prayers and readings for use in the Church of England and beyond. It consists of a daily set of prayers and readings and if this suits you, have a look at the app for android users in the Google Playstore <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.aimermidia.dailyprayer&hl=en> I am sure there would be an equivalent app for Apple users. There will be many other apps and programmes available. If you have found something from the internet that you find useful, why not share it with us.

**Vocations:** With the licensing, last Thursday, of our new Reader, Ray Elliott; it is important to remember that the Diocese is always seeking to explore with people the possibility that you may have a ‘vocation’ (calling or God given desire) to offer yourself for the possibility of being selected to train for either Readership or Ordination (either part-time or full-time). The diocese has, currently, a number of candidates who are either exploring their understanding of vocation or who have started formal training. Over recent years, the Diocese has formalised this training in a very effective way and is currently working to make the selection process more efficient. If you would like to explore this area, further, do speak to either Canon Anthony or myself. Ray would also be very willing to talk about his recent training for Readership.

**Pledged Giving:** For those already in the Scheme your envelopes for

2018 are now ready for collection with the sidesmen; if you have not yet returned your form I would be grateful if you would do so as soon as possible or let me know if you do not wish to continue in the Scheme so that I can keep my records up to date.

If you wish to join the Pledged Giving Scheme or would like further information, please have a word with me.

Sarah Sait - Pledged Giving Recorder

**Craft Group:** Mary would like to thank all the sewers knitters and other creators for all their hard work. The St Stephen's Craft group, this year, have raised €2675.00 which we have been donated to church funds. Sales at the Christmas Fayre amounted to €438.00. A big thank you to all who have bought from us. We need other 'creators' with new ideas and if you would like to join us, we meet every Friday from 2.00 to 4.00pm in the social room at St Stephen's. All are welcome to come for a chat tea /coffee /and scones. God bless.

Mary Brown – Craft Group Convenor.

#### **Carols for Christmas at St. Luke's:**

To all who came to Carols for Christmas, thank you all for.....

The singing and the giving and the wining

To the readers and the cleaners and the prayers

To the mince pie makers, the collection takers and my music maker

We raised €160 for the Dreamland Mission Hospital in Kenya.

Carole and Bruce McCandlish

**Thanks and Christmas Greetings:** I would also like to say a very BIG THANK YOU to the Friday Craft Group. It is amazing how they have developed new skills in order to make the Banners which now adorn St. Stephen's' walls. They committed themselves each Friday 2pm - 4pm (sometimes 1pm - 5pm) to ensure the Banners were finished for the appropriate festivals (and my time in Cyprus). They have challenged

and stretched themselves to achieve things they did not know they were capable of with one aim in mind, to Praise and Glorify our Lord Jesus Christ.

Two of the Christmas Banners will be hung today and the third one at Epiphany.

If you don't normally worship at St. Stephen's do try and visit between Epiphany and Candlemas when all three Banners will be on display.

Should you wish to take up the challenge then join us next year.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Blessed Christmas. Anne Findlay

### *NOTICES FOR TODAY, THIS WEEK & NEXT SUNDAY*

**Recycled Cards:** Sue & Lou will be selling their recycled cards TODAY after the 8.15am Service at Ayia Kyriaki and after the 11.00am Service at St. Stephen's. They do make wonderful cards so do please pay them a visit, have a browse replenish your stocks and help local charities in the process.

### *SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS*

#### *PROPOSED 2018 EVENTS*

**Thursday 25th January** - Chinese meal will take place at the Imperial Restaurant, Kato Paphos 7.00 for 7.30pm. Price €18 (tbc) excluding drinks. Drinks will be at reduced prices.

**Tuesday 13th February** - Shrove Tuesday (Stephanie Restaurant)

**Tuesday 13th March** - Nicosia Coach Trip

**Sunday 1st April** - Easter Lunch

**Monday 2nd April** - Sponsored Walk

**Friday 18th May** - Mini Golf

**Friday 22nd June** - Fashion Show and afternoon tea

**Saturday 21st July** - Annual BBQ

News sheet items to Sarah Sait, please, by 10.00 a. m.  
on the Wednesday before publication. Tel: 26 272502;  
Mob: 99 437892; Email: sarahsait1995@gmail.com

**Pledged Giving** Sarah Sait 26 272502 / 99 437892  
**Pastoral Care Team** Duty Member 99 047127

### CONTACTS

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#### **Readers**

Ann Bailey 26 622948  
Trev Sait 26 272502  
Ray Elliott 26 321131

#### **Wardens**

Bob Cross 99 957912  
Catherine Elliott 26 321131  
Jacquie Hammond 99 276129  
Chris Hoskins 97 753973  
Jayne Preston 26 321006  
Sarah Sait 26 272502

**Treasurer** - Graham Hare 99 075869  
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#### **Wedding Coordinator, Funeral & Baptism Administrator**

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#### **Funeral Ministry Coordinator**

Jacky Cotterill 26 939971 / 99 838245

**Organist - Ayia Kyriaki & St. Stephen's** Paul Timmins 99 099362

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