



## 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 24th December 2017

Advent 4 / Christmas Eve - Year B

Parish Priest: The Reverend Andrew Burt

Associate Priest: The Reverend Canon Anthony Stidolph

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS  
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Weddings: [www.churchweddingspaphos.com](http://www.churchweddingspaphos.com)

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

### Readings for Sunday 24th December - Advent 4

#### Page Numbers for St. Stephen's only

**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

#### Organ Music for Services at Ayia Kyriaki

**Before:** Prelude in E Minor - J.S. Bach  
**After:** Toccata in E Minor - J. Pachelbel

### 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

### Sunday 31st December

#### St. Stephen's Day for Ayia Kyriaki 0815 service and for St. Stephen's

**First Reading:** Acts 7: 51-60 -- Page 776  
**Psalm:** Psalm 119: 161-168 -- Page 440  
**Second Reading:** Galatians 2: 16b-20 -- Page 824  
**Gospel:** Matthew 10: 17-22 -- Page 688

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**Sunday 31st December**

**Christmas 1 for St. Luke's and for Ayia Kyriaki 6.00pm service**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 61: 10 - 62: 3  
**Psalm:** Psalm 148  
**Second Reading:** Galatians 4: 4-7  
**Gospel:** Luke 2: 15-21

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*COLLECT & PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK*

**COLLECT:** Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Anglican Communion:** As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Saviour, let us turn our hearts and minds to the Father, and pray with confidence in his generous love and mercy, that the world may enter a time of peace and goodwill towards all people.

**The Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East of which our Diocese is a part:** We pray for the Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa; the Rt. Revd Dr Mouneer Anis, all priests and lay ministers, as they deliver the Christmas message to their congregations.

**Our Diocese:** We pray for Bill, Archdeacon in the Gulf, and for the nations of the Gulf archdeaconry and all who live in them, citizens and others. We pray for the Church of St. Thomas Al Ain, that after many months of leadership changes, they give thanks for the ministry of their new Curate, the Revd Charlie Lloyd Evans, and pray that this may be a long and fruitful season in the life of St. Thomas.

**In our own Parish of Paphos:** We join together in joyful and grateful worship celebrating the birth of Emmanuel, God with us, giving thanks for all who join us in worship.

**Please** keep in your prayers Charles Sweetlove, Andrew Bates and Vivienne Latham.

**Please** also remember in your prayers the families and friends of **John Neil Cole**, whose funeral took place last Wednesday; **Sydney Irvine Bell**, whose funeral takes place on Friday; **Frank Morris**, whose funeral takes place on Thursday 11th January, 11am at St. Stephen's and **Brian James**, whose funeral is to be arranged.

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*WHAT'S GOING ON TODAY & THIS WEEK*

**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**

**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**

**Wednesday 27th December**

9.00am Holy Eucharist - Ayia Kyriaki

**Sunday 31st December - St. Stephen's Day / Christmas 1**

8.15am Holy Eucharist - Ayia Kyriaki (St. Stephen's Day)  
9.30am Holy Communion - St. Luke's (BCP) - (Christmas 1)

11.00am Holy Communion - St. Stephen's (St. Stephen's Day)  
6.00pm Holy Eucharist - Ayia Kyriaki (Christmas 1)

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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** - Sarah Sait - Gerald Payne, Warden for Christmas Day

**St. Stephen's** - Chris Hoskins

**St. Luke's** - Catherine Elliott

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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 Reflection**

The Our Daily Bread Bible Study Notes (<https://odb.org/>) for Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December contained a short poem written by Angelus Silesius, a Polish monk which was published in 1657. He wrote:

Lo! In the silent night a child is born,  
And all is brought again that ere was lost or lorn.  
Could but my soul, O man, become a silent night  
God would be born in thee and set all things aright.  
Ah, would thy heart but be a manger for thy birth,  
God would once more become a child on earth.

Angelus Silesius strikes a cord as we rush towards Christmas with its wonderful celebration of our Saviour's birth. Perhaps it is a little too much to expect our soul to become a *completely silent* night as Silesius longs for but if Christmas is to have deep meaning for us, we need to find a little silent space for reflection on the meaning of Christmas. His final two lines express his deep longing and perhaps ours as well. Does he long for a physical child to be incarnated again? Christ's second coming? Perhaps, but I think he expresses what we often long for: lives that are better in tune with God's will. And when we follow in this direction, then our lives will express God's character of love to the world around us. The Daily Bread reflection finishes with this brief prayer: 'Lord Jesus, thank you for being born into this dark world so that we might be born again into your life and light'.

Happy Christmas. Reverend Andrew

**Christmas Greetings:** Canon Anthony and myself extend to all, parishioners and visitors alike, warmest Christmas greetings for a very happy and holy Christmas. Thank you for your many cards and kind greetings – it is lovely to have them and they are an encouragement. We look forward to seeing you, particularly on Christmas Day, and being able to share, with you all, the joy of our Saviour's birth.  
Reverend Andrew

**Bishop Michael to visit the Parish:** Bishop Michael has agreed to preside and preach at Ayia Kyriaki at 8.15am next 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

**Christmas Home Communion:** a small number of parishioners receive home communion but if you know of anyone who would particularly

like to receive home communion over the Christmas period, please contact Reverend Andrew.

**Organist at St Stephen's:** Paul Timmins will be taking extended leave from his duties at St Stephen's from the beginning of January for a period of approximately three months. Clearly from Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January, we will need an organist or a pianist or a musician to accompany our hymn singing. If you know of anyone, or if you, yourself, could step into this role; please speak to either Canon Anthony or myself. It really isn't too daunting. Reverend Andrew

**Websites:** You may be aware of the difficulties we had, in the summer, with our **parish website** when, through no fault of our own, we 'lost' the website for several weeks. It is pleasing to report that with lots of hard work by Sarah Sait, and others, we now have a new host for our website and the recent difficulties should not reoccur. Do have a look at the up-to-date photos and reports that are on our website – go to: [www.paphosanglicanchurch.org](http://www.paphosanglicanchurch.org)

**Wedding Website:** a completely new website for our wedding ministry has been developed through the hard work of Gerald Payne, Janine Scott and Trudie Murphy, and went live earlier in the month. We have carefully 'road-tested' it with several young people and strongly believe that it will attract interest and inquiries. In conjunction with this enhancement, a new parish wedding brochure has been printed. You will be aware that with a decline in the number of weddings that we are conducting, there is a need to enhance our publicity and presence and all of this will, greatly, help the cause. My thanks to all who have worked hard on this aspect of our wedding ministry. Do have a look at our new website: [www.churchweddingspaphos.com](http://www.churchweddingspaphos.com) - we are proud of it. Reverend Andrew

**St Stephen's – Spot the Difference:** Have you noticed that new blue carpet has been laid on the dais underneath the altar. I understand that it was originally intended that there should be carpet here, so it's nice to have it, at last. A huge thank you to all who contributed to the

purchase and the costs of fitting it. I am pleased with the effect and overall enhancement to St Stephen's. The task was completed at no cost to parish finances – again a huge thank you to all who contributed. Reverend Andrew

**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.aimerm edia.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.

**Feeling a little jaded after Christmas:** If you need a little encouragement as we approach the end of the year, you might like to listen to the King Singers singing a beautiful, but not well-known, Christmas anthem: Born on a New Day. Go to [https://www.last.fm/music/The+King's+Singers/\\_/Born+on+a+New+Day](https://www.last.fm/music/The+King's+Singers/_/Born+on+a+New+Day) (NB there is an underscore between Singers/\_/ in the address.) The text is also worth having a look at <http://www.kingssing.de/song/1006> Enjoy! Anyone else found some uplifting Christmas music? Reverend Andrew

**My thanks** and blessings to all who have helped and supported me in my training over the last three years, and particularly for those who were able to attend my licensing at the Cathedral in Nicosia. I am now continuing with my studies in theology to enable me to serve you to the best of my ability as a member of the Anglican Church of Paphos worship team. Ray Elliott

## ADVANCE NOTICES

# Women's Group Meeting

### January 2018

**Topic:** Retirement Village in Tsada

**Speaker:** Elysian Fields Properties

**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 @ 3 pm

**Location:** St Stephen's Church, Tala



Situated in a popular village in the Paphos district within a short drive to Latchi and Polis to the North and Coral Bay to the south this is one of the first projects of its kind on the Island.

This is something that has long been needed in Cyprus and the Developers are giving a presentation on the project.

### February 2018

**Topic:** Journey to Readership

**Speaker:** Ray Elliott

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 @ 3 pm

**Location:** St Luke's Church, Prodromi

Ray Elliott was licensed as a Reader on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017. He is giving us a talk about his experiences and his journey.

## March 2018

**Topic:** Freedom Dolls Initiative  
**Speaker:** Nicola Smith  
**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 @ 3 pm  
**Location:** St Stephen's Church, Tala



Freedom Dolls is a Non-Profit making organisation based in Larnaca and works with victims of human trafficking. The main aim of the charity is to help, support and empower women who have been sexually exploited. Nicola Smith, President of this Organisation will be speaking to the Group.

Ladies, please do make a note in your diaries of the above events, the above details can also be downloaded from our website.

### *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 and drinks to be discounted off the bill.

**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;  
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### 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

Jacque Hammond 99 276129

Chris Hoskins 97 753973

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#### **Wedding Coordinator, Funeral & Baptism Administrator**

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

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