

February 2026

St Andrew's Scottish Episcopal Church,
Milngavie, G62 6PJ

Regular services to which all are welcome

10am Sundays	Sung Eucharist
10am Thursdays	Said Eucharist
On Tuesdays at 10am an inter-church prayer group takes place in the Garden Room.	



Candlemas Bells

It is the dawn of the year,
Heralding new life,
snowdrops push forth.
Tiny white bells,
shine against dark earth,
to brighten our winter days,
teardrops of love and joy.

Sue Brough. 30.01.2016.

The Jerusalem Temple



Simeon looked on the infant Jesus,
he saw God's salvation,
he saw the light for the whole world,
and glory for the people of Israel.

As a candle brightens the darkness,

Jesus be our light that banishes our darkness,
especially on this special day,
of Candlemas, February 2nd.

Sue Brough, 27.12.2025.

Advent Study Group

There were three meetings to discuss the book, Advent in Narnia, written by American Episcopal priest, Heidi Haverkamp. Members of All Saints and St Andrew's enjoyed the sessions which featured the well-known book by C S Lewis, the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. We were all familiar with the story, but were helped by David's encyclopaedic knowledge of Narnia. One week, we were treated to Turkish Delight, without being led astray by the White Witch.

I found that using the experiences of the children in Narnia gave a new insight into the Christmas narrative. The Advent theme of expectation was mirrored in the animals' hope for the end of winter and the return of Aslan, as exemplified by God's intervention into our fallen world with the birth of Christ. We explored issues of trust, temptation, reconciliation and forgiveness, which are all relevant to our lives today. I found myself wishing that we had more time to discuss these matters, and to try the beavers' meal, suggested in the book; fried trout followed by sticky marmalade roll!

Tim Rhead

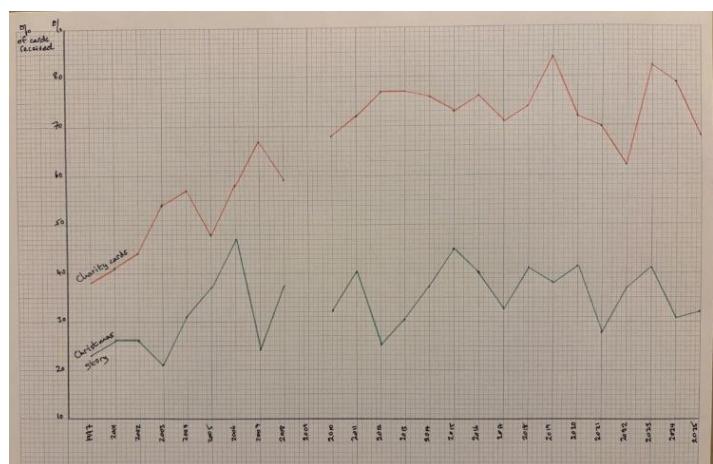
Christmas Card Themes

For the past 25 years (2001–2025) I have carried out an annual analysis of the Christmas cards we/I received. Figures for one year are missing. There is an initial outlier from 1997. This is necessarily a very individual series - cards received by others would have a very different profile.

My two main categories of interest have been:

- the percentage of cards which specifically picture or represent the biblical Christmas story.
- the percentage of cards which support charities.

The trends can be seen on the accompanying graphs.



Of the Christmas story cards, general nativity depictions were always the most numerous but for shepherds or magi alone, the magi consistently outnumbered shepherds.

Non-Christmas-story cards bore a wide variety of images. The popularity of themes varied from year to year. Snowy scenes always turned up. Some years snowdrops were popular, other years poinsettias. Robins often put in an appearance, but some years pheasants or owls seemed to be the "in" bird.

Glitter used to be popular. In my analysis, peak years were 2015 & 2016 when 18% of the cards I received had glitter. It was then noted to be environmentally unfriendly and its appearance tailed off. The last time I received a card with glitter was in 2021 and that was proclaimed to be biodegradable glitter.

Deirdre Holding

Church Walk



Tim and Jane are planning a walk on Saturday February 14th starting at the church at 1pm to Dougalston and returning to Friendship House for tea and cake. It is about 4 miles. This will be Andrea's last walk with us and folk from All Saints have been invited to join us. All are welcome.

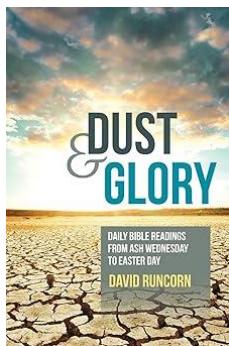
Sunday March 1st

After Andrea presides for her last time as Rector at the Sung Eucharist at 10am, there will be a soup and pud lunch to wish her and Stephen well. Ecumenical friends and all those who have journeyed with St Andrew's over the 10 years of her incumbency are welcome. Please invite those you are in touch with.

Seeking a new Rector

The Vestry will be meeting with the Dean, Reuben Preston, on Monday 2nd March to get his and the Bishop's advice to begin the process of calling our next Rector, again part-time.

Lent



Begins on Ash Wednesday 18th February. There will be the usual Eucharist services including the optional Imposition of Ashes at All Saints' Bearsden at 10.30am on the 18th and at St Andrew's on the 19th at 10am.

We have been invited to join All Saints for their *Lent bible study* based on the book '

Dust and Glory' by David Runcorn on Tuesdays at 2pm starting on 24th of February.

Dorcas Group Update



The Dorcas group met at the end of January to sew the 120 squares we had knitted into a blanket which we hope will go to someone who needs some extra warmth.

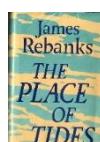
We meet again on Monday 23 February at 11.15am in St Andrew's Hall when we will start to use some beautiful embroidery donated to us by Deirdre to make bags and other items. All are welcome to join the group, even for one session.

Music Hub Concert



In December the church was used by Milngavie Music Club's Music Hub for its Christmas concert and the church rang with Haydn, Corelli, carols and much else. The takings of nearly £400 were donated to Shelter. The club is grateful for the use of the church for this event.

Book Group



Meets next on Thursday 26 February 2.30pm at Liz Macdonald's to discuss her choice of book: *The Place of Tides* by James Rebanks. New members welcome.

Update on Building Repairs

Extensive repairs to the brickwork have now been completed and the next stages are upgrading of the Emergency Lights, a check of all the electrical systems and the installation of an additional fire door upstairs in Friendship House. The new Fire Alarm system will also be tested regularly

Scotland Provincial Church News

A new edition was published at the end of January: <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/publications/inspires/>

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