



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
BIGGLESWADE

Christ-Centred – Welcoming – Inclusive – Outward-Looking



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

- Environment Sunday

1 June 2025

Sunday 1 June

Environment Sunday

10.00 am Parish Communion [with Sunday School]

Readings: Acts 16. 16-34 *Paul and Silas in Prison*.
Revelation 22.12-14, 16-17, 20, 21 *Vision of the New Jerusalem*. John 17.20 – 26 *Jesus Prays for His Disciples*

Collect

O God the King of Glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting: [CLICK HERE](#)
Meeting ID: 861 3500 8616.
Passcode: 599753
Landline dial in contact: 0330 088 5830

Followed by Coffee and fellowship in Chapter House

12.45 pm Sunday Lunch, Chapter House

Private Prayer at St Andrew's Church. Please note our church is usually open for private prayer Monday - Saturday, **09.00 am - 4.00 pm**. *Revd Liz and Churchwardens*

Tuesday 3 June

6.00 pm Confirmation Preparation, Ivel Room

Wednesday 4 June

2.00 pm MU Sandy RSPB Lodge

Thursday 5 June

09.30 am Holy Communion,
Readings: Acts 22.30; 23.6-11
John 17.20-end
followed by coffee in Chapter House

11.00 am Mantles Court Home Communion

1.00 pm Funeral, Alice Lee RIP
North Herts Crematorium

3.00 pm Archdeacons' Visitation. All Saints Church, Cople

7.30 pm Biggleswade Deanery Standing Committee

Saturday 7 June

10.00 am – 11.30 am PCC Away Brunch, Jordans Mill

10.00 am – 12.00 noon Coffee Shop, Chapter House

6.30 pm Mafambisa Team Fund Raising Supper,
Games and Quiz Night, Chapter House

Pentecost, 8 June

8.00 am Holy Communion: Order II Traditional

10.00 am All Together Parish Communion

6.00 pm Sunday @ 6 for Pentecost

Vicar: Revd. Liz Oglesby-Elong (01767 312243)

Churchwardens:

Chris Parker (07702 250776)

Nettie van de Weerd (07767 711353)

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All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to romyben-ley@aol.com by Tuesdays 11.00 am

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Requesting our Prayers: Derek and Gill Whinnett, Nick Smithers, Thelma Holden, Anita, Sally Wells, Shelagh Hizey, Ian Pearson, Ruth Atkinson, Angela Morris, Val Scott, Maurice Darnell, Chris Parker, Clerestine and Percy Doughty, Tim Robb. We continue to pray for: Cory Sherry, Joan Betts.

Mafambisa. We remember the people of our partner community of Mafambisa, for the vulnerable and orphaned children, the care workers, the caregivers and all who support them. By name this week we pray for children: Lifa, Siyamthantha sithole, Vilane prince, Tshwarelo, Zwane Andile. Please visit our blog at www.standrewslink.blogspot.co.uk.

We pray for the souls of the recently departed. Patrick 'Mac' McLoughlin, Alice Lee, Kenneth Harrold, Pamela Eldridge: for families and friends preparing for services of thanksgiving and celebration of life. We remember with prayers and thankful, privileged, memories those whose Year's Mind fall at this time: 1 Maurice Bentley, 2 Gerald Drakes, 4 Gladys Morley, 7 Tony Collins

Farewell From Alan, Bishop of St Albans. My thanks to all of you who came to my farewell service in the Cathedral. It was wonderful to see so many of you and to be enfolded by your prayer. I was deeply moved by your affection and warmth, and I am grateful for your generosity and kindness. I treasure the many messages, cards and letters I have received over recent weeks and will take them with me into retirement. As I look back on my years here, I increasingly realise the debt that I owe you. Thank you for your dedication and witness to the Gospel, much of which is unseen and often goes unacknowledged. You have taught me so much about what it is to be a Christian today. I look back in thanksgiving for God's faithfulness, but I also want to look forward with hope to all that lies ahead. Farewells and partings are painful experiences, and as Ascension Day approaches, I'm sure it was no exception for the first disciples as Jesus was received into glory. But sadness is not the dominant theme in the Biblical account. The New Testament is laden with yearning for the coming of God's Kingdom, for His rule and reign to be fully revealed, for the day when evil will be finally vindicated and love will be seen to have triumphed. In a few days' time we will be invited to participate in **Thy Kingdom Come**, a global movement of prayer, which runs from Ascension Day to the Day of Pentecost. This is the tenth year that we will be marking these 11 days of waiting on God in prayer and reflect on that evocative phrase from the Lord's Prayer: 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

We live in a world disfigured by war and violence. Poverty and disease are all around us. Yet we worship a God who is at work in His creation and who invites us to respond to the working of the Holy Spirit. Someone once said, "Pray as if everything depends on God, and work as if everything depends on you." It is that deep prayer to which we are called and, in response, to give our lives in God's service. As I bid you farewell, I pray God's continued blessing upon this wonderful diocese, inspired by the costly example of St Alban. Please pray for me, as I pray for you. +Alan

Revd Gail Adcock. We are looking forward to welcoming Revd Gail, at present a curate in the benefice of Ickleford, Holwell and Pirton for a short placement in our parish, commencing Sunday 1 June. *Revd Liz.*

Confirmation, St Andrew's Church Sunday 15 June. We look forward to welcoming Jane, Bishop of Hertford, for our Confirmation for young people and adults, and Admission to Communion for some Sunday School children, during our special worship on Sunday 15 June, 10.00 am.

Thy Kingdom Come 2025. Ideas to pray for your five people. Praying for five people is at the heart of Thy Kingdom Come. Who could you be praying for this **Ascension to Pentecost** to know the love of Christ for themselves? Please see the Thy Kingdom Come App, or our parish website for further details.



MU RSPB Sandy Wednesday 4 June, from 2.00 pm. RSPB Sandy has informed the cafe will be closed, so we propose a picnic (hoping for good weather), or a retreat to the Shuttleworth museum cafe if it's raining. All welcome - please speak to one of us if you need a lift. Meet in the church car park to leave at 1.30pm. *Maggie McLoughlin and Rosamund Drakes.*

MUmalade. We would appreciate it if you could return jars after use or bring some in to keep our supplies going. *Angela Sharp.*

Ploughman's Lunch Thursday 19 June, 12.00 noon – 2.00 pm. No set price, donate what you can. All welcome.

Thank You. Two of the altar frontals for the Memorial Altar have needed to be repaired in recent weeks. They have been in use for decades and were showing signs of their age. I am grateful to Mary Dominey for her needlework skills and hard work in carrying out these difficult repairs. They are now ready for continued use for decades to come. *Jenny Blackford, Sacristan.*

Thank You. A big thank you to the people who have signed up for and used easyfundraising. We have had a payout of £38.99 for church funds. If you shop online, please consider signing up and using easyfundraising as the pennies all add up. If you would like to know more then please speak to me. *Anna Rutt*

Team Africa 2025. As part of our link with our Mission Partners Hands at Work, we are again sending a team out to South Africa in July. The Team will be, Alice Parker, Oliver Dilley, Noah Dilley, Nick Gurney, Pippa Wells, Rachel Smith and Adam Wells. As usual we are fund raising to support our two youngest members Pippa and Rachel and need to raise £3000. There will be a couple of events that you can support or if you are able donate directly by going to the 'Give Button' on the web site and selecting Africa 2025. The 2025 Africa team are organising a games/quiz night on **Saturday 7 June, 6.30pm**. The evening will include a bangers and mash supper! The evening will be run in teams or tables and be a combination of "rounds" including quiz, bingo and beetle. Grab your family and friends and make a team, or just sign up in your own right. Fun social evening for all! *2025 Africa Team*

Used Postage Stamps. Please keep collecting these for me to take to St. John's Hospice; it is important that we give them all the support possible. Please place your used stamps in the container adjacent to the area in church where service books are distributed. Thank you. *Gill Hibbert*

Holiday Club 2025—Jungle Adventure. Our 2025 holiday club will take place during the week beginning 11 August followed by a service and barbecue on Sunday 17. This year's theme is Jungle Adventure, and we discover what a great guide Jesus can be. Please follow the link to sign up to help with our very successful holiday club. Click on "[volunteer](#)" and fill in the form – thank you.

Future Dates

Friday 13 June	2.00 pm	Funeral, Patrick Mac McLoughlin, Church
Saturday 14 June	09.00 am	Confirmation Rehearsal in Church
Trinity Sunday 15 June	10.00 am	Confirmation, and Admission to Holy Communion, during Parish Communion. Jane, Bishop of Hertford presiding.
	5.30 pm	Taizé Worship, Cockayne Hatley Church
Thursday 19 June	12 noon	MU Ploughmans Lunch, Chapter House
Sunday 22 June	10.00 am	Parish Communion Friends of St Andrew's Renewal Day
	6.00 pm	Biggleswade Deanery Summer Worship



Diocesan Prayer for the Year of Spiritual Renewal and Wellbeing 2025

God of life and love, pour out your blessing on our diocese as we journey to your kingdom on the Emmaus Road: where there is uncertainty, build us up in faith; where there is fear, establish us in love; where there is discord, bring reconciliation and healing: that together we may be renewed in hope by your Spirit and be ambassadors of your risen Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Spiritual Renewal 2025

Look graciously upon us, O Holy Spirit, and give us, for our hallowing, thoughts that pass into prayer, prayers that pass into love, and love that passes into life with you forever, Amen.

Social Media Keeping in touch with family and friends is

something as a Church we are trying to undertake through the use of our social media platforms. The online sphere is another channel we are also able to use to be able to spread God's message. The platforms allow us to reach out to our community of faith, our local community as well as others who aren't as local. Please do contact Oliver Dille or Jessica Mephram with any ideas, thoughts or content for the social media pages. In the meantime please continue to like, follow and share our social media accounts. *Thank you.*

Facebook: @standrewsbiggleswade Instagram: @standrewsbiggleswade

Living God, draw us deeper into your love; Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve, Holy Spirit make us heralds of good news. Stir us, strengthen us teach and inspire us to live your love with generosity and joy, imagination and courage, for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus. Amen

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