



The Third Sunday before Lent

16 February 2025

Sunday 10.00am Parish Communion

Collect
Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings
Jeremiah 17.5-10 Wisdom sayings
1 Corinthians 15.12-20 The Resurrection of the Dead
Luke 6.17-26 The Sermon on the Plain

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

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

This Week

Thursday 20 February

9.30am Holy Communion, followed by coffee in Chapter House.
Readings: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20
 Luke 6.17-26

10.30 –11.30 am Warm Spaces
11.00 –12noon Bell Practice
12.00 –2.00pm MU Lunch, Chapter House

Saturday 22 February

10.00 –12.00noon Coffee Shop and Warm Spaces

Sunday 23 February *The Second Sunday before Lent*

10.00 am Parish Communion

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

Churchwardens:

Chris Parker (07702 250776)

Nettie van de Weerd (01767 316214)

Parish Office: 01767 317207

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Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade



Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to **office** [@standrewschurchbw.org.uk](mailto:office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk) by **Tuesdays, 11.00 am**

bookings@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Requesting our Prayers: Lisa Ling, Thelma Holden, Percy Doughty, Maureen Wade, Anita, Sally Wells, Shelagh Hizzey, Ian Pearson, Ruth Atkinson, Angela Morris, Val Scott, Maurice Darnell. We continue to pray for: Cory Sherry, Joan Betts.

Mafambisa. We pray for 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 Care worker: Lucia, and Children: Lindiwe, Rebecca, Joseph, Glen, Lisa. Please visit our blog at www.standrewslink.blogspot.co.uk.

We pray for the souls of all the recently departed: and 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: 17th Willie Whittaker, 19th Sidney Smith, 20th Dora Hewett, 21st Thelma Denholm.

'Farewell' and 'Thank you' to the Parish Administrator: Mandy Anning gave her Resignation and by mutual agreement her last working day as Parish Administrator here was last Thursday, 13th February, 2025. We extended our gratitude to Mandy and thanked her for all she had done in this role as Parish Administrator here at St. Andrew's, Biggleswade. On behalf of all at St. Andrew's Church we wished her all the very best for the future. In due course the Vicar and Churchwardens, on behalf of the PCC, will begin a new recruitment process. In the meantime, for a short, limited period the production of weekly Pew News and Reading sheets will be overseen by the Vicar and Rosemary Bentley. Other administrative tasks may be shared out, or may need to be put on hold. Please bear with us during this vacancy period. Thank you. All contributions for Pew News can continue to be sent to: secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk by Tuesday 11am. *The Vicar and Churchwardens.*

Palm Crosses If you have a palm cross from last year, please may we ask you to return it to church as soon as possible in preparation for the Imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday.

New Mission Action Plan: Christ-Centred –Welcoming –Inclusive-Outward-Looking On behalf of the PCC, I am delighted to share with you all the good news that the PCC adopted a new Mission Action Plan (MAP) Website via this link: <https://standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk/who-are-we/mission-action-plan/> Revd. Liz –Vicar and Chair of the PCC.

Receiving Holy Communion A reminder that at present intinction of the wafer into the wine during the administration is not permitted at St. Andrew's Church. Receiving in one kind is a possibility, and observed by a number of our communicants.

The Goma Care Point You will have seen on the news about the unrest and war in the DRC. Hands at Work have a care point in Goma which is now in the middle of a war zone. Please pray for the Hands at Work team there: Bindu, Zawadi, Denise, Jehosaphat, Bahati, Mutobe, Faraha, Shengi and Lorraine and we pray for all the children, their families, and the Care Workers. We pray for peace, stability, safety, for miraculous stories, for international intervention and for the local churches to be able places of safety for people. Thank you. *Chris Parker.*

The signed PCC Minutes for the meeting held on 19th November 2024 are available to read and are located on the noticeboard in the church foyer. Alternatively, they can be found on the church website <https://standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk/who-are-we/pcc/> Ruth Marshall-Jones, PCC Secretary.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter 2025 - Advance Notice

During this Diocesan Year of Spiritual Renewal and Wellbeing 2025 it is good to confirm that Bishop Richard is planning to join us for Holy Week and Easter this year. This special year is inspired by the Emmaus story in Luke's Gospel, where the risen Christ walks alongside two disciples in their confusion and doubt, listens to their concerns, and renews them in hope and love. As you may already know Bishop Richard is currently Chair of the Church of England's work on disability, which includes a working group on Mental Health. In 2023, members of that group published 'Struggling with God – Mental Health and Christian Spirituality' by Christopher Cook, John Swinton and Isabelle Hamley. During Lent we'll be exploring the themes of mental health and Christian spirituality, wellbeing and resilience. This will then feed into the Bishop's teaching and preaching during his time with us during Holy Week and Easter. *Leadership and Ministry Team.*

Lent Study Groups, with Biblical Reflection and Prayer: This year we are running two Lent Study Groups which will be held in Church, starting the week beginning 9th March: Monday Evenings 7pm to 9pm on 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st March, 7th April starting with a simple supper (donations welcome) and Thursday Mornings 10.45am to 12noon on 13th, 20th, 27th March, 3rd, 10th April, refreshments available in the Chapter House from 10.15am. Based on the book above, study materials will be provided as needed. It will be useful for our planning to have an idea of numbers, so please sign up on the list at Church. *Growth and Mission Sub-Committee.*

Deanery Lent Evening Worship 2025: Theme: The 'I am..' sayings of Jesus. Sundays 6.00pm. All are welcome. We look forward to a variety of guest preachers and simple refreshments are usually served after the service. A Retiring Collection will be taken for the Deanery Project 2025-26: 'Triumph Heart' in Uganda.

- 9th March at St. Andrew, Biggleswade –Preacher: Rev Graham Buckle
- 16th March at St. Mary, Potton –Preacher: Ven. David Middlebrook
- 23rd March at St. Swithun, Sandy –Preacher: Rev Jodie Brown
- 30th March at St. Leonard, Old Warden –Preacher: Rosemary Bentley
- 6th April at St. Lawrence, Willington –Preacher: Rt Rev Richard Atkinson

Future Dates

Monday 24 February	9.05am	Leadership Meeting
Thursday 27 February	11.00am	Mantles Court Holy Communion
Friday 28 February	1.45pm	Beaumont Park House Communion
Saturday 1 March		Work Day –Outdoor Jobs
Sunday 2 March	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Family Communion
	12noon	Baptism of Atticus
Monday 3 March	7.30pm	Churches Together, St Peter's Catholic Church
Wednesday 5 March	Ash Wednesday	
	7.30pm	Sung Communion with Imposition of Ashes
Thursday	9.30am	Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes
Friday 7 March	7.30pm	World Prayer Day

Lost Property Over the past couple of years we have acquired quite a large amount of lost property. These are displayed on a table in the Chapter House foyer. Please look to see if anything there belongs to you. Anything not claimed by the end of the month will be given to a charity shop. *Mary Dominey.*

Mafambisa We are currently assembling our team to go to Africa in the summer (19 July to 2 August 2025) we are also starting to think about a team for summer 2026 - if you are interested in joining either of these teams –please speak to Chris as soon as you are able.

Food Bank Due to the state of their premises, Preen no longer operates a Food Bank, so any donations left in church are going to the Baptist Church. They get the supermarket trolley donations too. For updates on their supply needs you can use the app BanktheFood. Details on the website bbchurch.org.uk
Maggie McLoughlin.

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 Dilley or Jessica Mepham 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. *Thanks.*

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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