



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH BIGGLESWADE

Christ-Centred – Welcoming – Inclusive – Outward-Looking



The Second Sunday of Lent

16 March 2025

Sunday

10.00 am Parish Communion

Readings: Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18 *God's Covenant with Abram*
Philippians 3.17-4.1 *Pressing Toward the Goal*
Luke 13.31-35 *The Lament over Jerusalem*

Collect

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject these things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same: through our Lord, 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

3.00 pm Civic Service

6.00 pm Deanery Evensong at St Mary Church, Potton
Preacher: Ven. Dave Middlebrook,
Archdeacon of Bedford

This Week

Monday 17 March

7.00pm Lent Group II—Church

Wednesday 19 March

11.00 am Penrose Court Home Communion

Thursday 20 March

9.30am Holy Communion,
Readings: Jeremiah 17.5-10
Luke 16.19–31
10.30–11.30 am Warm Spaces
10.45–12.00 noon Lent Group II—Church
12.00–2.00 pm MU Soup Lunch. St Patrick's Day Theme,
Chapter House.

Saturday 22 March

10.00–12.00noon Coffee Shop and Warm Spaces

Sunday 23 March

10.00 am Parish Communion
6.00 pm Deanery Evening Worship—
St Swithun's Church, Sandy
Preacher: Revd Jodie Brown

The Third Sunday of Lent

Parish Communion
Deanery Evening Worship—
St Swithun's Church, Sandy
Preacher: Revd Jodie Brown

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

Churchwardens:

Chris Parker (07702 250776)
Nettie van de Weerd (07767 711353)

Parish Office: 01767 317207

Email: secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to **secretary**
@standrewschurchbw.org.uk and **romybentley@aol.com** by Tuesdays,
11.00 am

www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk

office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade



Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

bookings@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Requesting our Prayers: Nick Smithers, Lisa Ling, Thelma Holden, Percy Doughty, Maureen Wade, Anita, Sally Wells, Shelagh Hizzey, Ian Pearson, Ruth Atkinson, Angela Morris, Val Scott, Maurice Darnell, Chris Parker, Clerestine Doughty, Tim Robb. We continue to pray for: Joy Bottrell, Jo Chelley

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: Makabongwe, Themba, Siphon, Ayama, Lethokuhle, Asanda, Ayanda. Please visit our blog at www.standrewslink.blogspot.co.uk.

We pray for the souls of all the recently departed: 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: 22 Iris Gould

Lent, Holy Week and Easter 2025

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.*

Apps and Books for Lent 2025. Living Hope App. <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/living-hope-resources-lent-2025>. "Struggling with God: Mental Health and Christian Spirituality" – Christopher C.H. Cook, Isabelle Hamley and John Swinton.

MU Thursday 20 March 12-2pm Soup lunch with St Patrick's theme. All welcome, as usual. **Marmalade.** We hope you're enjoying the marmalade despite its being different from Sylvia's. If you could return the empty jar, we'd be grateful. *Angela and Maggie*

Saturday Coffee Shop Rota. A new coffee shop rota has been posted on the board in the foyer. Please check when your team is doing the coffee shop and if, for any reason, you are unable to help on that particular morning, I would be grateful if you could swap with someone possibly from another team. Many thanks. *Nettie van de Weerd.*

Candles for Ukraine. Sandy Rotary have written to thank St Andrew's Church for our contributions to their Candles for Ukraine appeal. A total of over three tonnes have been delivered to Ukraine, including our donation of candle remnants and candles donated by members of the congregation. *Jenny and Richard Blackford*



APCM 2025. This year's APCM will take place on Sunday 11 May, commencing 11:45 am in church; it will also be facilitated by Zoom. This year we require nominations for:

- * Two churchwardens.
- * Four people to serve 3 years on PCC. One person to serve 2 years on PCC
- * One person to serve 1 year on Deanery Synod

The election of Churchwardens will take place at the Meeting of Parishioners which can be attended by all persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll, and all persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors. The election of parochial representatives of the laity to the PCC will take place at the APCM following the Meeting of Parishioners. All paperwork will be disseminated via email, although there will be a small number of paper copies available at the back of the church from Sunday 27 April together with copies of the Parish Annual Reports booklet. All documentation will also be available on the church website.

Please prayerfully consider whether you wish to put your name forward. Being a part of the PCC is an important role and means being part of a team responsible for many things, including promoting the mission of the church within the wider community and the overall wellbeing of church members and the church buildings. If you wish to speak to any of the current PCC, then please do not hesitate to do so. Current PCC members: Rosemary Bentley, Lucy Dilley, Vivienne Gayfer, Peter Giles, Hilary Johnson, Rob Lackey, Adrian Maynard, Ruth Marshall-Jones, Chris Parker, David Pilgrim, Andrew Rutt, Harriet Shannon, Judith Thatcher, Nettie van de Weerd. *Ruth Marshall-Jones, PCC Secretary.*

Preparation of New Electoral Roll: In 2025 there must be a **complete renewal of the Electoral Roll, not just a revision**. Every person who wishes to have their name entered on the new Roll, whether it is entered on the present Roll or not, **must apply for enrolment**. In this connection, there are paper application forms available at the back of the church from Sunday 16 March through to Sunday 13 April. Please do pick up a form, complete and return to me as Electoral Roll Officer. Alternatively an electronic version can be found on the church website <https://standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk/who-are-we/electoral-roll/>. Once you have completed the form, you can either return it to me manually or via email at pccsecretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk. **All forms must be received by no later than Sunday 20 April.**

The following are the conditions under which you can request inclusion in the Electoral Roll:

Those eligible must have been baptised and be over the age of 16 years

They must live in the parish of Biggleswade. Alternatively, if living outside the parish, should have worshipped at St Andrew's habitually during the past six months.

They must be a member of the Church of England (or of a church in communion with the Church of England) or in good standing with the Church of England.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask me. Many thanks.

Ruth Marshall-Jones, Electoral Roll Officer.

Future Dates

Saturday 29 March	7.30 pm	Biggleswade and District Choral Society. Magnificat. Gloria
Sunday 13 April	9.45 am	Palm Sunday Liturgy of Palms—Market Square
	10.00 am	Parish Communion, including the Passion of Luke
M 14—W 16 April	7.30 pm	Compline, and Address—Richard, Bishop of Bedford
Thursday 17 April	7.30 pm	Holy Communion, Foot Washing and The Watch
Good Friday	1.30 pm	Good Friday Liturgy
Easter Eve 19 April	8.00 pm	Paschal Ceremony
Sunday 20 April		EASTER DAY

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 Parker as soon as you are able.

Food Bank For updates on supply needs use the app BanktheFood. Details on the website bbchurch.org.uk *Maggie McLoughlin.*

Spoofing. Please be aware that members of the congregation are receiving fake emails pretending to be from the vicar. These emails are part of a phishing scam. Please be careful to check that emails are from the Vicar and are genuine. The vicar's email address is vicar@standrewschurchbw.org.uk, phishing emails will appear to have either a name or "vicar" but the email address will be wrong. If you receive a suspicious email from someone else in church about an unexpected topic, please check with them by another method before doing anything. Phishing emails tend to be urgent in nature, stressing that they are in a hurry but often not saying why. If you receive a suspicious email, please let us know at websiteadmin@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

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

Vicar: Revd Liz Oglesby-Elong (01767 312243)

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Churchwardens:

office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

Chris Parker (07702 250776)

Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

Nettie van de Weerd (01767 316214)

Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade
