



## Seventh Sunday of Easter

17 May 2026

### Seventh Sunday of Easter, 17 May, 2026

#### 10am Parish Communion

#### Readings:

Acts 1.6-14 *The Ascension of Jesus*

1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11 *Suffering as a Christian*

John 17.1-11 *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** To join [Click here](#)

Meeting ID: 931 2877 4094

Passcode: 263739

Landline dial in contact: 0330 088 5830

Sunday School —all school age children welcome

*followed by coffee and fellowship in the  
Chapter House*

**12:45pm** Sunday lunch (*advance orders only*)

**5:30pm** Taize Service—Cockayne Hatley

### Wednesday 20 May

2pm Funeral—Nick Smithers RIP,  
St Andrew's Church—all welcome

### Thursday 21 May

9:30am Holy Communion

Readings: Acts 22.30;23.6-11

John 17.20-26

*followed by coffee and fellowship in the  
Chapter House*

12 noon Funeral—Steven Wilson RIP,  
St Andrew's Church

12noon-2pm MU Ploughman's Lunch

### Friday 22 May

11.00 am Mantles Court Home Communion

1:45pm Beaumont Park Home Communion

### Saturday 23 May

10am-12noon Coffee Shop, Chapter House

### Sunday 24 May—Pentecost

10am Parish Communion

*Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House*

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

**Churchwarden:** Nettie van de Weerd (07767 711353)

**Administration Assistant:** Susan Thorn (01767 317207)  
[secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk](mailto:secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk)

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Rosemary Bentley (07885 431928)  
[romybentley@aol.com](mailto:romybentley@aol.com)

All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to:  
[office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk](mailto:office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk) by **Tuesdays, 11am**

[www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk](http://www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk)

[office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk](mailto:office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk)



Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade



Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

[bookings@standrewschurchbw.org.uk](mailto:bookings@standrewschurchbw.org.uk)

**Intercessions** Let us pray for: Churches Together in Biggleswade, the emergency organisations

**Requesting our Prayers:** Percy Doughty, Thelma Holden, Revd Liz Lavelle, Ann Pridmore, Charles Rutt, Steve Waldron, Derek and Gill Whinnett. We continue to pray for: Joan Betts, Cory Sherry

**We pray for the souls of the recently departed:** Richard Albone, Nick Smithers, Steven Wilson  
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: Peggy Barnes (19<sup>th</sup>), Revd Canon Peter Hill (19<sup>th</sup>), Charles Maynard (22<sup>nd</sup>)

**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 care-worker: Dudu and children: Prudence, Mxolisi, Sethu, Sharlin, Celimpo, Lwandile, Surprise

### **Christian Aid Week, 10-16 May 2026**

Christian Aid is an international charity rooted in Christian faith and hope, determined to tackle poverty and respond to emergency needs. Christian Aid Week is a powerful expression of what can happen when compassion leads to action. Christian Aid Week 2026, partnering with the organisation 'Beacon of Hope' the focus concerns how to tackle hunger and food poverty in Nairobi, Kenya. One off-gifts, regular giving, taking action for justice and prayer all contribute to big changes. Our small actions can grow beyond what we thought possible. To find out more about Christian Aid Week 2026 please

visit: [caw.christianaid.org.uk](http://caw.christianaid.org.uk) and for this year, please give directly via: [give.christianaid.org.uk](http://give.christianaid.org.uk).

*Revd. Liz , Acting Chair of Growth and Mission*

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

The APCM, 10 May, shared a strong sense of gratitude for everyone's contributions over the past year. The following have agreed to serve on new PCC, and as Churchwardens for the coming year. PCC: Rev Liz Oglesby-Elong (Chair), Lucy Dilley, David Franklin, Peter Giles, Vaughan Johnson, Claire Leeks, Harriet Shannon, Angela Sharp, Mark Simmons, Christopher Wheelhouse. Representatives for Deanery Synod: Rosemary Bentley, Hilary Johnson. Churchwardens: Rosemary Bentley, Rob Butcher. We offer them our thanks and prayers as they take up their responsibilities, and we look forward to working together in faith and fellowship. Signed minutes from the APCM will be available on the website, with hard copies in the foyer.

*Harriet Shannon, PCC Secretary*

**Rest in Peace.** All are most welcome to attend the Funeral of Nick Smithers in Church on Wednesday 20 May, 2026, 2pm. +May Nick rest in peace, and rise in glory. Amen.

*Mel and family*

### **North Aisle Roof and Clerestory Window Repairs**

The project continues and internal scaffolding is now in place, facilitating the removal of some clerestory windows for repair, so there is restricted seating access. Ongoing prayers for all the skilled and gifted craftsmen, also for those who continue to worship in church during different times; also for Vaughan Johnson, chair of Buildings and Grounds sub-committee, who is kindly co-ordinating liaison with the numerous contractors, often daily.

In order for our Sunday and Thursday worship to continue as planned, (as well as funerals and other occasional offices,) any extra help with cleaning, dusting and sweeping would be gratefully received. Please contact us if you are able to offer occasional help as the restorative work continues. Thank you to so many willing volunteers already offering support.

*Vicar and churchwarden*



### **Saints Alive!**

A huge 'thank you' for all those who took part in or came to watch and listen to 'Saints Alive!' All of the performers were brilliant and the fellowship was a truly wonderful experience. Members of Biggleswade Baptist Church, St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, and Christchurch, Hitchin made up the band and choir, together with many of our own choir and congregation. We raised £292.96 towards church funds from raffle ticket sales and tea, coffee and cake.

*Sue Thorn and Rob Butcher*

### **Mafambisa Fundraising Events – Supporting Freya and Jack**

Freya and Jack are heading out to Mafambisa this year as part of the mission team. To help them fundraise, a number of events are taking place over the coming weeks. Everyone is warmly invited to come along and support them.

- **Saturday 31 May: School Assembly Songs – 6pm** An evening of songs you may remember from school days. £5 entry, plus raffle. Tea and coffee served afterwards.
- **Saturday 6 June: Car Wash – 10am–12pm** Bring your car for a shine. Minimum donation £5.
- **Saturday 20th June: Quiz Night with Bangers & Mash – 7pm** A fun evening with a hot meal and dessert included. £12 per person. Teams of up to 8.

You can also donate via our Go Fund Page <https://gofund.me/5f6329fea>

*Mafambisa 2026 Team*

### **St Andrew's Church Summer Holiday Club 2026 – Plenty of vacancies for helpers!**

Thank you to everyone who volunteers to help at our Holiday Club. We are now on the search for volunteers for this year's event. As a reminder - Holiday Club this year Tuesday 18 to Friday 21 August plus the Service and BBQ on Sunday 23 August.

So the main question is, are you available to help? Our greatest need is for helpers to work with the children in their groups. Helpers also needed for registration each morning, lunchtime supervisors, help with cleaning and with setting up and tidying away etc. all of which are very much appreciated. We would welcome some new volunteers so if you have not helped before and might be interested then do get in touch. If you are new to St Andrew's and wondering what this is all about then do not hesitate to ask. A prompt reply will help us with checking that everyone's DBS' are up to date and complete checks on any new volunteers in accordance with our child protection policy.

Please contact: Emma Pallett, Holiday Club Leader, [emmapallett@hotmail.com](mailto:emmapallett@hotmail.com), 07900 697945

Sally Wells, Registration Co-ordinator, [sally@thewellsfamily.org.uk](mailto:sally@thewellsfamily.org.uk), 07932 760864 if you are able to help.

Please pray for the Holiday Club team as we make the preparations for this important week in the St Andrew's calendar. Many thanks.

*Holiday Club Team*

**Cafe Mocha** is a small but very friendly - not for profit - cafe in town opposite the White Hart Pub. They are now looking for volunteers for all aspects of running the cafe. For more information about the Cafe and its vision, or about what help is needed please contact Helen on [Helen.horner@outlook.com](mailto:Helen.horner@outlook.com)

**MU** Thursday 21 May Ploughman's lunch 12-2pm. No set price, donate what you can. All welcome.

*Maggie McLoughlin*

### Design a logo for history in the making!

2027 marks 150 years of St Albans Cathedral, The Diocese of St Albans and St Albans city status. At the Cathedral, we're looking for a standout logo to bring our Alban150 campaign to life.

Whether you're a designer, artist, student, or simply full of ideas, this is your chance to create something seen across a landmark year - from events and exhibitions to digital and merchandise.

Win prizes including:

- £100 St Albans Gift Card courtesy of St Albans City Centre BID
  - A bundle of Cathedral event tickets and gifts
  - Your design used across the entire anniversary year
- Deadline: Friday 17 July 2026

See full details here: <https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/alban150-competition>

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### Future Dates

31 May	6pm	School Assembly Songs—fundraiser for Mafambisa Team 2026
6 June	10am	Eucharist - all welcome
	10am—12noon	Fund-raising car wash for Mafambisa Team 2026
7 June	6pm	Summer Deanery Evening Worship at St Mary's Potton
14 June	10am	Confirmation Service
20 June	7pm	Quiz Night with bangers and mash—fundraiser for Mafambisa Team 2026

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### A prayer for Christian Aid Week

Gracious God, when we stand on the plains of uncertainty, with no path before us, we look to you. We remember what you have done before and our anxious hearts are comforted. Showing mercy, you delivered us then; in your love and faithfulness, you will do it again. Give us the strength to step forward in hope. Give us faith that changes us, hope that feeds us, love that moves us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**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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Vicar:  
Revd Liz Oglesby-Elong (01767 312243 )  
Churchwarden:  
Nettie van de Weerd (07767 711353)

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Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade  
Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

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