



The Second Sunday of Epiphany

19 January 2025

<p>Sunday 10.00am Parish Communion</p> <p>Collect Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.</p> <p>Readings Isaiah 62.1-5 The vindication and salvation of Zion I Corinthians 12.1-11 Spiritual gifts John 2.1-11 The Wedding at Cana</p> <p>Zoom Join Zoom Meeting: CLICK HERE Meeting ID: 861 3500 8616. Passcode: 599753 Landline dial in contact: 0330 088 5830</p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Revd Liz and Churchwardens</i></p>	<p>This Week</p> <p>Monday 20 January 9.05am Leadership and Ministry Team</p> <p>Tuesday 21 January 7.00pm Buildings and Grounds Meeting 8.00pm Growth and Mission Sub Committee</p> <p>Thursday 23 January 9.30am Holy Communion, followed by coffee in Chapter House. Readings: Hebrews 7.25-8.6 Mark 3.7-12</p> <p>10.30 –11.30 am Warm Spaces 2.00pm World Day of Prayer planning meeting, Ivel Room 7.00pm 10+ Youth Group 7.30pm 12+ Youth Group 7.30pm 14+ Youth Group 7.30pm Friend's of St. Andrew Trustees Meeting</p> <p>Saturday 25 January 10.00 –12.00noon Coffee Shop and Warm Spaces 6.30pm Burns Night Ceilidh</p> <p>Sunday 26 January 10.00 am Parish Communion</p>
--	--

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

Churchwardens:

Chris Parker (07702 250776)

Nettie van de Weerd (01767 316214)

Parish Administrator:

Mandy Anning (01767 317207) secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk

office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade



Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to **office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk** by **Tuesdays, 11.00 am**

office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

bookings@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Requesting our Prayers: Thelma Holden, Jackie Coyles, Percy Doughty, Maureen Wade, Anita, Sally Wells, Shelagh Hizzey, Ian Pearson, Ruth Atkinson, Angela Morris, Val Scott, Maurice Darnell. We continue to pray for: Jane Parker, Philip Pettit.

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: Dudu, and Children: Nkaimulo, Owethu, Ansia, Isabel, Safinah, Neila. Please visit our blog at www.standrewslink.blogspot.co.uk.

We pray for the souls of all the recently departed: Albert Buckland, Mark Cox, Bernard Gurney, Ann Lovell, Pamela Gustard, 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: 19th John Pryor, 19th George Day, 20th Robert Roberts.

The Feast of the Baptism of Christ and the Launch of the Diocesan Year of Spiritual Renewal and Wellbeing 2025 - If you would like to access the sermon for last Sunday please click the link here: <https://standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk/whats-on/spiritual-renewal-and-wellbeing-2025/the-feast-of-the-baptism-of-christ-sermon.php> The Diocesan Year of Spiritual Renewal and Wellbeing has begun. Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Jane Cart Trust and other grant-making bodies, there is an inspiring programme of activities throughout the year ahead which are being generously subsidised, with no funding drawn from parish share. Just a taster of what is on offer there is a wide variety of retreats and Quiet Days including a Poetry Pilgrimage Day, an Online Week of Guided Prayer, Walking the John Bunyan Pilgrimage Trail, interesting courses and exciting events. If you would like to talk through what is on offer or need any help to access the information please do ask Revd. Liz or Rosemary Bentley to guide you further. Full details and how to book can be found here: <https://year.stalbansdiocese.org>

Burns Night –Saturday 25 January We are planning a Burns night Ceilidh on the evening 25 January to include poetry, Scottish dancing, songs and a quiz - save the date –more details on posters!

Christingle 2025 Our Christingle Service 2025 will be held on Sunday 2 February at 3pm. This service supports and celebrates the work of the Children's Society. There are candle collection boxes and also giving envelopes at the back of the church. These can be brought and handed in during the service on the 2nd.

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.

The Big Blunham Book Sale Will be held on Saturday 22 February 2025 10.00 am to 3.00 pm in Blunham Parish Church, MK44 3NQ, There will be an enormous selection of nearly new books - specialist and fiction sorted into categories. Homemade soup, homemade cakes, hot dogs, teas and coffees served all day. All profits to Blunham Church Fabric Fund. For further details please ring Sue and Peter Holden 01767 640572

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland are holding a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from 18-25 January. This year's theme is "Do you believe this?". For 2025, materials were prepared by the ecumenical community at Bose in Northern Italy. As we celebrate 1,700 years since the Council of Nicaea, the worship materials have at heart the Nicene Creed. Reflecting this, the scripture readings for this year focus on belief. In the resources which can be downloaded, we are invited to reflect on the story of Martha's confession of faith in Jesus as narrated in John 11:17-27. Each is called to sit with Jesus' provocative question to Martha: "Do you believe this?" You can find out more here: <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2025/> Revd. Liz, with John Dilley and Vaughan Johnson, our Churches Together in Biggleswade Representatives.

St. Albans Cathedral: Museum of the Moon Friday 3 January to Saturday 15 February 2025 As we start this Year of Spiritual Renewal and Wellbeing 2025, the *Museum of the Moon* artwork by artist Luke Jerram comes to St Albans Cathedral for the very first time. Come and marvel at its beauty or join one of the many events and activities that will be taking place in the moonlight, including an Interstellar 10 concert, yoga sessions, talks, jazz concerts, and so much more! Details & tickets: www.stalbanscathedral.org/moon

Generous Giving Appeal – Initial Update Firstly thank you for all of you who have responded to the Generous Giving Appeal. So far we have received 45 replies with 17 promising to increase their regular donations and a further 6 who have started to donate on a regular basis. If you have so far not replied there is still time.

The success of the Appeal will depend on you actually actioning your promise. Are you remembering to put the increased amount in your regular church envelope? Have you told your bank to increase your standing order to the Church? Have you contacted the Parish Giving Scheme to increase the direct debit? You can contact them via their website (parishgiving.org.uk) or phoning them on 0300 002 1260 where a very nice lady will help you to increase your donation.

If you need any help or have any queries then please speak to either Andrew Rutt (PCC Treasurer) or myself and we will help you. Once again thank you for all you have so far done. *Adrian Maynard* (Stewardship Co-ordinator)

Future Dates

Tuesday 28 January	7.30pm	PCC Meeting, Chapter House
Friday 31 January	11.00am	Funeral in Church for Mark Cox, RIP
Saturday 1 February	10.00am	Christingle Making, Chapter House
Sunday 2 February		Candlemas
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Family Communion, with Holy Baptism—baby Arleja
	3.00pm	Christingle Service [<i>donations for the Children's Society</i>]

Food Bank Many thanks to those of you who brought in Reverse donations. These have now been delivered to the Baptist Church. As Preen is still unable to distribute food I shall take any donations from the church to the Baptists from now on. They also get the donations from the supermarkets, so that might be easier for you to put something in there rather than bring it to church. *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

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)

www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk

Churchwardens:

office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

Chris Parker (07702 250776)

Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

Nettie van de Weerd (01767 316214)

Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade
