



Every Child Matters
Every life has a purpose!!



VII Sunday after Trinity

19 July 2026

VII Sunday after Trinity, 19 July, 2026

10am Parish Communion

Speaker: Teresha Clark Karahukayo
'Triumph Heart' project,

Readings: Isaiah 44.6-8 *Witnesses to God*
Romans 8.12-25 *Life in the Spirit*
Matthew 13.24-30,36-43 *The parable of the weeds*

Collect: Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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

Zoom To join [Click here](#)

Meeting ID: 931 2877 4094

Passcode: 263739

Landline dial in contact: 0330 088

5830

Sunday School—all school-aged children welcome

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

5:30pm Taize Service—Cockayne Hatley

Hear2 Listen Holiday Club 8:30am—1pm Tue-Fri

Wednesday 22 July

3:30pm-6:30pm Shoebox Appeal fund-raiser
(see notice for details)

Thursday 23 July

9:30am Holy Communion

Readings: Jeremiah 2.1-3, 7-8, 12-13
Matthew 13.10-17

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

11am Mantles Court Home Communion

12noon-2pm MU Ploughman's Lunch
(See notice for details)

Saturday 25 July

10am-12noon Coffee Shop, Chapter House

Sunday 26 July

10am Parish Communion

Mafambisa Team 2026 Commissioning

(No Sunday School until September)

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

12 noon Baptisms—Teddy, Lily, Elizabeth

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

Churchwardens Rosemary Bentley (07885 431928)
Rob Butcher (07733 226027)

Administration Assistant: Susan Thorn (01767 317207)
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All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to:
office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk by **Tuesdays, 11am**

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Intercessions Let us pray for: Churches Together in Biggleswade, Chapter House Groups; Charities who hire from us (Mind, Tibbs Dementia, Recovery College)

Requesting our Prayers: Joan Chelley, Percy Doughty, Thelma Holden, Margaret Hulley, Charles Rutt, Steve Waldron, Derek and Gill Whinnett.

We continue to pray for: Maurice Darnell, Joanna Friend

We pray for the souls of the recently departed: Emily Smith. 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:

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: Lucia and children: Boy, Clement, Sammy, Bandile, Siphosinhle, Inoncetia

Team Africa 2026 -The Africa Blog for 2026 is now live:

<http://standrewslink.blogspot.com/2026/07/team-2026.html> As we prepare for our departure, please continue to pray for the team in the weeks ahead — for safety, unity, and God's guidance in every step. While we are in Africa, you can follow our journey through the blog. We would be grateful if you would keep praying for us throughout the trip as we serve, learn, and support the communities we visit. Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and prayers.

Shoebox Appeal: On Wednesday 22 July from 3:30pm until 6:30pm, I will be holding an 'At Home' at 91 London Road in aid of the Shoebox Appeal. There will be no entrance fee or charge for refreshments—donations welcome and there will be a sales table. Please come and join us so we can continue our support of vulnerable and impoverished children in Eastern Europe. Car parking is not easy on London Road, so car share or walk if you are able.

Mary Dominey

Mafambisa update - Freya and Jack: We would like to say a very big thank you for all the support and sponsorship we have been given over the past few months. We have worked hard to raise the money to travel to Mafambisa and we have now reached our target. We couldn't have done this without all your help and support so we would like to say a very big thank you to everyone. It's now time to look forward to August and all we are going to experience in Mafambisa.

Freya & Jack

Mission Partner Review: Many churches have Mission Partners, who are organisations with whom they share a long term, mutually accountable relationship to work together for God's mission. Our current mission partner is Hands at Work. The PCC is reviewing our mission partner position. To help the PCC make future decisions, we would like to hear from you. Peter will be carrying out discussions to gather your views on our Mission Partner. There are three key themes:

- 1) Should we have a Mission Partner?
- 2) Should that mission partner remain Hands at Work?
- 3) If not Hands at Work, what kind of organisation should it be?

Ideally, we would like to hear your views on all three questions, even if you have a definite view. The format would be a short discussion, face to face or over the phone with some key questions. If this is not convenient, email exchange is also possible. Please contact Peter Giles if you would like to share your views, peterdvgiles@gmail.com



An Announcement from Bishop Richard

Having received the consent of both HM the King and the Archbishop of Canterbury, I will be retiring at the end of the year. Helen and I will move to our house near Milton Keynes, which will be a return to the diocese in which I was first ordained forty-two years ago.

It has been a huge privilege and joy to serve our diocese and its parishes, schools and chaplaincies over the last fourteen years. At the heart of this has been our shared commitment to Living God's Love, through going deeper into God, making new disciples and transforming our communities. Among the many other joys have been the work of the Diocesan Board of Education and the Diocesan and Mission Pastoral Committee, alongside national commitments to interfaith work and disability.

It has been a special responsibility to be Acting Bishop of St Albans for the last year. I look forward to welcoming and working with Bishop Andrew. I am only sorry that it won't be for longer.

I hope you will pray for me as I prepare for what comes next.

+Richard



Emergency Mission Fund: DEC Venezuela

A £500 donation from the Emergency Mission Fund has been made to the DEC Appeal for relief in Venezuela following the earthquake on 5th July. We continue to pray for the relief of those in circumstances of great need.

Rev. Liz - Vicar & Chair of the PCC

Youth Groups

Youth Groups have now finished for this year and we are all looking forward to our summer break. This summer will give us time to adapt our youth offering and come back bigger and better in September, more details of exact changes will follow shortly. For the moment we would just like to say a very big thank you to Peter who looked after our 12+ youth group. He will be missed by the children and group leaders but we thank him for all he has done over the past few years to make 12+ such a fun group. If you feel you would like to be involved in our youth offering next year please talk to one of the youth group team - Noah Dilley, Emma Pallett or Claire Leeks.

Many thanks -Youth Group Team

MU Thursday 23 July. 12-2pm. Ploughman's lunch. No set price, donate what you can. All welcome!

Maggie McLoughlin

Country Fayre Exhibition 'Calmness in Crisis'

This year our exhibition will focus on Calmness in Crisis - different ways we all cope when going through challenging times, linking in with our charities Cruse Bereavement and Homestart Bedfordshire. We would love to hear from the congregation as to what you do to keep calm and if able to represent this in our exhibition (e.g. art/painting, photography, other crafts, exercise, poetry etc.). Please do contact any of the Country Fayre Committee and we can discuss with you further. As usual, we will be asking for the help with running stalls and refreshments on the day as well as setting up and clearing up - please volunteer if you feel like you would be able to help (Saturday 19 September).

Oliver Dilley, Lucy Dilley, Noah Dilley, Jane Parker, Carolyn Marron, Sue Cleghorn, Nick Gurney

Biggleswade in Bloom 2026



Last Sunday, St Andrew's Church received a joint third prize alongside Beaumont Park Nursing Home in the Community category. Mantles Court Care Home received 2nd and the winner of this category was Biggleswade Community Gardens. Floral displays and other planting in the churchyard are maintained by several people, and the display also includes contributions by Neptune Cub Pack and Sunday School. The judges particularly noted our water butt installation. I would also like to thank those who donated towards plants. We have received several positive comments from those enjoying the churchyard setting.

Mark Simmons on behalf of Eco Group



Mark Simmons, Councillor Mark Foster (Deputy Mayor) and judges

Future Dates

1-16 August	Mafambisa Team 2026 in South Africa
16 August 5:30pm	Taize Service—Cockayne Hatley
6pm	Holiday Club Opening Service
18—21 August	Holiday Club
23 August 9:30am	Parish Communion
11am	Holiday Club Service followed by BBQ

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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