



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
BIGGLESWADE

Christ-Centred – Welcoming – Inclusive – Outward-Looking



The Second Sunday of Easter

27 April 2025

Sunday

10.00 am Parish Communion

Readings: Acts 5.27-32 *The Apostles are Persecuted*
Revelation 1.4-8 *The Alpha and The Omega*
John 20.19-31 *Jesus Appears to the Disciples*

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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

Sunday School re-commences
Followed by Coffee and fellowship in Chapter House

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*

Monday 28 April

09.05 am Leadership Meeting, Ivel Room

Thursday 1 May

10.00 am Holy Communion, Philip and James, Apostles
Readings: Isaiah 30.15-21, John 14.1-14
followed by coffee in Chapter House

12.00 noon—2.00 pm MU Lunch

Youth Groups re-commence

Saturday 3 May

10.00 –12.00noon Coffee Shop, Chapter House

5.00 pm Parish Safeguarding Officers' Evensong,
St Albans Cathedral

The Third Sunday of Easter 4 May

8.00 am Holy Communion—Order II Traditional

10.00 am All Together Parish Communion

12.45 pm Spring Sunday Lunch
please sign list in foyer to attend

Retiring Collections for Bishop of St Albans

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 romyben-ley@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: Derek and Gill Whinnett, Ruby Estrada, Nick Smithers, Thelma Holden, Anita, Sally Wells, Shelagh Hizzey, Ian Pearson, Ruth Atkinson, Angela Morris, Val Scott, Maurice Darnell, Chris Parker, Clerestine and Percy Doughty, Tim Robb. We continue to pray for: Cory Sherry, Joan Betts

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: Virginia. children: Bongane, Phinah, Excellent, Dineo, Thobela Mfanafuthi, Mdluli Lindokuhle. 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: 27 Olive Spring, 29 Joan Albane, 3 William Daniels

A message from Bishop Alan on the death of Pope Francis. It is fitting that Pope Francis, someone who celebrated the beauty of life and the love of Christ, should die at Easter. One of the last photographs we have of him is in a wheelchair, visiting the prison in Rome. He was a man of wide sympathy and extraordinary compassion who, in the name of the risen Christ, held out a hand of friendship to those on the margin. His papacy was marked by warmth and joy, and we join our Roman Catholic sisters and brothers in honouring his passing. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. *+Alan, Bishop of St Albans*

Prior to tower practice on Wednesday 23 April, the bellringers tolled a bell 88 times, in memory of Pope Francis RIP. Eternal rest grant unto Pope Francis, O Lord. He has been the voice of the voiceless, the champion of the poor. May perpetual light shine upon him, just as he has shone on this world.

+Requiescat in pace. Amen. Revd Liz.

Easter Home Communions. If you, or a relative / friend / neighbour, wish to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion at home this Eastertide please inform the Vicar or a churchwarden.

Gift of Easter Eggs, GH Seamers Funeral Directors. For our Easter congregations and Youth Groups, we are most grateful to GH Seamers for the most generous gift of chocolate eggs to be distributed during the festive celebrations. Our Thanks to Mr Tom Spavins, and his staff. *The Vicar.*

'Alleluia! Christ is Risen!' Easter greetings, and with grateful thanks to Richard, Bishop of Bedford's presence, presiding and preaching at St Andrew's throughout Holy Week and Easter Sunday: heartfelt thanks to God for all, and to all who helped to make our celebrations so special. 'He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!' *Revd Liz.*

Confirmation at St Andrew's Church Sunday 15 June. We look forward to Confirmation for young people and adults, and Admission to Communion for some children, during our special worship on Sunday 15 June, 10.00 am. Several have already expressed an interest in finding out further information, and exploring preparation classes; if you wish to explore the possibility of Confirmation please discuss with the Vicar, or churchwardens, as soon as possible.

Bishop of St Albans Retirement. Bishop Alan has announced his retirement, 31 May 2025, year after sixteen years as our Diocesan Bishop. To celebrate his commitment and to say thank you, there is to be a Farewell Service at St Albans Cathedral on Sunday 18 May, 3.00pm, which is open to all, when it is intended to give Bishop Alan a gift from the Diocese to thank him and wish him well in his retirement. At St Andrew's there will be retiring collections on **Sunday 4 May** for individual donations, should you wish to make a gift; nearer the time, BACS details will be provided to donate in that way. Thank you. *Ruth Marshall-Jones, PCC Secretary.*

MU Change of Lunch Date. The next lunch **Thursday 1 May 12 noon -2.00 pm.** Soup and roll lunch [might be ploughman's if the weather is warmer.] *Maggie McLoughlin*



APCM Sunday 11 May, 11.45 am. APCM in church: also facilitated by Zoom. All paperwork is now available at the back of the church and can also be downloaded from the website. It will also be disseminated by email to those on the emailing list. This year we are looking to elect 2 churchwardens, 4 people to serve on the PCC for 3 years, 1 person to serve for 2 years and 1 person to serve on the Deanery Synod for 1 year. If you are interested in any of these vacancies, there are election forms available at the back of the church. Please feel free to speak to any of the current members of PCC/Deanery Synod if you would like to understand more about the role(s). *Ruth Marshall-Jones, PCC Secretary.*

PCC Secretary Vacancy: I shall be standing down as PCC Secretary at this year's APCM on 11 May after having held the position for 8 years. If this is a role you feel you might be interested in pursuing, do please speak to me and I can elaborate more on the role and provide a job description, or you can email me at pccsecretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk. Please note that you do not have to be a member of the PCC to undertake this role. Many thanks. *Ruth Marshall-Jones, PCC Secretary.*

Revision of the Electoral Roll has now been completed and a copy of the revised Electoral Roll is displayed on the notice boards around the church. Please notify me if there are any errors. Many thanks. *Ruth Marshall-Jones, Electoral Roll Officer.*

Coffee Shop Rota. A few more people required to commit to regular offers of help for Saturday morning coffee shops. If you feel you are able to help - once a month on a Saturday morning - please speak with one of us so we can add you to the rota. Your help will be very much appreciated. *The Churchwardens.*

Holiday Club 2025 -Jungle Adventure. Our 2025 holiday club will take place during the week beginning 11 August followed by a service and barbecue on Sunday 17. This year's theme is Jungle Adventure, and we discover what a great guide Jesus can be. Please follow the link to sign up to help with our very successful holiday club. Click on "volunteer" and fill in the form – thank you. <https://standrewsbiggleswade.myknowchurch.co.uk/form/load/bHRCQ3ZQVVNuVFR0Yy9wVDNtZmtRT3hJa0pYcGhobWs0VU9Tdkd5MkVFb29iZ1ozYUg3bHdpMG1Sdk5r>

Future Dates

Thursday 8 May	10.45 am	Royal British Legion VE Day 80th Anniversary Commemoration Service, Market Square
Sunday 11 May	11.45 am	APCM in Church <i>Christian Aid Week begins</i>
Sunday 18 May	10.00 am 12.00 noon 3.00 pm 5.30 pm	Parish Communion Holy Baptism—Margot Bishop Alan's Farewell service—St Albans Cathedral Taizé Worship—St John the Baptist, Cockayne Hatley
Pentecost 8 June	8.00 am 10.00 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion— <i>Order II Traditional</i> All Together Holy Communion Sunday @ 6 for Pentecost
Trinty Sunday 15 June	10.00 am	Confirmation, and Admission to Holy Communion, during Parish Communion



Food Bank For updates on supply needs use the app BanktheFood. Details on the website bbcchurch.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. *Thank you.*

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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Churchwardens:

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