



The Fourth of Lent Mothering Sunday

30 March 2025

Sunday

10.00 am Parish Communion
with distribution of posies

Readings:

1 Samuel 1. 20-28. Samuel's Birth and Dedication
Colossians 3.12-17. The New Life in Christ
Luke 2. 33-35 Jesus Is Named and Presented in the Temple

Collect

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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 Join Zoom Meeting: [CLICK HERE](#)
Meeting ID: 861 3500 8616.
Passcode: 599753
Landline dial in contact: 0330 088 5830

6.00 pm Deanery Evening Worship
St Leonard Church, Old Warden
Preacher: Rosemary Bentley

NB. Clocks go forward one hour at 01.00 am

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*

This Week

Monday 31 March

7.00pm—9.00 pm Lent Group IV—Church

Wednesday 2 April

9.45 am Edward Peake Secondary School Easter Worship
11.00 am Edward Peake Secondary School Easter Worship
2.00—4.00 pm. MU Meeting. Ivel Room

Thursday 3 April

9.30am Holy Communion,
Readings: Exodus 32.7-14, John 5.31– 47
10.30 –11.30 am Coffee in Chapter House
10.45—12.00 noon Lent Group IV—Church

3.30—5.00 pm Edward Peake School Eco spring Fair

Saturday 5 April

10.00 –12.00noon Coffee Shop, Chapter House

Sunday 6 April

8.00 am
10.00 am

6.00 pm

The Fifth Sunday of Lent *Passiontide begins*

Holy Communion –Order II Traditional
All Together Parish Communion

Deanery Evening Worship—
St Lawrence Church, Willington
Preacher: The Bishop of Bedford

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: 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: Jane Parker, Philip Pettit.

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 careworker: Khethiwe children: Alisha Mabaso, Felicia, Lovemore, Fikile, Josephina. Please visit our blog at www.standrewslink.blogspot.co.uk.

We pray for the souls of all the recently departed: Wendy Walters, Val Burdett, 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: 31 Ann Reeves, 1 Roland Newman, 4 Peter Garratt

Easter Lilies and Paschal Candle Donations. If you wish to remember loved ones with a donation towards the cost of the lilies in church on Easter Day [£2.50 per lily], and the following weeks; and /or towards the cost of our Easter Paschal Candle, [approx. £140] please place an appropriately labelled envelope, together with those whose names you wish to be remembered, on one of the collection plates. The names of those in whose loving memory the Easter Lilies and Candle are donated will be posted on the prayer board in the Memorial Chapel area for Easter; and, also dearly departed names included on the Easter Day 2025 pew sheet notices. . Thank you. *The Vicar and Churchwardens*

Watch of the Night. On Maundy Thursday, 17 April, following the service at 7:30pm, when we remember Jesus washing his disciples feet and sharing the Last Supper with them, there will be a "Watch of the Night" in church until midnight. Recalling how Jesus asked Peter, in the garden that night, "could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray" (Matthew 26:40-41); this is an opportunity for us to 'watch and pray' as we quietly reflect on this Holy night. Please sign the list at the back of church so that we can ensure each half hour is covered by at least two or three people - but there is no maximum number. *John Dilley*

MU Meeting. Wednesday 2 April 2.00—4.00 pm. Ivel Room. All welcome! *Maggie McLoughlin*

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 a retiring collection on Sunday 4 May for individual donations, should you wish to make a gift; nearer the time, BACS details will be provided should anyone wish to donate in that way. Thank you. *Ruth Marshall-Jones, PCC Secretary.*

Eco-church Water Butt Faculty. Moving forward with Eco projects, the PCC approved the installation of a water butt on south side of the church to harvest rainwater from the roof, for flower beds and the garden of remembrance. A Faculty is required; Diocesan notices are now posted. The funding for the project has already been generously promised in memory of a former parishioner. *The Vicar and Churchwardens*

APCM 2025. Sunday 11 May, commencing 11:45 am in church; it will also be facilitated by Zoom. This year we require nominations for: * Two churchwardens, and several to serve 2-3 years on PCC. * One person to serve 1 year on Deanery Synod. 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 also available on the church website. *Ruth Marshall-Jones, PCC Secretary.*

Preparation of New Electoral Roll: In 2025 there is a **complete renewal of the Electoral Roll, not just a revision**. Every person who wishes to be included, whether on the present Roll or not, **must apply for enrolment**. Application forms available until Sunday 13 April. Please do pick up a form, complete and return to me as Electoral Roll Officer. 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 no later than Sunday 20 April**. Many thanks. *Ruth Marshall-Jones, Electoral Roll Officer.*

Sunday School - Easter Holidays. Thank you to all the children who have taken an active role in Sunday School this term. We would just like to let you know key dates over the Easter period that the children can get involved with. Sunday School will finish on Mothering Sunday (30th) for the Easter holidays and return on 27 April but don't worry there's is lots happening over the Easter holidays for the children. Sunday 6 April. All Together Communion. Palm Sunday 13 April. Come along to the market square at 9.45am when the children can use the palms they have made during Sunday School. These will be handed out at the Market Square. Good Friday 18 April. There will be children's activities, with parents/ carers accompanying children, available in the Chapter House during the service, along with refreshments and hot cross buns. Easter Day 20 April. We look forward to seeing you at these events. Thank you. *The Sunday School Team*

Lunchtime Vacancies at St Andrew's [west site] Primary School. Immediate positions available—please see posters on our Church noticeboards for further details if you are interested in these opportunities.

"Exploring Silence." Next session is again at St Peter's Church, Wednesday 2 April 7.45 pm: we would be very pleased to see you. More information at the website exploring-silence.org. *David Hindle*

Future Dates

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
Easter Day 20 April	8.00 am	Holy Communion—Order Two, Traditional
	10.00 am	Festival Parish Communion
Trinity Sunday 15 June	10.00 am	Confirmation, and Admission to Communion

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. *Thank you.*

Facebook: [@standrewsbiggleswade](https://www.facebook.com/standrewsbiggleswade) Instagram: [@standrewsbiggleswade](https://www.instagram.com/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](https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsBiggleswade)

Nettie van de Weerd (01767 316214)

Instagram: [@StAndrewsBiggleswade](https://www.instagram.com/StAndrewsBiggleswade)
