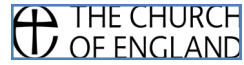




ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
BIGGLESWADE



PARISH NEWS

AUTUMN 2024



**Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in
them: let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.**

Psalm 96:12

PARISH OF BIGGLESWADE

- Vicar: Revd Liz Oglesby-Elong,
The Vicarage, Shortmead Street,
Biggleswade, SG18 0AT. Tel: 01767 312243,
vicar@standrewschurchbw.org.uk
- Licensed Lay Minister: Rosemary Bentley: 313517 romybentley@aol.com
- Churchwardens: Chris Parker: 07702 250776,
chris2parker@btinternet.com
Nettie van de Weerd: 01767 316214
wardens@standrewschurchbw.org.uk
- Organist : Robert Butcher: 313789.
Interim Choir Director: Robert Butcher: 313789.
- Parish Secretary: Mandy Anning: 317207,
secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk
All copies for inclusion in the Sunday Pew Sheets
to be emailed to: office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk
by Tuesday 11.00 am.
- PCC Secretary: Ruth Marshall-Jones: 316153,
rmarshalljones@yahoo.co.uk
- PCC Treasurer: Andrew Rutt: 313387,
treasurer@standrewschurchbw.org.uk
- Stewardship Recorder: Adrian Maynard: 312347.
- Parish Magazine Editorial: Margaret Spinner: 315793 Brenda Thorpe: 318568
Sue Oldroyd: 310394 Mary Dominey: 312939
- The Friends: Contact: John Dilley 318030.
- Bible Reading: Contact: Judith Thatcher: 01767 312588.
- Mothers' Union: Contact: Maggie McLoughlin 07866 506195 (text
preferred). 1st Wednesday of the month @2pm.

VICAR'S LETTER

*Eternal God,
You crown the year with goodness,
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season.
Grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need,
and for our own wellbeing.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.
(World Day of Creation prayer)*

From September 1st to October 4th, Christians around the world unite to pray and care for creation. The Season of Creation calls us to pray and respond jointly to the cry of Creation. The "Celebration" begins on September 1st, the Feast of Creation, and concludes on October 4th, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology, beloved by many Christian denominations and many animal blessing services are held that day. This is a time when many churches traditionally celebrate Harvest and give thanks for the food that we have, and take action for those in need. Harvest Thanksgiving will be celebrated at St. Andrew's on Sunday 6th October this year, when we will be supporting the Bishop of St. Albans Harvest Appeal 2024: "*Thrive: Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture in Sri Lanka*", a partnership project with The Leprosy Mission, helping people affected by leprosy to grow their own food and improve their standard of living. Everyone is most welcome.

This year's theme for the Season of Creation is "Hope and Act with Creation" and the "The first-fruits of hope" symbol is inspired by Romans 8:19-25. The biblical image depicts the Earth as a mother groaning as if giving birth (Romans 8:22). St. Francis of Assisi understood it this way when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his Canticle of the

creatures. The times we live in demonstrate that we do not relate to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but as a resource to be used, and often abused. “Creation groans” (Romans 8:22) because of our selfishness and unsustainable actions that harm it. Together with Mother Earth, creatures of all kinds, including us human beings, cry out because of destructive actions that cause climate crises, biodiversity loss and human suffering, as well as Creation’s suffering.

However, Creation teaches us that hope is present in waiting, in the expectation of a better future (Roman 8:20-21). To hope in the biblical context does not mean to remain still and silent, but to groan, to cry out and actively strive for a new life amid difficulties. As in childbirth, we go through a period of intense pain, but new life emerges. Creation, and all of us, are called to worship God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, working together for a dynamic future based on hope and action. Only when we work together with Creation can the firstfruits of hope spring forth.

As this Season of Creation 2024 draws to a close with Harvest Thanksgivings may we use this opportunity to renew our personal and collective calling to be good stewards of Creation, giving thanks to God for the marvellous wonders and resources entrusted to our care, pleading for God’s mercy for the sins committed against the world in which we live, and praying for God’s help for the care and protection of all Creation.

*All good gifts around us, are sent from heaven above.
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.*



The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)



DIARY: October – December

October:

Sun 6th Harvest Thanksgiving.

8.00 am Holy Communion. [*Order Two, Traditional*]

10.00 am Family Communion.

Thur 10th 7.30 pm Biggleswade Deanery Synod – St Andrew’s Church.

Monday 28th – Friday 1st November – Schools’ Half Term Holiday.

November:

Sun 3rd All Saints’ Day.

8.00 am Holy Communion. [*Order Two, Traditional*]

10.00 am Family Communion.

6.00 pm Sung Evensong for All Souls’.

Sun 10th Remembrance Sunday.

9.30 am Parish Communion

10.45 am Remembrance – Market Square.

Sun 17th Safeguarding Sunday.

10.00 am Parish Communion.

12.00 noon Holy Baptism

Tue 19th 7.30 pm PCC Meeting.

Thur 21st 7.30 pm East Bedfordshire Chamber Choir Concert.
John Rutter’s Gloria with Da Capo Brass, at
St Andrew’s Church.

Sun 24th 12.00 noon Holy Baptism.

Thur 28th 12.00 noon Wedding.

Sat 30th Christmas Bazaar.

December:

Sun 1st Advent Sunday

8.00 am Holy Communion [*Order Two, Traditional*]

10.00 am Family Communion.

6.00 pm Advent Service of Light.

PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM:

Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism. Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit, that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love, and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever. Amen.

Sunday 7th July – Ava Harriet Tranter.

Sunday 7th July – Olivia Sandra Bartlett.

Sunday 28th July – Layla–Rose Joyce Porter.

Sunday 15th September – Savannah Josephine Alexandra Clifford.

Sunday 15th September – Zendaya Grace Alexandra Clifford.

Sunday 15th September – Eden Courtier Alexandra Mitchell.

HOLY MATRIMONY:

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
1 Corinthians 13.4-7.

Saturday 13th July:

Scott Jonathan Keegan and Sophie Alice Elisebeth Alabaster.

Saturday 20th July :

Roderick Thomas Brown & Lucy Elizabeth Mary Jones.

Saturday 14th September:

Josiah Timothy Peter Arthur Mather and Bethany Ann Smith.

FUNERALS

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.' John 11.25,26.

26th June – Sally Jane Poulson.

2nd July – Thomas Alfred Smith.

8th July – Christine Rosemary Fuller.

25th July – Sarah Louise Dambris Joyner.

28th July – Philip Norman Martyn Hickin.
[Ashes in Garden of Remembrance].

8th August – Sarah Joyner and Anthony Joyner.
[Ashes at Stratton Way Cemetery].

13th August – David Wyatt.

21st August – Jason Lee Stimson.

27th August – Stephen Reid.

29th August – Jennifer Ann Baglin.

10th September – Betty Joan Dilley.

11th September – Paul Bennett.

23rd September – Janet Gauge.



WAYS OF GIVING TO ST ANDREW'S CHURCH.

The monetary donations given on a regular basis support the work and ministry of our Church and the wider world. They are vitally important if we wish to continue and grow our ministry, mission and outreach.

This can be done in a variety of ways:

- ◆ Through the **Parish Giving Scheme**, which is a convenient and efficient way to help you plan your giving. You can easily make the switch to this secure and efficient Direct Debit system. This also incorporates an annual inflation adjustment if chosen. Visit www.parishgiving.org.uk quote our Parish Code, which is 320632291.
- ◆ A standing order through your bank.
- ◆ The Regular Giving Envelope Scheme.
- ◆ The Yellow Gift Aid Envelope.
- ◆ Cash in the Collection Plate.
- ◆ And finally one off donations.
- ◆ And, of course, if you are a UK Tax Payer please gift aid, so that the Church can claim from the government an additional 25% of your donations.

Additionally, have you thought of **leaving a gift** to the Church in your will? This is an effective way of continuing to support the causes that are important to you in the future. Every legacy, big or small, will help to secure this Church for the next generation.

Please prayerfully consider the above and please speak to me if you have any questions and I will be happy to help you. (01767) 313387

Andrew Rutt, Church Treasurer.

THE FRIENDS'

The Friends' Social Evening will be held on Friday 4th October from 7.00 pm, in the Chapter House which will also include the annual meeting. We will be joined by a guest speaker, Ann Banham, who hosts tours of St Albans Cathedral. Ann will share stories, photos and experiences of the Cathedral.

Refreshments, including cheese and wine will follow the presentation. All are welcome to come and share in the evening, whether you are currently a 'Friend' or not, we'd love to see you.

John Dilley.

St Andrew's Biggleswade

OUR VISION

worshipping God with joy

growing in faith

serving with love and

welcoming all.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Rosemary Bentley 313517,

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Vivienne Gayfer 225898

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Netti van de Weerd 07767 711353

wardens@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

Deanery Synod Members

Rosemary Bentley: 313517 romybentley@aol.com

Hilary Johnson: 220533 hilary@vaughanjohnson.me.uk

Safeguarding Officer

Helen Tranter: safeguarding@standrewschurchbw.org.uk – 09951554484

Church P.A: Nick Gurney 07711 957122, or nick@gurneyfamily.co.uk

Bell Ringers: Charlotte Smith 01462 700676,

charlotte.m.smith@pobroadband.co.uk.

Brass Cleaning: Rosemary Jopson 313503.

Church Flowers: Jan Gardner 313124.

Chapter House Queries: Contact: Chris Parker 07702 250776 or

bookings@biggleswadeparishchurch.co.uk.

PAROCHIAL ORGANISATIONS

Sunday School:

Groups meet during the 10.00 am service on Sundays. Contact: Emma Pallett
319146 emmapallett@hotmail.com

Uniformed Organisations – For all Girl Guiding please register first via: girlguiding.org.uk

Rainbow Guides:

‘1st Biggleswade’ (St Andrew’s). Meet on Wednesdays from 5.30 pm to 6.40 pm during term time. Contact: firstbiggleswaderainbows@hotmail.com.

‘2nd Biggleswade’ Meet on Mondays from 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm during term time. Contact: Joanna McMurray, jlmcurray@hotmail.co.uk.

Brownie Guides:

‘1st Biggleswade’ (St Andrew’s) Meet on Mondays from 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm during term time. Contact: Babs Gurney, Leader.

Guides:

‘1st Biggleswade’ (St Andrew’s) Meet on Wednesdays from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm during term time. Contact: Rachel Calver.

Youth Organisations:

‘The Kitchen’: School year 9 & above meets Sunday 7.30 pm. Contact: Chris Parker 07702 250776 – chris2parker@btinternet.com or Emma Pallett 01767 319146 – emmapallett@hotmail.co.uk

10+ (Afters): For young people in School years 5 & 6 meets on Thursdays 6.00 pm. Contact: Claire Leeks – 07484 684743 or Mandy Anning – aamandy@aol.com.

12+: For young people in School years 7 & 8 meets on Thursday 7.30 pm. Contact: Peter Giles peterdgiles@gmail.com

14+: For young people in School years 9 & 10 meets on Thursdays 7.30 pm. Contact: Chris Parker – 07702 250776 or Emma Pallett – 01767 319146.

Holiday Club: Runs for four days during the Summer Holidays. Contact: Emma Pallett on 01767 319146 emmapallett@hotmail.com.

Visit the Church Website:

www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk

or



@StAndrewsBiggleswade



@standrewsbiggleswade



St Andrew