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# *The Parish Church of St Andrew*

**Sunday 15 March**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**

**8.00am**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**Celebrant:** The Revd Belinda Searle-Barnes  
**Preacher:** The Revd James Reveley

**10.00am**

## **PARISH EUCHARIST**

**Celebrant & Preacher:** The Revd James Reveley  
**Readings:** Exodus 17.1-7 *read by Nigel Haughton*  
Romans 5.1-11 *read by Richard Gallivan*  
**Gospel:** John 4.5-42  
**Hymns:** NEH 362, NEH 376, SASP 54,  
NEH 374, SASP 10, NEH 368  
**Intercessions:** Fiona McLeod  
**Anthem:** Call to remembrance - *Farrant*  
**Voluntary:** Sonata in F minor, 1st movement - *Rheinberger*

Everyone is invited to the Main Hall for refreshments.  
The Revd Belinda Searle-Barnes is at St Mary's Keysoe  
for the 10.00am service.

**6.00pm**

## **SACRED SPACE - CAFÉ CHURCH**

**Officiant:** Dr Diana Stretton



**Please ask a sidesperson if you would like a large print version**



# Prayers and Readings

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
whose most dear Son went not up to joy  
but first he suffered pain,  
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:  
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,  
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;  
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.**

## FIRST READING - Exodus 17.1-7

*A reading from the book of Exodus.*

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING - Romans 5.1-11

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. <sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then,

now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL - John 4. 5-42**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?'

<sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.'

<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.' <sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **POST-COMMUNION**

Merciful Lord,  
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations  
of the world, the flesh and the devil,  
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you,  
the only God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **This week we pray for**

- all of those in training for ordained ministry
- the family and friends of those who have died recently:  
✠ John Grayson (Funeral - Monday 23 March, 11.15am, in church)

### **and we give thanks for**

- Sandy, our Parish Nurse, and all she does for the people of St Andrew's

### **Notice Sheet Deadline**

Please send all notices to Karen Parrott, Church Office,  
email: [office@standrewsbedford.org](mailto:office@standrewsbedford.org) by **12noon on Wednesday.**  
This notice sheet is usually printed on Wednesday afternoon.

|           |        |                 |   |                       |
|-----------|--------|-----------------|---|-----------------------|
| MONDAY    | 16     | 8.30am          | Morning Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 9.30am          | Noah's Ark                                  | Main Hall             |
|           |        | 2.30pm          | Mothers' Union                              | Holt Room             |
|           |        | 5.00pm          | Evening Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 7.45pm          | Lent Course - 3rd session                   | Holt Room             |
| TUESDAY   | 17     | 8.30am          | Morning Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 5.00pm          | Evening Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 7.45pm          | PCC   | Holt Room             |
| WEDNESDAY | 18     | 8.30am          | Morning Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 10.30am         | Holy Communion                              | Holt Room             |
|           |        |                 | <i>Celebrant: The Revd James Reveley</i>    |                       |
|           |        |                 | <i>Preacher: Julia Bell (ERMC Ordinand)</i> |                       |
|           |        | 1.10pm          | Lent Lunchtime Service                      | Bunyan Meeting Church |
|           | 5.00pm | Evening Prayer  | Quiet Room                                  |                       |
| THURSDAY  | 19     | 8.30am          | Morning Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 10.30am         | House Group                                 | Charlbury Court       |
|           |        | 11.30am         | Holy Communion                              | Chapel                |
|           |        | 12noon          | Second Lent Lunch                           | Holt Room             |
|           |        | 5.00pm          | Evening Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 7.45pm          | Tower Bell Practice                         | Church                |
| FRIDAY    | 20     | 8.30am          | Morning Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 10.30am         | Parish Nurse Drop-In                        | Consulting Room       |
|           |        | 12noon          | Meditation Group                            | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 5.00pm          | Evening Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 7.00pm          | Treble Choir Practice                       | Church and Dent Room  |
|           |        | 7.30pm          | Choir Practice                              | Church and Dent Room  |
| SATURDAY  | 21     | 8.30am          | Morning Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 9.30am          | Flower bunching for Mothering Sunday        | Church                |
|           |        | 5.00pm          | Evening Prayer                              | Quiet Room            |
|           |        | 7.00pm          | Film Night                                  | Main Hall             |
| SUNDAY    | 22     |                 | <b>Mothering Sunday</b>                     |                       |
|           |        | 8.00am          | Holy Communion                              | Church                |
|           |        | 10.00am         | Parish Eucharist                            | Church                |
|           | 6.00pm | Evening Service | Church                                      |                       |

**Prayers for our March  
Mission and Outreach Partner**

**Autism Bedfordshire**

An independent charity dedicated to improving the lives of autistic people and their families across Bedfordshire.

**Eucharist Readings  
for 22 March**

Mothering Sunday  
Lent 4

**Year A**

Ephesians 5.8-14

Colossians 3.12-17

John 19.25b-27

## LENT 2020

**LENT COURSE: "Superstar"** continues on Monday evenings, 7.45pm - 9.15pm, in the Holt Room, until 30 March. You are welcome to come even if you haven't been before.

**UNITED LENT SERVICES AT BUNYAN MEETING: "Singing God's Praise".**

Wednesdays from 4 March 1.10pm-1.50pm. Lunches are available in the Church Hall before the service and light refreshments in the Foyer Coffee Shop. The John Bunyan Museum is also open from 11.00am to 4.00pm (entrance free). All are welcome.

**LENT LUNCHESES** continue on Thursdays during Lent - do come along for a simple lunch of soup, cheese and bread in the Holt Room. A minimum donation of £3.00 is requested. Profits from the lunches will be given to this year's chosen charity, Bedford Daycare Hospice. The lunches are preceded by an optional Holy Communion in the Chapel at 11.30am.

**TODAY - MEETING FOR SIDESPERSONS:** There will be a meeting for all sidespersons at 9.00am this morning in the Main Hall to discuss a number of matters which have been brought to the Churchwardens' attention. Welcomers are also invited to attend. Tea and coffee will be available. Please let Ian Smith know if you have anything that you wish to raise, preferably in advance of the meeting.

**THIS EVENING - CAFÉ CHURCH:** This evening's Sacred Space service at 6.00pm will be in the Café style format - involving the Coffee and Company team. A time of music, reflections and prayers with music from the Worship Band.

**WELCOME** this week to Julia Bell, an ERMC ordinand, who is with us on placement.

**ELECTORAL ROLL 2020:** Following last year's complete renewal, this year is an update of the Electoral Roll. If you are a regular member of St Andrew's please ensure that your name is on the Electoral Roll. Forms are available for new attendees at the back of church with a Data Protection form which should also be completed. When completed they may be placed in the box at the back of church or handed in to the Church Office. The current Roll will be available for checking on Sundays 28 March and 5 April at the back of church, or in the Church Office during the week. If you have any queries, please contact Sue Smith, Electoral Roll officer,



**HOST A MEAL OR BE A GUEST:** Today we are launching a new initiative aimed at helping us to get to know each other better. At the back of church you will find Invitation Cards. Please take one and fill it in - either to host a meal or to be a guest at a meal, or both - and post your invitation in the post box. You will then be contacted by one of the MAP committee to let you know what happens next. We have a great few weeks of hospitality to look forward to.

**CORONAVIRUS** - The following advice has been issued this week by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York: In light of the continued increase of Covid-19 cases in the United Kingdom, it is now necessary to:

- Offer Communion in one kind only to all communicants i.e. the consecrated bread/wafer/host, with the priest alone taking the wine;
- Suspend handshaking or other direct physical contact during the sharing of the peace;

**MOTHERS' UNION:** Our next group meeting is tomorrow, Monday 16 March, at 2.30pm in the Holt Room, when our speaker will be the Revd James Reveley on St John's Gospel. All are welcome to join us. Tea and cake will be served.

**FILM NIGHT** is Saturday 21 March at 7.00pm when the film to be shown will be *Letters from Mother Teresa*. Orders for food to Bedford 216881 by this Wednesday please.

**FLOWERS FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY:** The bunching of flowers for Mothering Sunday will take place in the church on Saturday 21 March from 9.30am and we would welcome offers of help. Donations of flowers/greenery would be appreciated and may be brought along between 9.00am and 10.00am.

**WILL YOU TAKE HIS CALL?: Could you do more to serve in God's church?**

A Diocese of St Albans event on Saturday 28 March, 9.30am - 1.30pm, at St Mark's Church, Hitchin.

- Do you dream of doing something for God?
- Have you gifts and skills to offer your local church?
- Would you like to make a difference in the world?

If so, then this day is for you. It is designed to help you find out how the church can equip and train you to answer God's call, whatever it might be. The event is free and open to anyone in St Albans Diocese, but please register in advance so the organisers know how many are coming. To register or for more information, please contact Barbara Young in the Vocations Office on [byoung@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:byoung@stalbans.anglican.org) or 07884 736546.

**BOOK CIRCLE:** The next meeting is on Monday 4 May, 7.45pm, at Brickhill Drive, when we will be discussing "*The Great Divorce*" by C S Lewis. This was recommended to everyone at the Jeffrey John lecture on 22 February. Do Heaven and Hell exist? Can one exist without the other? Jeffrey John suggested that these are questions which we should all be thinking about, and C S Lewis ponders them in this book. Intrigued? Then please join us. Brenda Mayoh.

**RECYCLED EASTER CARDS** at 25p each will be on sale every Wednesday morning after the service in the Holt Room until Easter. Brenda Mayoh

**WOMEN'S WEEKEND:** If you are interested in attending our September Women's Weekend in Pleshey, led by the Revd Sarah Burrow, please collect a flyer from the back of church.

**COLLECTING ITEMS FOR ETHIOPIAID:** Thank you to everyone who kindly donated items for us to sell at the Thriplow Daffodil Festival at the end of March. Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus, the event has been cancelled. If you are happy for us to retain the items you donated, we will make sure that they find their way to various stalls at the church fete. However, if you would prefer us to return them to you, please let us know and we will gladly collect them from you. We are really sorry for any inconvenience caused and are sad not to be raising funds for Ethiopiaid on this occasion. Fiona McLeod and Jenny Tomlinson.

### **FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S**

**VISIT TO PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL** on Saturday 30 May to attend Choral Evensong when our own choir will be singing. Tour of the Cathedral is an optional extra. The list is now in church to sign if you would like to go. Coach will leave from the church at 11.30am. Cost £15 for Friends members and £17 for non-members.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST:** We are arranging a trip to Tolethorpe open air theatre again this year on Friday 10 July. The coach will leave from church at 4.15pm. Cost £36 for members of The Friends (£40 for non members). Please sign up on the list in church if you would like to go to this production.

### **COMMUNITY**

**FRIENDS OF BEDFORD CEMETERY AGM:** Sunday 15 March, 2.15pm, in the Chapel at Foster Hill Road. The AGM will be followed by a talk - "An illustrated history of Bedford from 571 to 1939" by Bob Ricketts. Tickets £3 (£2 for Friends of Bedford Cemetery). Refreshments available.

#### **ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, KIMBOLTON ROAD, BEDFORD MK40 2PF**

**VICAR:** THE REVD JAMES REVELEY (*Day off - Friday or Saturday*) 01234 354234

**E-MAIL:** vicar@standrewsbedford.org

**CURATE:** THE REVD DUNCAN GOLDTHORPE (*Day off - Friday or Saturday*) 01234 268689

**E-MAIL:** curate@standrewsbedford.org

**CHURCH OFFICE:** 01234 216881

(Open Monday - Friday 9.00am-1.00pm & 2.00-5.00pm)

**E-MAIL:** centremanager@standrewsbedford.org

**WEBSITE:** www.standrewsbedford.org

Charity Registration number 1130171

**This Notice Sheet is also available on the website or by weekly email  
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