

Please take this home with you

The Parish Church of St Andrew

Sunday 8 March
Second Sunday of Lent

8.00am

HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Revd Duncan Goldthorpe
Preacher: Dr Diana Stretton

10.00am

PARISH EUCHARIST

Celebrant: The Revd Duncan Goldthorpe
Preacher: Dr Diana Stretton
Readings: Genesis 12.1-4a read by Angela Huddart
Romans 4.1-5, 13-17 read by Rob Huddart
Gospel: John 3.1-17
Hymns: NEH 485, NEH 378, SASP 20,
NEH 63, SASP 41, NEH 427
Intercessions: Wendy Ross
Anthem: If ye love me - Tallis
Voluntary: Sonata no.1 Finale - Guilmant

Everyone is invited to the Main Hall for refreshments.
The Revd Belinda Searle-Barnes is providing cover at
Biddenham St James and Kempston All Saints today.

6.00pm

SAID EVENSONG
BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Officiant: The Revd Duncan Goldthorpe



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



Prayers and Readings

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error
the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING - Genesis 12.1-4a

A reading from the book of Genesis.

¹The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' ⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING - Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

¹What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.'
⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL - John 3. 1-17

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' ⁴Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?'

⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.'

⁹Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of

Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

POST-COMMUNION

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts
which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

This week we pray for

- 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

- Alban Life - the ministry of Bishops, Archdeacons, ministers and supporting staff
- Lent ministry

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 15 March

Lent 3

Year A

Exodus 17.1-7

Romans 5.1-11

John 4.5-42

MONDAY	9	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		9.30am	Noah's Ark	Main Hall
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
		7.45pm	Lent Course - 2nd session	Holt Room
TUESDAY	10	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
WEDNESDAY	11	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		10.30am	Holy Communion <i>Celebrant: The Revd James Reveley</i>	Holt Room
		1.10pm	Lent Lunchtime Service	Bunyan Meeting Church
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
THURSDAY	12	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		11.30am	Holy Communion	Chapel
		12noon	Second Lent Lunch	Holt Room
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
		7.45pm	Tower Bell Practice	Church
FRIDAY	13	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet 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	14	8.30am	Morning Prayer	Quiet Room
		3.00pm	Messy Church (Registration from 2.45pm)	Starts in Main Hall
		5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Quiet Room
SUNDAY	15	8.00am	Holy Communion	Church
		9.00am	Sidespeople Meeting	Main Hall
		10.00am	Parish Eucharist	Church
		2.00pm	<i>Friends of St Andrew's</i> Tea Dance	Main Hall
		6.00pm	Sacred Space - Café Church	Church

Notice Sheet Deadline

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

LENT 2020

LENT COURSE: This Lent we are following a course entitled "Superstar", a York course with a printed booklet and audio clips, which explores themes suggested from the lyrics of the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar*. It is taking place on Monday evenings, 7.45pm - 9.15pm, in the Holt Room, continuing until 30 March. All are welcome, even if you missed the first week.

LENT CHALLENGE: Once again this year our Lent challenge is focused on the Food Bank. Please either collect an item for the Food Bank for every day of Lent (full list of items required will be available to view at the back of church or go to bedford.foodbank.org.uk) or pick up a jam jar today or next Sunday for "40p for 40 days" donations. Your donations (food or cash) should be brought to church on Easter Sunday.

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: On Thursdays during Lent, starting on 5 March, 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 will be preceded by an optional Holy Communion in the Chapel at 11.30am. Helpers and soups are still needed for these lunches - please sign up at the back of church, if you can assist.

TODAY - JIGSAW/JAM PLANNING MEETING: After the 10.00am service this morning, there will be a planning meeting for leaders of Jigsaw and Jam in the Holt Room. We will be looking at the Roots resources and sharing ideas to plan several future sessions together. Please speak to Elisabeth if you have any questions.

MEETING FOR SIDESPERSONS: There will be a meeting for all sidespersons next Sunday, 15 March, at 9.00am 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.

MOTHERS' UNION: Our next group meeting is on Monday 16 March, 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!

ST ANDREW'S MEN'S WEEKEND AWAY: 27-29 March 2020 at the Horstead Centre in Norfolk. The theme is "Walking by faith," which will be led by the Archdeacon of Bedford. Leaflets are available at the back of the church and in the Church Office.

CORONAVIRUS - a message from the Bishop:

The administration of Holy Communion has, for centuries, been considered hygienic and is of course a means of grace and healing. It is wise to follow best practice more recently laid down at times of winter 'flu and with the current concerns surrounding Coronavirus.

- The giving of Communion by intinction (dipping) is suspended
- Those with cold or 'flu symptoms are asked to receive Communion in one kind only.
- The receiving of communion in one kind only, the bread alone, is sufficient to receive a complete and valid Communion.

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 or 07884 736546.

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

ETHIOPIAID: Fiona McLeod and Jenny Tomlinson are seeking good quality items such as plants, large plant pots, toys, ornaments, clothes and shoes, stationary, wool, pictures, and such for their forthcoming stall at the Thriplow Daffodil Festival (28/29 March). Please do get in touch with Fiona or Jenny via the Church Office if you have any items they could sell. Thank you.

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, via the Church Office.

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.

JOB VACANCY: DIOCESE OF ST

ALBANS - Reaching New People Administrator

28 - 35 hours per week, Fixed Term. An experienced administrator is being sought to provide support to the Reaching New People Project Team. For full details, see www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/other-vacancies. Closing date: Friday 13 March.



**Come and join us on
Saturday 14 March 2020
3.00pm - 5.00pm**
(registration from 2.45pm)

St Andrew's Church

'Hidden Treasure'



Enjoy a fun afternoon for all the family with messy crafts, wonderful worship, great games and a delicious meal
Free admission – register on the day
£1 per person donation welcome

www.standrewsbedford.org Church Centre Office - 01234 216881

 St Andrew's Church Bedford

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
Follow St Andrew's on Facebook - look for "St Andrew's Church Bedford"

