CHESTERTON CHIMES

News from St Andrew's Church, Chesterton
A thriving, open and welcoming church community
for all ages

Welcome...

... to the February and March edition of the Chesterton Chimes, and a very Happy New Year to you all!

In this edition, you'll find service details for February and March - taking us into Spring - and news and details of upcoming events in these two months.

On page 9, you can find details of our Lent course based on Sam Wells's book: 'The Heart of it All: the Bible's Big Picture'. Groups will meet the week commencing 27th February - all are welcome!

As ever, you can find out more about upcoming service details on page 2.





What's On

February

5th February, 3rd Sunday before Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) 10:00am Family service (C,L) followed by Short Communion (C)

5:30pm No Service

12th February, 2nd Sunday before Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) 10:00am Sung Eucharist (C,L) 10:00am Café Church in the Hall - Candlemas

special

5:30pm No Service

19th February, 1st Sunday before Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) 10:00am All-Age Communion (C, L) 5:30pm No Service

22 February, Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion +Imposition of Ashes

26th February, 1st Sunday of Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) 10:00am Parish Communion (C,L) Junior Church in the Hall 10:00am 5:30pm No Service

Feb/March: Weekdays

Morning Prayer (C, M)

Mon-Fri 08:30am

Tuesday

10:30am Bible Study Group (Hall). For more information

contact John Reynolds:

reynolds.4@btinternet.com

If you would like to receive Communion at your home, email Rachel (contact details on the back page). The possibility of home Communion will be subject to guidelines - but we would love to discuss it with you if you would like to receive.

March

5th March, 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) 10:00am Family Service (C, L) followed by Short Communion (C) 5:30pm

No service

12th March, 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) 10:00am Sung Eucharist (C,L) 10:00am Café Church in the Hall 5:30pm No Service

19th March, Mothering Sunday

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) 10:00am All-Age Communion (C, L) 5:30pm No Service

26th March, Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP; C, L) Parish Communion (C, L) 10:00am 10:00am Junior Church in the Hall 5:30pm No Service

SEE THE WEBSITE. STANDREWS-CHESTERTON.ORG FOR LINKS TO THE SERVICES.

> Z = Z O O M, M = M E E T, L=LIVESTREAM, C=IN CHURCH, H = HALL.







READINGS FOR DAILY PRAYER: FEBRUARY

Readings for 5 February 3rd Sunday before Lent

Isaiah 58.1-9a, Psalm 112.1-9, 1 Corinthians 2.1-12, Matthew 5.13-20

Monday 6
John 17.1-5
Tuesday 7
John 17.6-19
Wednesday 8
John 17.20-end
Thursday 9
John 18.1-11
Friday 10
John 18.12-27
Saturday 11
John 18.28-end

Readings for 26 February First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5.12-19, Matthew 4.1-11

Monday 27

Tuesday 28

Wednesday 1 March
Thursday 2

Friday 3

Saturday 4

John 5.1-18

John 5.19-29

John 5.30-end

John 6.1-15

John 16-27

John 6.27-40

Readings for 12 February 2nd Sunday before Lent 2nd Sunday Design 136 Pon

Genesis 1.1-2.3, Psalm 136, Romans 8.18-25, Matthew 6.25-end

 Monday 13
 John 19.1-16

 Tuesday 14
 John 19.17-30

 Wednesday 15
 John 19.31-end

 Thursday 16
 John 20.1-10

 Friday 17
 John 20.11-18

 Saturday 18
 John 20.19-end

Readings for 19th February Sunday before Lent

Exodus 24.12-end, Psalm 2, 2 Peter 1-16-end, Matthew 17.1-9

Monday 20 John 3.1-21 Tuesday 21 John 3.22-end Wednesday 22 1 Timothy 6.6-19

Ash Wednesday

Thursday 23 John 4.1-26 Friday 24 John 4.27-42 Saturday 25 John 4.43-end





READINGS FOR DAILY PRAYER: MARCH

Readings for 5 March 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12.1-4a, Psalm 121, Romans 4.1-5, 13-17, John 3.1-17

Monday 6	John 6.41-51
Tuesday 7	John 6.52-59
Wednesday 8	John 6.60-end
Thursday 9	John 7.1-13
Friday 10	John 7.14-24
Saturday 11	John 7.25-36

Readings for 12 March 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17.1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5.1-11, John 4.5-42

Monday 13	John 7.37-52
Tuesday 14	John 7.53-8.11
Wednesday 15	John 8.12-30
Thursday 16	John 8.31-47
Friday 17	John 8.48-end
Saturday 18	John 9.1-17

Readings for 19 March Mothering Sunday Exodus 2.1-10, Psalm 127, 2

Corinthians 1.3-7, Luke 2.33-35

Monday 20 Matthew 13.54-end

Joseph of Nazareth John 10.1-10

Tuesday 21 John 10.11-21

Wednesday 22 John 10.22-end

Thursday 23 John 11.1-16

Friday 24 Romans 5.12-end

Saturday 25

Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings for 26 March 5th Sunday of Lent Ezekiel 37.1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8.6-11, John 11.1-45

Monday 27 John 11.28-44
Tuesday 28 John 11.45-end
Wednesday 29 John 12.1-11
Thursday 30 John 12.12-19
Friday 31 John 12.20-36a
Saturday 1 April John 12.36b-end











The Wintercomfort team would like to extend our huge thanks to all involved in the St Andrew's Community Carols event on Thursday 22nd December. How wonderful it was to be in such fine company with the lovely people of Chesterton in a packed church for this very special service.

We are indebted to Philip, Rachel and the team for their hospitality, to the talented musicians of CSD Brass for their beautiful music and, of course, to all who attended and gave so generously in support of Wintercomfort. We are so fortunate to have such lovely neighbours in the community of St Andrew's and we are so grateful for your ongoing friendship.

From all of us here, Happy New Year!

Azul Wasi News

First the not-so-good news ... The political situation in Peru is tough and after several years of instability, things came to a head in December with the president's removal. Since then, there have been a growing number of increasingly violent protests. Streets have been blockaded, and markets and supermarkets have been closed, making daily life challenging. We are pleased that the children and staff at Azul Wasi are all safe and well. Alcides asks that we pray for them and their country.

Now for some good news ... On Christmas Day, we were delighted to receive a video phone call from Alcides wishing us a Happy Christmas from everyone at Azul Wasi. In addition, we were able to say hello to all the children who were introduced to us individually by name as they enjoyed their traditional Peruvian Christmas breakfast of panettone and hot chocolate.

We also received this message of thanks to the people of St Andrew's from the team at LAFF (who support Azul Wasi themselves and are in regular contact with us):

We are incredibly grateful for your support over 2022. Your donations have secured a safe, nurturing, home and quality education and personal development support for the boys.

It has been a challenging year at Azul Wasi and in Peru in general, but there has been plenty of hope, too. With the opening of schools again at the beginning of the year, we've seen the boys transition back to where they belong: playing with their friends, learning in the classroom, and getting the education they deserve and need to thrive.

Our recent sports day with the young people at Azul Wasi was a real highlight - it was great to see the boys having fun, and doing things that students in the UK often take for granted (here's a short video of one of the activities on the day!)

Thanks to you and the Church, the boys have been able to continue to progress away from troubled pasts towards much brighter futures. We can't say thank you enough.



Date for your diary – Beetle Drive, Sunday 26th March, 6.00pm in St Andrew's Hall, with refreshments and a raffle. Tickets are available from us, Margaret Nimmo Smith, or from Rachel in St Andrew's Hall. Numbers are limited, so book soon for this evening of all-age manic dice throwing and fun. Offers of refreshments and raffle prizes will be welcomed.

If you would like to sign up for the mailing list to receive the twice-yearly Newsletter by email or would like to make a donation, you can do this via the church website. https://standrews-chesterton.org/church-life/mission-and-giving/azul-wasi/

Chris and Mary Pountain azulwasista@gmail.com







(savouries and Cakes etc. - not a hot meal)

Proceeds will go to Azul Wasi, a family home for street children in Cusco, Peru

Sunday 26 March at 6.00pm

in St Andrew's Hall, St Andrew's Road, Chesterton CB4 1DH







Hello from Sian, Ben and Arthur!

Dear friends,

I write this in the middle of half-unpacked boxes in the throes of having just moved house again! After a year of renting, we found a house to buy and moved in last week. Not back to Chesterton (alas!), but to our new home in a village between Cheltenham and Cirencester.

Arthur has started at the local preschool, and we cycle to drop him off. Hard to believe he is nearly 3. It seems so long ago when he first came to St Andrew's, a few weeks old and just before lockdown. His current favourite things are cows, tractors, ice creams, Playdough and Peppa Pig.

Ben works primarily from home as a town planner but visits the Oxford office weekly. The local area has lots of lovely running routes, very hilly cycles and outdoor swimming opportunities at Cheltenham and Cirencester, so there are lots for him to enjoy!

Sian is now working as a consultant neurologist at Cheltenham and Gloucester and enjoying the change of scene and autonomy of consultant life. Still, the challenges of working in the NHS have not escaped Gloucestershire, and I'm sure they are similar to the ones in Cambridgeshire. We all enjoy being closer to our wider family and seeing more of them.

We are settling in well to the Gloucestershire and countryside way of life with plenty of mud and rain. It's a St Andrew's Church - and School - in the village, which is lovely continuity, and I am sure we will find plenty to get involved in before long!

Our new garden has plenty of wildlife habitat (or opportunities to keep us busy, depending on your perspective!), so we will be applying the skills we honed in the churchyard with you. We also have a little more indoor space for visitors than before, and we'd love to see any of you if you're visiting the area.

Here are some recent photos to give you a flavour of what we are up to!

With love and best wishes to all who know us, stay in touch if you'd like (please ask the Church Office for our email).

Sian, Ben and Arthur





Lent Course

This year's St Andrew's Lent Course will be based on Sam Wells' book:

The Heart of it All: the Bible's big picture

Sam Wells is Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields in London, and is often heard on Radio 4, including on Thought for the Day and the Sunday Service.

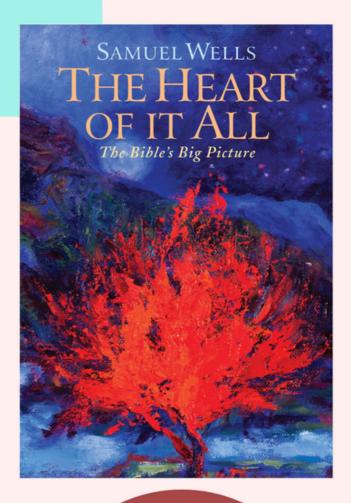
The Heart of it All is a short and engaging book with concise but readable chapters presenting the Bible as a single story – a love story between God, creation and humanity. Each weekly Lent Group will meet to explore themes from this story and reflect on faith together.

The 6 sessions accompanying **The Heart of it All** are designed to allow open wondering, thought and reflection; it's not set questions with set answers.

This is a Lent Course that will appeal to anyone who longs for the Bible to spark their imagination or feed their faith afresh. It gives confidence to read and discover the Bible for the first time or after a lifetime.

To watch Sam Wells interviewed about the book search YouTube: Bloxham Festival 2020 - Sam Wells - The Heart of it All

The book usually retails at around £9-10 online or in Heffers. It is also available as an E-book and Audiobook.



Lent groups will meet weekly either daytime or evening from w/c 27 Feb.early April.

For more information, or to find a group, talk to Philip

or email vicar@standrews-chesterton.org





Junior Church news

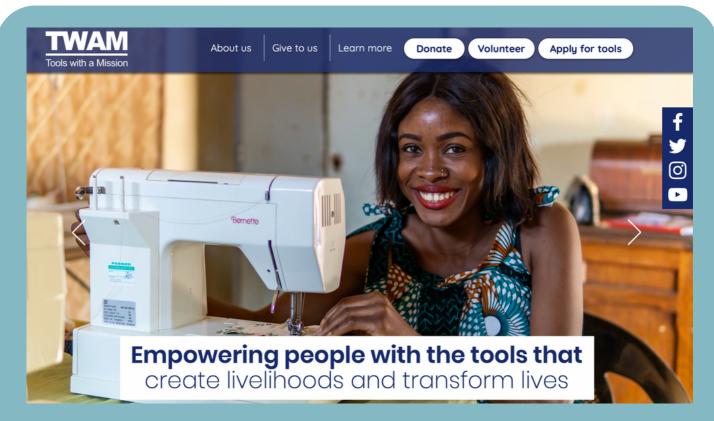
It was lovely seeing so many families at our Advent and Christmas Services including many in the wider community for whom these form an important part of their preparations and celebrations. One little boy had stumbled upon the Christingle-making the previous year and made sure to look out for it again! We were able to give visiting families a little book of the Christmas Story as a gift to take home with them.

We had a joyful return to cafe church on 8th January and the photos below are testament to the children's enthusiasm as Anne engaged them in the Epiphany story through tells and smells! But it is not only in the Hall that fun is to be had: in our All-Age Communion in Church on Christmas Day, the children were alternately running around the church looking for 'signs' or taking 'orders' in a mini boot camp (guess which they preferred...) More recently, they rolled a massive cardboard 'What -Where -Who?' dice down the nave as they learnt that St Andrew's is a church where it is ok to ask the big questions.

The first few weeks of February see more of the 'green and growing' time - both within and around us - before the church enters another period of preparation, Lent. Even as we give thanks for our dedicated Junior Church leaders and the fellowship of our Cafe church and small groups, it is good to know that we can enjoy the journey with All Ages at St Andrew's and learn from each other in every church context.

We look forward to seeing you soon, or get in touch with us via the Junior Church Co-ordinator on julia.eisen@standrews-chesterton.org





TWAM

Have you heard of TWAM - Tools With A Mission?

It is a voluntary organisation which collects used tools (including sewing machines), repairs and services them, and sends them to technical/agricultural colleges in Africa. Students use them in their courses and, when they graduate, are presented with their own tools to help them in working life.

The <u>TWAM website</u> provides details of how to donate and includes a list of people who can collect from your home if necessary.

As well as tools, they want copies of the Bible or New Testament in Modern English versions for the same destinations. This is the 'With A Mission' element of their name. I came across them last year, and they have a much tidier garage.

www.twam.uk

By Rosemary Mathew



GOOD NEWS!

Julia Birke, our former Time for God volunteer working between St Andrews Church and the Hall in 2013 - 14, has become engaged to Johann Friedrich whom she met in Cambridge while both of them were doing the same gap year work; Johann Friedrich at Emmanuel United Reformed church.

Johann Friedrich is an organist and Julia is a primary school teacher. Their marriage is taking place on 15th July 2023. They now live in Altenburg opposite a brewery! No further details are available at this time.

This is exciting news we couldn't wait to share with you, with Julia's permission of course.

Julia also attached this lovely photo.

CHURCH & COVID

The PCC continues to monitor our response to Covid, seeking an appropriate balance between precautionary measures and resuming valued practices in our worship.

There continue to be occasional positive Covid cases in the community, including some in our church community. If you feel you have Covid symptoms, please take a test or join the livestream for either our 8am or 10am services. If you do come to church in-person please be aware that it is a personal decision whether you wear a mask or not. There is space to sit at a distance from others in church if this is your preference.

Communion

The PCC recently discussed whether and when to return to sharing wine in the chalice as a "common cup" - as many other churches are now doing. It was agreed to transition back to offering the chalice at the beginning of Lent - from Ash Wednesday services on 22nd February onwards. Before then, there is a questionaire available at the back of church aiming to identify whether receiving the bread only or continuing to receive the bread dipped in the wine by the president would be the preference for those among us who will still opt not to receive from the chalice at this stage.

If you have questions or thoughts regarding our current Covid response, contact Philip or the Church Wardens - all contact details on the back page.

Prayers for Peace

The south aisle in church continues to be welcome space for prayer while the church is open during the day. Prayer resources remain available for focussed prayers for peace and on the ongoing situation in Ukraine.





OPEN FOR PRAYER & VISITING Monday-Sunday: 9am - 4pm



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St Andrew's Church, Chesterton



St Andrew's, Chesterton



@standrewschesterton

Thought for the Month

WRITTEN BY PHILIP LOCKLEY

Welcome! That's a word I've heard a lot recently. It has been regularly and warmly used around us as a family these few months, as we have been introduced to the St Andrew's Church community. And I have enjoyed saying it myself when beginning to host people in our new home - and as I greet you all from the front of church.

Welcome has also been on the minds of those in our church and local community involved together in the Resettle Chesterton project. Last month, a family from Northern Iraq finally arrived in Chesterton to begin their new life here. They have been made welcome and supported by a local voluntary team that has worked for many months to prepare for their arrival. While the weather will have been cold for them(!), we hope and pray our new neighbours will have felt warmth and reassurance in their welcome here.

Welcome is a theme I further see in a Gospel story often recounted in early February - Jesus being presented in the Temple as a baby (Luke 2:22-38). In church tradition, this festival is called Candlemas as it's celebrated with lights shining against the winter gloom that tends to persist at this time of year.

The Bible story centres on the response Jesus's parents find their child provokes when they bring him to Jerusalem: two elderly worshippers, Simeon and Anna, greet the arrival of the infant Jesus in the Temple with wonder and joy. Simeon thanks God that he has seen salvation, and Anna similarly speaks of this baby in relation to God's promised redemption.

The people I've often found myself drawn to ponder in this story are Mary and Joseph. I imagine them rather daunted by Jerusalem - venturing into the big city to do what's expected for a first-born son and intimidated by the Temple. They will have been concerned to find the right place to go, and anxious they didn't do the wrong thing. These young parents put me in mind of anyone not used to church, unsure of entering - and therefore needing reassurance that they belong and are welcome. And what a welcome is given! We understand the welcome is for Jesus - a faith-filled response to what God is doing in and through this child, namely welcoming the world back into a restored relationship with God. Only I see something in Anna and Simeon's own welcome of these strangers among them as wonderfully encouraging and reassuring - an example for all of us so used to hanging around in temples.

We all know welcomes are only the start of something. It's what comes after the welcome that changes lives and changes the world: friendship, partnership, and mutual understanding. But welcomes open the way to this. And I think church communities at their best always begin with a welcome and grow from there.

So thank you for your welcome to us as a family so recently. Let us continue to pray for the welcome of our new neighbours through Resettle Chesterton. And let us be moved and inspired by the welcome Anna and Simeon gave the Christ child and his parents. But most of all, let's work on what comes after welcome - with Christ, with our neighbours, and with one another.

Contact

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lan Nimmo-Smith, 288820

Hall Manager: Rachel Clarke, 306150

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Due to variable working patterns and external meetings the office is if you wish to meet with Rachel in person please call the office or email in advance to make an arrangement.

Associate priest: Revd Dorothy Peyton Jones, 523485

Junior Church Coordinator: Julia Eisen

julia.eisen@standrews-chesterton.org

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dom@standrews-chesterton.org

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