



# ST ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON

*A thriving, open and welcoming church community  
for all ages*

[www.standrews-chesterton.org](http://www.standrews-chesterton.org)

## Weekly News Update, 20 & 27 October 2023

The Weekly News is taking a short break for half-term week and so this Update covers two weeks of news. The next edition will go out on Friday 3 November. It is only possible to give live service links for this coming Sunday (22nd) – see below – but the links for the following Sunday (29th) will be uploaded to the website and can be accessed there: [www.standrews-chesterton.org](http://www.standrews-chesterton.org).

### **Churchyard Working Party on Saturday (21st):**

The third Saturday morning of the month working party in the churchyard is this weekend, from 9.30 till 12.30. The City Council team has cut the grass. Rakers needed! Do come and help as we need to gather up the cuttings within a week to keep our Bronze Award status as part of Cambridgeshire Churchyards Conservation. Hot drinks and biscuits at 11.00! Two of us this week saw amazingly well camouflaged frogs leaping about! (Or would they have been toads?) - Maggie

**Cafe Church meets this Sunday in St Andrew's Hall at 10 am:** This is a more informal service especially suited to families and children. The 10am service in church is a Parish Communion. All are welcome to either service.

**'All-comers' Choir:** In the spirit of the PCC's vision for music at St Andrew's, we are experimenting with an opportunity for "all comers", both experienced and inexperienced singers, to join together to provide music at the 10am Parish Communion service, beginning this Sunday. If you would like to be involved in the choir, please let Chris Pountain know (tel: 01223 311055, 07838 709746 or email: [chris.pountain@standrews-chesterton.org](mailto:chris.pountain@standrews-chesterton.org)).

For those singing in the choir this Sunday, there will be **an hour's rehearsal this Friday evening (20th) at 7.30pm in church** and then a **warm-up on Sunday morning from 9.15am in the choir vestry**.

### **Time to Remember - Sunday 5 November, 4pm**

The annual Time to Remember service to remember friends and loved ones who have departed this life will be on Sunday 5 November at 4pm. This is a quiet, reflective service for all who would like to be there. During the service, we shall build up a small "Garden of Remembrance" in the Church and read out names brought to the service by those who come. This year, families who have received funeral ministry from St Andrew's in the last year or so will receive a letter specifically inviting them to this service. If you know others who might appreciate this service, or would normally expect to come yourself - please consider this notice an invitation to come and also to share. Please feel free to bring a small posy of flowers, or a single flower, and a card with names you would like read out. Refreshments will be served after the service in church.

**Pilgrims - a group for going further on the journey of faith:** The group meets on Tuesday evenings at the Vicarage, 7.45–9.15pm, and is a relaxed and welcoming space to explore what we believe as Christians, with no questions off the table. The group met for the first time last Tuesday to begin a 6-week Church of England course on the Beatitudes - the teachings of Jesus at the beginning of

Matthew 5. Pilgrim will run until Tuesday 28 November (with no meeting on 21 November). It is not too late to join the group. To find out more, or to indicate your interest in attending, contact Philip.

### **Hymn and song-writing workshop in church - Saturday 11th November c.9am-12 noon.**

Are you creative with words? Are you creative with music? Would you like to get together with others in our church community to share words and music for expressing our faith, worship and praise? Alex Coke-Woods is looking to organise a workshop for anyone interested in our own hymn and song-writing in St Andrew's. We'll gather on the morning of Saturday 11 November, from 9am. Do come along - or get in touch with Alex for more details. [alex.cokewoods@gmail.com](mailto:alex.cokewoods@gmail.com)

**The Friends of St Andrew's Lunchtime Concert.** Friday 27th October, 12.30pm in the Church. Song and Piano Recital with Sarah Maxwell and John Marsh.

**Concert in Church on Monday 30th October, 7.30pm.** Concert with Mentés Maskent from Szeged in Hungary and Mnatobi directed by James Eisner. Help needed with stewarding before and during the concert.

## **Service details**

### **Sunday 22 October, 20th Sunday after Trinity**

[8.00 am Holy Communion](#) (BCP; live-streamed and in church)

[10.00 am Parish Communion](#) (live-streamed and in church)

10.00 am Cafe Church for families and young children in St Andrew's Hall

### **Sunday 29 October, Last after Trinity: Bible Sunday**

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP; live-streamed and in church)

10.00 am All-age Communion (live-streamed and in church)

### **Sunday 5 November, All Saints**

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP; live-streamed and in church)

10.00 am Family Service + Short Communion (live-streamed and in church)

4.00 pm A Time to Remember Service

## **Weekdays**

**Every weekday, except Tuesday:** [Morning Prayer](#) online at 9.00 am.

**Tuesday: Morning Prayer in church** (Common Worship) at 9.00 am.

**Monday:** Coffee Morning in the Hall, 10.45 am to 12 noon.

**Tuesday:** Morning Prayer in church, 9 am.

Pilgrims Group meets at the Vicarage, 7.45–9.15 pm.

**Friday (27th):** Friends of St Andrew's Lunchtime Concert. 12.30pm in the Church.  
Song and Piano Recital with Sarah Maxwell and John Marsh.

## **Please pray for...**

Please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East, and aid for all those suffering from the ongoing terrible violence.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York made this statement last week:

“We are grieved and deeply concerned at the violence in Israel and Gaza, and we unequivocally condemn the attacks by Hamas. We pray for those who are mourning, those who are injured, and all those fearing for their safety. We pray for restraint on all sides, and renewed efforts towards a just peace for all. The way forward must be for both sides to build confidence in a secure future through which Israel and its people can live in security within its internationally recognised borders, and Palestinians have their own state and live in their lands in security, and with peace and justice.”

**From the Book of Remembrance:** Horace Cook, Robert Douglas Shrimpton, Lilian May Weatherhead, Roy William Murfitt, Hazel Murfitt and Arthur Murfitt.

## **More news and some reminders...**

**Public Meeting (Zoom) on the next Bishop of Ely, 30 October 2023 at 7pm:** At this Public Meeting (which will be held over Zoom and Chaired by the Dean), individuals will be invited to ask questions, make statements and state their wishes for the new Bishop of Ely. For more information, see <https://www.elydiocese.org/public-meeting-zoom-on-the-next-bishop-of-ely.php>.

### **News from the Flower Group.**

For Harvest Sunday you may have noticed the use of new flower holders on the pew ends in the central aisle. These have been purchased using part of a legacy left to the church by Edna Andrews who was a founder of the Flower Group in 1966. Monthly meetings were then held where Edna would demonstrate techniques in flower arranging to any interested members of the congregation. She passed away in 2018 aged 98 years.

- The present arrangers continue to ensure fresh flowers are always in church and work to a pre-arranged rota, being called upon about 4 times during the year. In addition, all arrangers work together for church festivals, Easter, Whitsun, Harvest and Christmas.
- Meetings are now only held 2 or 3 times each year. These take place in the Church Hall where, over light refreshments, ideas are shared and a rota is planned for the year ahead.

If anyone reading this is interested in joining the group we would love to hear from you. Do have a chat with any of our members over coffee after a service, or at the Monday coffee mornings in the Hall. Alternatively, email Linda Marsh on [lindamarsh300@gmail.com](mailto:lindamarsh300@gmail.com)

### **Could you help steward concerts at St Andrew's this Autumn? Free listening included!**

Help is needed to steward two evening concerts and the pre-concert rehearsals, which are taking place at St Andrew's on Monday 30th October and Saturday 18th November. If you are interested in helping please see John Reynolds after church or contact him by email ([reynolds.4@btinternet.com](mailto:reynolds.4@btinternet.com)) or tel: 01223 249591. It is hoped that the number of concerts at St Andrew's will increase, so all offers of help will be gratefully received.

### **Volunteer Opportunities with Junior Church!**

We are delighted that our Junior Church is growing and that we are welcoming new families all the time. This means that we are looking to recruit and train up members of the wider congregation to support this important work. A small commitment from you would make a big difference to our children and young people growing and finding faith for themselves! There are many different ways you can help. Could you:

- be on a rota of helpers to assist the group leaders on the 2nd Sunday in the month?
- share your love of crafts by liaising with our Story teller at Cafe Church and dream up some creative responses for children and adults?
- help prepare the children's area in church to welcome families with pens, colouring and toys in the children's area - by getting to church 10-15 minutes early for Family / All-Age services and staying a little longer to help tidy after?
- make and serve coffee for the start of Cafe Church on a 4th Sunday (on an occasional basis)?

If the answer is 'YES' to any of these (or indeed if you have other ideas!) please contact Julia Eisen [junior.church@standrews-chesterton.org](mailto:junior.church@standrews-chesterton.org) Thank you!

### **And even more volunteer opportunities with Youth!**

And if supporting the youth is something you are passionate about, we would love to have your help either hanging out on an occasional Sunday afternoon, cooking a meal for the youth (we still need someone to do this on 5th November!), joining us for a WHY Group or two on a Sunday morning during Junior Church, or praying intentionally for the youth. Please, don't hesitate to chat to Jess if any of these things sound like they might be something you'd be willing to try!

### **Stewardship and Giving**

On Sunday 24 September, within the Parish Communion Service, Treasurer Michael Grande, and PCC Giving Coordinator Mark Lawson, gave a short presentation on the current church finances and the range of ways anyone can choose to give to the work of St Andrew's if they wish. Michael drew our attention to the ways that inflation is likely to affect our spending as a church in the coming year, with increases to our heating bills and wider costs going up - just like any household. St Andrew's is a generous church, and we rely almost entirely on regular giving to meet our operating costs as a church community. In recent years, the amount coming in has largely remained level, while costs have increased. This has meant that in 2023, we have had to use reserves to meet spending commitments, although not as much as we once feared, thanks to several very welcome donations. To everyone who gives regularly to St Andrew's - in all manner of ways, time, expertise and financially - Michael, Mark and Philip express huge thanks.

Mark then spoke more about ways to give, including the Parish Giving Scheme - which allows you to choose whether you want your gift to increase with inflation. There is a new yellow leaflet available called Growing as a Generous Church, which is at the back of church - and explains different ways of giving. Mark is very happy to discuss giving matters with anyone in confidence - and happy to advise on how to set up on the Parish Giving Scheme, if you want to know more. Contact [mark.e.lawson@live.com](mailto:mark.e.lawson@live.com) to arrange this.

### **Minims**

Minims is the singing group for 4-8 year olds that runs on Sunday afternoons in the church. You may have heard the Minims singing at the front during one of the Easter or Christingle services. The group now meets on 1st and 3rd Sundays, rather than only once a month. We would really benefit from another person to come and accompany us on piano or guitar for some of the sessions.

We would also love to hear from anyone who would like to commit to praying for Minims from the comfort of your own home, perhaps while the session is running (4-5pm), or anyone who would like to serve refreshments to the parents who attend. Any questions or ideas, please email [lizzie.h.thomas@gmail.com](mailto:lizzie.h.thomas@gmail.com).

### **Azul Wasi Newsletter**

Life at Azul Wasi has been very challenging over the past few months for a number of reasons which we have explained in the latest Azul Wasi Newsletter. You can find this on the Mission and Giving section of the is available on the church website:

<https://standrews-chesterton.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Azul-Wasi-Autumn-Newsletter-2023.pdf>

There are some printed copies in the hall and at the back of the church. If you aren't on the mailing list and would like to receive the twice-yearly Newsletter, you can sign up to this on the website:

<https://www.standrews-chesterton.org/church-life/mission-and-giving/azul-wasi/>

Please pray for Alcides and the other staff and of course for the boys whose home it is.

Chris and Mary Pountain (azulwasista@gmail.com)

**Book Club:** The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Tuesday 28th November, at 8 pm, at the home of Ewa Allen (42 Hawthorn Way, Tel. 367351). We will be discussing *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* by Olga Tokarczuk. It's set in a rural part of Poland and is part mystery story, part philosophical 'fable', offering ideas on injustice against marginalized people, animal rights, hypocrisy of traditional religion, among other issues. As ever, new and occasional members are most welcome.

**The October–November edition of Chesterton Chimes**, which contains news from our church community and details of services and events coming up in the next two months, is available [here](#).

## Community News & Notices

**ESOL Cafe in Chesterton:** A friendly group meets on Tuesday mornings at St Laurence's Church to help anyone who would like to improve their English speaking for whom it is not their first language. Each session deals with a different useful topic. Please see this [flyer](#) for details and visit [www.esolcafe.co.uk](http://www.esolcafe.co.uk), where the programme for this term can be found.

Please email any notices for inclusion in the next Weekly News Update by 12 noon on **Thursday 2 November** to [admin@standrews-chesterton.org](mailto:admin@standrews-chesterton.org). Thank you.