



St Andrew's Church

Open • Inclusive • Involved

Welcome to St Andrew's - may God's peace be with you

The First Sunday of Lent 22nd February 2026

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

President and Preacher: The Rev'd Hugh Priestner

10.30am Choral Eucharist

President: The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster

Deacon & Preacher: The Rev'd Hugh Priestner

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Officiant: The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster

Reflection: Gwyneth Hickman, Licensed Reader

Introit: The Lent Prose

Anthem: O Lord my God S. S. Wesley

Processional Hymn: **121**: Forty days and forty nights

Gradual Hymn: **119**: Forgive our sins as we forgive

Offertory Hymn: **128**: Jesu, lover of my soul

Communion Hymn: **126**: Jesu, grant me this, I pray

Recessional Hymn: **763**: Praise to the Holiest in the height

Collect:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.

Reading: Genesis 2.15–17, 3.1–7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden”?’ The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’ But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Gospel: Matthew 4.1–11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and

afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' "

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Healing prayer:

Irene W, George W, Luci & Sophie, Gillian M, Caroline, Lily, Denise, Mary S, Mary G, Cheryl W, David, S.M, Faith F, Jane B, William B, Rosemary & John K, Sue P, Carol S, Elizabeth I, Patricia T

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent at St Andrew's

Thursdays in Lent 5.30pm Reflective Prayer 6pm Lent Eucharist

Big Table Gospel Group will be reading David Ford's, *Meeting God in John: A Companion for Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Beyond*. All are welcome. It meets on alternate Thursday & Friday mornings at 10am starting Friday 20th February.

A booklet, **Draw Near: Life-giving Habits for Lent**, is available at the back of church. It focuses on the habits and practices that are essential to what it means to be a Christian—Do please take a copy for a suggested donation of £3.



Finally, during Lent we will experiment with reintroducing the passing of collection plates at the offertory. If you give regularly by Parish Giving or standing order, please do take one of the cards as you enter church, so that you can place this in the plate as a sign of your offering. You can also use our QR code.



News and Notices

Any item to be included should be with the office by Wednesday, 12noon.

The Second Annual Rex Pogson Lecture will take place in church at 4pm on Saturday 28th February. Entitled '**Angels don't speak... they sing... — Reflecting on Angels in the Arts**', we are delighted that it will be delivered by the countertenor, Patrick Craig, Director of Aurora Nova Choir, Full details and tickets are available here: <https://www.standrewrugby.org.uk/events>

The next **Rosebuds** will be 18th March 7pm at Satchmo's Corner.

Bereavement Point 2pm - 3.30pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (plus the 5th if there is one!). Opportunity for group conversation and relationship building where everyone is welcome and comfort is offered <https://compassionaterugby.co.uk/>

The Big Table Gospel group meets every week around the talking table in the cafe, alternating on Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact John on shoparound1938@gmail.com

Church Mice Stay and Play Group Great news! Church Mice has restarted at St Andrew's. 10-11.30am Fridays (term time) for ages 0-4 years and it's free. Please spread the news where you can. Volunteers are warmly welcome, have a chat with Lydia, Joyce or Heather for more information. Thank you.



Electoral Roll If you a regular at any of our services we would love to have you on the Electoral Roll, our contact list of worshippers at St Andrew's. This enables you to vote at the annual meeting and you may also like to think about being on our church council. Please speak to Pat, Joyce or Hash to check if you are already a member or if you would like a form to complete.

The St Andrew's 100 Club The 10th draw took place on Sunday 1st February with the winning tickets being; Number 3 - Beatrice Long, Number 45 - Annette Isles and Number 9 - Joyce Woodings. It is still not too late to support the work of St

Andrew's, why not consider joining The St Andrew's 100 Club for next year 2026 / 27, Application Forms will be available in March 2026 when you will have the opportunity to join the illustrious company of the thirty one winners to date. Good Luck to all ticket holders, future draws take place on the first Sunday of the month. Thank you for your support, John, Helen and Sonia.

We are hosting a 'Death Cafe' style Community Conversation Wednesday 4th March at 10.30 in St Andrew's Church. Death cafe's provide a safe and welcoming space for people to discuss death, dying, and mortality, fostering open conversations about these often-taboo topics. Death cafe's happen globally and are informal gatherings where people come together to share their thoughts and feelings about death and dying. The aim is to increase awareness of death, encouraging participants to live their lives to the fullest. There is no agenda; discussions are led by the participants themselves, allowing for a free exchange of ideas and experiences. There are several thousand Death Cafes listed across the UK currently, making them widely accessible to those interested in participating. Our 'Death Cafe' style conversation also provides an opportunity to engage with two of our local Funeral Directors whom we've invited to join us to help support any questions there might be about what to do when someone dies. If you have any questions in advance, please speak with Revd Sharon or Joyce Woodings.

Do you have any leftover wool or fabric that you are never going to use—if you do the Yarnbombers are collecting. You can bring into church for Joyce or take straight to Wild and Free in Bank Street--thanks.

Easter Lilies If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of the Easter lilies, maybe in memory of a loved one, please leave with the wardens or the office. If you are able to gift aid, please complete your details on a yellow envelope and mark as Easter flowers.

Diary for the week 23rd February - 1st March

Café open Monday - Friday 10am-2pm, Saturday 10am-12noon

Monday

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Knitting & crochet group
10.30am Art with Aish
6.30pm St A's Community Singers
7.30pm Bell Ringing practice
7.30pm English Mystics Livestream

Tuesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.30am Reflective Eucharist
1.00pm Lunchtime concert

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
12.00pm Eucharist
5.00pm Young Choristers

Thursday

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Big Table Gospel
Group
5.30pm Lent Reflective Prayer
6.00pm Holy Communion
7.15pm Choir Practice

Friday

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Church Mice

Saturday

4.00pm Rex Pogson Lecture

Sunday 1st March

2nd Sunday of Lent

8.00am BCP Holy Communion
10.30am Worship All Together
6.00pm zoom Evening Prayer

St Andrew's Staff Team

Rector: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey rector@rugbychurch.org.uk

Curate: The Rev'd James Sampson-Foster
james.sampsonfoster@rugbychurch.org.uk

Associate Minister (Mission Hub):
The Rev'd Alison Baxter missionhub@rugbychurch.org.uk

Associate Minister (Compassionate Communities):
The Rev'd Sharon Crofts sharon.crofts@rugbychurch.org.uk

Ordinand: Helen Bryant helen.bryant@rugbychurch.org.uk

Wardens: Joyce Woodings warden1@rugbychurch.org.uk
Hash Mistry warden2@rugbychurch.org.uk

Assistant Warden: Ian Sheppard asstwarden1@rugbychurch.org.uk

Director of Music: William Uglow directorofmusic@rugbychurch.org.uk

Young Choristers: Rachel Cliffe youngchoristers@rugbychurch.org.uk

Community Engagement Lead: Joanna Bryan
joanna.bryan@rugbychurch.org.uk

Parish Office: Kate Foster office@rugbychurch.org.uk

Bookkeeper: Gaynor Farthing bookkeeper@rugbychurch.org.uk

Technical Coordinator: Ben Foster ben.foster@rugbychurch.org.uk

Website: standrewrugby.org.uk
Livestream: [twitch.tv/standrewrugby](https://www.twitch.tv/standrewrugby)
Facebook: St.Andrew Church Rugby

After the service, please feel free to stay for refreshments—a chance for us all to get to know each other better.

If you have felt something special in this service and want to talk about faith, have a chat with one of the clergy or ministers after the service.

Toilets are available through the arch beside the main entrance.