



## Rotas for November

Date	Time	Sides	Reader	Coffee
7/11/21	9am	Gaynor W	Wendy C	
	11am	Sue J	Jill C	Liz S
14/11/21	9am		Joan B	
	11am			
21/11/21	9am	Diana L	Gill G	Ken J
	11am	Gill G	Debs P	Alison D
28/11/21	9am	Ann H	Ken J	Mick & Gill G
	11am	Debs P	Alison D	Susan J

There is now a link to the latest rota on the front page of the church website.

### Sunday services

9am@St Andrew's(HC)  
Leader:Mike/Rod

11am@St Andrew's  
Leader:Lindsey

11am@St Mary's  
Leader:Mike/Rod

### Services next week

#### **Sunday 21st November**

9am@St Andrew's(HC)  
Leader:Richard/Helen

11am@St Andrew's  
Leader:Breathe

All services at St. Andrew's will be held in The Bridge until further notice

**It is now at people's own discretion about wearing masks, however we need to respect the decisions of others who may wish to wear them. The wearing of masks when coming up to receive communion is still required.**

**St Andrew's Church is not currently online but will be in the near future on Facebook at the group "St Andrew's Church and The Bridge"**



# Your Church Needs You!

...and it won't cost you a  
penny!

Please support St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe on #easyfundraising this year, you can raise FREE donations when you shop online with over 4,500 retailers. It's simple and only takes 2 minutes to sign up! Plus, if you sign up, we'll get a £5 bonus donation:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/standrewschcount/?invite=B56H5C&referral-campaign=s2s&utm\\_source=stwsharebox](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/standrewschcount/?invite=B56H5C&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_source=stwsharebox)

This is a great way to raise funds for the church whilst doing your online shopping.

## What's coming up?

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22 NOV, MON     ● 08:45 – 15:45     Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone  
● 14:15 – 15:30     Friendship Teas The Bridge  
● 19:00 – 21:00     Bellringing St Andrew's

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23 NOV, TUE     ● 08:45 – 15:45     Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone  
● 13:30 – 15:30     Craft group The Bridge  
● 16:30 – 17:30     Singing Group (Shona) The Bridge  
● 19:00 – 21:00     Ministry team meeting The Bridge

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24 NOV, WED     ● 08:45 – 15:45     Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone  
● 19:00 – 21:30     Breathe The Bridge

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25 NOV, THU     ● 08:45 – 15:45     Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone  
● 10:00 – 12:30     Bible discussion group The Bridge  
● 13:00 – 16:00     Lets go The Bridge

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26 NOV, FRI     ● 08:45 – 15:45     Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone  
● 10:00 – 13:00     Leicester Stroke club The Bridge

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28 NOV, SUN     ● 09:00 – 10:00     9am service St Andrew's  
● 10:30 – 12:30     Breathe  
● 11:00 – 12:00     11am service St Andrew's

# Thought for the Week

## Dwelling on the past – or looking to the future?

Isaiah 43:16, 18-21 – (NRSV)

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters..... Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they may proclaim my praise.

Recently I read an article about a village that was in uproar against its church because it had been decided to remove the Victorian pews in the nave and replace them with chairs. Perhaps the villagers felt that the building should remain as it was so that their memories could stay intact, a space preserved so that future rites of passage could resemble the ones of former times. Perhaps they needed the church as a symbol of stability in a constantly changing world – this took place during peak coronavirus time, when all around seemed dangerous and chaotic.

But change is part of the human experience - only God is constant. For every generation there must be a different way of speaking God's eternal truths into lives that are in need of the grace, forgiveness and love that only God can provide. So we are told not to dwell on the past but to witness the new thing that God is doing in our midst – to witness, then to participate in the redemptive action of God.

What was previously barren desert will become fertile land, because God will provide the water of life for his people. We can always look to God – in whom past, present and future are held in the certainty of love.

Oh, the future lies before me,  
And I know not where I'll be;  
But where'er my path be leading,  
Saviour, keep my heart with Thee.

(Jennie Stout, 1901).

Keep safe, keep strong and keep the faith.

Gail x

# Prayers 21st November 2021



## **Reflection.**

**As the wall is being taken down, we have a glimpse at what is beneath. Our lovely church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1841 and then further work done in 1907. Its hard to believe how churches were built then, as they certainly did not have spider lifts as we have today. The stone masons years ago did not wear safety helmets or wear harnesses but as today the stonework, is down to**

**skilled tradesmen. If we think back thousands of years, men built the pyramids in Egypt just with handmade equipment. Today we have a team all working together, all needing the other to rebuild our wall. Our church also works together as a team, looking after each other, solving problems together, using the different skills we have, all of us wanting to follow Jesus and spread the Good News.**

**We pray this week and praise dear God,**

We thank you God for a fine day last week for our Remembrance service. We give thanks that many of us in the village were able to stand and reflect on all those young men that died because of wars.

We give thanks that work has started on the wall, and we are hopeful the work will not be held up in its progress of rebuilding.

**We pray to our God for what others need and for ourselves,**

We pray that Christmas services can now be planned and look forward to being held back in our church building,

We pray for our Benefice church in Foston that they too will start rebuilding their wall.

We pray for a solution between France and the United Kingdom with the refugees trying to cross the Channel every day in search of better lives.

We pray for all those still testing positive with Covid, we pray illnesses will be mild and more will be vaccinated and that Christmas can be enjoyed by families together this year.

**We continue to pray for our church members who still need our prayers.**

We pray for those ill or recovering from illness, Dave, and Jacqui, Christine, Roger, Dawn, and Sarah. Val and Andy, and for Jim and for Gail, for Angela and Les, Matthew and Kerrie and Stephen and Elizabeth.

We pray for them all, please keep them all safe in the shelter of your loving arms, dear Lord.

**We also pray for friends and relatives in need of our prayers,**

We continue to pray for Isabelle and James, Jean, Pat, Bob and Margaret, Colin, Hazel, Pat, and Karen.

We pray for all the residents in Cherrytrees, especially Freda, and for Sheila, Gwen, Jean, and Barbara in other care homes.

We pray especially for the family of Beryl Willis who died this week, A faithful member of St Andrew's and a loved dinner lady at Greenfield Primary school.

We pray for them as they plan her funeral on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

We pray for anyone remembering an anniversary this month, a birthday, a death or anniversary of a special day.

Dear God please surround them all with your love.

We pray for anyone else we know, who have lost friends or loved ones.

**Be with them all and their families now and in the days ahead.**

**Thank you, God, for hearing our prayers. Amen.**

**If you know anyone, especially in our benefice, who needs our prayers, large or small, and would like them to be included above (with their permission) please contact Anne on 0116 2772781.**

Email [aejelves@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:aejelves@yahoo.co.uk)

Or message our Facebook page:

St Andrews Church, Countesthorpe.

**We also have a WhatsApp and a Facebook Messenger group for prayers at any time. If you need prayers, please ask me (no need to give any details).**

**We also have a prayer group on Zoom, on Thursdays at 6.15pm. If you want to join us or would like us to pray for you, please contact Jacqui or Lindsey for details. All are welcome.**

## Contact Information

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Rev Rod Allard

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**WEBSITE: [www.standrewscountesthorpe.co.uk](http://www.standrewscountesthorpe.co.uk)**

**FACEBOOK page: St Andrew's church and The Bridge**

**OFFICE HOURS; Mon to Fri 10.00am til 1pm**

If you have any items you would like in WoW please let Ant have the details by Thursday morning if at all possible.