

What's On Where

In the 4 Saints Benefice
9th May 2021

NEWS FROM ST.ANDREW'S, COUNTSTHORPE, ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S, FOSTON,
ALL SAINTS, PEATLING MAGNA, & ST. MARY'S, WILLOUGHBY WATERLEYS

WEBSITE: www.standrewscountesthorpe.co.uk

FACEBOOK page: St Andrew's church and The Bridge

OFFICE HOURS; Mon to Fri 10.00am til noon

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30am @ St Andrew's (HC)

Leader Rev J. Hover

Usual covid rules re masks etc will apply.

St Andrew's Church is online live on
Facebook at the group "St Andrew's
Church and The Bridge"

This weeks readings

Acts 10.44-end

John 15.9-17

Collect for this Week

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to
your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your
love,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Bishop of Leicester is pleased to announce the appointment of the **Revd Richard Reakes**, Team Vicar of Bishop's Cleeve and Woolstone with Gotherington and Oxenton Team Ministry in the Diocese of Gloucester, as Rector of the Four Saints Benefice. Richard's service of Institution and Induction will be conducted by Bishop Martyn on Sunday 8th August 2021 at 16.30 at St Andrew's Church Countesthorpe.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

TUESDAY 25 MAY 2021
7.30pm on Zoom and in church
ELECTIONS

At the Meeting of Parishioners

Two Churchwardens

Completed nomination forms to be given/sent to the chairperson before the meeting

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

One Deanery Synod Member to fill a vacancy

Six PCC Members

5 to serve for three years
and 1 for one year to fill a vacancy

up to 4 Deputy Churchwardens (one-year term of office)

*Nominations for Deanery, PCC and
Deputy Churchwardens close
on Sunday 23 May*

*Nomination forms available in box at the back of church or
from Eva Morris, PCC Secretary:*

eva.morris@btinternet.com

0116 277 4622

**Booking is required for both Zoom and church
Contact Eva as above**



Christian Aid Week.

Christian Aid Week 2021 runs from 10th to 16th May. This is the 75th Anniversary of Christian Aid which was formed at the end of WW2 and raised an incredible amount of money to help refugees right across Europe. Since then Christian Aid has helped bring about real change all over the world helping communities break the cycle of poverty and plan for a better future-loving our neighbours as Jesus taught. Here in Countesthorpe we have had street collections and fund-raising events for many years and for more than 26 years the Rainbow Shop has donated its takings to help in this vital work. This year, like most other charities, Christian Aid has suffered dreadfully because the pandemic has meant it has been impossible to organise the usual events and distribute collection envelopes. All around the world people are enduring the effects of climate change, wars, starvation and now the pandemic as well. If you would like to help please donate on line at caweek.org or by telephone at 020 7523 2493.

'Thy Kingdom Come' May 13th - 23rd 2021

It is that time of year again for the global event, Thy Kingdom Come (TKC). For 11 days between Ascension Day and Pentecost, Christians from all denominations are called to pray for those who don't yet know Jesus, to know him. This year will also be a bit different as we are called also to pray for those who have known Jesus, but who have got lost along the way. It may help us to remember the stories that Jesus tells us in Luke 15, of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In these stories Jesus shows us how much God loves people who are lost, and the extent to which he is prepared to go to, to bring them home. Between Ascension Day and Pentecost, we are all called to pray for 5 people that we want to know Jesus or to return to Jesus. Please join in.

To support you in prayer, the Ministry team has bought a prayer journal for you to use over the 11 days. It is a gift to you to refresh your faith, especially if you have felt isolated from family, friends, community and church during difficult year. These can be picked up inside St Andrews church or St Mary's church on Sunday if you are attending the service. Or Ant will have some in the Bridge and there will be some in a plastic box, outside St Andrews church on the railings opposite the coop. If you struggle to get out of the house and need a booklet delivering to your home, please phone Jacqui on 07985 322 362 and she will arrange delivery of the booklet to you.

Please receive the prayer booklet as a reminder and an encouragement of how following Jesus

makes a difference to you. You may like to give a copy away to someone you know needs to know the hope of Jesus.

Other resources to support you

There are many resources (family prayer mats, videos, prayer booklets and a TKC phone app) to be found on the TKC website that may encourage and bless you. They can be freely downloaded from <https://www.thykingdomcome.global>
Join an upper prayer room

You may like to join in an upper prayer room either virtually or in a small group outside and spend an hour praying, as did the early disciples.

"When they had entered the city, they went upstairs to the upper room where they were staying [...] All these with one mind and one purpose were continually devoting themselves to prayer, [waiting together] along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers."

- Acts 1:13-14

Leicester Cathedral and the Community of the Tree of Life invite you to join with them for a day of nonstop prayer on May 13th-14th. Sign up for a one hour prayer slot to help fill 24 hours of prayer together. If you want to be involved, here's what you need to do.

Step one: Cut and paste this link into your web browser <https://mailchi.mp/775b56a41c79/247-prayer-sign-up>

Step two: Leave your details below to receive a prayer guide by email a few days before the prayer event.

Step three: Sign up for your prayer slot, simply use the relevant link for that month. It will say

May 13-14th // THY KINGDOM COME: <https://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/3ef09a>

Step four: enjoy your hour of prayer

If anyone would like a copy of a prayer resource that can be used for an hour please email Ant at standrewsoffice@hotmail.co.uk

Rob and John Memorial

You may remember late last year I began an appeal for Rob and John but shortly afterwards we went into lockdown again so as they say, 'all the best laid plans etc'.

As we are experiencing greater freedom now, I think a resumption is in order. **I have collected all the gifts previously sent but the cheques are now over six months old so will not be bankable.**



Would those people who have sent cheques please resend new cheques or send in cash. I have destroyed the ones you sent in. I do so apologise about this but completely forgot the six-month rule.



Over the last few years, we have lost two of our longest serving Lay or now Reader ministers. Rob Jelves died just over six years ago and of course in August last year we lost John Frakes. Between them they had ministered in St. Andrews, Foston and a great many churches in Leicestershire for around 60 years. Both Rob and John were loved and appreciated

by the congregations they ministered to. They were both loyal, punctual, reliable, and generous with their time. Although completely different personalities they brought different insights and thoughts into their sermons and ministries. Even though Rob died over six years ago, for many of us he left an indelible mark and is still very much missed. With John, inside and outside the church he was such a larger-than-life person who gave himself freely to others.

It would be fitting if we can remember both Rob and John with a lasting memorial. To this effect the committee who manage the garden behind the bridge have agreed a bench dedicated to them both could be installed, and a site has been allocated.

As a gesture of lasting appreciation for their collective ministries a fund has been set up to allow people to contribute should they want to.

I have arranged with the Parish Council for money in sealed envelopes labelled John and Rob to be dropped through the Village Hall or Library letter box. Similarly, Ant will be in the church office each morning from Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 13:00.

Cheques to be made payable to St Andrews PCC Countesthorpe. Cash is of course also welcome. Please write on the back of the cheques 'For John and Rob' The envelopes would then be opened by two people and the results published in the WOW.

I will monitor this appeal and close it in late June.

With many blessings, Revd. Mick Gillespie.

Plants for Sale

Perennials, Bedding, Herbs, Fruit, Veg etc

Please call Jill Duggan on 0116 2770171 for more details or walk past 19 Cosby rd to see what "specials" are on the table this week!

All proceeds go to Countesthorpe Community Garden at St Andrew's

Over £1600 raised so far this year.

Thank you

The Gardening Team

Prayers 9th May 2021

FOR THE FOUR SAINTS BENEFICE



Jesus the Carpenter.

Reflection:

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, By prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:6-7.

As I write this, we are having new windows installed and I am trying hard not to be anxious! It is a very noisy job, and I am praying the rain stays away

and the windows fit well. As with any fears, it is not easy to control our thoughts and for some people it seems impossible. In the bible there are many situations where things seemed impossible, but God is there with us in that situation and as St Paul says above, we must pray in every situation. Amen.

We thank you God and praise you:

We praise you dear God that the Covid cases in our area are reducing and our local hospitals are not over-whelmed.

We give thanks that some of the people we have been praying for each week have now recovered.

We give thanks for the announcement of a new Rector for our Benefice in the summer. We pray for Revd. Richard Reakes and his wife Claire as they prepare for their move from Gloucestershire to Leicestershire.

We give thanks for Revd. Jo for her ministry, support, and guidance during our interregnum.

We offer our prayers to you God this week:

We continue to pray for the situation in India, where the hospitals are overwhelmed, and large numbers are dying of Covid.

We pray for the patients, their families, the doctors, and health staff. We pray they obtain the oxygen, medicines, and vaccines they need to try and overcome the pandemic.

We pray too for Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe as she awaits her appeal over further imprisonment. We pray that our Government can work with Iran to secure her release so she can come home to her husband and daughter.

We pray for the dispute in the English Channel over fishing rights with Europe.

We pray for our local councils after the recent election and for our newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner.

We continue to pray for our church members who need our prayers. Those with ongoing problems, awaiting operations, trying to cope with mental health and for those grieving.

We pray for those ill or recovering from illness, Christine recovering after surgery, Roger, Dawn and Sarah. Val and Andy, and for Jim and Gail, Angela and Les, Matthew and Kerrie and Stephen and Elizabeth. We continue to pray for Brenda, Joan, Jean, and any others who mourn.

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 those on our WhatsApp prayer group and for those we pray for in our Zoom prayers.

We pray too for their family and friends.

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

We pray for those suffering with mental health problems especially young people.

We pray for those awaiting scans and operations, those starting treatment and those finishing.

We pray for anyone having to see doctors about results without a friend

or loved one by their side.

We pray for those receiving food parcels from our foodbank and we thank God people are still donating plenty, so no one goes hungry.

We pray for the homeless and those who try to help them.

We pray for the migrants, families with small children, desperate in search of better lives for their families.

So many in need of prayers, God knows them all by name.

We pray for ourselves, our families, our friends, and our neighbours.

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

Finally, we pray for those mourning the loss of loved ones.

Dear God please surround them with your love.

We pray also for Gail and for Jo as they bring comfort to the bereaved.

We pray for anyone else we know, who has 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

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.

If you want to pray with others, this is an informal group, and anyone can join us on Thursday evenings 7.00pm on Zoom. (ask for joining details).

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! This will make a BIG difference to us during this difficult time.

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

This is a great way to raise funds for the church whilst doing your online shopping. The best bit is ...it costs you nothing!

Thought for the Week

Matthew 6: 31-34 TLB

So don't worry at all about having enough food and clothing.....your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them and He will give them to you if you give Him first place in your life and live as He wants you todon't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow too. LIVE ONE DAY AT A TIME.

He has given you only enough strength for today, so place tomorrow in His hands.

Some time ago, I read this little poem:

“Said the robin to the sparrow,
Friend, I simply do not know,
Why these anxious human beings
Rush around and worry so.
Said the sparrow to the robin,
Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no heavenly Father,
Such as cares for you and me.”

Don't pull the roof of tomorrow in over your head today. God has lessons for you to learn todaysteps of growth He wants you to take todayblessings He wants you to enjoy today. The thing is, you can't experience any of them if you're focused on tomorrow, if you're anxious over the future. Ask God to teach you to “live in this moment”. Ask Him to teach you to enjoy the opportunities and the experiences that are in your life right now.

Be blessed as you read this short TFTW.....

Keep the faith

Gail



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Are you in need of some daily
hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone
line for you to ring to hear
comforting hymns, daily prayers
and reflections.

0800 804 8044

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Faith in later life CONNECTIONS

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Track and Trace

Please note that each of the churches (& The Bridge) have their own Track and Trace QR code. This is easy to use with a smart phone.

All you need is the NHS Covid app, follow it's instructions and then every time you enter the church buildings (or other places too) just open the app and point it at the code. This then logs where you have been without you needing to sign in.

We need to get used to this as it could well be the new normal for the time being.