



What's On Where



In the 4 Saints Benefice
30th January 2022

Sunday services

11am@ St. Andrew's (HC)

Benefice Communion

Leader: Lindsey/Richard

Sides: Debs P

Reader Alison D

Coffee: Mike & Sue D

Services next week

Thursday 3rd Feb

9.30am@St Andrew's

Leader: Mick

Sunday 6th Feb

9am@St Andrew's (HC)

Leader: Mick/Lindsey

Sides: Diana L

Reader: Wendy C

Coffee: Tracey T

11am@St Andrew's

Leader: Mick/Lindsey

Sides: Debs P

Reader: Debs P

Coffee: Liz S

11am@St Mary's

Leader: Mike

Due to Covid recommendations the Church will be well ventilated.

Please wrap up well as it will be colder than usual in Church.

Collect for this Week

O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

This weeks Readings

1 Cor 13

Luke 2.22-40

















Next weeks readings

1Cor15.1-11

Luke 5.1-11

Please note that due to the repairs work, Foston Churchyard will be closed as from Monday 29th November until the completion of the repair work. (Hopefully Mid Feb 2022)

What's coming up?

31	JAN, 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
1	FEB, TUE	 08:45 – 15:45	Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone
		 14:00 – 16:00	Mother's Union The Bridge
2	FEB, WED	 08:45 – 15:45	Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone
		 19:00 – 21:30	Breathe The Bridge
3	FEB, 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
		 19:30 – 21:30	Music Group Practice St Andrew's Church
4	FEB, FRI	 08:45 – 15:45	Pettitt's preschool The Cornerstone
		 10:00 – 13:00	Leicester Stroke club The Bridge
6	FEB, SUN	 09:00 – 10:00	9am service St Andrew's
		 11:00 – 12:00	11am service St Andrew's
		 11:00 – 12:00	Morning Service @ WW St Mary's

Thought for the Week

Strength For Today

This week UK Holocaust Memorial Day 2022 was celebrated so I thought it fitting to feature this in my Thought this week. Some of you will have heard of a Dutch lady called Corrie ten Boom who helped many Jews to escape from the Nazis during the second world war. Her book, 'The Hiding Place' tells of the room which her family constructed inside their house in Haarlem as a hiding place and then of their arrest and sufferings in concentration camps at the hands of the Nazis.

During some of their terrible sufferings, Corrie's sister, Betsie (who eventually died in the concentration camp), said, 'We must go everywhere. We must tell people that no pit is so

deep that He is not deeper still. They will believe us, because we were here’.

In the book, Corrie tells of an experience she had as a girl of about ten. She had been puzzled about what she had heard described as ‘sexsin’ and one day on the train asked her father about it. Her father stood up, lifted his heavy suitcase from the overhead rack and said to Corrie, ‘Will you carry it off the train?’. When she protested that it was too heavy, he agreed that it would be a poor father who would force a little girl to carry such a heavy load and explained that some things are too heavy for children to carry. Corrie testified to being satisfied – there were answers to her big questions and meantime she could leave them in her Father’s keeping.

She also recalled another experience after she had witnessed the death of a child and had subsequently become worried about death. It had become real to her and she was terrified that it might happen to those around her. That night when her father came to tuck her into bed, she burst into tears and came

out with it all: ‘I need you! You can’t die! You can’t!

Again her father had a way of dealing with the problem. ‘Corrie’, he said, ‘when you and I go to Amsterdam, when do I give you your ticket?’ ‘Why just before we get on the train’, replied Corrie. He said ‘Exactly. Our wise Father in

heaven knows when we’re going to need things too. Don’t run ahead of Him, Corrie. When the time comes that some of us will have to die, you will look into your heart and find the strength you need – just in time.’

It’s a wonderful thing that God gives us strength as and when we need it. He has made us in such a way that when we suffer a cut on the hand, all of the body’s resources are directed to that part in healing, and emotionally too, in times of stress, ‘you get the strength’. How much more is this true for those who consciously and trustingly look to Him in faith and hope.

2 Corinthians 1, 3-4 (NIV)

Praise be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles.

Whatever you might be going through right now please remember, God will give us the strength as and when we need it.

He giveth more grace when the burdens are greater;

He sendeth more strength when the labours increase;

To added affliction He addeth more mercy,

To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

Until next time,

Keep strong, keep safe and keep the faith.

Gail x

News from the Four Saint's Benefice

FUNDRAISING

The rebuilding of the wall at St Andrew's has used up all our reserves so we need to build them up again.

Are there 3 or 4 people who would like to organize fundraising events during the year? They would not have to take part in all the events, more to liaise with the event planners, checking dates, venues etc.

We also need ideas, large or small.

Here are some suggestions so far.

Dine India Charity meal

Friday Fun night, a monthly themed meal with wine

A 24 hour sing a long, inviting other groups from the community

Christmas fayre/ nativity festival

Boot route

Summer tea and cakes Sunday afternoon in the Garden.

All suggestions welcome, see Anne Jelves for more info.

Thanks

Mother's Union

Our first meeting of 2022 is on Tuesday 1st February in the Bridge starting at 2.30pm.

We look forward to welcoming our guest speaker Sally Bailey, her topic "On becoming a GP"

The committee look forward to meeting members and would welcome any visitor.

Latest Rotas

The Rota for Feb and Mar is now available. It has been emailed out to everyone on the email list. Copies are also available on the church website, from the church wardens and from Ant in the office.

We would like to invite our lovely church family to Gwen's funeral.

The details are:

Thursday 10th February - 12.30pm at the Cemetery, directly followed by a Thanksgiving Service in St Andrew's Church - after which there will be tea/coffee and cake. All are invited to both services.

Family flowers only - any donations to go to research into Dementia at The Alzheimer's Society
www.alzheimers.org.uk

With Every Blessing
Trevor, June & family

FREE FOOD

OLIO is an organisation that works with supermarkets to prevent good food being wasted and thrown away in landfill. Food that has reached its best before date and cannot be sold, is collected by volunteers who list the food on OLIO's APP.

You can request this food on the APP and then collect it from the volunteer's house at a pre-arranged time, contact free.

There are two volunteers in Countesthorpe collecting surplus food from Tesco Xpress, also volunteers in Cosby and Whetstone. So good food for free, what could be better? All volunteers receive training in safe food handling.

For more information contact me, Amanda Honnor tel 0116 2774801 or email amandahonnor279@gmail.com

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

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

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

Prayers 30th January 2022
The 4 Saints Benefice



Reflection.

This week we are joined by our friends from St Mary's, All Saints, and St Bartholomew's. It is good to worship together as a benefice.

We have different buildings, different communities, different ways of doing things, different traditions but we all worship the same God, our ministry team serves us all. Today may be different for some but we pray all will

feel welcome, all will see light in the darkness and that light will go with them as they return to their homes.

We pray this week and praise dear God,

We give thanks for the freedom to worship together.

We give thanks that Covid restrictions have been reduced.

We give thanks for slightly longer days, for bulbs peeping up in our gardens.

We give thanks for all those who volunteer in our churches and in our communities giving their time and talents for others.

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

We pray for our government and the decisions it makes both here and in the world.

We pray those decisions are wise and for the good of all.

We pray for Ukraine and decisions world leaders make this week.

We pray for us and the world in the continuing Covid pandemic. The world has changed in the last 2 years, help us to start to look forward and not backwards.

Thursday was Holocaust Memorial Day, may we never forget the lives lost and the lives of survivors, we pray this would never be repeated. We pray for the day without prejudice and hatred, help us to love one another.

We continue to pray for our church members and those who care for them, who still need our prayers.

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

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 Tracey, 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, Jean, and Barbara in other care homes.

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. We pray especially for the family and friends of our dear sister Gwen who died recently. We pray for Trev, June, Gemma, Rachel and all the family as they prepare for Gwen's funeral, may they feel your peace surround them.

**Be with them all 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 me (no need to give any details).

Contact Information

Rev. Richard Reakes

Rector

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Email:

richard.vicarage@gmail.com

Day off : Monday

Rev Rod Allard

Asst. Minister (PTO)

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Rev. Mick Gillespie

Asst. Minister (PTO)

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June Ainge

Reader Minister &

Pioneer Minister

Tel. 2776374

Lindsey Jelves

Reader Minister

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**Prayer for Healing and
Wholeness Ministry**

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WEBSITE: www.standrewscountesthorpe.co.uk

FACEBOOK page: St Andrew's church and The Bridge

OFFICE HOURS; Mon to Fri 10.00am til 1pm