

The parish magazine of  
**Hertford St Andrew**

[www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk)

APRIL 2026



SPRING IS A SEASON OF AWAKENING AND OPPORTUNITIES  
MAY YOUR EASTER AND SPRING BE BLESSED WITH LOVE, HOPE, JOY AND PEACE

Here with you Here for you

# HERTFORD ST ANDREW

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Website: [www.HertfordStAndrews.co.uk](http://www.HertfordStAndrews.co.uk)

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The Health and Safety Policy, and the Safeguarding Policy of Hertford St Andrew Parish Church can be found at [www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk/safeguarding](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk/safeguarding)

Whilst every reasonable care has been taken in presenting the information in this magazine, no responsibility can be taken for any inaccuracies. The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Priests, Churchwardens or editor.

## AWAKENING



The Wizard of Oz remains one of my all-time favourite films.

It's the story of four friends, each in search of something they've lost or lack. For Dorothy, it's a way home. For the scarecrow; a brain. The tin man is looking for a heart, and the lion desperate to find his courage.

These four had hoped that the Wizard would magically grant their wishes. Instead he tasks them with doing something brave, something that would call for compassion and wisdom.

And who can forget that game-changing moment when they realise that the Great and Mighty Oz is not in fact a terrifying and powerful wizard, but an awkward yet kind man who helps each one understand that they already possess exactly what they are looking for.

The courage, the compassion, the insight, the way home; it's already within. To find it, all they needed was the opportunity to express it.

This I believe is often the way God works. He doesn't wave a wand, magically granting our wishes. Instead he works with the seed of potential within each one of us, waiting for our permission to nurture and call it forth, to awaken us to become the answer to our own longing.

In another film, *Evan Almighty*, God (masquerading as a waiter) offers this piece of advice: 'If you pray for courage, does God give you courage, or does he give you opportunities to be courageous? If someone prays for the family to be closer, do you think God zaps them with warm fuzzy feelings, or does he give them opportunities to love each other?'

### WELCOME!

Welcome everyone to St Andrew's, and in particular visitors and newcomers. Details of services are given on the next and last couple of pages of this magazine. If you wish to know more about anything mentioned, please see the website or get in touch with any named contact person or speak with one of the churchwardens. For contact details, see the previous page.

The church is open during daylight hours, and there is a prayer space by the main door where there is an opportunity to post prayers on the prayer board and light a candle.

Spring is a season of awakening, and it's no coincidence that Easter happens during this time, when from the cold dead earth new life awakens.

So, a question for us all is 'what are we searching for?' If we could petition the Wizard, or God for that matter, for something we believe to be lost or lacking, what would it be? If you could pray one prayer, what would you pray?

The question which follows is, 'what opportunities then today will God give for you and me to become an answer to our own longings and our own prayers?'  
Alan

### OUR ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

## SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

This is for everyone who worships at St Andrew's – the one time in the year when we are all called to gather together to elect our Churchwardens and appoint new members of the PCC, to talk about the year that has passed and plans for the year to come. **The meeting will take place in Church at 12 noon, after the 10.30am service.** More info. inside.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE **MAY** MAGAZINE IS **SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**. Please send copy by email to [hertfordsta@aol.co.uk](mailto:hertfordsta@aol.co.uk)

# SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS

## Church Services

You will find a full list of church services at the end of this magazine and on the church website, with some additional information about certain services on this and the following pages.

## Junior Church

Children are welcome to attend Junior Church which runs during the 10.30am Parish Communion service on most Sundays during school term time, except during an All-Age service (see below), when the children stay in church for the whole service.

### ALL-AGE SERVICE

#### EASTER DAY

SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL at 10.30am

A shorter, child-friendly, interactive service with songs, prayers and surprises.

With organ and choir.

## St Andrew's services on Zoom

Zoom codes for online access and access via a landline are available from the church office: [standrew.hertford@btinternet.com](mailto:standrew.hertford@btinternet.com) or by calling 01992 504373.

Join us on Zoom for:

### Service of the Word

every Sunday at 10.30am with praise, prayer and teaching. There is a communion service once a month. Please check the services on the last page of this magazine and the website for dates.

**On Zoom on Sundays at 7pm except Soul Sunday evenings**



Compline is based on the Felgild Compline from the Northumbria Community and Night Prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book.

IN THESE TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY AND WORRY ABOUT EVENTS HERE IN THE UK, IN EUROPE AND FURTHER AFIELD YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN THE REV ALAN STEWART AS HE LEADS US IN PRAYER AT OUR MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING CALLED:



**on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30am**

Join us on Zoom or pop down to St Andrew's Church and join us in the Lady Chapel as we pray for ourselves, our churches and our world during these worrying times.

Once a month sees a different kind of service at St Andrew's called

## Soul Sunday



**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

Held in the



**St Andrew's Centre**

behind the church, this is an opportunity to join us for an informal hour of gentle discussion, songs and prayers, along with tea and biscuits and a heap of good fun.

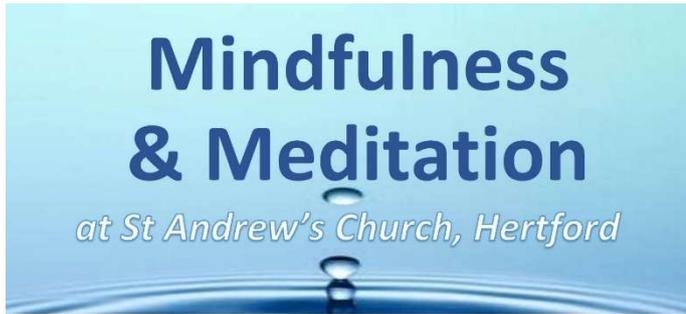
Please join us at

**6.45pm for refreshments**

**Service begins at 7pm**

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# SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS



## Mindfulness & Meditation

at St Andrew's Church, Hertford

**Mindfulness can help with wellbeing & stress.**  
 Explore alongside the riches of Christian meditation in a free 40-minute session.  
**Beginners especially welcome!**

**Wednesdays (usually twice a month) 7.30pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> April (Holy Week in church & on Zoom)**  
**15<sup>th</sup> April on Zoom only**

For details, including the Zoom link, please see our website:

[www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk)



# FREE Mindfulness

**WHEN**  
 Fortnightly on Mondays at  
**13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**  
**27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

Mindfulness can help with **wellbeing, stress** and **anxiety**. Come along and join the **FREE 30-min sessions**, followed by refreshments.

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*just turn up!*

**WHERE**  
 Sele Community Hub  
 Fleming Crescent, Sele Farm SG14 2DJ

 [www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk)  
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# Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter Services

at St Andrew's unless otherwise stated

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

**8am**

Holy Communion (BCP)

**Palm Sunday**

**10.30am**

Holy Communion

*The congregation is invited to begin the service outside the church, weather permitting. For those who are able to join this, we will process into church through the West Doors. At 10.30am, Rev. Alan Stewart and the Choir will lead everyone inside as the service begins.*

**10.30am**

a special Palm Sunday service **on Zoom**

**7.00pm**

Compline **on Zoom**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

**8pm**

Compline for Holy Week **on Zoom**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**8pm**

A candlelit Service for Holy Week in the style of Taizé

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

**8pm**

A Meditation for Holy Week  
(in church and on Zoom)

**Maundy Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**8pm**

Holy Communion followed by a candlelit  
medieval service of the shadows (Tenebrae)  
& watch 'til 10pm

**Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

**10am - 11.30am**

Good Friday Walk of Witness

From three other churches to Hartham Common – see  
Easter pages for more information

**12 noon**

– 2pm At St Andrew's, quiet space with  
interactive prayer stations

**2pm**

– 3pm The Last Hour (with choir)

**Easter Day 5<sup>th</sup> April**



**5.30am Dawn Service at St Mary's  
Hertingfordbury**

with the lighting of the first fire of Easter

**8am**

Holy Communion (BCP)

**10.30am**

All-age Holy Communion  
with an Easter Egg Hunt

***Please remember to bring a fresh flower to  
decorate the cross***

*[Please note: there is no Zoom service or Compline on Easter Day]*

**Easter Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

**7am**

**from All Saints' Church** Pilgrimage to St  
Albans Cathedral – see Easter pages for more info.

**3pm**

**St Albans Cathedral** Easter Monday Service

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# EASTER

## Good Friday Walk of Witness

3<sup>rd</sup> April 10am - 11.30am



Last year's Good Friday Walk of Witness was a great success. About 130 gathered at three of our churches, took to the streets and carried three large crosses through Hertford. The three teams converged on Salisbury Square in the centre of town and from there processed to Hartham Common for a short time of worship, prayer and Bible readings.

Join us this year and let's make the event bigger and better, impacting Hertford with the good news of Easter. The groups will gather at three locations

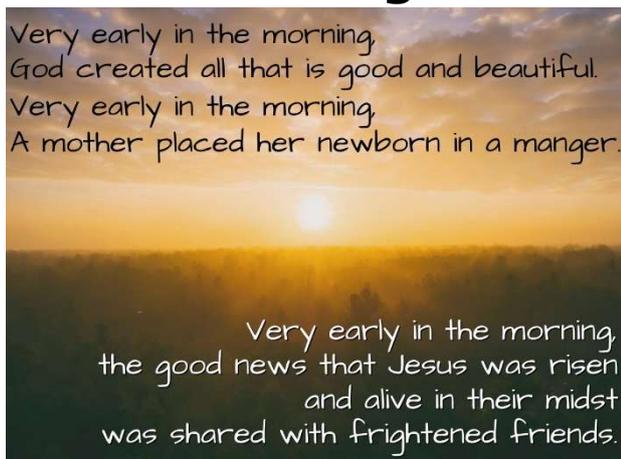
between 10.00am and 10.15am:

- Hertford Methodist Church, Ware Road
- All Saints' Church, Queens Road
- Hertford Baptist Church, in the garden at Cowbridge

As before, the groups will walk through the town carrying large crosses, giving out chocolates and a small card with a link to the Alpha Course Video – "Why Did Jesus Die?"

Join us and play your part in sharing God's great love with Hertford this Easter. Simply turn up between 10.00am – 10.15am on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at one of the locations and help to increase the impact and visibility of our Churches Together Walk of Witness.

## Easter Morning



**5.30am Dawn Service at St Mary's Hertingfordbury** with the lighting of the first fire of Easter.

In the early hours of Easter Day, just as the dawn is rising, travel with us as we re-enact the journey of the women who first went to the tomb. We begin in darkness in the church and then move outside where we light the first fire of the day. Please bring with you a torch and a noise-maker.

## Join a Zoom service

For Zoom links for Holy Week and Easter go to St Andrew's website and under the Services & Occasions tab find the link "Join us on Zoom" and scroll down.

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# EASTER

## Easter Monday Pilgrimage: 6<sup>th</sup> April

Every year for many years there has been a tradition of pilgrimage to St Albans Cathedral from all over the diocese on Easter Monday. This year, a group of us from Hertford churches are planning to walk from All Saints' Church to St Albans Cathedral on Easter Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026. It will be a very early start (circa 7am) to give us time to walk the fourteen miles to St Albans in time for the procession and service there in the afternoon. If you prefer a shorter walk or a later start you are welcome to join us en route. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Julia Gough ([julia.gough@cantab.net](mailto:julia.gough@cantab.net)) or John Duncan ([john.duncan2387@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:john.duncan2387@hotmail.co.uk), 07545 844293) for more information.

St Albans is the oldest known place of Christian pilgrimage in this country. A pilgrimage is the special journey we make to a special place and can be a sign of the inward, spiritual journey which we undertake through the whole of our lives, and which is ultimately to God. We hope that you will feel moved to make your pilgrimage to St Albans, and that you will find it to be a truly uplifting experience.

### St Albans Cathedral Easter Monday Service at 3pm

Join a thousand other pilgrims from across St Albans Diocese to celebrate the risen Christ at St Albans Cathedral.



All are welcome, including dogs. There is no need to book – just come along and join in the celebration with us.

Arrive at the Cathedral to gather on the beautiful Abbey Orchard before heading inside from 2.30pm for a joyful and informal service at 3pm. This year the Easter Monday band will be joined by **Russell Blackman**, and **Leah Bucko** will be speaking. The service will conclude with a short communion led by **Bishop Jane**, Bishop of Hertford.

**Russell Blackman** is a Barbadian-born, award-winning singer, songwriter, worship leader, and vocal coach who uses music and mentorship to inspire and impact lives.

**Leah Bucko** is a writer, speaker, and youth pastor at Soul Survivor with over ten years' experience working with young people in church and community settings. She has a heart for creating safe, honest spaces where young people can explore faith, mental health, identity, and the realities of everyday life. Drawing from her own journey and pastoral ministry, Leah speaks with warmth, vulnerability, and hope, bringing together story, Scripture, and lived experience in a way that connects with younger generations. She is the author of *Living In-Between Grief and Hope* and is currently working on her second book.

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# EVENTS

## COFFEE MORNING: SECOND SUNDAY IN APRIL



**JOIN US FOR OUR EVER-POPULAR MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April: 10.30am to 12.30pm**

Half of the money raised at this month's coffee morning will go to CHIPS, a local charity offering playschemes and social fun for children aged 3-19 with additional needs and their siblings in East Herts, Broxbourne and Waltham Cross. There will be stalls offering a variety of goods and live music will entertain you while you enjoy good coffee and a delicious selection of homemade cakes and bakes. You can expect a warm welcome.

**GREEN FINGERS?** The June coffee morning needs the help of those with green fingers, as it will have a garden theme. We hope to be selling plants (flowers and vegetables) so if you are sowing seeds or dividing perennials and have some to spare we would be most grateful. Please speak to Debbie Ledsam or Sue Mulligan to find out more! Debbie can be contacted at [dledsam@live.co.uk](mailto:dledsam@live.co.uk)

## *Sustainable Eating*

A talk by **Andrei Lussmann**

(Lussmann Restaurant, Hertford)



Source: Public Health England

Date: **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026**

Time: **Talk at 5pm and discussion afterwards**

Tea available from **4.30pm**

Venue: **Hertford Methodist Church, Ware Rd, SG13 7DZ**

All are welcome, no booking required.

*Part of the Hertford Churches Together Eco initiatives*

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# CHURCH MATTERS

## ST ANDREW'S ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

**SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL** AT 12 NOON

**COME AND HEAR ABOUT  
WHAT'S GOING ON AT ST  
ANDREW'S AND PLANS FOR  
THE FUTURE**

### **WHAT'S THE ANNUAL MEETING ALL ABOUT?**

First there is a preliminary meeting to elect Churchwardens. At the Parish Meeting which follows, you will hear about the work of the parochial church council (PCC) and the deanery synod, the parish's finances, the fabric of the church building and very many other aspects of what is happening in and through the

church. Everyone whose name is on the parish's electoral roll is entitled to attend, speak and vote.

### **HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE PCC?**

The meeting will elect people to serve on the PCC. The PCC meets six times a year, that is every other month, usually on the second Monday of the month, in the evening. The PCC has an important role to play within St Andrew's. A wide range of matters are considered and discussed on all aspects of our church life. Nomination forms will be available at the back of the church. If you would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact Alan or one of the Churchwardens (their contact details are in the directory on the inside of the cover page where you will also find a list of the current PCC members). There is more information about qualification for membership of the PCC on the church website: [www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk/pcc](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk/pcc)

**HOW CAN I GET  
INVOLVED?**

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## BISHOP ANDREW RUMSEY TO BE BISHOP OF ST ALBANS

Downing Street has announced that the Rt Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey, currently Bishop of Ramsbury in the Diocese of Salisbury, is to be the next Bishop of St Albans.

Bishop Andrew returns to the Diocese in which he was born and baptised, describing the appointment as "a homecoming" and saying he is thrilled to be joining a "fine team".



In a short video released at the moment of the announcement, Bishop Andrew reflects on the significance of returning to the place that formed him and shares his hope that our churches, schools and chaplaincies will be places "where people of every background can truly belong."

Bishop Andrew is currently the Suffragan Bishop of Ramsbury in the Diocese of Salisbury. His father served as a parish priest. He studied at the University of Reading

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# CHURCH MATTERS

and King's College London before training for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. Ordained deacon in 1997 and priest in 1998, he has served in a range of parish contexts, including Trinity St Michael, Harrow, and later as Vicar of Christ Church, Gipsy Hill in the Diocese of Southwark. He went on to become Rector of the Oxted Team Ministry in 2011.

Bishop Andrew has served as Bishop of Ramsbury since 2019 and is also the Church of England's national lead bishop for church buildings. Alongside his episcopal ministry, he is known for his writing on place and belonging, including *Parish: An Anglican Theology of Place* (2017) and *English Grounds: A Pastoral Journal* (2022). He is also a singer-songwriter; his latest album, *Evensongs*, was recorded live in the 12th-century church of All Saints, Ham, where he and his collaborators set out to capture the natural sounds and character of a summer's day in the building.

Bishop Andrew will move to the Diocese with his wife, Rebecca, and their family later this year, asking for prayers as they prepare for the transition. "Please know that I will be praying for you," he said, "and I ask you to pray for me and our family as we prepare for all that lies ahead."

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## MIGHT YOU BECOME A SERVER AT ST ANDREW'S? THEY PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN SERVICES AND WE ARE RECRUITING!

You will see us at every 10.30 Sunday morning service working away in our white robes around the altar before and during the service. You may not know our names, but we are Jennie and Sue, your Servers!

We thoroughly enjoy our role and count it a privilege to serve in this way.

We are both now in our mid-70s and would sometimes like to enjoy some time-off or cover for when we're unwell, although we have no intention of retiring yet!

The Server's role encompasses setting up the altar for our Eucharist services, serving our priests during the service, clearing, washing up, and putting the silverware etc. away afterwards.

If you would like to know more about the role, or think you might like to try it out, please speak to Jennie, Sue or Alan. Training will be provided and it's very flexible!

Many hands make light work!

Thank you in anticipation.

Jennie and Sue



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# CHURCH FAMILY

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### BAPTISMS:

*We welcome into the Lord's family:*

8<sup>th</sup> March Hudson Reason

22<sup>nd</sup> March Hudson Herbert

### FUNERALS:

*We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of:*

24<sup>th</sup> February Bridget Garratt

4<sup>th</sup> March Gladys Nellie Wall aged 99

### ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ST ANDREW'

Children are never too young to come to church. You and your children are very welcome at St Andrew's. We realise that bringing children, especially babies and toddlers, to church can be challenging to say the least, so we have set aside part of the church (the Children's Corner) at the front of church (to the right of the altar) which is equipped with toys, books, craft materials and a space to call their own. Here, even if they are occupied with a toy or book, children absorb the atmosphere of worship.

**Junior Church:** During the 10.30am Parish Communion on Sundays in term time (except when there is an All Age service) there are activities for children in the St Andrew's Centre. The children will begin the service with the congregation and then, after the first hymn, they leave to join Junior Church.

**All-Age Services:** These are monthly, shorter, child-friendly, interactive communion services with songs and prayers which are held once a month: usually but not always on the second Sunday of the month. Children stay in church for the whole of the service.

**Hertford Children's Choir** is a choir led by Rachel and Sam Chaplin for anyone aged 8-13 who loves singing and wants to develop their musicianship. Rehearsals are on Fridays 5.30-6.45pm at St Andrew's Church Hertford and there are termly performances. See the church website for more information.

A rectangular advertisement for 'Flowered Up' florist. The background is white with a decorative border of small stars. On the left is a stylized flower logo. To its right, the text 'Flowered Up' is written in a large, bold, black font. Below this, 'Your local Hertford florist' is written in a smaller, bold, black font, flanked by four stars on each side. At the bottom, contact information is provided: 'The Venerable House, 43A St Andrews Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG14 1HZ', 'hello@floweredup.co.uk | www.floweredup.co.uk | @floweredup | 01992 845098'.

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# CHILDREN'S PAGE

## On the road to Easter



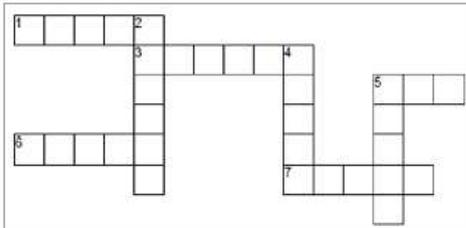
For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever BELIEVES in Him shall not perish but have ETERNAL LIFE. John 3:16

### I've just seen Jesus

Jesus said to her, "Mary". She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). John 20:16 (NIV)



Complete the crossword below. The words in the puzzle are found in John 20: 1-18

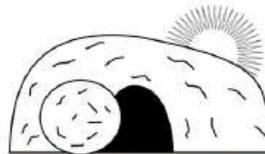


#### ACROSS

- The colour of snow; the opposite of black
- Messengers from heaven
- To produce tears; to weep
- Not dead
- To have nothing inside

#### DOWN

- The day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection
- What was used to cover the entrance to Jesus' tomb
- A piece of fabric made by weaving cotton, wool or other fibres



### Easter Cross Craft

#### You will need:

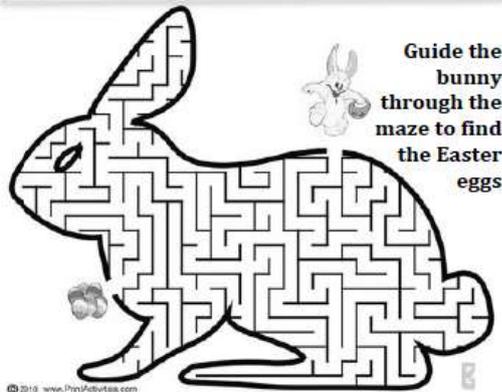
- \* White card
- \* Finger paints or watercolour and small brush
- \* Art tape

#### Directions:

- Using the tape, make a cross on the card.
- Paint around the cross, trying not to get the card too wet. In the picture (right), the artist has created a rainbow effect.
- Before the paint is completely dry, remove the tape carefully.



### ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



- |            |               |              |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ash        | Holy Week     | Palm Branch  |
| Wednesday  | Holy Thursday | Forty Days   |
| Sacrifice  | Good Friday   | Jesus        |
| Almsgiving | Holy Saturday | Passover     |
| Prayer     | Easter        | Foot Washing |
| Fasting    | Palm Sunday   | Resurrection |
| Lent       | Purple        | Love         |



Resources courtesy of: reallifeathome.com; manylittleblessings.com; catholicprintablesonline.com; sermons4kids.com; freefuneeaster.com; theresourcefulmama.com; reverendfun.com; clipartpal.com; printactivities.com

WITH THANKS TO VAL HURFORD

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# EVENTS AT ST ANDREW'S

## What a line up! Something for everyone!

Come join us for an inspiring evening

We are really excited to be able to invite the trio (right) for what will be a great evening of entertainment and interest. Listen to our well-known speaker about his views, often to be heard on the radio, about the environment and what it means for us; find out just how patterns in nature and music join together, then sit back and listen to some great music.

And you will be supporting both the Church (to ensure it can continue to host such events) and a fantastic small environmental charity (the Wild Trout Trust) that carries out great river restoration and enhancement work for all species across the UK including Hertford's very own River Mimram in Panshanger Park.

If you want to know more about this event speak to Jenny or Forbes Mutch or email them on [standrewsfolk2@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsfolk2@gmail.com) or better still book via the QR code or on the St Andrew's website as per the link in the flyer on the right.

**CELEBRATE**  
*The Natural World*  
An evening exploring the beauty, wonder and importance of the countryside through music, art and conversation

**Speaker: Tony Juniper**  
Chair of Natural England and one of the UK's leading voices on nature and the environment

**Artist: Clay Thompson**  
An illustrated talk about capturing nature's patterns and beauty through drawing

**Singer: Craig Joiner**  
Award-winning singer-songwriter and passionate advocate for the natural world

**THURSDAY 21 MAY**  
**7.30pm**  
**St Andrew's Church**  
**Hertford SG14 1HZ**

**TICKETS £15**  
Licensed bar

**MORE INFO**

Use QR code to book or visit: [www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk) and follow the links to Whats on, then Celebrating the natural world



St Andrew's has a great line-up of some of the country's headline folk performers in 2026 including...

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June: **Gryphon**

Back by popular demand after their sell-out gig at St Andrew's in 2025, Gryphon return with their progressive folk-rock mix of medieval and Renaissance sounds, creating music that feels both ancient and modern and adventurous.

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# EVENTS AT ST ANDREW'S

## Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September: **Megson**

Four times nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and double winners of the Spiral Earth Awards Megson, aka Stu and Debbie Hanna, draw heavily on their Teesside heritage to create a truly unique brand of folk music.

## Thursday 15 October: **Martin Simpson**

Widely regarded as one of the finest acoustic guitarists in British folk music, Martin returns to St Andrew's with his expressive fingerstyle playing that blends traditional British folk, American blues and old-time influences into something that feels both ancient and vividly personal.

## Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December: **Churchfitters**

Without seeing a Churchfitters Christmas show your festive season will be so much poorer. You have to see this band at their joyful, uplifting best. Miss this gig at your peril.

Check **Folk at St Andrew's** under the **What's On** tab of the church's website for ticket information: [www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk)

## chapter79.

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Contact Emma or Ian

email: [sehscds@hotmail.com](mailto:sehscds@hotmail.com)

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# SHAPING MINISTRY IN OUR DIOCESE

The March meeting of the Deanery Synod was held in the beautiful and warm surroundings of Christchurch, Ware on comfy chairs. Do have a look at the inside of the church if you get a chance. Your trusty Deanery reps were there – Jenny Aitken, Renee Booker and Shirley Taylor.

The main item on the agenda was a talk from Rev Mark Rodel, Deputy Director of



Mission and Ministry at the Diocese of St Albans. It turned out to be less of a talk and more a chance for us to discern together the ways in which the Ministry of everybody in

our churches can be encouraged and developed. We ended up understanding that the word 'Ministry' encompasses everyone and everything that brings the Kingdom of God to others, be it preaching, welcoming, praying together with and for people, cake making, smiling, administration, children and young people's ministry, IT expertise etc. etc., as well as the Ministry that the Priest exercises in the performing of Sacramental worship. Everyone in the Kingdom of all ages has a calling and a gift that God has given them in order to minister to others.

We split into three groups of eight to consider a question for each group:

## What is the Deanery Synod?

The Deanery Synod is the church governance equivalent of a district council. It comprises elected lay members from the parishes and serving clergy.

Hertford and Ware Deanery is a collection of parishes which stretches from Hunsdon and Widford in the east to Essendon in the west, from Ponsbourne in the South to Aston and High Cross in the North.

Q1 - Where have you seen Ministry flourish?

Q2 - What is helping people to discover and step into Ministry?

Q3 - What helps Ministry flourish?

Briefly the groups' main findings were:

Q1. – 'out there and not just in church' – so in schools, outreach, after school clubs, toddler groups.....as well as in church.

Q2. Bible knowledge and prayer, love, generosity, hope, joy, sacrifice (but not burnout), the mystery of God's calling, encouragement from the Incumbent and others, support, role models.

Q3. Again, encouragement, support and more of the above.

The results of the discussion from all the deaneries will be fed back to the Diocesan team.

We were grateful to Christchurch for their Ministry to us of comfort, tea, coffee and homemade cakes.

Shirley Taylor

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## Interested in the value of your Art & Antiques?

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# BEYOND ST ANDREW'S OWEN IS ON A MISSION

The Youth Development Worker of **FUTUREhope Hertford & Ware**, Owen Melville-Thomas is raising money for the charity by running the Brighton Marathon in April. FUTUREhope provides a free, confidential service working holistically with young people aged 11-19 in the local area. Check



out the valuable work they do on their website and if you feel able to sponsor Owen, any donation will go straight to the work of FUTUREhope.

His JustGiving page is <https://www.justgiving.com/page/fhhw-owen-thomas?newPage=true> - or use the QR code.



## An exciting opportunity with Knightsfield School

Knightsfield, based in Welwyn Garden City, a school for the profoundly deaf, is looking for new trustees to join their brilliant and dedicated team. Trustees play a vital role in supporting the strategic direction of the school, and the team is keen to welcome people from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences.



Knightsfield School  
Welwyn Garden City  
AL8 7LW  
01707 376874

No prior experience with SEND or deaf education is required. What matters most is enthusiasm, commitment, and a desire to make a positive difference to the lives of young people. The Knightsfield team would love to hear from individuals who are passionate about education, inclusion, or simply supporting a local school. Please share the details with anyone you think may be interested. For further information or an informal conversation about the role, please feel free to contact the office manager, Jane Broomfield, at [jbroomfield@knightsfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jbroomfield@knightsfield.herts.sch.uk) or visit the website: [www.knightsfield.herts.sch.uk](http://www.knightsfield.herts.sch.uk)

## PROVIDING HELP TO UKRAINIANS

In last month's magazine, we reported about UK-AID's Alan Hilliar who was heading to Ukraine with a convoy. It was good to be able to help in a small way when, thanks to the generosity of so many at St Andrew's and other churches in Hertford, a car full of things that had been requested for soldiers on the frontline was delivered to Alan.



We have an update to share with you including some lovely photos from Chernihiv, where the wonderful Revival Centre is located. The picture shows Alan enjoying giving children some presents.

From money raised at St Andrew's March Coffee Morning **£500 went to the UK-AID appeal** to provide generators for those with limited access to electricity and heat in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who supported the event.

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# LATIN LINK & ANGEL TREE CENTRE

**Jenny Aitken brings us an update from Julie Noble in Oruro, Bolivia on life in the country and her work at the Angel Tree Centre.**

*Julie Noble is part of the Latin Link American mission which St Andrew's supports. Latin Link is charity registered in England and an international community with a calling to love and serve God and our neighbour. Angel Tree Centre works with prisoners' children and families.*

Julie's latest letter from Oruro begins, 'During February I was assigned five cases at the young offender centre for restorative justice work, four boys and one girl. I was able to fix a schedule for working with them on Thursday afternoons. Before any work could be done I had to locate and read their files.

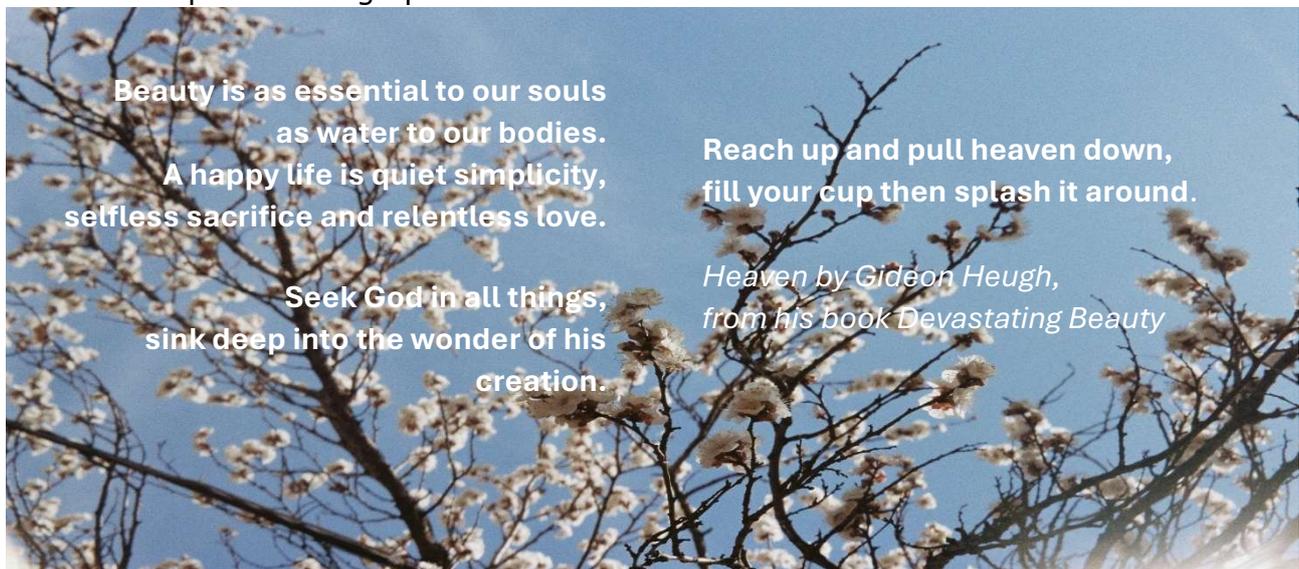
Three of the cases were at the Youth Court in Oruro, a block away from my flat so it was an easy journey to go over there to read the files. One case had no details for members of the victim's family but the other cases were within the family so I was able to find some useful information.

Another of my cases was at the court in Corque which is an hour's bus ride away. The bus stop is in the south of the city and once there it took an hour for the minibus to fill and we could move off. It has rained very little this wet season, so passing Lake Uru Uru all that could be seen was a pathetic large puddle with a

few birds and flamingos surrounded by dry land and rough grass. Further along the road to the Chilean border I saw large herds of llamas and many *crias*.

The court building in Corque is very quiet and peaceful. I found the appropriate court quite easily and the secretary let me borrow the boy's files. Only two were available as one had been left in Oruro. There was a vague address for the victim somewhere in Oruro but without GPS coordinates I will have little hope of locating it. Leaving the court I just missed the bus back and once again I had to wait an hour for the bus to fill up before we could leave for Oruro.

My fifth case was in a provincial court in Cochabamba. My ID does not cover reading files outside the Oruro region even if I had wanted to make the 12+ hour round trip. Even so plenty of reading to be done before I start the restorative justice work'.



Beauty is as essential to our souls  
as water to our bodies.  
A happy life is quiet simplicity,  
selfless sacrifice and relentless love.

Seek God in all things,  
sink deep into the wonder of his  
creation.

Reach up and pull heaven down,  
fill your cup then splash it around.

Heaven by Gideon Heugh,  
from his book *Devastating Beauty*

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# Services at St Andrew's

## April 2026



To attend a Zoom service please email the Parish Office at:- [standrew.hertford@btinternet.com](mailto:standrew.hertford@btinternet.com)

	Date	Time	Service	Celebrant	Preacher
Wednesday	1	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Traditional)	Rev Bill Church	
		8.00 pm	Meditation in church & on Zoom	Rev Alan Stewart	
Thursday	2	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)		
<i>Mundy Thursday</i>		8.00 pm	Holy Communion (with washing of feet)	Rev Alan Stewart	Rev Bill Church
Good Friday	3	12-2 pm	Quiet space with interactive prayer stations		
		2pm	The Last Hour service with choir		
<b>SUNDAY</b>	5	5.30 am	Dawn Service at St Mary's Hertingfordbury	Rev Alan Stewart	Rev Bill Church
<i>Easter Day</i>		8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)		Rev Bill Church
		10.30 am	<b>All Age Service + Choir and Organ</b> (No Zoom service or Compline today)	Rev Alan Stewart	
Monday	6	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (Common Worship)		
Wednesday	8	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Traditional)	Rev Scott Martin	
Thursday	9	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)		
		10.30 am	Calton Court Communion Service	Rev Bill Church	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	12	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Alan Stewart	
<i>Easter 2</i>		10.30 am	<b>Parish Communion</b> with Junior Church	Rev Alan Stewart	Rev Scott Martin
		10.30 am	Morning Service on <b>Zoom</b>	Nick Hoyle	HeartEdge Sermon
		6.45 for 7 pm	Soul Sunday	Rev Alan Stewart	
Monday	13	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (Common Worship)		
Wednesday	15	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Traditional)	Rev Alan Stewart	
Thursday	16	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)		
<b>SUNDAY</b>	19	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Alan Stewart	
<i>Easter 3</i>		10.30 am	<b>Parish Communion</b> with Junior Church	Rev Alan Stewart	
		10.30 am	Morning Service on <b>Zoom</b>	Kath Oates	Rev Alan Stewart
		7.00 pm	Compline <b>on Zoom</b>	Rev Alan Stewart	
Monday	20	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (Common Worship)		
Wednesday	22	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Traditional)	Rev Bill Church	
Thursday	23	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)		
		10.30 am	Calton Court Communion Service	Rev Bill Church	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	26	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Scott Martin	
<i>Easter 4</i>		10.30 am	<b>Parish Communion</b> with Junior Church	Rev Scott Martin	Adrian Walter
		10.30 am	Morning Service on <b>Zoom</b>	Nick Hoyle	Adrian Walter
		6.30 pm	<b>Evensong at St Mary's Hertingfordbury</b>	Rev Bill Church	
		7.00 pm	Compline <b>on Zoom</b>	Rev Alan Stewart	
Monday	27	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (Common Worship)		
Wednesday	29	10.30 am	Holy Communion (Traditional)	Rev Scott Martin	
Thursday	30	8.00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)		