

**Readings for Sunday 25th February
The Second Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38

Readings for Thursday 29th February

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 Luke 16:19-end

**Readings for Sunday 3rd March
The Third Sunday of Lent**

Exodus 20:1-17 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

Readings for Thursday 7th March

Jeremiah 7:23-28 Psalm 95:1-2, 6-end Luke 11:14-23

**Readings for Sunday 10th March
The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday**

Exodus 2:1-10, or Samuel 1:20-28 2 Corinthians 1:3-7,
or Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:33-35, or John 19:25-27

Readings for Thursday 14th March

Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 106:19-23 John 5:31-end

**Readings for Sunday 17th March
The Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33

Readings for Thursday 21st March

Genesis 17:3-9 Psalm 105:4-9 John 8:51-end

**Readings for Sunday 24th March
Palm Sunday**

Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 11:1-11 Mark 15:1-39

**Readings for Thursday 28th March
Maundy Thursday**

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14 Psalm 116:10-end John 13:1-17, 31b-35



Monday Prayers A time of coming together to pray for the church and parish from 4.30 – 5pm every Monday in church. All are welcome.

‘Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful’
Col 4:2



St Andrew's Rushmere

**Focus for Weeks
25th February - 30th March**



East Ipswich Churches 1st Sunday Joint Service

The next joint service is at St Andrew's Church
Sunday 3rd March at 6.30pm

Followed by refreshments and fellowship



Sunday 10th March 10.00am

Mothering Sunday Worship for All Service

(The Service on 3rd March will be a Holy Communion service)



RTU Reaching the Unreached

Coffee Morning

Mega Sale of Nearly New Books and Jigsaws

Our first fund raiser in 2024 will be a jigsaw puzzle and book sale, as part of a coffee morning in aid of RTU to be held on **Saturday 9th March from 10.00 am to 12 noon** in the church hall.

Please let your friends know about this, especially if they are keen puzzlers or book worms, to come and support us. Thank you.



Join us for Informal Worship on 17th March 3 – 4.30pm

at Dumbarton Hall. Worship with a more contemporary flavour, overhead screen and time to enjoy being in God's presence.

All welcome with a relaxed children's table for families with tea and cake to follow.



**Our next Messy Church is on Sunday 24th March
3-5pm at Dumbarton Hall.**

Do pray for the committed team of helpers from St. Andrew's, and particularly the sizeable number of families we are reaching. For their interest in God to grow.

*Free entrance and all welcome.
(Children must bring an adult)*

For more information email alancomfort11@gmail.com

Eco Church

Celebrate Spring and immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the season—appreciate the wild flowers, see the budding catkins, and listen to different birdsong here, in our own churchyard. We are starting to create a pathway through the wild area and hope this will be enjoyed by all ages.

Nature can boost our happiness in our own gardens and green spaces and it is good to spend some time to appreciate creation's beauty, and thank God for the hope that Spring can bring. See arocha.org.uk/connect-with-gods-creation-over-lent/ for more ideas.

My own Lent challenge is going to be trying to use only local, sustainable foods as far as I can! Ruth

Ways of Giving

We are very blessed to have a most generous congregation who give freely of themselves and also their financial resources. For this we are extremely grateful and we have many different ways to make giving as easy as possible.

Also, we can claim Gift Aid, increasing each donation by a further 25% at no extra cost to the giver, so long as they pay sufficient Income Tax, (or Capital Gains Tax) in the current tax year to cover their donations.

If you wish to know more, please ask a Warden, or Treasurer; Chris, who can supply Standing Order and Gift Aid forms if required.

Thank you very much for your continuing generosity to our Church

Revd Alan

Chris Gibson

Rushmere St Andrew's Spring 2024 Concerts

This year's programme of Sunday afternoon Spring Concerts at St Andrew's church Rushmere will be held in support of Suffolk Wildlife Trust, the only organisation dedicated wholly to safeguarding Suffolk's wildlife and countryside.

Once again, there is no charge for admission to these concerts and everyone is welcome to attend. Refreshments are provided and we invite voluntary contributions after each event. This Spring's programme is:

- **7th April: Michael Broadway (Pianola Recital)**
Recently retired as Curator of the organ at the Royal Albert Hall, Michael will bring his pianola, link it to our baby grand piano and perform a programme of classical works in his unique style. Track him down at <http://www.pianola-part.freeuk.com/michael.htm> and look him up on YouTube!
- **14th April Daniel Law & Chris Slatter (Cello & Piano)**
Daniel makes a very welcome return to St Andrew's, this time with Chris to present a programme of cello and piano duets. Daniel is well known to us as a highly accomplished pianist; Chris is founder and manager of the Scintillo String Quartet based in Woodbridge.
- **21st April The Accidentals (Popular Vocal Group)**
A welcome return by this six-piece female vocal harmony group from Sudbury with its repertoire of popular music from the 1940s up to the present. We can expect a lively and enjoyable performance.
- **28th April Maurizio Baudino & Dario Vannini (Guitars)**
Rushmere is delighted to present Maurizio and Dario from Italy as part of their short concert tour in England this year. They have performed independently and together in many parts of Europe. For a taster, you can listen to Maurizio on YouTube.

All concerts begin at 3.00pm and we look forward to welcoming you to any, or all of them.

Sunday afternoon concert teas

The Sunday afternoon concerts begin the week after Easter. As always I need help with making cakes and serving teas (to say nothing of washing up afterwards). If you can help, especially in the first two weeks when I shall be away, please sign up on the sheet in the hall.

Annual Meetings

This year's **Annual Meeting of Parishioners** and **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will take place in the church hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 25th April 2024.

This is an important part of church life; an opportunity to review the past year, look forward to St Andrew's mission in the coming year, ask about matters concerning the church and elect Churchwardens and members of the PCC. If you are interested in standing for one of these roles and would like to find out what is involved, please talk to Revd Alan, or a Warden; (Teresa Rose, David Chaplin and Ruth Silburn).

You will need to be on the Electoral Roll of the parish if you wish to stand for office, or vote at the meetings. Please speak to Gill Ainslie to check that you are on the ER.

It would be helpful if you could notify the PCC Secretary (Hilary Platts) of any item you would like to be discussed in order to help in the planning of the Agenda. The Minutes of last year's meeting, Annual Report and other papers will be made available online, but please speak to a Churchwarden if you would like printed copies.



Join us for a Prayer Breakfast

Saturday 23rd March 8.30 – 10.00am

Enjoy breakfast together, with focus on the work of TWAM; Tools With A Mission, one of St Andrew's focus charities.

All Welcome



Lunch Club. We still need DRIVERS. Lunch club is an important part of church life. We need people willing to drive our clients to and from the church hall once a month on Wednesday. A free delicious meal included.

Contact Sue 01473 723957 Thank you



Mothering Sunday Posies

We plan to make the posies, in the Church Hall on Saturday, March 9th, from 2pm onwards. We would be pleased if you could come along and help, also if you have any greenery or small flowers, to add to the daffodils, please bring them along, or leave them in buckets in Church on Friday, or Saturday morning. Thank you.



Holy Week Reflections in Church

Monday 25th March 7.30pm

Tuesday 26th March 7.30pm

Wednesday 27th March 7.30pm

Maundy Thursday 28th March

7.30pm Communion Service

Good Friday 29th March

10.30am – 11.30am Messy Church Good Friday
in Dumbarton Hall

11.30 – 12noon Walk of Witness starting at Dumbarton Hall

12noon – 1pm Good Friday Service of Reflection in Church

Easter Day Sunday 31st March

8am Holy Communion

10am Easter Day Communion



Church Directory

Forms are available for an amendment sheet for the "Church Directory", if you would like to be included, please fill out a form. Also if you have an amendment to the entry in the 2022 edition please use a form.



Mother's Union

Our March meeting will be on **Wednesday March 20th at 2.30pm** in the Church Hall as usual. Our speaker is going to be Professor Bill Tancred who is going to tell us about 'Life in International Sport'. We are told he is a superb speaker so it promises to be a very enjoyable afternoon. As always visitors are welcome to join us.

We shall have a fun Raffle at the meeting. **Knit and Natter will be on Wednesday March 6th from 2pm onwards in the Church Hall.** Advance notice for Knit and Natter on April 3rd, we are having a demonstration of 'felting' by Jenny Helm. This is a most fascinating procedure and visitors are welcome to come and join us.

Advance Notice!

We are hoping to start a 'gentle chair exercise' group which will be suitable for everyone to join in. This will take place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month in the Church Hall. Details are being worked out - probably start at 2.15.

The exercises would last about 45 minutes and then finish with a cup of tea and a biscuit (to replace the calories used!) The cost will depend on how many people sign up - the more participants the cheaper it will be but not more than £4 a session.

The idea is to have a 6 week course and then review the situation. The proposed dates are Wed April 10th and 24th, May 8th and 22nd and June 12th and 26th.

There will be a 'sign-up' sheet so that we can see how much interest there is.

Tricia Tyler and the MU.

The next Focus is **31st March - 27th April**
Please email items to: standrewr@outlook.com
or phone Claire 01473 623419, or 07971 334142
By 9pm Monday 25th March

St. Andrew's May Festival

During the month of May we as a church are hosting a variety of events to celebrate what we do at St. Andrew's, and to welcome our community to join us.

Let me whet your appetite with a couple of the events; if you like football we have our **Festival Breakfast**, a cooked breakfast at The Scout Hut, Dumbarton Road on **Saturday 11th May** with **guest speaker and former Cambridge United footballer Graham Daniels**.

On the same day we have our **Festival Dinner at Church with Harpist Rachel Bartels**, beautiful food, and an after dinner speaker.

Then on 25th May we are thrilled to announce the nationally known and universally loved **London Community Gospel Choir** will be performing at St. Andrew's Church. LCGC will lift every heart with their beautiful voices and energy, and we want those living in and around our parish to have priority in getting tickets. (tickets are selling fast so don't miss out).

Watch out for more details of all the Festival events for families, young people, those who love walking, a daily opportunity to visit the church, light lunches..... We are so excited and look forward to offering many different events to invite those around us.

Tickets are now available for the above events-don't miss out!

Festival Breakfast Saturday 11th May 9am-11am – Free Event

Festival Dinner Saturday 11th May 7pm - £15

Festival LCGC Concert Saturday 25th May 7.30pm – Adult £15, Child £10

Either reserve your tickets by emailing the dedicated festival email: star2024@gmx.co.uk and you'll be sent details of how to pay.

Or reserve and pay (cash, or cheque made payable to 'PCC St Andrew Rushmere') by dropping into church on weekdays between 10am-12noon, or Sundays after service between 11am-12noon.

Revd Alan, Ministry Team & PCC.

