

**Readings and Collect for Sunday 27th February
The Sunday next before Lent**

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99 2 Corinthians 3:12-4, 2 Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings and Collect for Ash Wednesday 2nd March

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, or Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalms 51:1-18 *Refrain: The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit.*

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6.10

Matthew 6:1-6. 16-21, or John 8:1-11

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings and Collect for Thursday 3rd March

Deuteronomy 30:15-end

Psalms 1 *Refrain: The Lord knows the way of the righteous.*

Luke 9:22-25

Readings and Collect for Sunday 6th March - The First Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-11 *Refrain: Keep me as the apple of your eye.*

Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings for Thursday 10th March

Esther 14:1-5, 12-14, or Isaiah 55:6-9

Psalms 138 *Refrain: Your loving kindness, O Lord, endures for ever.*

Matthew 7:7-12



**St Andrew's Rushmere
Focus for weeks
27th February - 12th March**



Services at St Andrew's

**Sundays at 8.00am Holy Communion
(in the old end of church)**

**1st Sunday of the Month at 10.00am Worship for All
Non-Eucharistic Service (in the new end of church)**

**2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays at 10.00am Holy Communion
(in the new end of church)**

(5th Sundays of the month will be Holy Communion)

**Thursdays at 10.00am Holy Communion
(in the old end of church)**

Focus is available on our new website along with a link to online services via YouTube at:

<http://standrewschurchrushmere.onesuffolk.net/>

Find us on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/standrew.rushmere>

**Ash Wednesday Service at church
2nd March at 7.30pm**



Come and join us in this very moving service, which starts Lent by focusing our hearts on repentance and prayer, and is often called the Day of Ashes

Prayers

For those in our Parish who have asked for prayers to be said for them and for those who have recently died.

Please may permission be sought from the person for whom prayers are said before they are added to the list.
Thank you.

Janet, Ellen, Janet,
Betty, Nephth, Ann,
Mark, Fiona, Renee,
Margaret, Abbie,
Jane, William.

For those recently died:
Joan Wilkinson, Eric Walker,
Barbara Squirrel, Widge.



QR (Quick Response) Code

Due to the severe on-going loss of income over the past 2 years, the QR code below will be printed in Focus. This code can be used for donations by scanning it with a mobile 'phone camera, and will connect will connect to the Give-a-Little page linked to the church website:

standrewschurchrushmere.onesuffolk.net/

Any queries, please ask our
Treasurer (724211)
or a Warden.



Are You Able and Willing to Volunteer?

'Church Opener and Locker' - the person who for many years has faithfully unlocked and locked the church on Tuesdays is retiring from this important role of ensuring the church is open for all who wish to use it during daylight hours.

We say a big thank you to Jack for all your, often, unseen work over the years.

If you feel you can help fill this vacancy please contact one of the churchwardens, it may be possible to swop the day with another member of the team who keep our church available to all during the week.

After sterling work over the last few years, Gloria, our **'Church Booking Secretary'** is standing down and we are looking for someone to take on this role. If you are keen to help the church in this role please chat to Gloria and the churchwardens to find out what it entails, it can all be done from the warmth of your home! Thank you Gloria for all that you've done and continue to do in other roles.

Thank you for considering if you can help out in one of the above roles. Churchwardens - Gill, Tim & Teresa

Tuesday 7.45pm Lent Study Groups "Teaching from the Road to Jerusalem".

The two studies will consider two themes relating to the kingdom of God.

Tuesday 8th March: The Parable of the Wedding Feast: Luke 14:7-11 - What does Jesus teach about our relationship to other members of the kingdom of God?

Tuesday 12th April: The Coming of the Kingdom: Luke 17:20-37 How do we prepare for the return of Jesus and the coming of His Kingdom?

Meetings will take place online at 7.45pm All welcome

For further details please contact David Gill:

david@davidgill.co.uk

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for all your kind words and good wishes on the occasion of my retirement from St Andrew's a few weeks ago. Stepping down from a job I have done for nearly 17 years, and thoroughly enjoyed for most of that time, was not an easy decision to make, but in view of my deteriorating eyesight I felt I had little choice but to 'call it a day'. I was very surprised – and moved – when Sue Wakeling stepped out of the congregation at my last service on 23rd January to read Bruce's reminiscences of his former colleague, bowled over by your generous gift, and delighted by Mary's wonderful piano-shaped cake!

I'm continuing to help out with the organisation of the Sunday Afternoon Concerts for a little while longer, and at the time of writing I still have two Mothers' Union engagements in my diary – a singalong at their AGM on 16 February and a talk about 'My Life in Music' on 19 October. I also hope to attend several of the concerts, and will no doubt pop in from time to time on Sunday mornings. Meanwhile, if you ever find yourself in The Fairways and at a loose end, please don't hesitate to ring the doorbell of no. 25 – you'll be assured of a warm welcome from Dave and myself if we're in! With love and thanks – Alan

Lenten Housegroup 2022 'The Long Road to Heaven'

Beginning on Thursday 10th March at 11.30am there will be a Lenten Housegroup at 51 Glenavon Road [subject to numbers]. The course will use and watch the Film 'The Way', which tells the story of one man's experience on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. Scenes from the film will trigger discussion, and there will be a bible study each week as well as a time of reflection and prayer.

Each session is planned to last no longer than 90 minutes. Participants should purchase the book which is available on Amazon very reasonably secondhand [£2.87] or can be downloaded to a Kindle. I have two copies of the book. The DVD is equally easy and cheap to source, and the film is available free on Amazon Prime.

Please contact Chris on 310992 to register. Dates of the course are 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st March and 7th April.

Activities at St Andrew's Church.

These are the current activities listed and more may be added, or changed at a later date.

Day	Activity	Venue	Time
2 nd & 4 th of the month	StAR Sunday School	Church Hall	10am during term time
3 rd of the month	T@4 Informal worship with food		4pm
Monday to Friday	Open Door for free refreshments	Church	10am - 12noon
Wednesday	Lunch Club	Church Hall	12.30pm
Wednesday	StAR Youth Club	Church Hall	6.30pm -8pm during term time
1 st of the month	Knit and Natter	Church Hall	2.30pm - 4pm
2 nd of the month	Games Afternoon	Church Hall	2.30pm – 4pm
3 rd of the month	Mothers Union	Church Hall	2.30pm
Thursday	StAR Toddlers	Church Hall	9.45 – 11.30am during term time
2 nd of the month	StAR Toddler Service		11am during term time
Friday	Friends Round Friday	Dumbarton Rd Scout Hall	10.30am - 12pm

Contact for Sunday School: Ali at: rushmeresundayschool@gmail.com

Contact for Youth Club and [T@4](#): yfworkerstar@gmail.com

Contact for StAR Toddler Group: Ros: 01473 723381

If there are any activities you would like to be included in this list please email: standrewr@gmail.com

World Day of Prayer.

A reminder that the World Day of Prayer this year is on **Friday March 4th at 2pm in our church at Rushmere**



The service has been written by the women of England, Wales and N Ireland and the theme is 'God's Promise - I know the plans I have for you' and it focuses on freedom, forgiveness, justice and God's peace.

It is interdenominational and we hope that members of many of the other local churches will join us. Please come and take part in this very inspiring event and help us act as host to the people who come from neighbouring churches.

There will be tea and home made biscuits after the service.

REAL EASTER EGGS

How quickly the seasons come round!



PLEASE sign up on the list in the Church hall at

Coffee-time

for Real Easter Eggs.
Original £4-50, Dark chocolate £5.50, White £5.00-----all with an Easter story activity book.

There is a Fun Pack for £5.00 and a Special Edition £9.99 (details on the sheet).

These Real Easter Eggs will not be available in the Supermarkets this year so please order through me during February so we're not disappointed.

FIND would appreciate Easter Eggs this year, so if you'd like to donate to FIND please put an 'F' by your order and we will deliver them direct to FIND.

Payment on arrival will be fine! *Thank you, Margaret M.*

Please email your items to standrewr@gmail.com
or telephone Claire Driver on 623419, or 07971 334142,
or Gill Crisp on 253743, or 07776 467999
by 9pm Monday 7th March deadline
Next Focus is 13th - 26th March

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 24th March.

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 PCC members.

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 contact Gill Ainslie (tel. 720618) to find out more.

It would be helpful if you could notify the PCC Secretary, Hilary Platts (tel. 724456) 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.

Potatoes!

Just to say that I have bags of 25kg potatoes - reds and whites - available at £7.50 per bag. £1 from each bag is going to RTU and I hope to be able to add £100 to our fundraising from the sale of potatoes. They can be supplied as half sacks if required.

As everyone who has had them in the past knows they are some of the best potatoes ever and come from a local farm. They keep very well as long as they are in a cool place and the top of the bag is kept closed to keep them in the dark.

They can be collected from my garage or they can be delivered.

Many thanks Tricia Tyler (07951817543)

