



St Andrew's Church Taunton

Message from Father Robin—Vicar

A few weeks ago, Sue and I went to see a filmed production of the 1970's rock opera *Jesus Christ Superstar* by Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice. I remember being taken on a school trip by my RE teacher to see the show at the Palace Theatre in London in about 1976. I bought the LP soon afterwards, although I rarely play it now. Yet those tunes came back to me as if it were yesterday!

In the scene of Jesus' second trial before Pontius Pilate, the lyrics draw on John's Gospel in which Pilate asks Jesus, "What is truth?" *But what is truth? Is truth a changing law? We both have truths. Are mine the same as yours?*

Good question. In this age often dubbed the "post-truth age" in which leaders make assertions that are at best nuanced and at worst downright untrue. A world where truth is defined by worldly power. Putin's "special military operation" (war!) comes to mind, as does Trump's social media site, "Truth Social." History records a vast procession of powerful men who have an uneasy relationship with the truth.

Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me."*

In other words, Jesus lives a deeper truth than mere naked power can offer. It is the way of the suffering servant upon whom we reflect this Passiontide and as we make our annual Holy Week journey. It is only by following this path in humility that we shall truly meet God.

When Mary met Jesus at the Empty Tomb, she came face to face with the deepest truth of all, that, as St Paul put it, "nothing, not even death shall separate us from the love of God."



Holy Week and Easter services

Palm Sunday 10am Meet at St Andrews for Palm procession to Rowbarton Methodist. The service begins there at 10.30am

Maundy Thursday 8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 2pm Solemn Liturgy

Holy Saturday 8pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday
10am Festival Parish Eucharist

All welcome to all these services

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St Andrews Church
Taunton
Reaching lives for change and hope

Schools in our Parish

At St Andrew's School there are a small group of Pupil Chaplains from Years 5 and 6 who help lead Collective Worship, services in church and learn together about their faith.

Mrs Jarmain retired as a Teaching Assistant after 27 years in December but is currently still at the school as Chaplain and mentors the pupil chaplains.

Words from the Cross



We also have a group of clergy and lay ministers from St Andrew's church and the Methodist circuit who lead Collective Worship regularly in the school.

Father Robin is also involved at Priorswood Primary School and Pyrland School, where we support the School Chaplain there, Alison Vercoe.

The Church Diary

Our Regular services are:

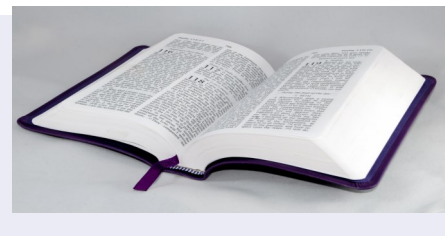
Sunday 10am Parish Eucharist

All ages welcome including children of all ages

Wednesday 10am in the Lady Chapel - Said Eucharist

Deanery Service of Reflection

Sunday 11th May 6pm
at St John's Church,
Staplegrave led by our Deanery Musicians



Fundraising events

Spring Lunch – Sunday 27th April—
booking required

Summer Fete – Saturday 28th June
'Help is Required' please contact the Fundraising Team, via the Parish Office, if you can help or to run a stall

Summer Lunch – Sunday 13th July -
booking required




Advance dates for your diary

Harvest Festival and Lunch –
Sunday 12th October

Christmas Market –
Saturday 6th December

The Church Hall

At St Andrew's Church Hall, we host a range of weekly activities for the community. For more information visit www.hallbookingonline.com/standrews View the Calendar Page on the website and click on your desired activity for further information.

<div>  St Andrew's Church Hall Weekly Activities </div> <div> CONTACT DETAILS hallstandrews45@gmail.com 07578 395159 </div>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09:00		Power Parents 6:30-7:30	Mini Dribblers 9:30-10:15 10:25-11:10	Power Parents 6:30-7:30	
12:00	Private Hire 9:45-12:15		Private Hire 11:00-15:00	Gentle Exercise - Tai Chi 10:15-11:15	
15:00	Taunton Home Education (Term time) 12:30-14:30			Glass Fusing Workshop (monthly) 10:00-14:00	
18:00	Karate - DRKJ Ltd 18:00-19:00 19:00-20:00	MF Martial Arts 18:00-18:45 19:00-20:00	Workout Wednesdays 17:15-18:15 Zumba 18:30-19:30 Clubbersize 19:40-20:40	Saber Combat Academy Ltd 19:00-21:00	Private Hire 13:00-16:00
21:00					Saucery Somerset Takeaway (pre-order required) 16:00-21:00
					Key Info MAIN HALL WESTON ROOM The Main Hall and Weston Room are available to hire for events - such as classes, birthday parties, meetings, conferences. Please contact the Hall Manager to discuss your requirements.

For more information visit the online calendar www.hallbookingonline.com/standrews

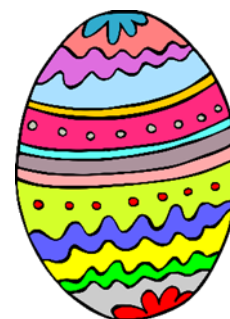
Eco Group

Happy Easter from Eco Church!

As we celebrate Easter this is a good opportunity to enjoy some Fairtrade chocolates and if making Easter biscuits don't forget to get in some Fairtrade sugar!

Fairtrade guarantees ethical working conditions, better prices, and sustainable practices, all of which honour God's creation. Let's remember that our choices can make a big difference in building a more just and compassionate world.

Happy Easter, filled with hope, love, and fairness for all.

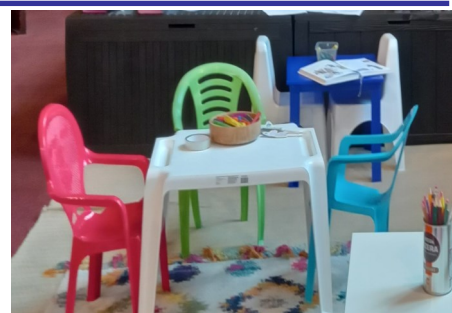


Children are Welcome

Children are very welcome at St Andrews and there is a special area set aside for them on Sunday mornings. Pre-school children can stay in church with their parents or carers.

There is a special activity for school age children during the service.

On Tuesdays during term time there is Church Mice from 9.30am—11am. This is for pre-school children with their parents and carers.



St Andrew's Church

Greenway Avenue
TAUNTON
TA2 7HG

Parish Office
Open: Tues—Friday mornings
8.30—11.30am
Phone: 01823 332531
E-mail: parish.office@gmail.com

Our Website
www.standrewstaunton.org

Our Values

At St Andrew's Church
we are committed to being...

WELCOMING ... being inclusive,
accessible and welcoming.

CARING ... treating each other
and our visitors in a loving way.

GROWING ... trusting in God.

RESPONDING ... responding to our
community's* needs

NURTURING ... nurturing discipleship

**We believe that the word "community" should refer to both
the church family and the whole*

Contact details

Vicar: Revd Preb. Robin Lodge
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Warden: David Budd
07485 091694

Readers: Ruth Cook Jeremy Harvey

Church Hall: Cherry Hingston
07578 395159
hallstandrews45@gmail.com

Mothers Union: Di Ruff—
Staplegrove Branch



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Items for future editions,
please send to
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— other pictures welcome