



**StA** St Andrew's, Alresford

**StAL** St Anne and St Laurence, Elmstead Market

**StMM** St Mary Magdalen, Frating with Thorrington

[www.tenpennyvillages.uk](http://www.tenpennyvillages.uk)

## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Theme ~ Take away the stone Readings Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 11:1-45

09:30	StMM	Morning Worship	Andrew Fordyce
10:00	StAL	Family Communion	Julia and Graham Lewis
11:00	StA	Morning Worship	Andrew Fordyce / Meg Burdus
13:00	StAL	Parish Lunch	Call 823774 to book
16:00	StA	Songs of Praise <i>followed by tea</i>	

### Mid-week Diary

<b>Tues</b>	9:00	StA	Morning Prayer
	10:30	StA	Tuesday Tots
	14:00	StAL	Lent Study Group <i>everyone welcome</i>
	14:00	StA	Pilgrim Group
<b>Wed</b>	10:30	StAL	Book Café
<b>Thurs</b>	9:00	StA	Holy Communion
	16:30	StAL	Rainbow Guides
	18:00	StAL	Brownie Guides
	19:30	StA	Ministry for Men – Board Games Night
<b>Fri</b>	12:00	StAL	Funeral – Liz Hill

**Next Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March ~ Palm Sunday**

clocks go forward



**Readings: Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29**

9:15	StAL	Choir Practice	
10:00	StAL	Benefice Family Communion <i>followed by tea/coffee and cake</i>	Bishop Guli
10:30	StP	Walk of Witness to St Andrew's	
11:00	StA	Holy Communion	
12:15 (ish)	StA	Welcome Bp Guli and blessing of new facilities <i>followed by Bring &amp; Share lunch</i>	Pauline Hart

## Travelling Well Together for Lent - 100 Days of Prayer – Leading to 100 Days of Listening

Week Beginning Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March

Theme: Vocations

Vocation is where our God-given gifts and passions meet the needs of the world. It is about who God is calling you to be and what God is calling you to do. For some, this is a specific calling to ministry. For others, it could mean serving God through faithful discipleship in everyday life. Everyone has a vocation. Our churches, schools and local communities are full of people who faithfully respond to God's call and who share in ministry alongside others. Our parishes and communities are blessed by many people serving as Churchwardens, PCC and Deanery officers, Licensed Lay Ministers, Pastoral Assistants, Spiritual Directors, Authorised Local Preachers, Funeral Ministers and School Governors. We long for all people to have the space and resources to explore their calling and find fulfilment and purpose in loving and serving God.

*'Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect'. (Romans 12: 2)*

This week, we give thanks...

- for the call that God has placed upon each of us: who God calls us to be and what God calls us to do
- all of those who serve in a variety of lay ministries across our diocese
- our Diocesan Vocations Team and our area vocations advisors

We pray that...

- we may encourage others to explore their calling
- our churches and worshipping communities would be spaces and places where all people can respond to God's call on their lives
- more people would be called into all forms of lay ministry across our diocese

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may serve you in holiness and truth  
to the glory of your name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### Pastoral Care Part 1 Course

The **Pastoral Care Part 1** course will be running over three Saturdays in the Diocesan Offices, Chelmsford from 9am - 4pm on the following dates: 25 April, 9 May and 23 May.

If you feel God is calling you to a pastoral ministry, please speak with your incumbent or licensed minister at your place of worship and if you would like to sign up for these courses, [please access the application form via the website](#) and seek recommendation by your incumbent/ minister

Other Pastoral Care Part 1 Course dates will be advertised later in the year

## Travelling Well Together for Lent - 100 Days of Prayer – Leading to 100 Days of Listening

**Week Beginning Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

**Theme: Vocations**

Our parishes and worshipping communities are faithfully sustained by their clergy, whether they are retired, self-supporting, house for duty, ministers in secular employment or full-time stipendiary clergy. Stipendiary ministry remains the cornerstone of the Church of England, used to measure current and future resource needs. The cost of ministry is directly related to the parish share request with built in support for parishes in areas of deprivation.

Under the national Renewal and Reform programme which started in 2015 the goal was to have created a stable pool of about 7600 full-time clergy by 2035. In September 2024, the Church Times reported that the number of stipendiary clergy in the Church of England will fall to 5400 in 2033, a 40% reduction since the year 2000. The number of people going forward to train for ordained ministry has fallen by 38% since 2020. As we look to sustaining ministry in our diocese and the availability of stipendiary clergy, new models of ministry need to be explored in our different parish communities.

*<sup>16</sup> You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last... (John 15: 16)*

This week, we give thanks...

- for our clergy: retired, self-supporting, working in secular employment or in stipendiary roles
- our Diocesan Vocations Team and our area ordination advisors
- our ordinands and all of those in the discernment process

We pray that...

- more people would be called to serve as deacons and priests
- we would be open to reimagining our models of ministry across our diocese

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts,  
by your Holy Spirit you have appointed  
various orders of ministry in the Church:  
look with mercy on your servants  
called to be deacons and priests;  
maintain them in truth and renew them in holiness,  
that by word and good example they may faithfully serve you  
to the glory of your name and the benefit of your Church;  
through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Ministry for Men Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm.** Games night in the Sanctuary, St Andrew's. Bring your own games and I'll bring some of mine.

Incidentally, I'll be having an operation which will mean that I won't be available for April and May. If anyone is able to step in for those two months please contact me. 07513 431 844. Chris Lovell.

As we approach our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **St Andrew's** could we put out an appeal for **memorabilia about St Andrew's** and the last 50 years. If you are in a position to bring it to church please make sure it is clearly labelled so we can get it back to you.

I was thinking we could do some setting up on 8<sup>th</sup> April after the Café.

Thorrington are looking for some help in running their **Bluebell weekend** on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April.

If you are able to offer some time please email Steve [thorringtonchurchyard.1900@gmail.com](mailto:thorringtonchurchyard.1900@gmail.com) with times when you would be available between 10am and 4pm on either the Saturday or the Sunday.

Next Sunday St Andrew's will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a **Bring and Share Lunch**. There is a list to sign at the back of the church with suggestions of what to bring.

Help will also be needed on the day to set up the Hub and clear away afterwards.

Any questions please refer to Meg

Last autumn the benefice was **awarded a grant to improve communication** within our parishes. We have used the funds to add a **flyer to 3 editions of Look Magazine** because it is delivered to all houses in all 4 villages. The first flyer was in the December magazine and the second flyer is in this month's issue. The next will hopefully go in the September edition. We would appreciate your opinion of the project.

We are hoping to have a **choir for Bishop Guli's visit at the next United Service** at 10am on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March. If you would like to be part of the choir please contact [admin@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:admin@tenpennyvillages.uk) or Peter Clayton and we will ensure that you have the music etc. There will be a practice at 9:15 .

**Elmstead Warm Hub** was awarded Highly Commended in the recent **Pride of Tendring Awards**. The church has supported this initiative since inception by hosting it once a month.



### St Andrew's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

St Andrew's Church opened on Palm Sunday 1976 and there will be celebrations at the church. These will be taking place on both on Palm Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March and on the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April (the weekend closest to the anniversary of the opening). Palm Sunday services are listed on the front page

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2-5pm Teas and cake will be served**

#### Exhibition of Memorabilia of 50 years of St Andrew's Church

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 11am Celebratory Family Communion Service**

*Followed by Shepherd's Pie Lunch (Vegetarian option will be available but let us know if you would like this so we make the right quantity.) Please also let us know of any other any other dietary requirements*

Past rectors and others with connections to the church over the years are being invited to this milestone in the life of the church. However, please spread the word around the village as it would be lovely to see as many people with memories of the opening, the early days of St Andrew's and the life of the church over the last 50 years to come along.

**Good Friday**

**Children's Workshop**

**10am-12noon Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

**Elmstead Parish Church**

**Crafts and activities for children**

*Make cards*

*Design stained glass windows*

**Learn more about the Easter Story**

*Add your footprints to the cross*

*Help with the Easter Garden*

**...and so much more...**

# St Andrew's Church

Family Friendly Easter Trail

**Save the date!**  
Join us to find out about the Easter story

**Free!**  
**All welcome**  
Children must be accompanied by an adult

**Crafts**

**Activities**

**Games**

**Refreshments**

**Saturday**  
**4th April**  
**2 - 3.30pm**



St Andrew's Close, CO7 8BL



## Thorrington Hall Woods Bluebell Weekend

Fun trail  
for children

Together with



Dogs are welcome,  
on leads at all times

Refreshments available  
in the Church



10am – 4pm  
Last entry 3pm



Thorrington Hall Woods,  
Clacton Road,  
Thorrington, CO7 8HA



25th and 26th  
April 2026



Adults £2  
Under 15's £1  
Cash only

Telephone 01206 826376

[www.tenpennyvillages.uk](http://www.tenpennyvillages.uk)



## Annual Art and Craft Exhibition

at St Anne and St Laurence Church,  
Elmstead CO7 7AR

on

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and**  
**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

If you would like to exhibit your work or  
have a stall in our Craft Tent, please  
contact us for further information at

[stalfriends@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:stalfriends@tenpennyvillages.uk)

**07791 673821**

The Friends of Elmstead Church

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website: [tenpennyvillages.uk](https://www.tenpennyvillages.uk)

Sunday Services held at both St Andrew's, and St Anne and St Laurence churches are sometimes recorded and are then available on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-EKIUhKbC3syWis3y5dZeg>

## Coming Soon!

12pm	Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> March	StAL	Funeral ~ Liz Hill
9:15	Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	StAL	Choir Practice
10am		StAL	United service with Bishop Guli
10:30		StP	Walk of Witness to St Andrew's
11am		StA	Holy Communion
12:15 ( <i>ish</i> )		Welcome Bp Guli and blessing of new facilities	
5:30	Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	StAL	Holy Week Walk
6:30			Light Supper
7:30			Foot washing
7:30	Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	StA	Maundy Thursday service
10am	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	StAL	Good Friday Workshop
2pm		StMM	An Hour at the Cross
3pm	Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr	StA	Easter Trail
7:30		StAL	Lighting the Easter Fire
6:30am	Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	StA	Sunrise service
9:30am		StMM	Holy Communion
10am		StAL	Family Communion
11am		StA	Holy Communion
7:30pm	Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Apr	StMM	APCM
10am	Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Apr	StMM	Bluebell Woods open
10am	Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Apr	StMM	Bluebell Woods open
11:15am		StAL	APCM
3pm	Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> May	StA	APCM

## The Tenpenny Villages Benefice

General enquiries: 01206 826376 [admin@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:admin@tenpennyvillages.uk)

Rector: Rev Andrew Fordyce MBE: 920848 [rector@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:rector@tenpennyvillages.uk)

Associate Priest: Rev Pauline Hart: 826318 [assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk](mailto:assocpriest@tenpennyvillages.uk)