

The parish of St André de la Pommeraye

www.standrewschurchguernsey.org



Newsletter for Trinity 1, 7 June 2026

The Rector writes ...



As the date for my retirement approached with alarming speed, there are many 'final experiences'. This is my reflection on one of them.

Nearly 45 years ago, at St Mary's church in Nantwich in Cheshire, I presided at the first of many marriage services. I think that I was more nervous than the couple on that Saturday afternoon.

Over the years, there have been many weddings - in Runcorn and at the parish church of St Mary & St Nicolas, Spalding and other churches in south Lincolnshire, and more recently in churches in Alderney, Guernsey, Herm and Sark – including a good number of weddings at St Andrew's church and a few at the Monnaie chapel.

Some of the services have been simple. Some have been grand. Some have been extravagant. For some, we worked to give the couple a good

wedding at minimal expense. Different ages, different nationalities. Sometimes, couples of different religious and cultural backgrounds. The marriage of my daughter and son in law in a Sussex village church. Most poignantly, enabling a marriage when one of the couple has been hours from death.

Last Friday, probably the last marriage that I will solemnise before I retire from stipendiary ministry at the end of July. A service that would have been inconceivable 45 years ago - out of doors at the Guet in Guernsey with the glorious backdrop of Cobo Bay (pictured). But a service that was as significant and as important at that first wedding in July 1981. Congratulations to Cody and Jemma, and best wishes as they prepare to celebrate with their family and friends in Slovenia next month.

What a privilege it has been to share so many significant moments with so many people!

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The future of St Andrew's church

I am grateful to all who attended the **annual congregational meeting** last Sunday.

You will be in no doubt that St Andrew's church is at a crossroads. It was important for us to take stock of the consequences for the life and work of St Andrew's church of my retirement as Rector at the end of July. That's not because I am important, but because the change of a parish priest is significant in the life of any church. And the shape of ministry and leadership in the future is not yet certain.

Although there have been conversations with the Revd Jon Honour, one of the vice deans, about the future provision of ministry at St Andrew's church, nothing is settled – apart from

the identification of clergy who will take services at St Andrew's church in July (after I cease my public ministry at the end of June) and August.

But perhaps even more important than the consequences of my departure is the future lay leadership of St Andrew's church.



One person has volunteered to serve as a churchwarden. This is wonderful news – but it would be even better if we were able to go into the vacancy with two. This shares the load and provides some resilience. Please give very careful consideration as to whether you might be able to take on this role.

The main tasks and priorities for the churchwardens are:

- representing St Andrew's church in discussions with the Deanery of Guernsey about the future provision of ministry;
- ensuring the good governance of the church as a charity through the Church Management Committee (which meets five or six times each year); and
- attending the quarterly meetings of the Parochial Church Property Management Board (which is the forum for the parish constables and the church to work together on the maintenance of the parish church and churchyard).

The Parochial Church Property Management Board cannot function without a churchwarden – especially in the absence of a Rector.

Alongside this, please think about whether there are small, but vital, tasks which you might be able to take on. By sharing the load, we will all be able to contribute to the flourishing of St Andrew's church, which I believe is part of God's plan for this community.

This week

Sunday 7 June	Trinity 1	
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 14 June	Trinity 2	
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	12 noon	Baptism of Frederick Douglas Ogier

Holy Communion, and laying on of hands and prayers for healing on Wednesday at 10.30 am at the **Monnaie Chapel**. The Monnaie Chapel is a remarkable place – accessed off the Rue du Monnaie (halfway up the road, on the left, when approaching from Les Poidevins).

Around Guernsey ...

The Revd Jon Honour writes,

Deeper Day: We and the Three – Join us at Trinity Church on Saturday 20 June from 9 am to 2 pm as we consider one of the mysteries of the Christian faith.

What does it mean for God to be three-in-one? Why does it matter? And how are we drawn into that life?

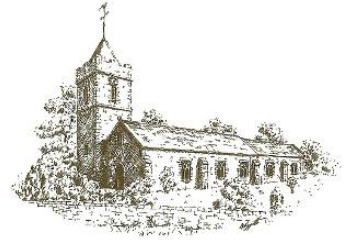
We're delighted to welcome Lucy Peppiatt to speak to us. Lucy is President of Westminster Theological Centre, respected theologian, author and speaker who trains leaders for ministry and contributes to resources such as *The Bible Project*.

Join us as we go deeper in our understanding of who God is — and who we are in him. For more details and to sign up please see - <https://holytrinity.org.gg/>

Prayers for the week

A prayer for the week:

God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son.



Please pray

- for the staff and trustees of Les Bourgs Hospice;
- for King Charles and the Royal Family, as we look forward to the King's Official Birthday next Saturday;
- for planning for future provision of ministry in Guernsey's parishes;
- for peace and the hope of a better future for the people of Ukraine, Iran, Lebanon, Sudan and other troubled places in the world.

We pray

- in the **Guernsey churches prayer cycle**, for Vale Mission, and for newly established and emerging Christian fellowships in Guernsey;
- for all who live in the **parish of St Andrew** and for our church community, and for our constables and douzeniers;
- for those for whom our prayers have been requested:
 - Dennis Parton, Mike O'Hara, and David Harvey;
 - church members: Cathy Belcher, and Audrey Gollop;
 - friends and family: Emma, Jean Walsh, Stina Holmes, Elisa, Pauline, George Maiden, Georgina, David, Fletch O'Hara, and Chris and Diane Lesbirel.

Finally ...

Card payment for the farewell lunch on 28 June will be available on Sunday and the following week. Many thanks to those who paid last Sunday.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Tim

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Collect

O God,
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers
and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature
we can do no good thing without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in the keeping of your commandments
we may please you both in will and deed;
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.



Hymns and liuturgy at 1000

1	211	Now is eternal life	Tune: Christchurch
2	358	Be still, for the presence of the Lord	Tune: Be Still
3	814	Thy hand, O God, has guided	Tune: Thornbury
4	645	God is our strength and refuge	Tune: Dambusters' March

Gloria 2 (Tune, 218, Maccabaeus)

Creed 3 (Tune, 422, Hyfrydol)

Sanctus etc 2 (Sung to the usual setting)

Readings

Old Testament reading: the book Genesis chapter 12 verses 1-9

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land.' So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Gospel: Matthew chapter 9 verses 9-13 and 18-26

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, 'My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.' And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.' Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, 'Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal Father,
we thank you for nourishing us
with these heavenly gifts:
may our communion strengthen us in faith,
build us up in hope,
and make us grow in love;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

