

The Church of England is all about building community, caring for people in need, and sharing the life changing love of Jesus Christ.

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for: those who today still risk all to proclaim their faith in an often hostile world. Remember Arab Christians as they struggle to maintain their freedom to worship. The Episcopal Church in the Middle East and Jerusalem.

In the Christians together in Chelmsford cycle of prayer we remember: Christian Aid in Chelmsford and Chairman, Robin Stevens.

In St Andrew's prayer diary we remember: Mike Harris; Pat Cotton; David, Joanna & Lewis Reeves; the Deanery & Compass churches; staff, chaplains & patients at Broomfield Hospital; young people to feel they have a place in the church; tolerance in our society; all who live and work in Southend Rd.

The sick and those who have asked for prayer: Shirley Cartwright, James, Daisy, Emily, Barbara Parish, Stuart, Betty Lawrence, Ian & Barbara Underwood, Ann Elwell, Jeanette Burrell, Reg Horscroft, Peter Willsher, Nick Harding, Dennis & Janet Terry, Michael Hodge, Alison Martin, June Hayes, Peter Lambert, Anna Reed and Joyce; everyone who is affected by coronavirus.

We remember those who have died recently: especially Shelagh Allison-Lawton, Trish Prosser, Grace Mallinder, for all those who have died of Coronavirus and others known to us. Also, those whose years mind fall during April. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory.

Parish People

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The Parish Church of St. Andrew, Sandon A Member of the 'Compass' Group of Churches

**Sunday 26th April 2020
Third Sunday of Easter**

**St Andrew's Church is now closed
even for prayer**

**Public worship is suspended
You can join Terry and Caroline
at 10.30am – see the website
and at 4pm – see the website**

Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Reading Acts 2: 14a; 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Gospel Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While

they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Notices

Prayer and Practical

Please contact Terry or one of the Wardens if you need Prayer or practical help. Andy Horne, well known by many of you, has asked me to point out that he is available and willing to help anyone with a problem. You can contact him by email on: andyhorne@talktalk.net

The Church of England has produced a booklet on Mental Health which is worth looking at. This can be downloaded from our website.

Baycroft

We remember especially the Staff and Residents of Baycroft as they have a lockdown. Let us pray for them as they cannot see friends and relatives and the staff are working under difficult conditions. We as a church are trying to help with a weekly Tea with the Vicar and a monthly Tea Time service on Zoom.

Don't forget there is Morning, Evening and Night Prayer services for you to use. These are found on the Church Website under reports.

Support for the NHS

Thursdays at 8pm – clap for NHS and care staff

Giving

Terry has asked me to write a few words about the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) and the process of joining it.

Although temporarily closed, the PGS office has now re-opened with a reduced staff and they are once again able to process any applications sent to them by post. Also, they have now received the necessary bank permissions to receive donations by phone and hope to have the facility available to all Member Dioceses and their registered parishes by the week commencing the 20th April. The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a convenient and efficient method of giving with regular donations, whether monthly or quarterly etc., being taken by direct debit. Gift Aid, if applicable, is automatically re-claimed and paid to the church on a monthly basis.

Unfortunately, the PGS Application forms are not currently available from church or from the diocese due to the lockdown but they can be downloaded from the PGS website at www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk although registration is required. In need, please email me at nick@bobeldijk.co.uk and I will endeavour to download a form on your behalf or provide any other assistance needed. Thank you all for your support in these difficult times.

Nick Bobeldijk Treasurer