

Readings for Sunday 28th April
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8

Readings for Thursday 2nd May

Acts 15:7-21 Psalm 96:1-3, 7-10 John 15:9-11

Readings for Sunday 5th May

The Sixth Sunday of Easter – Songs of Praise

Acts 10:44-48 John 15:9-17

Readings for Thursday 9th May

Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11, or Daniel 7:9-14 Psalm 47, or Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15-23, or Acts 1:1-11 Luke 24:44-53

Readings for Sunday 12th May

The Sunday after Ascension Day – Festival Guest Service

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Matthew 19:16-26

Readings for Thursday 16th May

Acts 22:30, 23:6-11 Psalm 16:1, 5-end John 17:20-end

Readings for Sunday 19th May

Day of Pentecost – Whit Sunday

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

Readings for Thursday 23rd May

James 5:1-6 Psalm 49:12-20 Mark 9:41-50

Readings for Sunday 26th May

Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17

Readings for Thursday 30th May

Genesis 14:18-20 Psalm 116:10-end 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 6:51-58



St Andrew's Rushmere

Focus for Weeks

28th April - 1st June



St Andrew's May Festival 2024

May is upon us and with it comes the beginning of our StAR May Festival 2024.

I am sure that by now you will have received a festival brochure detailing the diverse selection of events and opportunities ranging from concerts, a football themed breakfast and festival dinner with harp recital to special services, guest speakers and a Messy Church spectacular – the Messy Praise Party!

On Friday 3rd May 2-4pm, in the church hall, the launch of the monthly 'Chinwag'. The Parish Council funded free tea, entertainment, and fellowship for the over 60s. A great community initiative – do try it out...

Saturday 4th May in the church at 7pm is the lively, eclectic, 'Hope for Creation Concert' a joint presentation of music, drama and readings between us and the cathedral. No need to book – just come and enjoy...

The 10am worship on Sunday 5th May is the festival 'Songs of Praise'. A morning of the congregation's favourite hymns and songs celebrating the festival theme of Creation. Be in good voice and let us raise the roof in praise of God's Creation...

And so many more events – something for everyone.

Remember that you will need to book for the 'Football Themed Breakfast' (free, donations welcome), the 'Festival Guest Dinner' (£15), and the 'LCGC Concert' (£15/£10). Book at church or email: star2024@gmx.co.uk.

If you are coming to an event and can offer help, as a steward, to serve refreshments, etc. please use the sign-up sheets out on Sundays or contact Alan, Tim, or Graham



**Ascension Day Evening Holy Communion Service
Thursday 9th May at 7.30pm**

Featuring different styles of music reflecting the festival theme of sustainability and community.

With guest speaker Alan Cutting, the lead person in 'Together for Ipswich' Ukraine Support Group

**Join us on Sunday 12th May at 10.00am
for a Festival Guest Service**

A family non-communion service with guest speaker
Dr Graham Daniels

**'A-May-zing Love' Mothers' Union Festival Meeting
Wednesday 15th May 2.30pm – 4.30pm
in St Andrew's Church and the Church Hall**

Our meeting in May is a very special one as part of the May Festival.

We shall firstly meet in church at 2.30pm. Jill Comfort will talk about her work with children who are in trouble and how her Christian faith impacts her work.

We shall then move to the hall to enjoy a 'Festive tea'.

We hope that many of you will come and join us for the afternoon.

We always welcome visitors to our meetings and promise a warm welcome.

**Trinity Sunday Service 26th May 10.00-11.00am
in St Andrew's Church**

A communion service with a guest singer from the London Community Gospel Choir supported by members of the church choir.

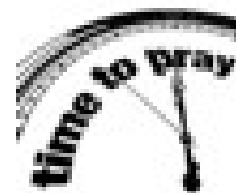


**Join us for a Messy Praise Party!
26th May 3-5pm at Dumbarton Hall**

A special end of StAR May Festival Messy Church full of sheer crazy joy, fun and musical energy

*Free entrance and all welcome.
(Children must bring an adult)*

For more information email alancomfort11@gmail.com



**For the month of May our Monday Prayers
will expand to Mondays, Wednesdays and
Fridays 4.30 – 5.00pm from Monday
6th May to Friday 24th May.**

We want to surround everything God is doing, and we are trying, in prayer.

Come and share in this vital ministry.

'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful' Col 4:2

Ways of Giving

We are very blessed to have a most generous congregation who give freely of themselves and also their financial resources. For this we are extremely grateful and we have many different ways to make giving as easy as possible.

Also, we can claim Gift Aid, increasing each donation by a further 25% at no extra cost to the giver, so long as they pay sufficient Income Tax, (or Capital Gains Tax) in the current tax year to cover their donations.

If you wish to know more, please ask a Warden, or Treasurer; Chris, who can supply Standing Order and Gift Aid forms if required.

Thank you very much for your continuing generosity to our Church
Revd Alan Chris Gibson



May Charity of the Month

"People forget I was human" Aline says.

Poverty pushed Aline to the brink. She was abused, homeless and hungry. In Burundi, malnourishment and poverty affect more than 70% of the population, putting them on the edge of survival.

If you are able, your gift this Christian Aid Week will ensure people in Burundi can access the skills and knowledge they need to push back against the inhumanity of poverty. Your gift will help someone like Aline set up a small business that will enable their family to thrive.

Though Christian Aid Week is 12th -18th May, Christian Aid is our Charity of the Month. If you wish to donate gift envelopes are available at church in May during services.

For more information speak to Dianne or Tim.

The next **United Service**
is **Sunday 5th May 6.30pm**
at Colchester Road Baptist Church



Saturday 8th June Coffee morning in church hall 10-11.30am

Refreshments with home made scones,
bring and buy, raffle, plant and produce
stall, donations welcome.



Change of Email Address

The church email address has changed from
standrewr@outlook.com to standrewr@proton.me

Any emails sent to Outlook in error will be seen, as it will continue to run alongside Proton for a while, then be closed. This will be advertised in Focus, Facebook and the website.

With many thanks and wishes Claire

Loving Father, help us to live this day quietly, easily.
Help us to lean upon Your great strength trustfully, restfully.
To wait for the unfolding of Your will patiently, serenely,
to meet others peacefully, joyously.
To face tomorrow confidently, courageously. Amen
Taken from the MU booklet 'Prayers from the heart – talking to God.'
Contributed by June Collins

Concert Teas

A very big thank you to everyone who has helped on Sunday afternoons by making, or serving refreshments at the concerts, or by clearing up afterwards. If you simply came along and enjoyed the concerts and ate the cake then you also deserve a "thank you", because making all that cake would be a little pointless if nobody ate it! Mary

The next Focus is **2nd - 29th June**
Please email items to: standrewr@proton.me
or phone Claire 01473 623419, or 07971 334142
By 9pm Monday 27th May