

The Parish of Crewe, St. Andrew with St. John the Baptist



"St. Andrew's has a family feeling; it's my family"



Our Search for a New Priest in Charge

Following a very successful period of leadership our Priest in Charge has moved on to a new challenge with our best wishes for her future success. We are now looking for a new Priest who will be able to build on the foundations we have established, to develop our service and relevance to the local community and to challenge us, help us to deepen our faith and expand our horizons further.

We are looking for someone with whom we can work as part of a team; a person who will encourage lay involvement, using our skills and abilities to serve the community through pastoral care and outreach.

Our churchmanship is frankly quite wide and this is reflected in the range of services provided each month. We have a modern liberal catholic tradition and whilst robes are generally worn for the main services, we are not stuffy or hidebound by tradition.

We pride ourselves on the many comments we get from visitors on the welcome they have received and we are inclusive in our welcome to all who make contact with the church either as one off visitors or to those who are looking to explore their faith.

The post will of course involve working closely together with the nearby churches of All Saints and St Peter's in Crewe, but we do have links with other local churches including St Stephen's Methodist Church.

The successful applicant will have a good sense of humour and an open and engaging personality, with the enthusiasm to support the wider involvement of the church with the local community. The post will require someone who has the skills and diplomacy to build upon existing links and relationships and who has the drive to lead or support joint initiatives.

The Parish has a good reputation for welcoming those undergoing training for ministry in various forms including curacy and we are anxious to continue this tradition.

We are currently fortunate to have the services of a part time community support worker shared between another three local parishes. This role is for 2 hours a week at each parish and enables us to explore more outreach projects.

Our PCC is keen to welcome a new Priest in Charge who will:

- Inspire us, teach us, delegate, empower and encourage us to share God's love within our Parish and beyond.
- Lead and develop the skills of our ministry team.
- Help us to develop an ongoing Christian relationship with those whose lives we touch through baptisms, funerals and weddings.
- Be innovative in approach; flexible in style of worship, and in the way the church building is used.
- Show good communication skills.
- Engage with our church-sponsored youth organisations and with local schools.
- Help us to develop a widened sense of social awareness, to be inclusive, identifying outreach projects for the benefit of all.
- Encourage and support those called to ministry and mission in its various forms.
- Engage in links with other churches in Crewe to promote and develop the Christian faith.
- Encourage and support our musical traditions including the choir and music group.

Potential applicants are encouraged to make an informal visit to St. Andrew's and the parish; we will make you very welcome and look forward to showing you around the church and the local area.

The Parish

Where are we?

The beginnings of the modern settlement of Crewe were not laid down until 1843 by Joseph Locke in order to consolidate the "railway colony" that had grown up since around 1840–41 in the area near to the railway junction station (opened in 1837). Even though it was called Crewe by many from the start, the town was actually named after the railway station, rather than the other way round.

The coming of the railway led to the development of Crewe and while most of the manufacturing industry directly associated with the railway has disappeared, the town continues to play a role as a major communications hub. Indeed, Crewe Station - proposed to become a HS2 hub - is located within the Parish.

Bentley Motors is a major employer in the town and there are a number of local business parks offering significant employment opportunities.

A new Lifestyle Centre has recently been constructed in the town centre, and the redevelopment of the bus station together with a new shopping centre is planned. The M6 motorway is only a few miles away.

The Cheshire campus of Manchester Metropolitan University recently closed but the University of Buckingham has plans to take over the site. There are good social activities on offer in the town with a very active theatre, choirs, a thriving U3A, and many types of sports and dancing available. There is a good range of restaurants on Nantwich Road, also within the Parish.



Big Bill from Town Square



Market Hall



Municipal Building



Memorial Square

The Parish of Crewe St. Andrew with St. John the Baptist covers a large area of south and part of central Crewe. It includes significant areas of social deprivation, and a diverse range of residential, retail and commercial development. The original Parishes of St. Andrew and St. John the Baptist were merged in 1994 with the closure of St. John's Parish church. When Christ Church in the centre of Crewe closed in 2014, this was also incorporated within the Parish.

Most of Crewe railway station is contained within its boundaries, as is Crewe Alexandra's football stadium. The population of St Andrew's and St John's Parish is circa 13,000.



Crewe Railway Station



Crewe Alexandra Football Stadium



The busy A534 Nantwich Road, approximately a mile away from the town centre, goes through the middle of the Parish and is a bustling shopping and leisure area. This was the original boundary between the Parish of St. Andrew and the Parish of St. John the Baptist.



Nantwich Road

The town centre of Crewe, on the northern edge of the Parish, and which offers many facilities, is now contained within the parish boundary following the closure of Christ Church in 2014.

The Parish Church of St. Andrew is in a residential area of mixed housing. To the north east of Nantwich Road can be found the more dense pattern of urban development; the Victorian grid pattern of terraced housing being the norm. Many of these houses have been converted into multi-occupancy dwellings and are privately rented out, many to migrant workers. Here can be found many different nationalities, mostly from Eastern Europe and there is a growing Muslim community of Somali origin. To the north west of Nantwich Road, close to the vicarage, there is the relatively prosperous Rosehill Estate.

On the south side of Nantwich Road there is a mix of privately owned and social housing, including a new elderly care village 'Belong', and a local doctors' surgery. Again, on the whole, the more prosperous area tends to be at the western end.

There are two state primary schools and one secondary school in the parish, as well as a state nursery school and Cheshire College South and West, which provides Sixth Form education for a substantial area of Cheshire.

The Parish lies within the Cheshire East local authority and encompasses Crewe Central and Crewe South electoral wards. Recent socio-economic data can be found on Cheshire East's website or on the following link:

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/cheshire_east_area_profiles/ward-profiles/ward-profiles.aspx



Gresty Brook Surgery



Belong Care Village

St. Andrew's Church

Worship and Ministry at St Andrew's Church

Sunday:

8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist; BCP used on 1st Sunday of each month

9.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist – Depending upon the Sunday of the month a variety of communion services is provided to appeal to all ages. The Making Waves Kids Club provides fun, interactive Bible teaching and creative activities for children during the services.

4.00 p.m. Book of Common Prayer Evensong. Eucharist celebrated on 1st Sunday of each month

Tuesday:

6.30 p.m. "Open" Service – informal worship and discussion in church.

Thursday:

10.00 a.m. Said Eucharist

Baptisms are usually held at noon on Sundays.

Shared services are also held with other local churches.

On the first Sunday of the month, the 9.30am service is a family friendly communion service, "Breaking Bread", where the service and activities are especially planned for children and families, and where our informal music group plays and sings.

On the third Sunday a more formal service is held, using traditional language and with communion taken at the High Altar.



The church also keeps the usual church festivals throughout the year. We participate in services organised by Churches Together in Crewe, and St Andrew's takes its turn in hosting these services.

Vestments are worn at all Eucharistic services. There is a team of 15 servers including 6 who regularly assist with the administration of the chalice at Holy Communion. We currently have a Curate, Revd. Catherine Cleghorn, and a retired Priest, Revd. Hazel Rugman who helps out with services.



Sunday Eucharist



Making Waves Kids Club

There is a very active children's ministry team at St Andrew's, with Making Waves Kids' Club which meets during the main 9:30 service on Sundays. On the first Sunday "Breaking Bread" service the children are present for the whole service, whereas on the other Sundays they move to the vestry following the start of the service where they have their own worship and craft activities before rejoining the service to show the congregation what they have been doing.

There is a good musical tradition which we are keen to continue. The choir leads the 9.30am Eucharist service and sings at weddings and funerals when required.

Our choir is augmented by other local choirs for special services at Christmas and Easter and for occasional concerts. The church has a modern Wyvern 3 manual electric organ.



Palm Sunday Procession

Our informal music group features singers, piano, guitars and drums, and they play and sing modern hymns and Taize chants.

Members of the congregation read the lessons and prepare and deliver intercessions at the main Sunday service. We also have a friendly and welcoming team of sidespeople.

We have a small, but dedicated team of flower arrangers who keep the church looking beautiful especially at major festivals.



Easter Sunday Flowers

Currently, St Andrew's has 119 on the electoral roll (2019), 77 of whom live within the parish.

Attendance over the three main Sunday services is typically between 80 and 100 and between 15 and 20 at the Thursday morning service. However up to 200 or more people can attend on special occasions such as a parade service with the uniformed organisations, Mothering Sunday, Easter Sunday or a Christmas service.

The Parochial Church Council meets around six times a year. The Church has designated health and safety, fire safety and child protection officers. Safeguarding, and Health and Safety policies are in place.

The Standing Committee is an active body meeting when required in accordance with its delegated powers.

Outreach

We seek to connect with the local community in many different ways.

Our current outreach projects include:

Little Fish, a playgroup for children 0 – 4 and their adults; *Seedlings*, a similar project held at our neighbouring church of All Saints;

Saturday Café, providing home-made soup, sandwiches and desserts at low prices;

Asylum-seekers English conversation café, where people from many different countries come to engage socially and improve their English;

Night Shelter project for homeless people, together with the YMCA.

‘Open’ is a gathering held on Tuesday nights, open to anyone, where discussions and reflection on Christian themes takes place.

Church at the the Brookhouse is an informal service held once a month at ‘Belong’ care village, attended by residents, staff, and others from the local community.

Summer Holiday Lunch Club – feeding local children during the holidays.
Play Weeks – play provision in church for children during the summer holidays.

‘*Experience Easter*’ and ‘*Experience Christmas*’ – art, craft, and other activities for families, linked to the themes of Easter and Christmas, and open to any children and families from the local community.

Lunchtime Prayer Hour in which the church building is open to anyone for prayer, has been organised at certain times. It is hoped to be able to hold this on a more regular basis.

Art Club and *Dance to Health* are opportunities to engage with local people who attend these groups.

Mettle, a group for teenagers meets on Wednesday Evenings.

Financial help is given to the Children’s Society through home collection boxes and the annual Christingle Service. We also support Christian Aid and local charities.

St Andrew’s is one of Cheshire East’s Connected Communities – an outpost for various community projects, e.g. Young Carers meetings; ‘New Beginnings’ for ex-offenders; Cheshire Police projects.



Open meeting



Art Club

What People say about St Andrews

"St Andrew's - that's the happy church on Bedford Street isn't it?"

"I love coming to St Andrew's because, being on my own, the friendly people there care and are really my family now"

"It's a place of many aspects - quiet times for reflection, and yet there is quite a buzz about the place when we meet together as a congregation or there is a function on at the church"

"I was made to feel very welcome from day one and that's continued."

"Lots of things to do - there is always something going on and the children are made to really feel part of things."

"I've developed my understanding of God and drawn closer to Him since I've been coming to this Church."

"I enjoy the hymns and singing praises."

"I love the feel of the place."

Financial Overview

To ensure our financial position, the congregation are encouraged to belong to a planned giving scheme. This, along with other donations, rents and fund raising events, helps us to raise an income of around £65,000 per annum.

The financial position of the church as reported to the PCC on 8th April 2019:

HSBC Current Account £15060.78

HSBC Reserve Account £33676.66

Anglican Church Deposit Account £203634.96

Lloyds Bank Accounts £631.48

Social Activities

Our parishioners enjoy many social activities as members of the organisations affiliated to the church. Tea dances, hoe-downs and a Summer and Christmas Fair are held during the year. There are also occasional concerts featuring local choirs and orchestras and an annual pantomime.



Harvest Hoe Down



Summer Fair

St Andrew's has a FaceBook page and a website:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/standrewschurchcrewe/>

<https://standrewscrewe.com/>

Ladies' Open Group

This group meets on alternate Thursday evenings throughout the year and has a varied programme with talks, activities and outings.

Dance To Health

Classes for anyone, including the elderly and disabled, who want to improve their health, co-ordination and balance, are held on Wednesdays in the Church Hall.

Art Club

Open to church members and local residents alike, an opportunity to experiment and improve in using watercolours.

Diamonds

Diamonds is a social group for church members aged 50 and over, meeting on alternate Monday afternoons in the Church Hall. Talks, quizzes, keep fit, games afternoons and outings all feature on the programme for the year.



Diamonds

The Andrews Panto and Play Society

Each January The Andrews Panto and Play Society (TAPPS) performs a pantomime with full houses of approximately 80 for each of the four performances. A annual variety show and play reading evenings are also



TAPPS 2019 Pantomime – 'A Christmas Carol

very successful.

Uniformed Organisations

At St. Andrew's we are fortunate to have an affiliated Scout group, The 1st SW Cheshire 'The Andrew's'. There is also a Brownie group and a rainbow group.

Scouts

Scouts meet on a Friday night but there are also many other 'meetings' throughout the year on activities which include camping, climbing, canoeing/kayaking, hiking, abseiling, shooting, to name but a few.



Scouts on South Cheshire College's climbing wall



Scouts at Parade Service

Cubs

We currently have 21 boys and 9 girls in our pack with 8 leaders and 3 young leaders. We meet on a Wednesday evening and hold many other activities throughout the year. Each year we complete two camps plus a night hike as well as taking part in the many district events that are organized.

We enjoy a full and varied programme of activities which include survival, climbing, skiing, rafting, fundraising, community projects and much more, all of this goes towards the ultimate award in cubs, The chief scouts silver award.



Winter Camp 2019 Chirk



Round The Camp Fire

Beavers

Brownies

At the present time the 4th Crewe St. Andrew with St. John the Baptist Brownie Unit has twenty Brownies and four Leaders plus unit helpers. They meet during term time on Wednesday evenings.

Rainbows

There are at the moment eleven Rainbows aged five to seven and two Leaders plus unit helpers. They meet during term time on Wednesday evenings.



Brownies



Rainbows

Church Buildings

The Church

The construction of St Andrews Church building was commenced in 1932 but had not been completed by the time of World War 2. A temporary wooden gable end was then constructed at the western end of the partially completed church building. Work was recommenced in 1959 to complete the building and this was finally finished in 1965.



Sanctuary and High Altar

The church building has been described as Gothic, in a free decorated style. It is a modern family church built of brick, with stone and cast stone dressings and a Westmorland Slate roof which was thoroughly overhauled and repaired in 2016. Internally the building has a light and spacious welcoming feel due mainly to the predominantly clear glass windows, broad nave and high ceiling.

To commemorate the merger of St Andrew's Parish and St John's Parish in 1994, four stained glass windows were taken from St John's church

building and installed at St Andrew's in 1999 including a beautiful Bromsgrove Guild rose window designed by A. J. Davies.



Rose Window depicting the Ascension

Faculty applications have been lodged and decisions currently awaited in respect of replacement chairs for the body of the church and also for the construction of a disabled person's access ramp and new steps and handrails outside the main door to the church.

Another associated church in the centre of Crewe, Christ Church, closed in 2014 and we welcomed the remaining congregation to our church.

The last Quinquennial report on St Andrews church building was in 2016 and the most urgent item of work identified - a major roof overhaul - has now been completed.



West end garden



Lady Chapel

It is anticipated that our faculty application for the installation of a disabled person's ramp, new steps and handrails at the main entrance to the Church building will be approved shortly and construction work will be carried out by the end of 2019.

Church Hall

In addition to being used for parish events, the Church Hall is open for use by the local community, but due to its condition, its replacement with a modern multi-functional building is a major priority. The Church sponsors various social clubs and uniformed organisations that use this facility.

Scout Hall

This is adjacent to the Church Hall and is owned by the Scouts who pay ground rent to the church.



Scout Hall

Vicarage

The detached 1960's brick built vicarage is within walking distance of the church. It comprises two floors with study, lounge, dining room, large



St. Andrew with St. John the Baptist Vicarage

kitchen, utility room and toilet downstairs. It also has four bedrooms and a family bathroom upstairs. There is an integral garage and the enclosed rear garden is a good size. The vicarage was refurbished three years ago.

The vicarage is close to good primary and secondary schools, and has a well-respected modern tertiary college nearby.

Appendix A

Population Data from 2011 Census

Deprivation rank (1=most deprived, 12,443=least deprived)	1,446
Parish population	13,204
Parish number of occupied households	5,592
Area (square miles)	1.2
Population density (people per square mile)	11,199
% aged 0-4	7.2
% aged 5-17	14.7
% aged 18-29	23.0
% aged 30-44	22.1
% aged 45-64	21.6
% aged 65 and over	11.4
% White ethnicity	91.3
% Asian ethnicity	4.3
% Black ethnicity	1.5
% Mixed ethnicity	2.3
% Other ethnicity	0.5
% Christian	62.9
% Buddhist	0.4
% Hindu	0.5
% Jewish	0.1
% Muslim	2.3
% Sikh	0.1
% Other religion	0.4
% No religion	26.6
% Religion not stated	6.6