

People Fully Alive: Ely 2025

A strategy for growth in the Diocese of Ely

The Diocese of Ely is about to formally launch a new strategy, unambiguously aimed at transformation and growth. This strategy has arisen out of Bishop Stephen's call to imagine our future and from the development over the last few years of a diocesan vision and set of imperatives.

'We pray to be generous and visible people of Jesus Christ' is our diocesan vision. It gives us a picture of the kind of church and people of God we hope to be. It gives us something to aim for. The 'we' is the diocese in all its forms – individuals, PCCs, parishes, deaneries and diocesan bodies – all of us are invited on this journey to continue to discern what God is calling us to be: a people fully alive here in Cambridgeshire and West Norfolk.

The strategy in its final format has been shaped by the 2,000 plus people who attended the consultation roadshows across the diocese, and the insightful and prayerful responses of individuals, parishes and groups who contributed to the survey. Overwhelmingly there is a desire and sense of urgency for change. There is an appetite to engage with, and welcome, steps towards transformation and growth. There is a widespread desire to cherish the past but to invest in the future.

So the strategy aims to begin to help us map out the future of the church over the next ten years as we look towards Ely 2025. This is a huge challenge. It means there has to be new ways of working, it will take time to adjust to, and not everything will be able to be done at once. We will need to pace ourselves as we immerse ourselves into the unfolding narrative of becoming people fully alive.

Key signposts in the strategy are the levers of change. These provide a common lan-

guage and focus for our priorities and actions. The levers set the agenda and overall direction of travel as we begin now to identify the opportunities and challenges ahead.

The levers are:

- Nurture a confident people of God
- Develop healthy churches
- Serve the community
- Re-imagine our buildings
- Target support to key areas.

The strategy will be fully integrated with the outworking of mission and ministry in the diocese. We will, as our imperatives indicate, engage fully and courageously with the needs of our communities, locally and globally; grow God's church by finding disciples and nurturing leaders; and we will deepen our commitment to God through word, worship and prayer.

None of this will work without being deeply rooted in God's grace, help and blessing. No work of ours is of any use at all unless we seek to abide deeply and continuously in the divine life and love. We wish to be rooted in prayer.

Speaking of our strategy, Bishop Stephen says:

'As much as anything else our strategy is a call to prayer. We pray ... that we may be the people God calls us to be, fully alive in Him.'

What next? This autumn our Archdeacons Hugh and Alex, together with Diocesan Secretary, Paul Evans, will lead a series of roadshows around the diocese. These will give you the opportunity to hear more details of how the strategy is being implemented and what the key priorities and actions are.

Our local meeting will be on Thursday **29 October**, starting at 7.30pm.

The venue is [Christ the Redeemer Church](#), Newmarket Road, CB5 8RS .

Please do come and find out more.



ST ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON

*A thriving, open and welcoming church community
for all ages*

www.standrews-chesterton.org

20 September 2015

Welcome to St Andrew's.

There will be a short service of Holy Communion following this morning's Family Service. If you would like to stay, please move to the front of the church.

We have decided that for safety reasons (and to avoid excessive draughts and loss of heat) the normal route to the Hall should be via the main north door, following the path around the back of church. This will take a bit of getting used to but we hope you see the reasons why. We do have a lovely new path to follow...

The new toilet is now in use—please ask a sidesperson at the back for access.

If you would like to know more about life at St Andrew's, please fill in one of the 'Welcome' cards in the pews and hand it in to one of the clergy.

'But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.'

James 3.17

This Sunday, 16th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Family Service
11.00am Short Communion
4.00pm Minims
5.30pm YO!CFC
6.30pm Quiet Eucharist

Monday

9.15am Morning Prayer
10.15am Coffee morning

Tuesday-Friday, 12-2pm

food4food café

Tuesday

9.15am Morning Prayer
12.15pm Holy Communion
followed by lunch at the
food4food café

Wednesday

8.15am Morning Prayer

Thursday

8.15am Morning Prayer
9.00am- Church Mice for babies, toddlers
11.15am and carers (Hall)

Friday

9.15am Morning Prayer
11.00am Open Mind:
Poetry please (Hall)*
4.00pm Vespers & vigil
7.30pm Hard Questions*

Saturday

2-4 pm Friends of St Andrew's
Michaelmas Fair (Hall)*

Next Sunday, 17th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Parish Communion
3.00pm 'People fully alive' service
at the Cathedral
6.30pm No evening service

**see inside*

Please pray for:

- Among the sick, housebound or recovering: Alison Hughes, Pam Fry, Valerie Holroyd, Hugh Dawson, Ian Ferguson
- Our local response to the refugee crisis
- The new diocesan strategy: 'People Fully Alive'
- Our youth and children's leaders, especially Maggie as she settles in to her new role

This week

The Friends of St Andrew's **Michaelmas Fair** will be on **Saturday**, 2pm-4pm, in St Andrew's Hall. Cakes, jams, preserves, garden produce, crafts will be on sale. Donations of items for sale warmly welcomed! Admission £2 including refreshments. Stalls available for hire. Please ask John Reynolds or Patricia Abrey for details.

Hard Questions meets on **Friday** at the home of Robert and Liz Fraying-Cork, 46 Garden Walk, CB4 3EN. It starts at 7.30pm with a meal; contributions of dessert/ beverages are welcome. Please let Gill Bickerstaffe know if you would like to come (429943; gillbickerstaffe@gmail.com). The question this month is: 'May I marry my same-sex partner at St Andrew's?' How should St Andrew's/the vicar respond? Nick will be with us to find out the answer.

Next Sunday

There will be a major diocesan service on next Sunday at 3pm in Ely Cathedral to mark the launch of the new '**People fully alive**' strategy. Although tickets have been issued all are very welcome to attend.

Coming up...

From **Thursday 1 October** (7.45pm) we will be starting (from the beginning) **the Pilgrim**

course for those who would like an introduction to/refreshers course in the Christian faith and/or are thinking about baptism/confirmation. Please have a word with Nick if you would like to come. The group will meet weekly for six weeks (with two possible breaks).

Our Harvest Festival will be on the first weekend of October. There will be a **Harvest Supper** on **Saturday 3 October** at 6.30pm with 'All that Jazz' entertainment by Helen Orr and Chris Pountain. Tickets are available today and during the week from the Hall office. £8.50 for adults, £6 concessions, £3.50 young children.

St Laurence's Church is organising a **week of accompanied prayer**, from **Sunday 1 to Saturday 8 November**. There are leaflets about this at the back of church.

St Andrew's News & Notices

The **house group** meets on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 8pm to 9:30pm, for informal supportive fellowship, bible study, discussion and refreshments. The usual venue is Caroline Lamaison's house, 17 Sherlock Road, with occasional meetings at 9a De Freville Avenue. New members are welcome. Contact helen.druiff@ntlworld.com (572828).

Church Mice: Help needed!

Would you be available to help serve tea and coffee at Church Mice on Thursday mornings, 9.30-11am? If you could help on a rota once a term, or more frequently, please speak to Helen Orr or Maggie Tate, or email helen.orr@standrews-chesterton.org

Transforming Work Group

Transforming Work brings together a group of Christians who want to make a difference where they work. It combines eight group sessions spaced over a year with opportunities in between to reflect,

pray and try things out...leaving time for discoveries to be made, changes to occur and for God to do what only God can do. Dorothy will be running a group based in St Andrew's Hall, beginning on **Tuesday 13 October**. We still have places. To sign up for the group, or for more information contact dorothy@workplacechaplancy.org.uk or 07503 746520. You can also look up the course materials on www.licc.org.uk/tw

Refugee response

Earlier this year we started promoting a project run by Cambridge City Council with Hope Cambridge supporting those who found themselves homeless. The city council were asking churches if they could help find hosts who could provide temporary lodgings.

We understand that a number of people have approached local churches asking if they can respond in some way towards the current refugee crisis. Some of you have asked whether there is a way you can open up your homes to house refugees.

We have an existing Supported Lodgings Scheme, set up as a partnership between Cambridge City Council, Hope Cambridge and other local authorities that encourages friendly, compassionate local "hosts" to take in someone in housing need. We currently have around 30 people waiting for accommodation – they are from a variety of backgrounds but all would make suitable lodgers. We want to help them before their situation worsens.

At this stage, there's a lot we still don't know in terms of the numbers, timescales and processes involved in welcoming refugees to Cambridge. However, by developing a network of "hosts" amongst local churches and community groups, we'll be in a stronger position to provide accommodation for refugees when the need arises.

Readings for Daily Prayer

Monday, Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist	2 Timothy 3.14-end
Tuesday	Mark 12.35-end
Wednesday	Mark 13.14-23
Thursday	Mark 13.24-31
Friday	Mark 13.32-end
Saturday	Mark 13.32-end

Readings for Sunday

am: James 5.13-20 Mark 9.38-end

So if you're interested in opening up your home then please contact Andy King on 01223 457920 or email andy.king@cambridge.gov.uk.

Peter Wood, Ely Diocese Director of Mission

Other News

A third **Charity Canvas Art Exhibition** 'Stuff of Life' is being organised by White House Arts to raise money for Rowan and for Practical Action's work in Bolivia and Peru. The last exhibition raised £15,000 with 336 canvases on sale. The empty canvases can be bought for £10 and the completed canvases will be sold anonymously for £45 at the exhibition, which will be held on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 November at The Granary, Stapleford. The last date for returning completed canvases is 2 November, so that gives plenty of time for people to get creative! More information can be found at www.whitehousearts.co.uk Please phone C. 420018 or email info@whitehousearts.co.uk to receive an entry form and a leaflet providing all the details. Canvases are also available from Mary Pountain, 13 Leys Road.