



Curious about faith?

This April we have two ways for people to engage with Alpha...

The **Alpha Launch Event** at Romiley LifeCentre (3 Stockport Rd, Romiley SK6 4BN) on **Tuesday 14th April at 7pm.**

The evening will be an **introduction to the Alpha Course**, where we'll explore the question: "Is there more to life than this?" It's a relaxed, friendly space to come along, share a meal, and see what you think.

The **full Alpha course** is for anyone who's curious - no judgement, no pressure. Each session explores life's big questions about life, faith, and purpose, and is designed to spark open and honest conversation.

The full Alpha course runs over 10 weeks and includes a half-day event on Saturday 16th May.

Starts: Tuesday 14th April, 7pm

Location: Romiley LifeCentre



One of the greatest joys at St Chads over the past year has been seeing our monthly prayer events steadily growing and very much established as a key part of the life of our church. Thank you to all who have come along and joined in with this most essential part of our life together. We pray because we want to see More People, More like Jesus and we absolutely believe that this is only possible in God's power not our own.

Our prayer events are interactive and engaging, I believe they are becoming spiritually richer and deeper and this year we will continue to grow in dwelling in God's Presence. This call is for our whole church family, I would love you to think of attending a monthly prayer event as a core part of what it means to be part of St Chads.

April Prayer Events:

Weds 15th Apr - 1.30pm in the church lounge.

Weds 22nd Apr - 7.30pm in the LifeCentre



Dear Church Family,

On Monday I attended the funeral of the late Bishop Andrew Watson in Guildford Cathedral. Andrew was my training incumbent (vicar who trained me as a curate) and died tragically fast aged 64 of pancreatic cancer a couple of weeks ago.

It was an extraordinary service, Guildford Cathedral (which is huge!) was packed and everything was done so beautifully. I want to share with you, three things from the service which particularly struck me.

The first was the extraordinary tribute from Andrew's son Joe, who is in his early thirties. Not only did he deliver his tribute beautifully, no small feat in a packed cathedral, but the content was very powerful. In the presence of 2,000 people, including around 40 Bishops and Archbishops, along with many dignitaries, robes and processions Joe shared personally about his Dad. There were so many there who knew Andrew as a Bishop, colleague and friend, he touched our lives, but his primary calling was to love his family. It was a stark reminder of the value of family and the calling each of us have to love and prioritise those who matter most to us.

Funerals are always a moment of reflection and help us refocus on what really matters. What Joe retained and expressed powerfully, was the experience of being valued and loved by his Dad. We live in a busy, accelerated world, we can get consumed by so many things. This Easter take time away from the 'world out there', to make memories with those who matter most to you.

The second memory from yesterday was Andrews' eldest daughter Hannah, an outstanding musician, playing a stunning piece of piano music. I cannot capture in words the beauty of that moment. Amidst the crowds and colour, the prayers and processions, the mitres and the memories, between a grand piano and a plain coffin, the final quiet notes gently drifted into silence. It was this poignant stillness which enabled all of us who, knew, loved and admired Andrew to let our hearts catch up and fully engage in what we were feeling.

This Easter, amidst the chocolate and cards, school holidays and social events, look for moments of stillness in which you can hear what your heart is telling you. Stopping to be still in church each day at 6pm has been a space for that and we're keeping going until Easter. Our Easter services include plenty of space and reflection, our prayer stations will help you to pray. Whether in music, birdsong or silence, don't crowd out the spacious moments where you can catch up with what you are feeling.

And the third memory from Monday's funeral, was the unifying clarity of the core of our faith. There were Christians of all shapes and sizes, from all sorts of church backgrounds, all united around the core of our faith. That Jesus died so that we can be forgiven, and rose so that we might have hope of eternal life.

In his final letter to his diocese Andrew wrote: "I don't fear the prospect of dying and find to my relief that my faith in the 'resurrection of the body and the life everlasting' has only grown stronger of the past few weeks". That is the faith we celebrate this Easter.

So this Easter, amidst the readings and reflections, the prayers and praise, the coffee and chocolate, don't miss the opportunity to focus on the core truth of the gospel. Jesus death and resurrection, give us eternal hope. As we focus on them, our faith too can grow stronger.

With love,
Richard.



Easter at St Chads

This Easter, we hope you can join us as we experience the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus through worship, prayer, and reflection.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 2nd April

7.00pm - Communion

STILL HOPE - 4th April

7.30pm - Worship and reflection

GOOD FRIDAY - 3rd April

1.00pm - Meditations on the Cross

EASTER SUNDAY - 5th April

9.15am - Easter Celebration

11.00am - Easter Celebration

Prayer Space

This Easter, we are also opening church for people to spend time in quiet reflection and prayer as we celebrate the hope of Easter, taking a moment to pause in God's presence for as long or as short a time as you wish.

GOOD FRIDAY

10am - 12pm & 3pm - 6pm

EASTER SATURDAY

10am - 4pm

Baptisms

On Easter Sunday (5th April) at our 11am service we will be doing full immersion baptisms and confirmations.

This is always a joyful occasion and so we would love to invite those who have made a decision to follow Jesus to consider taking the plunge. Dave will be organising some preparation sessions for those making this step, so please do get in touch with any member of our staff team to be included.



Vision Sunday & APCM Sunday 10th May 2026

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for **Vision Sunday** in a few weeks' time.

We'll begin at **10:00am** with a relaxed **church family breakfast** - pastries, coffee, tea, and juice. This will be a lovely opportunity for both congregations to spend time together.

At **10:30am**, we will gather for worship and share **communion together as one church family**.

After communion, children will head to the church lounge to watch a film (and enjoy the remaining pastries!).

This Sunday also includes our **APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting)**, where we will be voting for:

- Churchwardens
- Deanery Synod representatives
- PCC members for the coming year

To stand or vote in these elections, you must be on the **electoral roll**. If you're not on the electoral roll and would like to be, please contact Jane.

If you'd like to find out more about serving on the PCC, please speak to one of our wardens (Andrew Goddard or Jan Ford), or chat with Jane or Katie at church, or contact the Church Office.

Everyone is welcome - young and old, newcomers and those who have been part of the church family for many years. There is something truly special about gathering all together.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Church Office.