



# Parish of St Andrew's Eaton

Parish Profile 2024

In this profile, you will discover more about this exciting post, more about our heritage and more about life at St Andrew's at present. More importantly, you will find more about our hopes and vision for God's work in our parish for the future.

St Andrew's is an ancient, thatched church, which leads into a modern New Church building, built 30 years ago, seating over 200 people. Adjacent to the car park is the church parish hall.

The successful candidate will live in a modern Vicarage in Eaton, close to the city centre of Norwich and the surrounding countryside. This post is open to ordained priests within the Church of England.



## Our vision

We are praying and looking for a person with a love for God and the people of this parish, a person with a heart for the Gospel and God's Word.

The scope of the job is to lead and encourage lay involvement so that everyone will have the opportunity to use their gifts and talents to the glory of God and to build up the fellowship.



## What is the task?

This is a parish with a great potential for growth in many areas and over the past few years, there has been an increased sense of confidence in the way our Christian faith is expressed and communicated. But there is much more that can be done!

Members of our congregation are mainly retired and we are always seeking ways to encourage more families and young people to come to us regularly.

So for example, in the next five years, the task would be to:

- Coordinate the work amongst families to grow a younger congregation
- Work to further develop our provision for older people
- Be actively involved in the ministries with schools
- Further develop the children's Activity Workshops and the Sunday Club.
- To build stronger links with the local community
- Encourage more church members to join Connect groups
- Deepen our faith and trust in God to gain confidence to share the gospel with others.
- Grow and oversee lay ministries in worship and pastoral care.



## Who are we looking for?

Under God's guidance, we are seeking someone who will:

- Be a good communicator and preacher
- Uphold the Word of God and bring the teachings of Christ in a meaningful way to both those with faith and those who are searching.
- Work with, and be supported by, a number of lay teams within the church
- Have collaborative leadership with many responsibilities shared, trusting lay leaders to fulfil their role.
- Submit expenses on a regular basis
- Have excellent organisational skills.
- Have good interpersonal and relationship building skills, which are essential.
- Need to have a flexible attitude and experience of managing teams of volunteers.



## Location

The parish of St Andrew's in the historic village of Eaton is part of the city of Norwich at its south-western edge, with a population of around 5,000.

The unspoilt Yare Valley, a large recreational Eaton Park and a local golf course are nearby. The University of East Anglia, the Norwich Research Park, the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, the Sainsbury Centre and the John Innes Centre are less than two miles away and a number of their staff and students live locally.

Eaton retains its character as an attractive suburb of Norwich just two miles from the city centre. There is a healthy mix of social and private homes, a large complex of retirement dwellings recently built by McCarthy Stone, and a smaller number of larger houses meeting the needs of business and professional people.

The church site is flanked by a busy Waitrose store, and there are two public houses and some small village shops. The main A11 road to London bypasses Eaton with easy access to the dual carriageway. There are frequent buses to the city centre.



## Our Church

The New Church provides versatile space, excellent acoustics and flexible seating arrangements and is now the main church, with the added bonus of an ideal venue for events such as concerts.

Meanwhile, the Old Church is available for smaller services and gatherings and provides an improved welcome area.

The church stands in its own graveyard and also has a peaceful and secluded parish burial ground nearby. The church hall, with its many regular bookings for local activities, is situated at the front of the car park adjacent to the church.

During the expansion of the Eaton area, a daughter church, Christ Church was built in the parish and celebrates their 150th anniversary in November this year. By 2006 the natural sequel to growth was the division of the parish into two, but the continuing relationship has been maintained through the creation of a Group Ministry. Christ Church has a more traditional ethos than St Andrew's, where our main services are less formal, although based on Common Worship.

The two churches have developed their own ethos but still maintain some shared activities such as the annual Garden Party, a joint Parishes Office, a monthly Parish Magazine and work with children.



## Sundays with Us

The tradition of the church is central-to-low, leaning towards evangelical, and attracts people from a wide variety of backgrounds and expectations. Most services have a clear liturgical framework, though this is frequently applied with flexibility and creativity, with attention paid to the needs of visitors and those who may be unfamiliar with church services.

Above all, there is a focus on listening to God's Word. Our strapline is "a church for all – a place for you" and we seek to be a welcoming church family, sharing the love of Jesus with everyone through a wide variety of activities.

Services at St Andrew's normally follow this pattern (with average attendance figures):

### Sundays

**8am** Holy Communion (BCP) on the first Sunday **(6-9)**

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**10am** Morning Service (Common Worship) 1st and 3rd Sundays (see below)  
Holy Communion (2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays)

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**6.30pm** Informal Evening Worship (café style) on the first Sunday evening  
**(25-30)**

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### Weekdays

**10am** Midweek Holy Communion (BCP) or Morning Prayer on Thursdays  
**(15)**

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The congregations are drawn, predominantly, from the local parish community though there is an increasing number coming from further afield. Prior to the Covid pandemic, numbers of worshippers at our morning services ranged from 90 to over 100; but the pandemic lockdown has meant that we are now welcoming around 80 on a Sunday and about 15 on our weekly live-streaming of services.

Occasional Offices: There are about 45 funerals annually, the majority taking place at local crematoria. Baptisms number about 3 and weddings a similar number.



## During the week

### Midweek Groups and Outreach

#### Church Community

There are several home groups (Connect Groups) running weekly or fortnightly, and we run an annual Lent course which is well attended.

There is an opportunity for everyone to come together to pray on the first Tuesday evening each month at Prayer Focus. Other organisations and groups include the popular monthly Old Eatonians, with interesting speakers aimed at retired people in the local area.

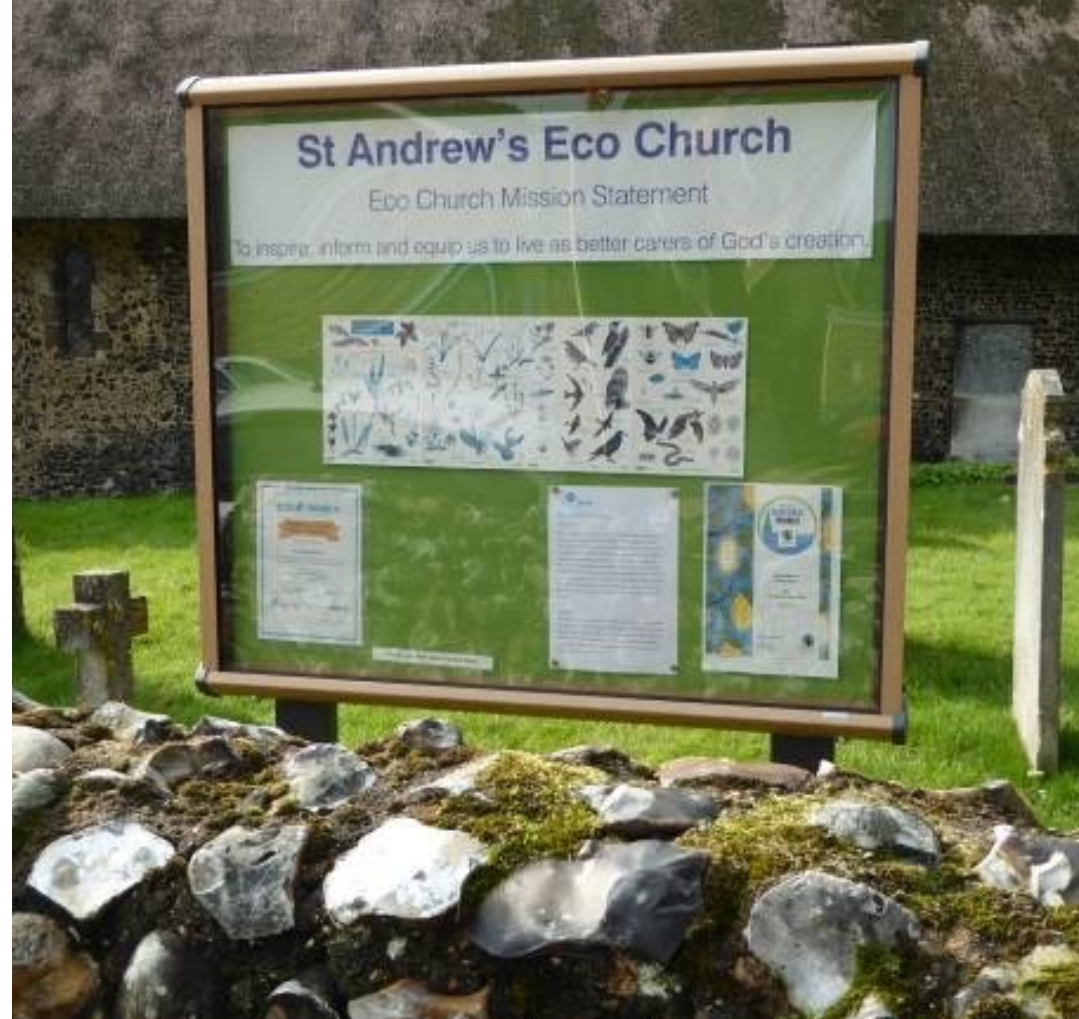
At various times of the year, there are parties and quizzes for the congregation and to invite neighbours and friends along.

#### Eco Group

The St Andrew's Eco Group has achieved the A Rocha bronze certificate. Our annual Eco Fair drew many people and raised awareness of our need to take seriously our responsibility as stewards of Creation.

#### Community Café

The weekly Community Café also attracts large numbers of people from the local area and provides a strong 'bridge' between the church and local residents with scope for further development.



## During the week

### Midweek Groups and Outreach continued

#### Toddler Group

The Toddler Group on Tuesday mornings, for children and their carers, continues to thrive, with a dedicated team of leaders and occasional services in church.

#### Foodbank and Charities

Local charities and the foodbank for those most in need are regularly supported.

#### Mission support

Further afield, on a global scale, we support Mission Partners working with CMS from Cape Town, together with Global Leaders in Local Mission. A Charity of the Month is featured, and we support Tearfund at Harvest and at Christmas.

#### Giving

Regular giving to the work at St Andrew's is encouraged. Many of the church members have joined the new Diocesan Giving Scheme. St Andrew's pays its Parish Share in full each year.

#### Our Schools

There is a popular Primary school in the parish and a Special School for boys with emotional and behavioural difficulties; and we have good links with the local Scout Group.



## What we can offer you

### Ministry Team and PCC Support

During the inter-regnum, our Curate has stayed on for a while to plan the worship and teaching ministry, and the two churchwardens are responsible for the day-to-day running of St Andrew's.

- We have a Director of Music (voluntary post) and a retired Reader with permission to officiate.
- Administrative support is provided by the Parishes Office run by two part time salaried staff.
- Lay involvement is strongly encouraged on the basis that everyone should have the opportunity to use their gifts and talents to the glory of God and to build up the fellowship. The parish is divided up between several Pastoral Workers who co-ordinate the work of their area especially amongst families and older people.
- Other teams participate in worship with the organ, piano and a group of singers, and outreach activities such as the Toddler Group and the Community Café.
- Prayer Ministry is available after each morning service and a confidential prayer net supports anyone with particular prayer needs.

The Parish Support Team for the Diocese of Norwich, based at Diocese House in Easton, are available to support and guide you in areas including church buildings, safeguarding, children youth and families work, communications, generous giving and finance.



# What we can offer you

## The Rectory

The Rectory is a modern detached house in a sought after location, at 28 Bluebell Road in Eaton.

- It has four double bedrooms, 3 with storage and 1 which benefits from an en-suite.
- There is a kitchen/breakfast room with some integrated appliances and a dining room off it.
- The lounge is the heart of the home with double doors to the conservatory that offers garden access.
- There is a ground floor shower room, a first floor bathroom and a bedroom en suite.
- It has gas central heating (some underfloor) and double glazed windows.
- There is off road parking and a double garage.
- The garden is 55' max with patio and lawn
- There is also potential for a 1 bedroom annexe.
- The Energy Efficiency rating is currently C 74 with a potential for B 83.
- The Council Tax Band is E.



## What we can offer you

### Clergy Wellbeing

Our enthusiastic and supportive PCC expect the vicar to take proper holidays and a regular day off each week.

### Safeguarding

Safeguarding is vitally important to ensure the safety and wellbeing of both young people and vulnerable adults. The CofE policy is displayed in the church porch. Two Safeguarding Officers will soon be fully trained.



## Helpful links

**Diocese of Norwich**

[www.dioceseofnorwich.org](http://www.dioceseofnorwich.org)

**Church of England**

[www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

**Living and working in Norfolk – Norfolk County Council**

[www.norfolk.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-volunteering/  
living- and-working-in-norfolk](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-volunteering/living-and-working-in-norfolk)

## Thank you

Thank you for reading this parish profile.  
We look forward to hearing from you.





THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Norwich

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Registered Charity No: 249318