



**The Parish of
St Andrew West Street Deal Kent CT14 6DY**

DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY

**Archdeaconry of Ashford
Deanery of Sandwich
County of Kent**



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2023 Annual Report & Financial Statements

A new priest for the Parish of St Andrew, Deal

*We are the Parish Church for the people of North Deal and beyond
who love God and love all God's people.*

*We are a welcoming and caring Christian community
that promotes and maintains Catholic teaching and practice
within the Church of England.*

St Andrew's is the parish church of North Deal and under the episcopal care of the Bishop of Richborough and under the ecclesiastical authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury delegated to the Bishop of Dover.

The parish now seeks a priest in the Anglo-Catholic tradition, to continue its growth and mission, whilst offering modern liturgy.

Our Vision for the future of St Andrew's is that:

- we remain a community of people with open arms and hearts.
- we seek to maintain and enhance the worshipping life of the parish;
- we endeavor to deepen the spiritual life of the congregation;
- we ensure that our church buildings are used as a positive tool for mission and growth and for the community.
- we will work with other churches and community group, regardless of their faith, within Deal and the diocese to grow our church within the community.

Our new Parish Priest will:

- have a contagious zeal for the spreading of the Gospel and the mission of the Church;
- be a firm but loving and able leader committed to working closely with the PCC, Churchwardens and parish at large;
- be able and willing to delegate where appropriate;
- be focused on the importance of the Mass at the centre of parish life;
- care about worship and ensure that it is meaningfully and thoughtfully presented;
- preach content in an engaging and accessible manner;
- teach the faith to young and old alike in inspirational ways;
- work with other communities in the area and build on the good links
- deepen and further the parish's relationship with the diocese, deanery, ecumenical partners and the secular and civil authorities;
- be sensitive and understanding to those of differing opinions and faiths and welcoming to all.
- work closely with the Parochial and Sandown schools to encourage closer links with the parish
- be working with safeguarding at the core of all that we do.
- have a kind and caring nature towards pastoral care
- attend events within the church and elsewhere in the name of St Andrews to spread Gods love.

As well as reading this Parish Profile, you are encouraged to visit our Facebook page and our website at www.dealstandrews.co.uk. We and @standrewsdeal, hope these might give you a greater insight into our Parish life and what we can offer you.

Senior Diocesan Staff

Archbishop of Canterbury



Bishop of Dover
Right Rev Rose Hudson-Wilkin



Bishop of Richborough
Luke Irvine-Capel



Archdeacon of Ashford
The Reverend Darren Miller



Our Town of Deal - Its History and Today

Deal is a charming seaside town on the East Kent coast. From the seventeenth to the nineteenth century it was an important shipping base both for the Royal Navy and for merchant fleets. As steam took over from sail it lost its pre-eminence as a supply base but built up a flourishing tourist trade. This declined from the 1950's with the advent of package holidays but it still has the air of a holiday town, especially when the sun shines.

The development of the East Kent coalfield from the 1930's brought an influx of miners who were housed with their families in the south western part of the town. The final mine closed in 1989 leaving many without work. There is still significant unemployment in this area and also in the social housing located in St Andrew's Parish in North Deal.

The bulk of the property is terraced and was built in the 18th and 19th centuries. It could be claimed that the view of the houses along the front seen from the end of the pier is possibly the best of its kind in England.



Buildings of historic interest are the castles of Deal and Walmer built in 1540, a well-preserved original Time Ball Tower, and the medieval church of St Leonard in Upper Deal. Dover Castle, the medieval Cinque Port of Sandwich and Canterbury are all within easy reach.

Trains run directly to London. The High-Speed rail service to St Pancras International which takes 82 minutes stops at Deal throughout the day. There is also a direct service to Charing Cross or, with a change, to Victoria. There are buses to Dover, Sandwich, Canterbury

and Thanet. Deal is also conveniently situated for travel to Europe either from the ferry port of Dover or by Eurotunnel.

There is a good variety of independent shops – greengrocers, bakers, butchers, health and organic foods, delicatessens selling English and French cheeses, an independent bookshop, antiques and boutique coffee shops - together with branches of Sainsbury's, Aldi, Boots and WH Smith etc. The lively and bustling High



Street of Deal was nominated the High Street of the Year 2013 Award in a poll carried out by the Daily Telegraph. There are many attractive and popular places to eat both in Deal and roundabout.

The Astor Community Theatre hosts some professional acts as well as amateur shows. The Deal Music and Arts Festival takes place over about sixteen days at the beginning of July and there are concerts in the autumn and the spring. There are drama groups, amateur choirs and folk groups. A number of community activities take place

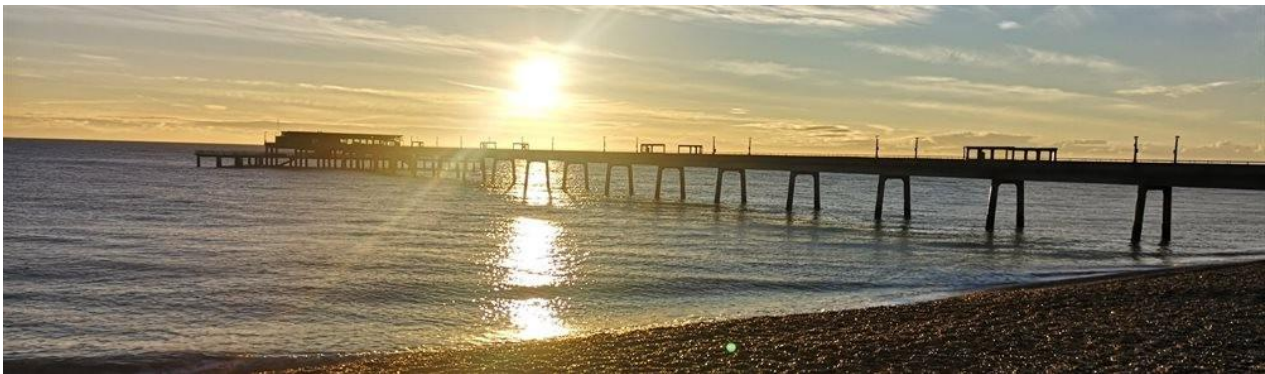
throughout the year including the regatta, carnival and fair late in July. The circus comes to town once or twice a year.

There is a sailing club, a rowing club, a tennis club, a swimming pool and sports centre, football and rugby clubs and the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club. A number of recreation grounds and equestrian centres are located around the area. Deal is famous for its sea fishing, both from the beach and from the pier.

Canterbury is only 17 miles away. The cathedral lies at the heart of Diocesan life but in addition there are two universities and an excellent shopping centre. The new Marlowe Theatre offers an eclectic range of entertainment. The Gulbenkian Theatre and cinema on the Kent University campus is another lively centre of performing arts. There are a number of music festivals through the year, including the Canterbury Festival in October and concerts and recitals almost weekly. There are cinemas in Sandwich, Dover, Canterbury and at Westwood Cross in Margate. Altogether there is a vibrant arts scene in this part of East Kent, not to mention the Turner Gallery and Theatre Royal in Margate.

East Kent Hospital Trust has hospitals in Margate, Canterbury, Ashford and Dover. There is a cottage hospital in Deal where minor procedures and some x-rays etc are carried out; it also has a small geriatric ward.

There are a number of primary schools in Deal and Walmer, all of them classed Good or Outstanding. The local secondary school is Goodwin Academy. In Sandwich, a six-minute train journey away, there are Sir Roger Manwood's Grammar School and Sandwich Technology College, both of which have good reputations. There are girls' and boys' grammar schools in Dover, Thanet and Canterbury.



History of the Parish and St Andrew's Church

During the medieval period Deal was a small hamlet scattered around the 12th century parish church of St Leonard's in what is now Upper Deal. The chief occupation would have been tilling the land although fishing must have been a secondary occupation and no doubt huts were established on the shingle bank a mile away.

It was not until the 17th century that a substantial community developed along the foreshore, north of what is now South Street, to service the shipping in the Downs. This expansion led to a call to have a chapel-of-ease built here and St George's Church was opened for worship in 1716. It became the civic church, attracting people of quality who could afford annual pew-rents.

When the town further expanded into the North End during the late 18th and early 19th nineteenth centuries, the pilots, mariners, boatmen and their families who took up residence there, found themselves without an Anglican church to worship in.



The appointment in 1846 of a new Rector of Deal, the Rev'd Archibald Hamilton Duthie, gave impetus to a scheme to build a new church. Money was not only raised from the great and the good but also from the ordinary folk for whose use the church was intended.

The architect was Ambrose Poynter (1796-1886) of Westminster and his simple gothic design of an aisled church, adorned with tower and steeple and providing seating for 483 people, was much admired. It was built on the site of the old workhouse which had closed in 1836. The church

was consecrated on 31 October 1850 and dedicated to the fisherman apostle, St Andrew. The Rev'd Martin Edgar Benson, curate of St Leonard's Deal, was inducted as the first vicar. Many of the pews were rent-free.

The original building extended little further than the present chancel step and the windows throughout were quarry glazed in diamonds with second crown glass. A sole surviving example can be found in the west wall of the north aisle in what is now the sacristy.

Congregations increased significantly in the next few years so that the Rev'd Benson resolved to enlarge the church, a project carried on by his successor, the Rev'd Charles Shirley Woolmer. Between 1865 and 1866 both the chancel and the aisles were extended to designs by William White (1825-1900); this added 140 extra seats. The incorporation of a piscina and sedilia on the south side of the sanctuary, described by The Ecclesiologist as very correct, clearly indicates that the churchmanship of St Andrew's had come under the influence of the Oxford Movement and the Ritualists. Both were forerunners of the Anglo-Catholic tradition still observed at St Andrew's today.

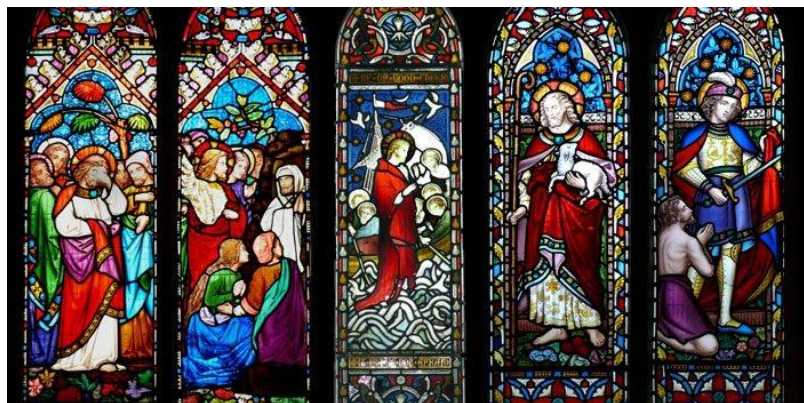
During the next twenty years or so the church underwent a decorative transformation. Stained glass by some of the best makers, painted tiles, carved oak choir stalls, a carved and painted altar front in the Lady Chapel, and a carved and painted pulpit were all added at this time, mostly as memorials to departed parishioners and incumbents.

The Rood hanging above the entrance to the chancel came from Duxhurst Priory, Surrey in the 1960's and incorporates a number of important Christian symbols, as does the carved font near the entrance to the church. The painting of the Holy Family hanging above the altar in the Lady Chapel is attributed to the Flemish artist, van Orley, who flourished at the beginning of the 16th century.

Other later additions to the furnishings include the English or Sarum High Altar, the Stations of the Cross, the modern statue of the Blessed Virgin and Child by Peter Eugene Ball, the statue of Christ the King by Walter Tappin, and the splendid organ case by Stephen Dykes-Bower.

The 2020 Quinquennial Report found the fabric to be generally in a sound condition. In recent years we have spent in the region of £50,000 having most of the Victorian stained-glass windows and their associated stonework restored. The money was raised through grants, fund-raising and a generous bequest of £30,000 made by a previous church warden.

There is an effective PA system in the church.



The Rectory

The Rectory, brick built in the 1970's, is a modern four-bedroom house sited on a portion of the graveyard. The garden is mainly laid to grass with trees and shrubs; it is surrounded on three sides by an attractive late 18th century brick wall, all that remains of the 1796 workhouse which once occupied the site. There is a fairly large garage adjoining.



Churchyard

The churchyard is closed and is laid mainly to grass with mature field maples, sycamores and holly trees at the edges. In 2015 a memorial garden of Peace and Remembrance was laid out in front of the eastern elevation of the church. At the centre is a French Calvary mounted on a Portland stone plinth.



Church buildings

There is a well-appointed hall attached to the church with a kitchen and toilets. This is hired by many community groups for various activities when not required by the church. Also attached is a small office with computer, photocopier and printer.



Socio-Economic Dynamics of the Parish (figures taken from 2021 census)

The Parish of North Deal has approximately 4000 dwellings, The total population is just shy of 8,000 The population is predominantly white. In 2021 70.3% of the population was unemployed and not worked within 12 months. 42.8% are not economically active.

The parish encompasses a small number of shops and businesses at the north end of the High Street and there are a few pubs and three corner shops as one moves further north. There are one or two small businesses in side streets. At the far north end is the Cinque Ports Golf Club, and a holiday-home park. There is an active Friends of North Deal (FOND) scheme which works hard to conserve the area and protect its residents.

St Andrew's Church, Sandown Primary School and the Golf Road Centre (which includes a GP surgery) are situated at the south end of the parish, slightly removed from where most families live. The Parish is situated in the North End of Deal which has a mixed demography both economically and culturally and many residents in this area of the parish do not currently receive the ministry of the church. This presents a considerable opportunity for evangelism.

The foreshore marks the eastern boundary of the parish, to the north there are the Sandhills and a golf club leading to Sandwich Bay, and to the west one can cross the railway line and walk directly to Betteshanger Country Park. The hinterland is highly productive agricultural land rising towards the southern extremities of the North Downs; there are many charming villages usually with a good pub at the centre and an attractive medieval church.

St Andrew's within the Church of England

St Andrew's has resolutely stood within the Catholic tradition of the Church of England since the church was built in 1850. Despite the turbulences in the Anglican Communion the majority of the congregation remain determined to continue a Catholic witness within the national Church.

Since the decision of the Church of England to permit the Ordination of women to the priesthood, Resolutions A and B have been in place together with the petition for Extended Episcopal Oversight (Resolution C). Following the House of Bishops' Declaration after the Church of England's decision to permit the Ordination of women to the episcopate the PCC passed the new Resolution. Since the Parish has been in interregnum the Resolution under the House of Bishops' Declaration has been reviewed and at a meeting of the PCC on 4th November 2024, the Resolution was reaffirmed.



House of Bishops' Declaration to which we are firmly committed

The Resolution under the House of Bishops' Declaration will continue to:

- commit our parish to sharing in Christ's ministry in our Diocese and Deanery
- ensure that the episcopal and priestly ministry in the parish can be received by all
- maintain the unity of the parish
- seek sacramental and pastoral ministry from a bishop with whom we are in full communion
- contribute to sustaining breadth and diversity in the Church of England and in our Diocese and Deanery
- enable St Andrew's to flourish within the Church of England

Governance and Organisation

St Andrew's PCC which meets monthly, includes 12 elected members, of which 2 are elected Deanery Synod members, 1 is Diocesan synod and 2 Churchwardens. There is also an Events Committee to coordinate and plan the many activities.

As at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April 2025, the Electoral Roll stood at 68.

The average Sunday attendance in 2025 is an average of 50 people. This reflects a slow but progressive rise in attendances from the previous year. Wednesday mass attendance was and is a steady 20 people. Easter 2025 attendance for all 5 services was over 250 with 97 on Easter Sunday Mass, Christmas 2024 attendance at all services was 403 over five services.. There has been a good list of bookings for weddings, baptisms and funerals this year and more are coming in for next year. Baptisms usually take place at midday on a Sunday or during the Parish Mass for church families, and others when requested.

Our Congregation

Whilst the historic Anglo-Catholic reputation of the Parish continues to attract worshippers from well beyond the boundaries of the Parish, including weekend visitors who have second homes in Deal, both our electoral roll and regular Sunday congregation contains a significant proportion of local residents. The congregation comprises a wide age range from differing backgrounds and holding different theological convictions reflecting the Parish as a whole.

Money Matters

In 2024 our voluntary giving amounted to £57,636 for the year. Fundraising amounted to £14,008. The total income from all sources was £81,969.

We are hoping to be able to look to our new parish priest to encourage us in the stewardship of our time, abilities and money.

Most donations are Gift Aided and others are covered under the small donations scheme.

Charitable Giving

We support a food charity each year with donations from our annual harvest festival. For 2024 it was United Families UK.

We have collections taken from time to time at the end of the Sunday Parish Mass for international, national, and local causes and disaster appeals.

During Lent we encourage support for the ACS through Lent boxes.

The collection at the Christingle and Crib Service is for the work of the Children's Society.

We have a community defibrillator on the outside of the church hall.

Communication

The Parish Magazine, The Lantern, is edited in-house by our wonderful Editor and published four times a year. Currently 2,500 magazines are printed and distributed free of charge to households in the Parish by a faithful team of volunteers. Almost 80% of the cost of the magazine is covered by local advertising.

A weekly pew sheet is produced for each Sunday detailing services for the week, the weekly mass intentions and future news and events.

Worship and Mission

The Parish's mission is focused on and based around the Parish Mass. The Sunday Parish Mass is the focal point of the corporate worship life of the Parish. Members of the congregation are on a rota to read at the Parish Mass, to lead the intercessions and to bring up the gifts at the offertory. There are authorised lay ministrants of the Blessed Sacrament who assist at Communion with administering the chalice.

The Sunday Parish Mass is at the heart of our worshipping life. It is our present understanding of All-Age Family Worship but we are open to the introduction of other forms of worship.

The Sunday School children leave after the Gospel and return to church at the Offertory.-



Our current pattern of worship is as follows:-

Sunday: 11.00am Parish Mass [CW],

Wednesday: 9.30am Low Mass (followed by coffee morning)

1st Saturday of the month: 11.00am Walsingham Cell Mass followed by the Rosary

A short homily is given at all masses.

We have a great serving team.

Confessions are heard by appointment.

All services have been maintained throughout interregnum due to the commitment, loyalty and devotion of our retired priests and a number of committed laity.

We mark all holy days of obligation falling in the week with a Low Mass, and major festivals with a Solemn Mass; these include Epiphany, Candlemas, Ash Wednesday, the Ascension of the Lord, Corpus Christi, the Assumption of Our



Lady, Dedication Festival, All Saints, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed and our Patronal Festival.

On Palm Sunday, we gather in the car park on the High Street for the Blessing of Palms and a procession to the church for a mass (led by donkey, if available) This is part of our witness to the town of Deal.

There is a full programme of services during Holy Week and the Triduum which is observed.



At the beginning of May, we offer to the parish and to the town of Deal a devotion to Our Lady when as we sing hymns a procession takes place from the church carrying a statue of Our Lady to the sea front.

The sea is blessed in a short ceremony and a floral wreath is taken on to the beach and cast into the waves. The procession returns to church for a short service and this is followed by tea and cakes.

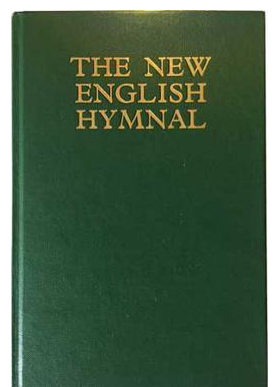
This is another witness and not only do others join us on the seafront but many make their way back to church share tea with us. Hymns and prayers are offered along the way.

On Corpus Christi Sunday at the end of Mass there is a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament around some of the local streets with hymns and prayers along the way. Benediction is given in a town square in the parish and again when the procession returns to the church.

The Parish has an active Cell of The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham and is run by Fr Roger Marsh. The Cell meets on the first Saturday of the month for Mass at 11.30am, Angelus at noon followed by the Rosary. Cell members are encouraged to be at Mass on all major feasts of Our Lady.

Music

There is a committed adult choir who sing at the Mass on Sundays and at the major festivals. We use the New English Hymnal. Masses are sung to Dom Gregory Murray, Martin Shaw, and Merbecke among others and on most Sundays the choir sings a Communion Motet. We are very fortunate in having a highly qualified and experienced organist and director of music.



Our **Organist and Director of Music** is Timothy Woodhead MA (Oxon) PGDipRNCM ARCO LTCL. Tim is a highly experienced teacher of piano, organ, theory, and academic music based in Deal. He also works as a piano and organ accompanist and coach for singers and instrumentalists of all levels of ability who are preparing to take examinations or to give performances.



There are two organs in the church. The main organ was built by a local builder, F H Browne & Sons, in 1883 and placed in the south aisle. Bomb damage during the war led to the instrument being reduced in size and relocated to the gallery. At the instigation of the then organist, Paul Stubbings, the organ was restored to its original specification between 2008 and 2012 at a cost of £70,000. A refurbished three manual console was installed at the back of the nave. The work was carried out by F H Browne who are still in business in a local village. A chamber organ was acquired at the same time and placed on the south side of the chancel.

There is also a baby grand piano much in use for concerts and recitals.

Children's Ministry and Young People's Work

This is part of church life that the PCC are working hard to increase, and will expect our new priest to devote time to also.

Events, Social Life and the Parish Hall

- Refreshments are served after the Parish Mass on Sundays in the Parish Hall.
- We are fortunate in having a group of people who raise money for the church through the sale of bric a brac etc. We run a very successful Summer and Christmas Fairs where local people are encouraged to take up a stall. This not only raises funds for the church but also engages with the community in a big way.
- Usually on the last Sunday of the month there is a Parish Lunch held in a nearby eatery, which has proved very popular.
- St Andrew's has always been keen to share in people's birthdays, anniversaries and other significant events in the community.
- Celebrations are held on major feasts and other occasions, funded by generous donors.
- Following the Wednesday morning Mass there is a lively Coffee Morning in the parish hall which also brings in people from outside the worshipping community. In the winter this also doubles up as part of the local governments Warm Welcome initiative, which is where we open the hall between 9am-11am for people to come and keep warm with free hot drinks and toast available.
- One of the always lively occasions in the week occurs on Saturday mornings when a number of people gather to help clean the church, change votive lamps and prepare for the week ahead and arrange the flowers. There is always a plentiful supply of coffee and biscuits (donuts if we're lucky!!) and a great deal of laughter.
- We enjoy quiz and curry nights held within the church hall.
- Since October 2017 an ecumenical initiative between St Andrew's and Trinity UR Church has been formed to provide Drop-In lunches on Tuesdays to offer a free hot meal and company for anyone in any kind of need. These are funded by donations and grants and a team of about a dozen volunteers from both churches prepare and cook the lunches and spend time with the twenty or so guests who come.



During the year, Monday morning Coffee Concerts given by professional musicians living in the area take place in church arranged by two members of the choir. These are extremely well supported with audiences of between 100 - 150 and raise funds for church and local charities. Occasional organ recitals take place too.

Each year in the Summer the two-week long Deal Music and Arts Festival takes place. The festival attracts both national and international performers of world renown and draws audiences from far and wide. St Andrew's is used as a venue for some performances.

There are a number of other events arranged during the year, including recitals, talks etc.

We take part in the Friends of Kent Churches Ride & Stride when the church is open all day on this day, manned by volunteers.

The church is open all day for the Heritage Open Days in September.

- A traditional Harvest Thanksgiving is usually at the end of September and on the Saturday night preceding that, a Harvest Supper is held in the Church Hall.
- In the past an annual coach outing is arranged usually to a National Trust or English Heritage property; this often attracts people from outside our worshipping community. We hope to restart this.
- A service in the churchyard for the Blessing of Animals is held annually around the commemoration of St Francis of Assisi.



- An Act of Remembrance is held at the War Memorial in the Church grounds as well as a Solemn Requiem Mass and Act of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday.
- On the evening of either the third or fourth Sunday of Advent (depending on when Christmas day falls) there is the traditional Carol service. This service draws a large number of people who do not generally worship with us and is followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Hall.
- On the afternoon of Christmas Eve, the ever-popular Crib Service and Christingle take place, attracting large numbers of grandparents, parents and children.

Pilgrimages

There is an annual Parish pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, usually in May, which is one of the highlights of the year.



School

St Andrew's along with St Leonard's and St George's is a foundation church for Deal Parochial Church of England School. There is a PCC appointed governor, which we would like to see the new incumbent take up this role.

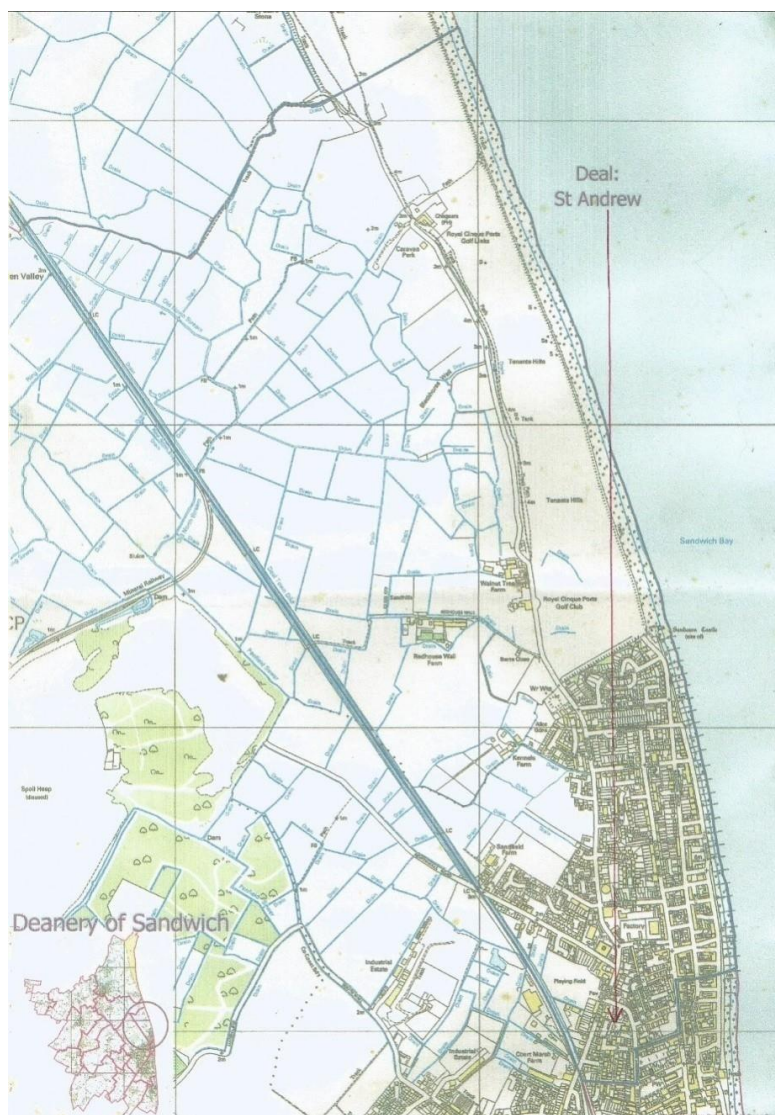
Sandwich Deanery runs along the east coast of the Canterbury Diocese and consists of two main areas of conurbation - Sandwich, and Deal with Walmer, along with outlying villages. The total population of the Deanery is about 45,000 of whom about 30,000 live in Deal and Walmer and 6,000 in Sandwich. The Deanery contains 12 primary schools of which 6 are Church of England schools. There are also 3 secondary schools.

The Deanery places an emphasis on each parish being the primary unit for mission and on the need for each church to take responsibility for its own vision. At present each parish is requested by the deanery to have its own Mission Action Plan. The Deanery is there to support the local church in its mission and therefore recognises the importance of co-ordination and collaboration through the deanery structures (i.e. Mission and Ministry committee, Synod and Chapter). There are fifteen churches in the deanery served by six full time stipendiary clergy (two of them at S. George's) plus one curate. A 0.5 or 0.7 post is currently being advertised for the new parish of Cornilo churches in addition to the post at S. Andrew's.

One of our PCC members sits on Diocesan Synod, another PCC member sits on Deanery Synod.



Map of where the Parish lies



Person specification

We are looking for a priest who is:

- sympathetic to the Society aims;
- committed to the Catholic tradition and the centrality of the Mass in our worship;
- willing to maintain our tradition.
- led by the Holy Spirit to help us deepen our discipleship and enrich our spiritual lives;
- sociable and approachable;
- able to reach out to the wider town community and young families;
- a leader who will inspire and facilitate others to use their gifts and skills to enable the church to continue to grow;
- involved in pastoral care for the parish and wider community. Visiting members at home or in hospital. We do have a pastoral care team who help with this.
- willing to attend church events, socialising with regular and potential congregation members.
- willing to nurture a close relationship with local schools and in particular Deal Parochial School.
- above all, a holy priest who loves Jesus and will love us too.

Finally, the advertised post is a 0.5. The churchwardens and the PCC wish to assure you that they do not expect a 24/7 commitment for a half stipend. With the invaluable support of retired clergy and a committed laity, they have run the parish, maintaining all activity and seeing a small but continuing increase in the growth of the congregation. They would expect to maintain a similar level of administrative support, leaving the parish priest to focus his attention on leading and developing the liturgy and heading up mission and evangelisation in the parish in order to bring the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ to an increasing number of young and old.

If you possess imagination, energy and the willingness to explore the journey of faithful discipleship with us then we want you to apply for this post!

Links and Contacts

Churchwardens:

Mrs Sharon Ball

&

Mr Lionel Ball



St Andrew's website:

www.dealstandrews.co.uk

St Andrew's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/standrewsdeal>

The Bishop of Richborough:

<http://www.richborough.org.uk/index.php>

The Diocese of Canterbury:

canterburydiocese.org

Dover District Council:

<https://www.dover.gov.uk>

Deal Town Council:

https://www.deal.gov.uk/Home_Page_26776.aspx