

## Basil Charles Floyd Andrewes

### Vicar 1923-1928

Basil Andrewes was born on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1886 in London and baptised a month later at St Paul's Kensington. He was the son of John Floyd Andrewes, then vicar of Christ Church, Roxeth, Harrow on the Hill, and his wife Louise. Basil spent his early years at Roxeth Vicarage.

The 1911 Census records 25 year old Basil as a boarder at Ely Theological College in Cambridgeshire. The college, which closed in 1964, was founded in 1876 by James Woodford, the Anglican bishop of Ely, to train clergy in the Church of England. It had a strong Anglo-Catholic tradition.

In April 1915, Basil married Ursula Page Phillips at St Peter's Church, Eaton Square, London<sup>1</sup>. Ursula was 24, Basil 29. A photo of Ursula appeared in the *Tatler* of April 28<sup>th</sup> 1915 as part of an article titled 'Cupid in War Time. Weddings and Engagements.'<sup>2</sup> They had no children.



Research hasn't yet established whether or not Basil served, perhaps as an army chaplain, during World War I. He next appears in the Electoral Register for Thurlaston, 8 miles south west of Leicester, in 1923.<sup>3</sup> He is vicar at All Saints Church and he and Ursula are living at the Rectory there. By 1925 Basil and Ursula are at the Vicarage, Ashby de la Zouch.

The couple left Ashby for Wantage, Berkshire, at the end of 1928. The *Tamworth Herald* reported on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1928 that "*The Rev Basil Andrewes, vicar of Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, has been appointed Chaplain to the Community of St Mary the Virgin, Wantage.*"<sup>4</sup>

In 1931, the *Nottingham Journal* picked up a story from the *Catholic World* (7<sup>th</sup> February 1931): "*Until comparatively recently vicar of Ashby de la Zouch and before that rector of Thurlaston, Leicestershire, Mr Basil C Floyd Andrewes has been received into the Church by the Rev Fr F Woodlock, SJ, at the Church of the Jesuit Fathers, Farm Street, London. At the time of his leaving the Church of England he was the chaplain to an Anglican sisterhood at Wantage.*"<sup>5</sup> This news was also reported in the gossip column of the *Leicester Evening Mail*, which noted additionally that Ursula Andrewes had been received into the Catholic church in June 1930. (9<sup>th</sup> February 1931).<sup>6</sup>

It would appear that Andrewes did take up posts in the Church of England again, however. When war broke out in September 1939, Basil and Ursula were still in Wantage. The 1939 Register

<sup>1</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FM%2F492483602%2F1](http://findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBPRS%2FM%2F492483602%2F1)

<sup>2</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0001852%2f19150428%2f021&stringtohighlight=andrewes](http://findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0001852%2f19150428%2f021&stringtohighlight=andrewes)

<sup>3</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/record?id=BL%2FER%2FD11%2FFMP000002355%2F1248&parentid=BL%2FER%2FD11%2FFMP000002355%2F1248](http://findmypast.co.uk/record?id=BL%2FER%2FD11%2FFMP000002355%2F1248&parentid=BL%2FER%2FD11%2FFMP000002355%2F1248)

<sup>4</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0000484%2f19281110%2f054&stringtohighlight=andrewes](http://findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0000484%2f19281110%2f054&stringtohighlight=andrewes)

<sup>5</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0001898%2f19310207%2f089&stringtohighlight=andrewes](http://findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0001898%2f19310207%2f089&stringtohighlight=andrewes)

<sup>6</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0003329%2f19310209%2f089&stringtohighlight=andrewes](http://findmypast.co.uk/bna/viewarticle?id=bl%2f0003329%2f19310209%2f089&stringtohighlight=andrewes)

noted his profession as 'Clerk in Holy Orders.'<sup>7</sup> Between 1948-1956 he was vicar at West Hendred, Berkshire, and from 1956- 1962 he was Rector of Swyncombe, Henley on Thames.

He died intestate at Stratton, Cirencester, on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1966, aged 80, leaving £16,039 to his widow, Ursula.<sup>8</sup>

Julie Starkey  
November 2021

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<sup>7</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=TNA%2FR39%2F2060%2F2060G%2F016%2F27](https://findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=TNA%2FR39%2F2060%2F2060G%2F016%2F27)

<sup>8</sup> [findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBOR%2FGOVPROBATE%2FC%2F1966-1966%2F00003922](https://findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=GBOR%2FGOVPROBATE%2FC%2F1966-1966%2F00003922)