

## Diary for this week 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>sts</sup> March

- Mon** 9.00am-3.30pm BJS Year 5 Church Day  
3.30pm Learner Bell Ringers practice
- Tues** 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Bridget's  
10.30-4.30 The Meeting Point in The Parish Hall  
(11.00 yoga, 1.00pm lunch)
- Weds** 9.30am Bible study on Zoom  
12.30pm Lent Lunch in Church House  
3.30pm Children's Choir in Church House  
6.45pm Bell Ringers Practice  
7.00pm Bridge Club in Church House
- Thurs** 11.30am Memorial Service for Barbara Paige  
followed by wake in Church House
- Fri** 9.30am St Andrew's Art Group in Church House  
7.00pm 'Candlelight to Dancefloor' concert
- Sat** 7.00pm 'Candlelight to Dancefloor' concert

## Next Sunday: 22<sup>nd</sup> March (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)

- |         |                 |              |
|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| 9.15am  | Morning Worship | St Bridget's |
| 9.30am  | Café Church     | St Andrew's  |
| 11.00am | Sung Eucharist  | St Andrew's  |
| 5.00pm  | Evening Prayer  | St Andrew's  |

## Giving to St Andrew's or St Bridget's

To support our churches the easiest way is through bank transfer to Backwell PCC: sort code 60-14-49 account No. 41004027 (alternatively, try the contactless station); to Backwell PCC Missions & Charities: Sort code 60-14-49; Account no. 41004035; quoting "USPG"; to St Bridget's to Chelvey PCC: Sort Code 60-14-49 account No. 05021715.

**Thank you** from David & Rosanne for the warmth & generosity of the farewell on Sun 1<sup>st</sup> March. We really appreciated your prayers & laying on of hands during the service. The gifts presented to us after the service were amazing; the wine will be enjoyed as we settle in to our new home & we will buy something special to remember you all with the hugely generous gift of money. Thank you too for the card & lovely comments- we will miss you all.

**Lent Lunch** is this Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30pm in Church House. £5 for soup, bread, cheese, pate & pickles followed by coffee. Profit to Turnaround, a centre in Lawrence Hill for the Homeless.

**Backwell Environment Trust** There will be a presentation of the work of the Trust including drone footage at the Mothers' Union meeting at 2.15pm on Tues 24th March. Visitors are especially welcome to attend.

**On Easter morning this year** we are going to be re-introducing the Dawn Vigil and Liturgy at St Andrew's. This ancient service, the most important liturgical act of the Christian year, involves reading Old Testament Lessons around a bonfire before lighting the Easter candle, to represent the light of Christ, and then bringing that resurrected light into the church - after which we renew our baptismal vows and celebrate the Eucharist. This service will begin at 5.30am on Easter morning - please do let Sam know if you intend to come (at least two or three will be gathered).

# Welcome to The Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent



## Welcome to our services today

- |         |   |              |
|---------|---|--------------|
| 9.15am  | Holy Communion                            | St Bridget's |
|         | <i>Hymns: 305, 467, 286, 530</i>          |              |
| 11.00am | Sung Eucharist                            | St Andrew's  |
|         | <i>Hymns: NEH 368, 456, 296, 78, 415</i>  |              |
|         | <i>Anthem: Come, Lord Jesus (Hubbard)</i> |              |
| 5.00pm  | Evening Prayer                            | St Andrew's  |

We will be streaming the 11.00am service on our YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/live/mmxtNWEWKnQ>

## Services and prayer during the week

- |                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Morning Prayer (CW) Mon to Fri 8am    | St Andrew's |
| Evening Prayer (BCP) Sun to Thurs 5pm | St Andrew's |

## General Information...

**St Andrew's and St Bridget's with St Nicholas'**

<https://www.backwellchelveybenefice.org.uk/>

<http://www.stbridgetschelvey.co.uk/>

**Rector** Revd Sam Norton

[revsamnorton@gmail.com](mailto:revsamnorton@gmail.com) / 07771 349319

Usual day off: Friday

<http://www.youtube.com/@Elizaphanian>

## Ministry Team

Revd Canon Peter Bailey 01275 790611

Revd Joan Rowe 01275 463214

## Churchwardens

**Backwell:** Mr Andy Pitcher 07837281158

Mrs Cherry Leake 01275 462365 / 07708883075

**Chelvey:** Mr Roger Watson 01275 462821

Mrs Sue Bougourd 01275 853879

**Administrator:** Benefice office - 01275 463469

Office open Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.30-12.30

[admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk](mailto:admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk)

**Children's worker:** Timi Booy *currently on maternity leave- please contact Revd Sam or the Office*

Please submit any notices for the weekly sheet by 9.30am on Thursdays.

**Join our mailing list** If you would like to receive this sheet and other news from the Benefice by email every week, you can sign up at <http://eepurl.com/ja90d2> or scan the QR code.



## Collect and Readings...

### Collect for The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Readings for this week...

**Galatians 4.21-31** Tell me, you who desire to be subject to the law, will you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and the other by a free woman. One, the child of the slave, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One woman, in fact, is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, 'Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children, burst into song and shout, you who endure no birth pangs; for the children of the desolate woman are more numerous than the children of the one who is married.' Now you, my friends, are children of the promise, like Isaac. But just as at that time the child who was born according to the flesh persecuted the child who was born according to the Spirit, so it is now also. But what does the scripture say? 'Drive out the slave and her child; for the child of the slave will not share the inheritance with the child of the free woman.' So then, friends, we are children, not of the slave but of the free woman.

**John 6.1-14** After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

## For your prayers this week...

**In the Anglican Communion:** We pray for The Anglican Church of Kenya

**Zambia:** We pray for our link church of St Andrew's, Ndola North, and for Bishop Emmanuel Chikoya following his appointment as Bishop of Central Diocese.

**In this Diocese:** Gracious God, we give thanks and ask you to bless all those who offer motherly love. We ask for you to surround with your unbounded love all those who will particularly miss their mothers today, or who find today a challenge for whatever reason.

**In the Deanery:** We pray for the Parish of Wraxall with Failand & Trendlewood, & for Revd Morey Andrews

**Jan/Feb/Mar charity:** USPG

**March Prayer Cycle:** The Croft, Ladymeade, Chelsfield, Combe Side, Waverley Road, Station Close

**Church Groups:** During March we pray for the Ladies Group meeting monthly, for its leader and committee.

**March Baptism Anniversaries:**

**Backwell Junior School:** We pray for our Pupil Chaplains, all Year classes, their teachers and classroom assistants together with the other schools in Backwell.

**Those who are sick or in need:** Becky Jones, Jess Wong, Grace Myahalaleel, Mike & Carol, Jackie, Victoria P, Ian Wills

**Those who we keep in our prayers:** Sue Ashman, Maureen Barnett, Vicky Dunscombe, Jenny Webb, Julian Barnett, Margaret Dagger, Ed Hewitt

**Those who have died:** Barbara Paige

**Anniversary of death:** David Bailey, Christopher Cole, Derek Bagnall, Kathleen Cooper, David Glasson

## Electoral Roll

**St Andrew's:** The Electoral Roll revision period will commence on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026 and will close at 1pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026\*. During this period the electoral roll, as it currently stands, will be available in a folder on the table by the south door for anyone wishing to review it. In addition to the electoral roll, you will find blank application forms, should you wish to be added to the roll. Please return the completed and signed forms to the Church Office (email or paper copy) by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, or directly to Phil by Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> April, to ensure that your name is added to the revised roll. Any errors identified on the roll should at once be reported to Phil Hockett directly or via the Church office e-mail

[admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk](mailto:admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk), with the subject "Electoral Roll". Should you have any other queries regarding the revision of the electoral roll please contact the church office or Churchwardens. *\*Please note that 3<sup>rd</sup> April is Good Friday so the office will not be open on this date.*

**St Bridget's:** The Electoral Roll revision period will commence on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 and will close on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. The current Electoral Roll for 2025 will be in a folder on the table by the lectern for review. Additionally, you will find blank application forms should you wish to be added to the Electoral Roll or have any amendments i.e. change of name or address. Please return any completed and signed forms to Janice Watson, Electoral Roll Officer, (or leave in the folder) by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March to ensure the Electoral Roll can be updated. If you have any other queries regarding the revision of the Electoral Roll please contact Janice or the Churchwardens.