

Diary for this week 18th – 23rd May

- Mon** 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)
7.00pm St Andrew's PCC in Church House
- Weds** 9.30am Bible study on Zoom
10.00am Burial of ashes of Peter Ireland
2.15pm BJS Pentecost Service
3.30pm Children's Choir in Church House
6.45pm Bell Ringers Practice
7.00pm Bridge Club in Church House
- Thurs**
- Fri** 9.30am St Andrew's Art Group in Church House
6.40pm Choir Practice in Church House
- Sat**

Next Sunday: 24th May (Pentecost)

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| 9.15am | Morning Worship | St Bridget's |
| 9.30am | Café Church | St Andrew's |
| 11.00am | Sung Eucharist | St Andrew's |
| 12.30pm | Baptism | 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 "Connect"; to St Bridget's to Chelvey PCC: Sort Code 60-14-49 account No. 05021715.

Deanerywide meeting The next Deanerywide meeting will be on Thursday 4th June at St George's Church Hall in Easton in Gordano. Dr Gary Lewis, Chief Executive of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership and Churchwarden of St John's Clevedon, will be speaking on the subject 'What are Church of England Schools for?'. The meeting is open to everybody; there will be light refreshments from 7.00pm before the meeting at 7.30pm. For more information click [here](#) or contact portishead.deanery1@gmail.com

Christian Aid Week 10th – 16th May

Envelopes and devotional booklets are available in church for you and to deliver to friends and neighbours. Envelopes can be returned to the village collection point at Parker's. Please do support this year's campaign if you can.

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.



Welcome to The Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley

17th May 2026
Sunday after Ascension



Welcome to our services today

- | | | |
|---------|---|--------------|
| 9.15am | Holy Communion | St Bridget's |
| | <i>Hymns: 163, 398, 175, 368</i> | |
| 9.30am | Café Church | St Andrew's |
| 11.00am | Sung Eucharist | St Andrew's |
| | <i>Hymns: NEH 130, 134, 443, 388, 338</i> | |
| | <i>Anthem: Rejoice, the Lord is King (Archer)</i> | |
| 5.00pm | Evening Prayer | St Andrew's |

We will be streaming the 11.00am service on our YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/live/nc5jr8PxcIA>

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 / 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

Director of Music (St Andrew's):

Edward Stancombe

BackwellMusic@outlook.com

Administrator: Benefice office - 01275 463469

Office open **Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.30-12.30**

admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk

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

Collect and Readings...

Collect for the Sunday after Ascension

O God the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven: We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Readings for this week...

Exodus 28.29-41 'Whenever Aaron enters the Holy Place, he will bear the names of the sons of Israel over his heart on the breastpiece of decision as a continuing memorial before the Lord. Also put the Urim and the Thummim in the breastpiece, so they may be over Aaron's heart whenever he enters the presence of the Lord. Thus Aaron will always bear the means of making decisions for the Israelites over his heart before the Lord. Make the robe of the ephod entirely of blue cloth, with an opening for the head in its centre. There shall be a woven edge like a collar around this opening, so that it will not tear. Make pomegranates of blue, purple and scarlet yarn around the hem of the robe, with gold bells between them. The gold bells and the pomegranates are to alternate round the hem of the robe. Aaron must wear it when he ministers. The sound of the bells will be heard when he enters the Holy Place before the Lord and when he comes out, so that he will not die. Make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it as on a seal: holy to the Lord. Fasten a blue cord to it to attach it to the turban; it is to be on the front of the turban. It will be on Aaron's forehead, and he will bear the guilt involved in the sacred gifts the Israelites consecrate, whatever their gifts may be. It will be on Aaron's forehead continually so that they will be acceptable to the Lord. Weave the tunic of fine linen and make the turban of fine linen. The sash is to be the work of an embroiderer. Make tunics, sashes and caps for Aaron's sons to give them dignity and honour. After you put these clothes on your brother Aaron and his sons, anoint and ordain them. Consecrate them so they may serve me as priests.'

John 15.26-16.4a 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I have said these things to you to keep you from stumbling. They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, an hour is coming when those who kill you will think that by doing so they are offering worship to God. And they will do this because they have not known the Father or me. But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.'

For your prayers this week...

In the Anglican Communion: We pray for The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

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: Grant, O Lord, that those who are appointed to ring the bells do it worthily and to your glory; and that those who are called this day by the ringing of bells to worship may enter into your gates with thanksgiving, and into thy courts with praise.

In the Deanery: We pray for the Parish of Nailsea Holy Trinity & for Revd James Packman

April/May/June charity: Connect, Nailsea

May Prayer Cycle: Westfield Road, Westfield Close, Westfield Drive

Church Groups: During May we pray for St Andrew's Choir who contribute so much in leading our worship and for Ed, the choirmaster.

May Baptism Anniversaries: Oliver, George, Amelia

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, Julian Barnett, Margaret Dagger, Ed Hewitt

Those who have died: Cyril Routley

Anniversary of death: Tony Stirratt, Shirley Glover, Janet Smith

Bell Sunday The tower will be open after the services today for anyone who would like to see the bells, how they are rung and go to the top of the tower. There will be two tours at 12.30pm and 1.15pm; we have to limit numbers to about 20 people at a time for safety reasons. If you would like to book a place in advance please email r.j.cox@blueyonder.co.uk or sign up on the sheet in church. More information about Bell Sunday can be found here <https://bellsunday.org/>

Prayer Breakfast Due to the Bank Holiday weekend the next Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday 30th May, not 23rd as per the usual schedule. Venue TBA.

St Andrew's Art Group are holding their annual Open Exhibition and Sale of Paintings at Backwell Parish Hall from 22nd to 24th May 2026 in aid of this year's chosen charity St Peter's Hospice.

Opening Evening from 7:30pm on Friday 22nd May

10.00am-6.00pm on Saturday 23rd May

10.00am-4.00pm on Sunday 24th May

FREE ENTRY to view affordable original art by local artists.

Homemade refreshments available.