

Diary for this week 24th – 29th 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
10.00am Visiting Bell Ringers
10.30-4.30 The Meeting Point in The Parish Hall (11.00-12.00 Yoga)
2.15pm Mothers' Union in Church House
7.30pm St Andrew's PCC in Church House
- Weds** 9.30am Bible study on Zoom
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
- Sat** 9.30-12.30pm Mothers' Union posy-making in Church House

Next Sunday: 30th March (Mothering Sunday)

- 10.45am Benefice Eucharist St Andrew's
5.00pm Evening Prayer (said)
with Lenten sermon 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.

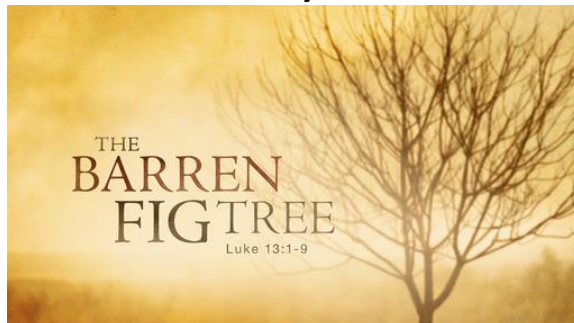
Common Cup The sharing of the common cup will resume from the Eucharist this Sunday. If for any reason you would still like to receive an intincted wafer simply indicate that to the relevant minister when you come to receive.

Lent course continues this Sunday, on the theme of 'Five Words: how to live in the Spirit – Grace; Accusation; Offence; Forgiveness; Faith'. These are initially being given at St Andrew's on Sunday evenings (as part of 5pm Evening Prayer) and shared on my YouTube channel: <http://www.youtube.com/@Elizaphanian>

Craft supplies Thank you to those who brought in egg boxes, Timi now has enough of these. She is still in need of more plastic takeaway containers or similar for making Easter gardens. Please bring any you can save from your recycling and leave them in the Link.

St Andrew's Ladies' Group are holding a Whist Drive on Monday April 14th at 7.30pm in Church House in aid of Holly Hedge Animal Rescue Centre. Tickets are £5.00 each and can be obtained from Gillian on 07392004836 or Val on 01275 463160. There will be a raffle and tea, coffee and nibbles but players are asked to bring any additional drinks along with their own glasses.

Welcome to The Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley 23rd March 2025 3rd Sunday of Lent



Welcome to our services today

- 9.15am Sung Eucharist St Andrew's
Hymns: NHWS 43, 17, 24, 238, 15
Anthem: Ave verum (Byrd)
- 11.00am Informal Worship St Andrew's
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer (said)
with Lenten sermon St Andrew's

Coffee will be served between the 9.15am and 11.00am services. There will be no live-streamed service this week.

Services and prayer during the week

- Morning Prayer (CW) Monday to Friday at 8am
St Andrew's
- Evening Prayer (BCP) Sunday to Friday 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: Saturday

Ministry Team

Revd Canon Peter Bailey 01275 790611
Revd Joan Rowe 01275 463214
Mr Martin Canning 01275 790309
Mr David George 07532202786

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

Children's worker: Timi Booy – 07540 058609

Working days: Mon, Tues and Weds

childrensworker@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk

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

Collect and Readings...

Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings for this week...

Isaiah 55.1-9 Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Luke 13.1-9 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

For your prayers this week...

In the Anglican Communion: We pray for The Anglican Church in Central America

Zambia: We pray for our link church of St Andrew's, Ndola North, and for a good harvest this year.

In this Diocese: Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the Deanery: We pray for the Benefice of Pill, Portbury & Easton in Gordano & for Revd Astrid Tiesema-Samsom

Jan/Feb/Mar charity: USPG

March Prayer Cycle: Russet Close, Mulberry Close, Embercourt Drive, Mariners Drive, Mariners Close

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

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, Estelle Wong, Jess Wong, Ed Hewitt, Grace Myahalaleel, Mike & Carol, Lucy Goodland, Julian Barnett, Jane Hepburn, Margaret Dagger.

Those who we keep in our prayers: Sue Ashman, Maureen Barnett, Vicky Dunscombe, Jenny Webb

Those who have died: Brenda Cooke, Kenneth Jones, David Bailey

Anniversary of death: Michael Coldicott, Joan Clough, Alan Peters

The Real Easter Egg Supplies of these Fairtrade eggs including an Easter story book are now available, price £5.50 (milk), £6.50 (dark). Please contact Jane.

USPG If anyone would like to have a collecting box to continue supporting USPG through the year, please let me know. Martin.

Electoral Roll

St Andrew's: The Church Representation Rules require that every 6 years a completely new electoral roll shall be prepared for each parish, and 2025 is the 6th year since the last new roll was created. Every person who wishes to have his or her name entered on the new Roll, whether it is entered on the present Roll or not, is requested to apply for enrolment not later than 12:00 o'clock on **Friday 25th April 2025**. Application forms are available from the table by the south door and these can be returned to church to posting the completed form into the church post box that is next to the external access door to the link. Any errors identified on the roll should at once be reported to Phil Hockett directly or via the Church office e-mail address 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.

The APCM will be held on Sunday 18th May.

St Bridget's: Please return Electoral Roll forms to Janice Watson, Electoral Roll Officer, by **Sunday 28th March**. Copies are available from Janice (contact: 01275 462821 / jan.watson1969@gmail.com). St Bridget's APCM will be held on Monday 28th April at 6.30pm in church.