

## Diary for this week 6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> January

- 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, 12.15 communion, 1.00pm lunch)
- Weds** 9.30am Advent series discussion on Zoom  
3.30pm Children's Choir in Church House  
6.45pm Bell Ringers practice  
7.00pm Bridge Club in Church House
- Thurs** 7.00pm Private booking in Church House  
7.30pm Prayer for the Vacancy on Zoom
- Fri** 9.30am St Andrew's Art Group in Church House  
2.00pm Funeral of Christopher Paish followed by  
wake in Church House  
6.40pm Choir Practice
- Sat**

There is also Morning Prayer on Zoom Mon and Thurs each week – see email or contact the office for the link.

## Next Sunday: 12<sup>th</sup> January (Baptism of Christ)

- 9.15am Morning Worship St Bridget's  
10.45am Sung Eucharist 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.

**Advent Sermon Series** If you would like to discuss the series or any specific part of it, please join the group on 8<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am on Zoom.

**THANK YOU** A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make our celebrations of Christ's birth so beautiful, welcoming and engaging for regular members of our congregations, for children and families, and for visitors to the Benefice. Much has been contributed by those who prepared and decorated our churches, who led beautiful music, read familiar and unfamiliar Bible passages, made coffee and served mince pies and those who led our services. May we honour Him now in our lives.

## Diary Dates:

- 27<sup>th</sup> February Licensing and installation of Rev Sam Norton in St Andrew's at 7.00pm  
1<sup>st</sup> March Curry Night in Church House supporting USPG.

# Welcome to The Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025 Epiphany



## Welcome to our services today

- 9.15am Holy Communion St Bridget's  
*Hymns: 91,59,87,84*  
10.45am Informal Worship St Andrew's

Coffee will be served after both services.  
We will be streaming the 10.45am service on our YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/live/srpCH3c5Zcw>

## Services and prayer during the week

Morning Prayer 9am Mon & Thurs on Zoom; also Tues at St Bridget's in person.

## General Information...

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

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

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

### Rector

Vacancy – contact the Benefice Office (details below)

### Ministry Team

Rev'd Canon Peter Bailey 01275 790611

Rev'd 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](mailto:admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk)

**Children's worker:** Timi Booy – 07540 058609

Working days: Mon, Tues and Weds

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

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

## Collect and Readings...

**Collect for Epiphany** Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Readings for this week...

**Ephesians 3.1-12** This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

**Matthew 2.1-12** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having

been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## For your prayers this week...

**In the Anglican Communion:** We pray for The Church in Wales

**Zambia:** We pray for our link church of St Andrew's, Ndola North who began work on their second school classroom.

**In this Diocese:** God of wisdom, we pray for all who are preaching your Word today. Give them the words to inspire those who listen to live lives worthy of your calling.

**In the Deanery:** We pray for the Parish of Portishead, & for Revd Rob Eastwood-Dewing and the ministry team

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

**January Prayer Cycle:** Long-thorn, Luntly Mead, Garstons Close, Marle Pitts, Slades Court

**Church Groups:** During January we pray for the Finance Committee and our Treasurer as we begin a new budget year.

**January Baptism Anniversaries:** Patrick, Charlotte

**Backwell Junior School:** We pray for our Pupil Chaplains, all Year classes, their teachers and classroom assistants.

**Those who are sick or in need:** Becky Jones, Estelle Wong, Jess Wong, Ed Hewitt, Grace Myahalaleel, Barbara Harland, Jenny Webb, Mike & Carol, Brenda Cooke, Lucy Goodland, Julian Barnett, Jane Hepburn, Judith Brown, Margaret Dagger.

**Those who we keep in our prayers:** Sue Ashman, Zofia Matyjasik, Maureen Barnett, Vicky Dunscombe

**Those who have died:** Christopher Paish, Christine Lawrence, Alan, Graham Bowerman.

**Anniversary of death:** David Dorey, Mark Wilmott, Jane Brean

**Christmas Card Exchange** Please ensure that you have collected any cards addressed to you and also check that any you have left have been collected.

**Book Group** The group meets on Zoom on an occasional basis to discuss a book it has chosen – some old some new. This time we are about to start reading one of the older ones, Jane Austen's Persuasion. It would be lovely to see more of you in the Zoom chat in a month or so's time. If you need a copy, please contact Martin