

Weekly benefice diary 21st September 2025

| Date | Church | Time | Service/event |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|
| Sun 21st | St A's | 8am | Early Eucharist |
| | St Mary | 10am | Parish Eucharist |
| | St A's | 10.30am | Family Eucharist |
| | Trinity | 10.30am | HeartSpace |
| | St Bart's | 11am | Parish Eucharist |
| | St A's | 12.30pm | Baptism |
| Mon 22nd | St A's | 10.30am | Warm Welcome |
| | St A's | 11am | Balance Class |
| | St A's | 6pm | CS staff training |
| | St Mary | 7pm | Choir rehearsals |
| Tue 23rd | St A's | 10.30am | Open Door |
| | St A's | 11am | OD Communion |
| | St Bart's | 1pm | RIP Rose Green |
| Wed 24th | St A's | 9.45am | Little Fishes |
| | St A's | 10.30am | Warm Welcome |
| | St Bart's | 10.30am | Tong Tour |
| | St A's | 12.30pm | Chair Yoga |
| | St Barts | 2.30pm | Fundraiser |
| | St A's | 7pm | AA Meeting |
| | St A's | 7pm | AA Meeting |
| Thur 25th | St A's | 10am | Eucharist |
| | St A's | 10.30am | Warm Welcome |
| | N'wood | 11am | Communion |
| | St A's | 3.30pm | Messy Church |
| | St A's | 6pm | Breath of Life |
| | St A's | 7.30pm | Bell ringing |
| Fri 26th | St Mary | 9am | Playgroup |
| | St A's | 10.30am | Warm welcome |
| | St A's | noon | What's for lunch |
| | St Mary | 3.15pm | Community Cafe |
| Sat 27th | St A's | 6.30pm | Choir practice |
| | St A's | 9.30am | Eucharist |
| | St A's | 11am | Town Harvest Fair |
| Sun 28th | St A's | 8am | Early Eucharist |
| | St Mary | 10am | Parish Eucharist |
| | St A's | 10.30am | Family Eucharist |
| | St Bart's | 11am | Parish Eucharist |
| | St A's | 12.30pm | Baptism rehearsal |
| | Trinity | 6pm | Taize Service |

Bereavement Café at the Trinity Centre 10.30am – noon on 2nd Oct, 6th Nov and 4th Dec - come and join us for coffee, offering support, understanding & empathy.

Baby loss awareness week - come and join us for a cup of coffee, cake and a conversation filled with warmth and understanding on Thurs 9th Oct 10.30am – noon and 6pm – 7pm at the Trinity Centre.



21st September 2025

St Matthew

Reaching out together to share God's amazing faith, hope and love!

St Andrew's Young Church - Sundays 10.30am Come and enjoy stories, crafts & games.

St Andrew's hymns:

St Mary's hymns:

St Bart's hymns: 565; 161; 644; 720; 428

Prayers for healing and wholeness: Diana Watson, Harvey Allen, Paul Joseland, Diana Barnes, Jim Young, Marjorie Rudolph, Tara Davies, Doreen Griffiths, Doris Gadd, Paul Grinnell, John Deane, Rob Purser, Mike Shinn, Kate Hume, John Thorneycroft, Margaret Lewis, Lisa-Jane Rawling, Wendy Weaver, Terry Connell, Margaret Higgs, Barry Norwood, Neil Robinson, Nicky Eames, Linda Carlsberg, Frances Norwood, Derek Davies.

Recently departed: David Thomas, Barbara Fellows, Rose Green, Jabez Higgs.

First Years Mind: Doreen Arnold.

We pray for Athena Carter baptised in St Andrew's today.

Weekly birthdays: Lincoln Chibge, Pam Day and Sarah Thorpe.

Notices

HeartSpace at the Trinity Centre at 10.30am, Contemporary worship and time for reflection. All are most welcome.

Forget-me-not Memory Walk - Sat 20 Sept walking at 2:30pm around 5½ miles to Kemberton Mill & back, or walk around the churchyard. Refreshments in the Brooke Room 2-3pm. Donations please use the card reader in church or on the church website.

Ian Handley's 30th Birthday Fundraiser - Ian will be doing a charity skydive, 13,000 feet, on 26th Sept in support of St Andrew's Church and Hope House. To support him look for the details in your weekly email.

Scarecrow Festival and Special Service

On September 27th the Town Council is running an Autumn Fair in the Churchyard with all sorts of stalls and activities. On Sunday 28th September we will be holding a Scarecrow Communion Service at 10.30am as part of the festival. Do come!

Taize service on Sunday 28th September at 6pm in the Trinity Centre. Do come and enjoy this service of Taize chants and quiet time for reflection - all welcome!

The Collect

O Almighty God, who by thy blessed Son didst call Matthew from the receipt of custom to be an Apostle and Evangelist: Grant us grace to forsake all covetous desires and inordinate love of riches, and to follow the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

Amen

First Reading **2 Corinthians 4.1–6**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalms **Psalms 119.65–72**

65 O Lord, you have dealt graciously with your servant, according to your word.

**66 Teach me discernment and knowledge,
for I have believed in your commandments.**

67 Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I keep your word.

**68 You are good and you bring forth good;
instruct me in your statutes.**

69 The proud have smeared me with lies,
but I will keep your commandments
with my whole heart.

**70 Their heart is gross and fat,
but my delight is in your law.**

71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted,
that I might learn your statutes.

**72 The law of your mouth is dearer to me
than thousands in gold and silver.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Gospel reading

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to **Matthew 9.9–13**

Glory to you O Lord

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ

Post Communion

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false teaching
and give to your people knowledge of your
truth, that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.