

**St Andrew's Charity for
October/November**

The Sisters of the Church

In Bristol, the work focuses on pastoral care in the local community, both centred on the house and through working with other agencies. At the house, this care has taken the form of both practical assistance such as giving food parcels at the door, and befriending and listening to callers and volunteers. The house at times is also used for Social Services' supervised visits between parents and their children who are in care.

Outside the house, there is work with One25 (working with women involved in prostitution), and at the Create Centre where life skills are taught.

Sisters provide religious education through such means as retreats, quiet days and preaching. Sisters make pastoral visits at home, hospital or prison and have arranged outings for children.

More details can be found on the website:
<https://bristol.sistersofthechurch.org.uk>.



Prayer for Those in Slavery

Lord, you are a God

who sets the captives free.

Your Spirit searches restlessly

*for those in despair, that they may find
the life you are calling them to.*

*We pray for those who are being trafficked
and callously put to work in our world.*

On the cross, you were powerless

and subject to the cruelty of others.

Look with mercy on those

who suffer this way.

May we, who are blinded by the shallow

distractions of daily life,

feel the fear of the cornered

and be roused to action.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

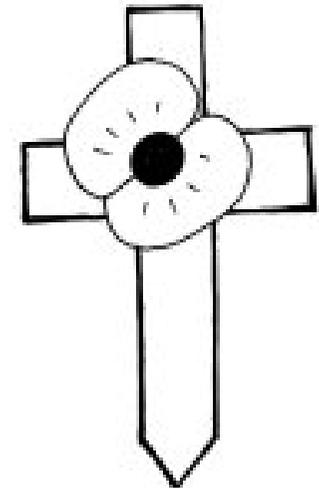
Written by the Rt Revd Simon Burton-Jones, Bishop of Tonbridge

St Andrew's, Backwell

St Bridget's, Chelvey

PRAYER DIARY

November 2020



- 1 **All Saints' Day**
Our Sunday services, including an afternoon All Souls' service for those who have lost loved ones in the past year.
- 2 Backwell Junior School, remembering both children and staff still adapting to a new situation.
- 3 The American election today, with far-reaching consequences.
- 4 Our Churchwardens: Anita, and Kathy and Tony; and Deputy Wardens, Christine, John and Anthony.
- 5 The AGM of *Backwell Life*, which includes *The Meeting Point*, at 12 noon today.
- 6 Backwell Comprehensive School, especially Year 7 in their first term, and Years 11 and 13 preparing for public exams after a very disruptive year.
- 7 Peace in places of conflict, particularly in Syria and Yemen, where many people continue to be threatened by military action as well as by the pandemic.
- 8 **Third Sunday before Advent Remembrance Sunday**
A service in church (possibly live-streamed) for the Royal British Legion and representatives by invitation only, and a short online service.
- 9 Bishop Peter as he receives ongoing treatment and also for Bishop Ruth with many extra responsibilities.
- 10 Our Government and all MPs, facing many difficult issues.
- 11 Those living in Station Road.
- 12 Westleigh School and especially children in their first term at the school.
- 13 Revd Katy, our Rector, and her husband, Peter.
- 14 Those who are faced with unemployment because of the present economic uncertainty, especially families struggling on a very reduced income.
- 15 **Second Sunday before Advent**
Those who are unwell in hospital or at home, especially those near the end of their lives.
- 16 Our Supporting Ministry Team: Peter (Retired Priest), Joan (Retired Priest), Martin (Reader) and Carol (Lay Worship Leader).
- 17 Backwell and Brockley Parish Councils.
- 18 The Sisters of the Church, St Andrew's Charity for October and November (see overleaf).
- 19 Those who bring increased awareness of modern slavery, including in the UK where it is estimated that over 10,000 including many children are affected.
- 20 All who work in the NHS or social care, especially after huge pressures during the past few months.
- 21 Those who are house-bound or socially isolated.
- 22 **Christ the King**
All who take part in our services, whether in church or at home.
- 23 Scientists researching for a vaccine or treatment for Covid-19 and also for the prevention of future pandemics.
- 24 Those living in Chelvey Lane and Chelvey Road.
- 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, especially those at greater risk of domestic violence at this time.
- 26 Carers' Rights Day - we pray for better understanding and support for carers.
- 27 Those who clean and care for our church buildings and churchyards.
- 28 Our musicians, including our choir as they adapt to present regulations.
- 29 **Advent Sunday**
Our links with St Andrew's, Ndola in Zambia, as they cope with the effects of the pandemic in their church.
- 30 **St Andrew's Day**
The response by governments across the world to the latest UN report on the loss of biodiversity and the future of our planet.