

St Andrew's Charity for January

Mothers' Union

We are an international Christian membership movement of four million members in 84 countries, actively supporting families and communities in need, both in the UK and worldwide since 1876. Through the Social Policy unit we are able to contribute to Government consultations and work with the United Nations and other international bodies.

Through programmes such as 'Away From It All holidays (AFIA), Child Contact Centres, parenting groups, and knitting for the local Premature Baby Units, Mothers' Union promotes stable marriage and family life. Worldwide, we have enabled over 32,500 people to join community savings and loan groups to support local enterprise and financial security, and over 16,000 people to become literate, helping them to build a brighter future.

Members usually enjoy meeting together regularly to pray, find support and organise fundraising events. Worldwide, prayer is said at midday every day across the time zones for issues affecting family life.



A Prayer for Key Workers

Heavenly Father,

We pray for key workers:

*for all medical staff and hospital workers,
who go to work knowing the risks they
face;*

*for medical researchers, seeking ways to
prevent and to cure;*

*for social workers, protecting the
vulnerable;*

*for care workers, providing contact and
support to those who have no other
help;*

*for teachers, worrying about their
charges;*

*for farmers, delivery and shop workers,
keeping the nation provisioned;*

*for cleaners, fighting the spread of
infection;*

*for transport workers and others who
keep the nation at work.*

Lord, be with us in our time of need:

*help us to do what has been asked of us,
and give us grace to help others do what
has been asked of them.*

Amen.

*Adapted from the Episcopal Church of
Scotland's website*

St Andrew's, Backwell

St Bridget's, Chelvey

PRAYER DIARY

January 2021



- 1 Peace in our world in the coming year, especially in Syria and Yemen.
- 2 Our Rector, Revd Katy, and her husband, Peter
- 3 **Epiphany**
Our country at the beginning of a new year and a new era.
- 4 For the roll-out of the new vaccine across the world, including in low-income countries.
- 5 Our Churchwardens: Anita, and Kathy and Tony; and Deputy Wardens, Christine, John and Anthony.
- 6 Backwell Junior School as children and staff return for a new term.
- 7 Backwell Parish Council.
- 8 Those who have become unemployed because of the pandemic, and are struggling to provide for their families.
- 9 The work of Mothers' Union across the world - St Andrew's Charity for January (see overleaf).
- 10 **Baptism of Christ**
Our services today across the benefice.
- 11 Our Supporting Ministry Team: Peter (Retired Priest), Joan (Retired Priest), Martin (Reader) and Carol (Lay Worship Leader).
- 12 Those who are unwell, in hospital or at home.
- 13 Christians in West Africa where there is an increase in terrorism and violent persecution.
- 14 Those living in Rodney Road and Orchard Road.
- 15 Backwell Comprehensive School and all who work there.
- 16 Those who are housebound or socially isolated.
- 17 **Second Sunday of Epiphany**
All who take part in our services, whether in church or at home.
- 18 **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
That Christians may work together as far as possible, and especially for our local links with other churches.
- 19 Those who work in our local surgeries.
- 20 Westfield School and especially the youngest children and their teachers and support staff.
- 21 Our musicians, including our organist, choir, orchestra and *Andy's* band.
- 22 Our links with St Andrew's, Ndola in Zambia, as they cope with the effects of the pandemic in their church.
- 23 Our Government and all MPs, including our local MP, Dr Liam Fox.
- 24 **Third Sunday of Epiphany**
Bishop Peter as he receives ongoing treatment, and also Bishop Ruth with many extra responsibilities.
- 25 Our local policing team.
- 26 The follow-up to pledges made at the on-line summit of world leaders in December to discuss climate change.
- 27 Our local food banks at Nailsea and Clevedon.
- 28 Local centres of coronavirus vaccination, including hospitals and Ashton Gate Football Ground.
- 29 Those still affected by natural or man-made disasters from last year, including many forest fires.
- 30 Those living in Bramley Drive and The Crescent, and around Chelvey Batch.
- 31 **Presentation of Christ in the Temple Candlemas**
Families of children baptised in our churches over the last year.