

Weekly benefice diary 17th May 2026

Date	Church	Time	Service/event
Sun 17th	St A's	8am	Early Eucharist
	St Mary	10am	Parish Eucharist
	St A's	10.30am	Family Eucharist
	Upton M	10.30am	Heartspace - camp
	St Bart's	4.30pm	Parish Eucharist
Mon 18th	St A's	10.30am	Warm Welcome
	St A's	11am	Balance Class
	St A's	noon	Counselling Vestry
	S'wood	3pm	Communion
	St A's	6pm	Centre Stage
	St Mary	7pm	Woodcote Choir
	St Mary	7.30pm	Community Choir
	Tue 19th	St A's	10.30am
	Trinity	6pm	Say Yes
	St A's	7.30pm	APCM
Wed 20th	St A's	9.45am	Little Fishes
	St A's	10am	Counselling Vestry
	Y'Tree	10am	Communion
	St A's	10.30am	Warm Welcome
	St A's	12.30pm	Chair Yoga
	Trinity	5.30pm	Youth Alpha
	St A's	7.30pm	AA Meeting
	St A's	8-10pm	Counselling Vestry
	Thur 21st	St A's	10am
	St A's	10.30am	Warm Welcome
	St A's	11am	Balance Class
	St A's	11.15am	Higford service
	St A's	2pm	Forget-me-not
	St A's	6pm	Breath of life
	St A's	6-8pm	Counselling Vestry
	St A's	7.30pm	Bell Ringing
Fri 22nd	St Mary	9am	Playgroup
	St A's	10.30am	Warm Welcome
	St A's	6.30pm	Choir Practice
Sat 23rd	St A's	9.30am	Eucharist
	St A's	10.30am	Baptism rehearsal
Sun 24th	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	noon	Dementia film
	St Bart's	noon	APCM

CentreStage - Ian Handley leads the group and hopes to welcome some extra help to lead the 3 age groups. Could this be you? If you can help, please contact Ian at mr.ianh95@hotmail.co.uk or on 07399 455080. We also need an additional trustee to assist in managing the charity. If you can help, please contact Phil Freeth at phil.freeth@hotmail.com or on 01952 463017.

17th May 2026

Easter 7

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: 6, 361, 221, 1, 672

Prayers for healing and wholeness: Diana Watson, Harvey Allen, Paul Joseland, Jim Young, Tara Davies, Doreen Griffiths, Doris Gadd, Paul Grinnell, John & Christine Deane, Mike Shinn, Kate Hume, Margaret Lewis, Lisa-Jane Rawling, Derek Davies, Terry Connell, Margaret Higgs, Barry Norwood, Neil Robinson, Nicky Eames, Frances Norwood, Doug Hughes, Ann Garbett, Gordon Tonkinson, Kathy James, Charles Dakin.

Recently departed: Joyce Frost, Irshad Taj, Darren Griffiths, James Jones.

First Years Mind: Marjorie Dutton.

Weekly birthdays: Eileen Shervey.

Notices

Due to the Bike4Life event St Bart's service will be at 4.30pm today, instead of 11am.

St Andrew's APCM - May 19th at 7.30pm - come and celebrate the life of our church! Bring some nibbles and drinks to share.

St Bart's APCM - 24th May at noon, all are welcome.

Gift Aid - please do Gift Aid your donation if you can, it makes such a difference!

Please support Christian Aid during May. Donations can be by envelopes on the pews, or by the card reader at the back of church and the website.

Dementia Awareness - Thursday 21st May - we mark Dementia Action Week with a short church service in St Andrew's at 2pm followed by our delicious Forget-me-not Tea. All are welcome let us know you are coming jeanodum@shifnalbenefice.org.uk
Sunday 24th May 12-1pm Relying on God through Dementia, a short film with time to respond and share experiences, in St Andrew's Church.

St Andrew's Summer Fair 13th June Please grow plants, save up bottles and tombola prizes. We will have raffle tickets in a couple of weeks to sell!

Shifnal Pride service - join us for an inclusive LGBTQ affirming service of celebration and diversity followed by fellowship on Sunday 28th June at 6pm in St Andrew's. All are most welcome.

Chris Thorpe's Leaving Service - Will be on Sunday July 12th at 10.30am in St Andrew's. It will be followed by a picnic lunch, so do bring a picnic! There will be strawberries and cream to follow, and a bar for those who would like a drink!

The Collect

Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with power and
compassion, that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

First reading Acts 1.6–14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.
When the apostles had come together, they asked
him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore
the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for
you to know the times or periods that the Father
has set by his own authority. But you will receive
power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all
Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'
When he had said this, as they were watching, he
was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their
sight. While he was going and they were gazing up
towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes
stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do
you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus,
who has been taken up from you into heaven, will
come in the same way as you saw him go into
heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount
called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath
day's journey away. When they had entered the
city, they went to the room upstairs where they
were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and
Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and
Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the
Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were
constantly devoting themselves to prayer,
together with certain women, including Mary the
mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Psalm Psalm 68.1–10

1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.

**2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind
drives it away; as the wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before
God; let them also be merry and joyful.

**4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him
who rides upon the heavens; Yahweh is his
name, rejoice before him!**

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, God in
his holy habitation!

**6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth
prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live
in dry places.**

7 O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

**8 The earth shook and the skies poured down
rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your
inheritance; you refreshed the land when it was
weary.

**10 Your people found their home in it; in your
goodness, O God, you have made provision for
the poor.**

**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 **John 17.1–11**

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the
hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son
may glorify you, since you have given him
authority over all people, to give eternal life to all
whom you have given him. And this is eternal life,
that they may know you, the only true God, and
Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you
on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to
do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own
presence with the glory that I had in your
presence before the world existed. I have made
your name known to those whom you gave me
from the world. They were yours, and you gave
them to me, and they have kept your word. Now
they know that everything you have given me is
from you; for the words that you gave to me I
have given to them, and they have received them
and know in truth that I came from you; and they
have believed that you sent me. I am asking on
their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the
world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me,
because they are yours. All mine are yours, and
yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.
And now I am no longer in the world, but they are
in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father,
protect them in your name that you have given
me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ

Post Communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**