



November 2025



St Andrews Day: Sharing the good news of God's love with others

Our next **Teatime Church Service** takes place at the church from 4pm – 5:15pm on 23rd November. At this service, we will be learning about Jesus' first disciple, St Andrew. We will be exploring what St Andrews day is all about and what we can learn from St Andrew about being an obedient servant to God and sharing the good news of God's love with others. There will be stained glass window decorating, fishing games, Scottish flag making and letter posting!

Thank you so much to everyone who joined us at our Harvest Afternoon Tea last month and for a wonderful performance from Westbury-on-Trym CE Academy Choir. It was a lovely afternoon full of music, fellowship, celebration and thankfulness for God's harvest.



All of our Christmas events for children and families will be listed in December's Teatime Church Newsletter, including details of our Advent Star Trail, which will start on 1st December in church. **December's Teatime Church** takes place on Sunday 7th December and it will be all about stars!

Who was Saint Andrew?



Saint (St) Andrew was a fisherman from Galilee, Israel. He was chosen by Jesus as one of the first disciples – a devoted follower of Jesus.

Andrew is mentioned in the Bible as being a part of the feeding of the five thousand, and is renowned for his devout faith and his proactiveness at sharing the good news of Jesus with others.

Andrew is a well-loved and celebrated disciple, even though mentions of him in the Bible are scarce. He is far less of the spotlight than his older brother Simon (renamed Peter). So why do we continue to celebrate Andrew's influence so many centuries later?

What the Bible does tell us is that Andrew was the very first disciple, and that it was him who introduced his brother to Jesus:

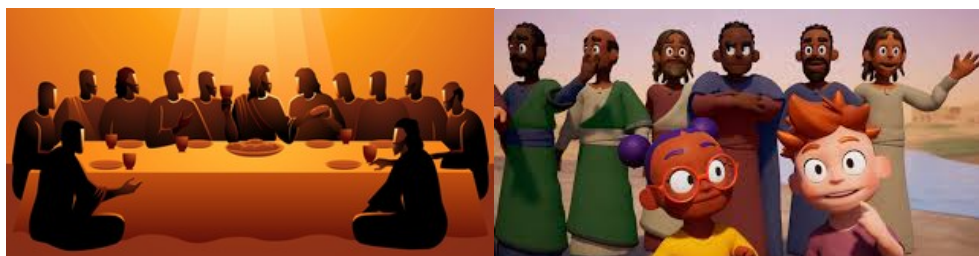
“Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus.” John 1:40-42

After spending forty days and forty nights in the wilderness, Jesus called his first disciples to be ‘fishers of men’:

¹⁸ Jesus was walking by Lake Galilee. He saw two brothers, Simon (called Peter) and Simon’s brother Andrew. The brothers were fishermen, and they were fishing in the lake with a net. ¹⁹ Jesus said, “Come follow me. I will make you fishermen for men.” ²⁰ At once Simon and Andrew left their nets and followed him. Matthew 4: 18-22

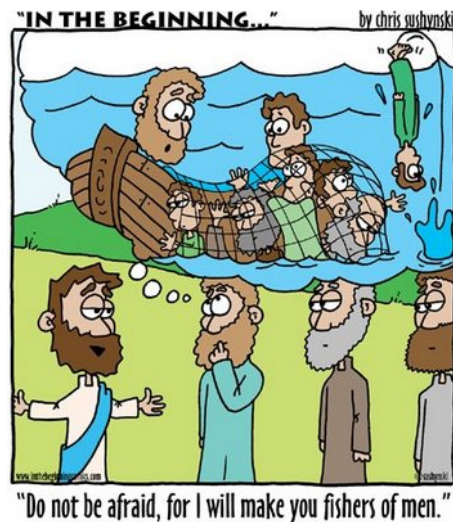
The first four disciples that Jesus chose were two sets of brothers who were all fishermen. Jesus went along the shores of Lake Galilee. Seeing Andrew and Simon (Peter) he called them to discipleship. Jesus said he would teach them how to catch people, meaning that he would show them how to bring people back to God.

Jesus then saw James and John in the boat with their father Zebedee. They responded instantly to his call and left everything, including their father, to follow Jesus. The next disciple that Jesus called was Levi (Matthew). Jesus chose twelve disciples in all, who were all ordinary men who he knew loved God and wanted to teach others about him.



BBC Bitesize KS1 has a short video about Jesus’ disciples

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z6ytfdm#:~:text=TEACHER%3A%20In%20the%20Bible%2C%20it,called%20Simon%20Peter%20and%20Andrew.>



Instead of sitting by a lake or scooping up fish in a pond, you can be a fisher by telling others about Jesus – you can be a fisher of men not by fishing them, but by telling everyone about Jesus and sharing his love and example with others. We can be fishers of friends and “catch” other people to be part of God’s family. We need to be willing to follow him, and encourage others to do the same.

In the story of The Feeding of the 5000 (Matthew 14:13-21), Andrew is one of Jesus' disciples who points out a boy with five barley loaves and two small fish as the only available food for the massive crowd. When Jesus asks how they can feed so many, both Philip and Andrew offer a seemingly hopeless perspective, but it is Andrew's offering of the small meal that Jesus uses to miraculously multiply the food, feeding everyone in the crowd and leaving twelve baskets of leftovers.



Andrew believed deeply in Jesus and God and travelled around the world to introduce the new religion to people. Even after the death of Jesus, he continued to spread the word about him. However, the Romans didn't appreciate his work to convert people and he was sadly killed.

St Andrew was martyred by crucifixion on 30th November in 60 AD in the Greek city of Patras. It is thought that he asked to die on a diagonal cross as he felt he wasn't worthy of dying on one the same shape as Jesus had. He was tied to the cross with ropes rather than being nailed to it. It became known as St Andrew's Cross, seen today on Scotland's saltire flag.



After his death, some of his remains made it to Scotland and were kept in St Andrews. There are many theories on how this happened, including one legend that says they were brought from Greece to Fife after the carrier, St Regulus, was shipwrecked off the east coast.

There are hundreds of churches and cathedrals erected in his name; one of the most important ones is St. Andrew's Cathedral in Patras, where he was crucified on an x-shaped cross. Parts of this cross can be found there to this very day.

St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland and also of fishermen, fishmongers and rope makers. A patron saint is someone who has a special meaning for a particular place or group of people.

Each saint has their own special day and soon it will be St Andrew's Day on 30th November. On the annual celebration of St Andrew's Day, people all around Scotland – and other countries – hold festivities and markets and attend dinners with traditional Scottish food, poetry, music and dance. The Church of England marks St Andrews Day with special prayers and services.

Andrew was a faithful follower of Jesus who made it his mission not just to serve him, but to spread the good news to others. A humble fisherman, the choice Andrew made to follow Jesus put his faith front and centre. He chose to share Jesus with others, even when this made him unpopular and eventually put his life at risk. And as modern-day Christian disciples, we are called to do the same; following Jesus with all our hearts and sharing our faith with confidence and love. By doing this, we will be following in the footsteps of Andrew and all the great disciples.

Some St Andrew facts

- According to the New Testament, Andrew had a brother called Simon.
- The name Andrew is of Greek origin, and it means 'brave' and 'manly'.
- He was born around 5 AD in Bethsaida.
- Andrew was a fisherman who met Jesus in a village named Capernaum.
- He was the first to be called by Jesus to be his disciple.
- For this very reason, in the Orthodox traditions, Saint Andrew is also referred to as the First-Called.
- He died around the age of 55 in 60 AD in Patras.
- Andrew was crucified, just like Jesus, but he refused to die on a cross-like gallows. He thought he wasn't worthy of that and instead said goodbye to this world on an X-shaped cross.
- St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland and a number of other countries.
- Some of his relics can be found in St Mary's Cathedral, in Edinburgh.
- Scotland's national day is devoted to Saint Andrew's life and work, commemorating the religious figure on the 30th of November every year.
- St. Andrew's Day is a big event in Scotland with lots of food, dancing, music and more.
- St Andrew's Day is also celebrated in other countries across the world.
- In Romania, it is a time for magic rituals to ward off evil spirits and purify the land and the people. The secret weapon is garlic, eaten on the night before St Andrew's Day at a communal meal either as whole cloves or in a sauce. Cloves of garlic are placed strategically beside doors, windows and chimneys.
- In Ukraine, St Andrew's Day is celebrated on 13th December with fortune-telling and parties where pancakes and pastries were traditionally used for games which were supposed to help women find a husband. It was also a time for mischievous pranks such as putting a plough on a house roof or taking a gate off its hinges - all pre-Christian traditions connected with courtship and marriage.
- German folklore advises single women who wish to marry to ask for St Andrew's help.
- In churches all over Europe, the last day of November is a day to remember St Andrew.

CBeebies has a short video about St Andrews Day and this special saint
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-celebrate-standrews>



Our monthly prayer

Dear God,
Help me to remember the good news of Jesus and to share it with others:
That you love us and are there for us.
Thank you for St Andrew's Day and the reminder it gives us to share good news.
Amen

Community information

Toddlers Together: Our parent and toddler group



Toddlers Together, our parent and toddler group held at Westbury-on-Trym Methodist Church Hall, runs every Thursday 10-11:15am during term time. All are very welcome! Details can be found on our website <https://www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk/youth-and-family/parents-and-toddlers/>. This term starts again on 6th November and finishes on 18th December.

Wine tasting at Westbury College



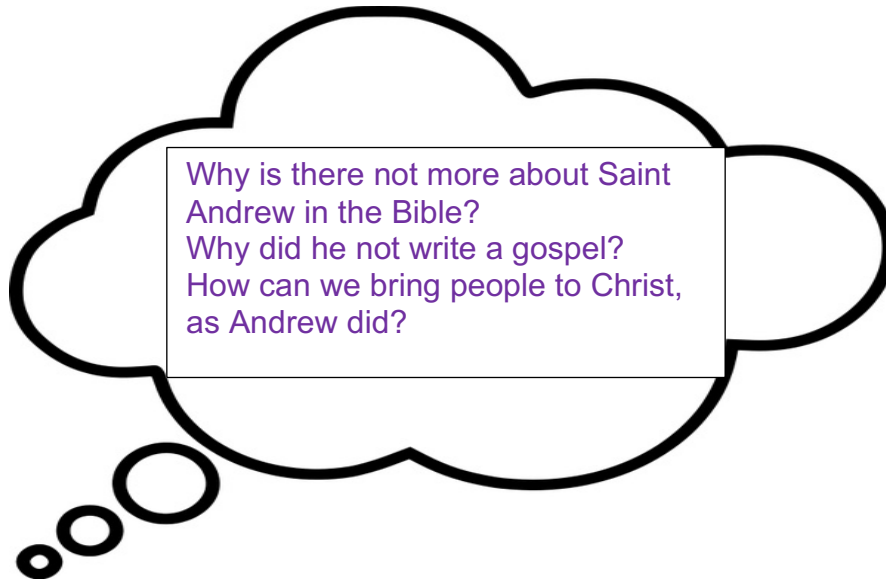
The Church Social Committee are holding another wine tasting evening in collaboration with Majestic Wines on Friday 21st November, 6-8pm in Westbury College, College Road. There will be a glass of fizz on arrival followed by a tasting of a selection of 6 wines. Tickets will go on sale on the last Sunday in October. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Administrative Assistant Role

Holy Trinity Church is looking to recruit an Administrative Assistant for two hours per week working from home. The role will involve supporting the maintenance of computer records with a salary of £13 per hour. The application deadline is 21st November 2025. If you would like further details please contact the Parish Office office@westbury-parish-church.org.uk or telephone 0117 950 8644.

The church is also looking for a volunteer PCC secretary to take minutes of PCC meetings six times per year. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

Some questions for the whole family to think about at home...please do come to Teatime Church with any questions that you have!



Why is there not more about Saint Andrew in the Bible?
Why did he not write a gospel?
How can we bring people to Christ, as Andrew did?

Please click on the following link if you would like to donate to Westbury on Trym PCC to support the work and mission of Holy Trinity Church, Westbury-on-Trym. Thank you
<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/westbury-on-trym-holy-trinity-bristol/>

From Georgie and the Youth Team
familyworker@westbury-parish-church.org.uk

Teatime Church Dates **2025**



Our monthly 4pm service for children and families. Fun crafts, LEGO, treasure hunts, baby/toddler corner, songs and stories, supper for the children.

Fun, faith and fellowship for all the family.

**12th January, 9th February, 16th March,
18th May, 22nd June, 13th July,
21st September, 5th October (held at
Westbury Methodist Church for Harvest),
23rd November, 7th December**

**Please visit our website for further details
<https://www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk/teatime-church/>**



HOLY TRINITY
WESTBURY ON TRYM - BRISTOL

TEATIME CHURCH DATES 2026



TEATIME CHURCH IS OUR MONTHLY SUNDAY SERVICE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES. IT'S A VERY RELAXED SERVICE WITH CRAFTS, TOYS, LEGO, SINGING, STORY TIME AND PRAYER FOLLOWED BY SUPPER FOR THE CHILDREN AND REFRESHMENTS FOR THE ADULTS. THERE IS PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CHILDREN TO MOVE AROUND AND MAKE SOME NOISE, ENJOYING THE BEAUTIFUL CHURCH SURROUNDINGS WHILST LEARNING ABOUT GOD'S LOVE FOR THEM ALL. ALL ARE VERY WELCOME!

THE SERVICE IS HELD AT THE BACK OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH FROM 4 - 5:15PM

11TH JANUARY
15TH FEBRUARY
8TH MARCH
APRIL: GOOD FRIDAY CRAFTS
17TH MAY
21ST JUNE
12TH JULY
20TH SEPTEMBER
4TH OCTOBER: HELD DURING THE HARVEST FESTIVAL AT WOT METHODIST CHURCH
15TH NOVEMBER
6TH DECEMBER

[HTTPS://WWW.WESTBURY-PARISH-CHURCH.ORG.UK/TEATIME-CHURCH/
FAMILYWORKER@WESTBURY-PARISH-CHURCH.ORG.UK](https://www.westbury-parish-church.org.uk/teatime-church/familyworker@westbury-parish-church.org.uk)



In: Newman Hall Building
Grange Court Road
Westbury on Trym, BS9 4DR

at Sacred Heart church

Sensory play **Simple craft**
For adults and under 5s
Wednesdays during term time, 10:00 – 11:30am
(excluding 22 and 29th October)

Story time **Free parking**

toddlergroup.sacredheart@cliftondiocese.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61579193183721>