



HOLY TRINITY
WESTBURY ON TRYM - BRISTOL

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2026

The really excellent news is that as I write in mid-June, Holy Trinity's Christian Aid Week 2026 appeal has raised a brilliant **£3,636.25** with Gift Aid. This will rise still more as we have more CAW envelopes to count already before the final date for contributions, Sunday 21st June. This is a fantastic total, particularly as it is not boosted by the CAW Cake Stall as the Community Fair was postponed this year. We hope it will re-turn next year. (Last year the Cake Stall raised over £450).

As usual, there are many people to thank for our Church community response. Thank you to all those who delivered our delivery only envelopes to so many houses. Prior to that, thanks to Keith Yeandel for managing the printing of the labels, and to the loyal team who stuck the labels on the CAW envelopes at The Vic on a number of evenings, which is becoming a CAW tradition, and why not? Thanks to the incredible Sarah C Greengrocers in the village for agreeing so readily to be a dropping-off point for CAW envelopes, which again has worked really well, with several envelopes left there. A particular thanks to Revd Prebendary Angela Berners-Wilson for stepping in so ably to deliver the sermon at the start of Christian Aid Week as our booked speaker had to withdraw quite late in the day for health reasons. And thank you to Dave Memory for helping me with the count again. What can I say about Dave that hasn't been said before? . . . And thank you all for donating.

Increasingly, Christian Aid are encouraging supporters to undertake challenges during Christian Aid Week and invite sponsorship. An especially huge thanks to Jules Freeman, who offered to do a Zip Wire plunge as part of CAW's "Seven Days to Make a Difference". I offered to cycle 140 miles, rather more sedately.

As part of the week, I led a bike ride for my Life Cycle cycling friends to Severn Beach from Temple Meads and back via our Café in the Church on the Wednesday morning, where we were warmly welcomed and very well catered for. The weather could have been better on that day, and the three that followed it, and I was a bit concerned on the Friday with yet more rain and still quite a lot of miles to do. Fortunately, the weather improved after an all-day breakfast at Gatcombe Farm Shop, sheltering from the rain, and it was very pleasant in Clevedon, my destination, and on the way back, so all was well. I did 147 miles in the week.

Around this time last year, I attended the Service of Thanksgiving and Reflection in Westminster Abbey to celebrate the 80th anniversary of Christian Aid, and I have been wearing my Christian Aid, 80 years badge I was given there ever since. We were addressed by the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, Chair of Christian Aid. She is no longer Chair of Christian Aid and has been replaced by Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of Cape Town. Sarah Mullally has another big job?

I will let you all know the final CAW total with Gift Aid soon.

Meanwhile, thank you all for helping this wonderful charity, the development agency of the British Churches, believing in Life before Death, and through that, lifting the poorest of our brother and sisters out of poverty, of all faiths and none.

Ken Pattison