

# THE PARISH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, OTFORD



## ST BART'S NEWS

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>th</sup> : 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

#### Services this week

**Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>:** 10.00am – Morning Worship – ONLINE ONLY plus Children's Talk on website

**Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>:** 10.00am - Spiritual Communion (BCP) – ONLINE ONLY

**Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>:** 10.00am – Communion (including Spiritual Communion) – ONLINE ONLY

These online services are livestreamed on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/StBartsOtford/live>) and also available to watch afterwards. They can also be watched by clicking the link from our church website.

#### Diary Dates (for note and prayer)

**Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> – Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>:** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>:** 7.45pm, Deanery Synod meeting

**Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>:** 7.45pm, Ministry team meeting

**Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>:** 8.00pm, Fundraising Committee meeting

#### NOTICEBOARD

##### SERVICES IN CHURCH

In common with most other churches in the deanery and diocese we have **suspended public worship**. We will review the situation in the middle of February, and decide whether or not it is safe to resume worship, taking full notice of Government, medical and Church of England advice. Regular services will continue online – a 10am livestreamed service on Sunday mornings and a 10am BCP Spiritual Communion on Wednesdays. With the new variant of Coronavirus spreading so rapidly and unpredictably, we could not risk the health of the elderly and vulnerable members of our congregation and ministry team. We sincerely believe, after much prayer and thought, that it is the most responsible action we can take and we are supported by the Area Dean, Archdeacon and Bishops. We look forward to resuming our communal worship as soon as possible. The church will be open for private prayer on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am–3pm and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11.30am.

##### PARISH PRAYER CYCLE

In our **cycle of prayer**, we pray for the residents of The Charne and for the work of Hospices of Hope. We pray that our online service today will be uplifting and bring us closer to God. We remember Peter Downing, Colin Fleetwood, Dick Chambers and John Rhee, who have died recently, and their families and friends in their bereavement. Daily prayers are available on our website and are also published on our social media pages.

##### CHURCH OFFICE

Please note that because of the national restrictions the **church office is closed**. Emails and telephone messages are being checked regularly.

##### UNITED SERVICE

Unfortunately we are not able to join with our friends in the other churches in the village for a **Christian Unity service** this year. We will be focussing on the theme of Unity at our 10am service next Sunday, which will be Holy Communion, including Spiritual Communion for you to share in at home

##### LOAVES AND FISHES

The **food bank** now receives donations on Thursdays from 11am – noon, and we continue to collect items in the church entrance lobby.

##### BEETLE DRIVE

We are arranging a series of social events via Zoom to help us through the darker and colder evenings and the latest lockdown. The first is a **Beetle Drive** on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm. You will need your own die to roll when playing at home. This event is free, but you are invited to make a donation if you wish towards church funds. The next event will be a Murder Mystery event on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

## ZOOM COFFEE

Join us for **Zoom coffee & chat** after church at 11.30am on Sundays.

Either online: <https://zoom.us/j/96153119326?pwd=b0xwOXRpdWVHUWxjRDdNMGMNVVJKUT09>

Meeting ID: 961 5311 9326, Passcode: 103638 or phone in on 0208 080 6591 with the same ID/code

## LECTIONARY READINGS:

**BCP Communion:** Romans 12.6-16; John 2.1-11

**Common Worship Communion:** Genesis 14.17-20; Revelation 19.6-10; John 2.1-11

**Morning Prayer:** Psalm 145.1-12; Isaiah 62.1-5; 1 Corinthians 6.11-20

**Evening Prayer:** Psalm 96; Isaiah 60.9-22; Hebrews 6.17-7.10

## MUSIC FOR SUNDAY

Organ before service: Chorale Prelude on 'Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen' – J. Brahms

Hymn 1: King of glory, king of peace

Hymn 2: O for a thousand tongues to sing

Organ after service: Choral Song – S. S. Wesley

## COLLECT

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

In today's Gospel, Mary speaks a truth about our lives, a truth that at some point we all experience: a day comes when the wine gives out. Our glasses will be empty; the party will be over. Life will seem empty and dry—no vibrancy or vitality, nothing growing or fermenting within us. Mary's words hold before us some serious questions and wonderings about where the wine of our life has run out, which relationships have run dry, what hidden parts inside of us remain empty. When the wine runs out, we may be tempted to look for a substitute by working harder, doing more, or just throwing out our glass and jug altogether. Running out of wine is not the failure, the disaster, the shameful calamity, or the tragic end we often believe it to be. Rather, running out of wine is a beginning and paves the way for miracles to happen.



Vicar: The Revd David Guest

email: [otfordvicar@gmail.com](mailto:otfordvicar@gmail.com)

Tel: (as church office)

Day off this week: Tuesday

St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

The Green Otford, Kent TN14 5PD

tel: 01959 523185

e-mail: [st.bartholomews@otford.net](mailto:st.bartholomews@otford.net)



[www.stbartholomews.co.uk](http://www.stbartholomews.co.uk)



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[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19716/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19716/)

## A Coronavirus prayer

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;  
in their anxiety, be their hope;  
in their darkness, be their light;

through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



A free phoneline of hymns, reflections and prayers

**0800 804 8044**

Are you in need of some daily hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

A	Y	T	R	I	H	T	S	E	B
N	D	E	S	T	E	W	A	R	D
A	W	E	W	N	A	E	I	E	C
C	G	J	T	T	Y	D	N	N	H
R	L	A	E	I	E	D	S	O	E
E	O	R	L	G	V	I	N	T	A
H	R	S	R	L	X	N	G	S	P
T	Y	O	U	E	O	G	I	X	E
O	O	R	O	W	I	N	S	I	R
M	O	T	H	N	O	T	S	R	E

WEDDING	CANA	MOTHER
WINE	SIX	STONE
JARS	THIRTY	GALLONS
BEST	STEWARD	BRIDEGROOM

