

Our Daily Bread: new Bible study booklets for December 2020 – February 2021 are now available. Please call the Parish Office on 01793 853272 if you would like a copy delivered.

Prayers for the Church in Sudan and South Sudan: pray for ongoing work by MU members during this time of great need as the country struggles with inflation, the aftermath of floods and Covid . Women have risen to the challenge, determining the best use of relief money, identifying the most needy and distributing basic food supplies and other essentials. Pray that they are well received and their decisions respected.

The readings and psalms set for **Morning Prayer this week** – for those who would like to join with us at home:

Monday: Psalm 2; Amos 1; I Corinthians 1:1-17

Tuesday: Psalm 9; Amos 2; I Corinthians 1:18-end

Wednesday: Psalm 20; Amos 3; I Corinthians 2

Thursday: Psalm 21; Amos 4; I Corinthians 3

Friday: Psalm 67; Amos 5:1-17; I Corinthians 4

Saturday: Psalm 33; Amos 5:18-end; I Corinthians 5

Sunday: Psalm 145:1-12; Isaiah 62:1-5; I Corinthians 6:11-end

Find out what we are up to at:

Website: www.stbartholomews-wb.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StBartholomewsChurchRWB

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2mwesD4RZxknsWth-Qb0vg>

SoundCloud: <https://soundcloud.com/user-173253054>

Instagram: @st_barts_rwb

Keep in touch, or let us know if any help is needed at:

Telephone: 01793 853272

Email: churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com

Join our email list for updates and information:

Email: churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com

***We seek to grow through prayer and
share Christ's love through engagement with all.***

Weekly News

10th January 2021



Services and private prayer at St Bart's: as you may already be aware, the Government are currently allowing places of worship to remain open both for private prayer and communal worship during this third lockdown, as long as they are able to abide by the COVID regulations and guidelines. So, although the infection statistics are increasingly grave, the Standing Committee have decided for the time being to remain open for services of Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 10.30am and Sundays at 10am, but with a tightening of our practices. So...

The usual booking system will continue, but we will be limiting the number of people allowed at each service, meaning that it is very possible that some of you will be disappointed and put on a waiting list.

The churchwardens and sides-men and -women will be working hard to ensure that no mingling between households and bubbles is happening in church or at the door.

They will also be inviting people to leave at the end of the service in a similar fashion to that which is used at the distribution of communion.

And although we do love to say goodbye properly, both Ollie and I will return to the sacristy immediately after the service and not stand at the door bidding you a fond farewell.

The increased rigour is being introduced in order to help the team here keep the church open and everyone as safe as possible. So I hope you will understand and work with us, and think carefully before booking. We, in turn, will review our practices regularly to ensure we are doing absolutely what is needed when it is needed.

As for private prayer, and the Lady Chapel will remain open on Sundays between 12 - 1pm and Thursdays between 10 – 11am.

Our on-line Sunday services will be a recording of the Sunday service in church. This means that they will not be posted until later on the Sunday here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2mwesD4RZxknsWth-Qb0vg>

And please remember - if you do not want to appear on our recording of this service please let us know when you are booking and you will be seated accordingly.



Sunday 10th January 2021

Baptism of Christ

COLLECT

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
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.

FIRST READING: *Genesis 1.1-5*

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day", and the darkness he called "night". And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

SECOND READING: *Acts 19.1-7*

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you

baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

GOSPEL: *Mark 1.4-11*

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

