

Prayers for the Church in Sudan and South Sudan: pray for the Episcopal Church of Sudan Translation Department. Pray that they are able to attract enough finance to keep skilled workers, that the final revision of Hebrews in the Burun language may be completed, that work in the Tira language spoken by some of the people in the Nuba Mountains may continue.

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

Monday: Psalm 47; Daniel 8:1-14; Revelation 10

Tuesday: Psalm 52; Daniel 8:15-end; Revelation 11:1-14

Wednesday: Psalm 56; Daniel 9:1-19; Revelation 11:15-end

Thursday: Psalm 62; Daniel 9:20-end; Revelation 12

Friday: Psalm 63; Daniel 10:1 – 11:1; Revelation 13:1-10

Saturday: Psalm 78:1-39; Daniel 12; Revelation 13:11-end

Sunday: Psalms 29, 110; Isaiah 4:2 – 5:7; Luke 19:29-38

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

15th November 2020



Prayer for the Nation – during the lockdown...

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are encouraging daily prayer for the nation throughout this month of lockdown. We are encouraged to pray daily for a specific area of national concern (including the NHS and frontline workers, the bereaved, and those struggling with physical and mental ill-health, and for children and young people) culminating in a collective moment of prayer at 6pm each evening, with cathedrals and churches across the country invited to ring a bell at this time.

More information and prayer resources may be found here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation> - or on social media with the hashtag #PrayerForTheNation.

Preparing for Advent and Christmas 2020: Comfort and Joy...

The Church of England is also working on a range of resources to accompany us through the festive season – recognising the hope that Christmas will bring joy and celebration after a uniquely difficult year along with an acknowledgement that, for those who have lost loved ones or livelihoods, or who are potentially still not able to be together with loved ones, not everyone will be ready to join in jubilation. Resources include a booklet of short reflections exploring the theme and mirroring the structure of a traditional carol service, exploring both biblical texts and the words of much-loved Christmas Carols. We've now ordered the booklets and will work out how to get them to you.... so watch this space!

The Bible Course – we've started but you're still welcome to join in ...

To sign up and get the link, or to find out more, contact the Parish Office on 01793 853272 or at churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com

Sunday 15th November 2020

2nd Sunday before Advent

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

SECOND READING: *1 Thessalonians 5.1-11*

¹Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one

another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

GOSPEL: *Matthew 25.14-30*

Jesus said to his disciples, ¹⁴'The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." ²¹His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." ²³His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." ²⁶But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"