

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: As we approach Christmas here with whatever restrictions are necessary, let us give thanks with our fellow Christians in Sudan and all over the world in our many different circumstances, “that God has sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.”

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

Monday: Psalm 121; Isaiah 52:13 – end of 53; 2 Peter 1:1-15

Tuesday: Psalm 124; Isaiah 54; 2 Peter 1:16 – 2:3

Wednesday: Psalm 130; Isaiah 55; 2 Peter 2:4-end

Thursday: Psalm 45; Isaiah 56:1-8; 2 Peter 3

Friday: Psalm 110; Isaiah 62:1-5; Matthew 1:18-end

Saturday: Psalm 13; Jeremiah 26:12-15; Acts 6

Sunday: Psalm 21; Exodus 33:12-end; 1 John 2:1-11

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

20th December 2020



Christmas services at St Bart's ...

An **online Carols by Candlelight from St Bart's** will be available on the St Bartholomew and All Saints Church RWB YouTube channel from Sunday 20th December.

On Christmas Eve the church will be open from 10am – 12 noon for **prayer and the lighting of candles** – no booking required.

The **First Communion of Christmas** - 4pm on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Day Communion - 10am. There are still a handful of places available for this service. If you want to book a place please contact the Parish Office on 01793 853272 leaving the names and telephone numbers of those who wish to attend.

On Christmas Day a recording of the First Communion of Christmas will also be available to watch on the St Bartholomew and All Saints Church RWB YouTube channel.

On **Sunday 27th December** we invite people to join with online services either from Salisbury Cathedral at <https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/> or with the Church of England nationally at <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Or join us for Morning Prayer on Zoom at 9.10am To find out how to join us please contact the Parish Office on 01793 853272.

And normal services resume from Wednesday 30th December!

An invitation from Broad Town ... do come and see the Scarecrow Nativity Scene on the verge opposite the Church on Broad Town. The lights on the tree and hedge are great. If you wish to put a “Hope for the Future” or a “Thinking of you” on the tree please do.

The Children's Society boxes... please pop your boxes either into the Croft, weekday mornings between 10am – 12noon, or in the box in church when attending a service. Thank you!

Sunday 20th December 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

COLLECT

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING: *2 Samuel 7.1-11,16*

¹Now when David, the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' ³Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.'

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' ⁸Now therefore you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your

enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you, David, that the Lord will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

SECOND READING: *Romans 16.25-27*

²⁵To God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – ²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever!
Amen.

GOSPEL: *Luke 1.26-38*

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' ³⁴Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' ³⁵The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.' ³⁸Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.