

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.

A Prayer for Sudan: God our Father, whose son Jesus Christ wept over your people who knew not the way of peace, and were as sheep without a shepherd, hear our prayer for the people of the Sudan. Turn the hearts of their leaders to reconciliation and peace. Bless their Archbishop and clergy, that they may be true shepherds of your flock. Strengthen those who heal the wounded and feed the hungry. Hasten the time when all nations will own your just and gentle rule and receive your gift of peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Monday: Psalm 89:1-37; Isaiah 60:13-end; John 1:43-end

Tuesday: Psalm 48; Isaiah 61; John 2:1-12

Wednesday: Psalm 132; Isaiah 62; John 2:13-end

Thursday: Psalm 99; Isaiah 63:7-end; 1 John 3

Friday: Psalm 46; Isaiah 64; 1 John 4:7-end

Saturday: Psalm 148; Isaiah 65:1-16; 1 John 5:1-12

Sunday: Psalm 89:19-29; 1 Samuel 16:1-3, 13; John 1:29-34

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

3rd January 2021



Services of Holy Communion ...

In line with Government and Church of England guidance our said services of Holy Communion at St Bart's are continuing on Wednesdays at 10.30am and Sundays at 10am. so ...

- To book a place at the 10.30am Wednesday service please phone the Parish Office on 01793 853272 by midday on the preceding Sunday leaving the names and telephone numbers of those who wish to attend
- To book a place at the 10am Sunday service please phone the Parish Office on 01793 853272 by midday on the preceding Wednesday leaving the names and telephone numbers of those who wish to attend
- If any service is oversubscribed we will book individuals on to the next week's service, unless informed otherwise

For the time being 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.



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 3rd January 2021

Epiphany

COLLECT

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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: *Isaiah 60.1-6*

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you: all assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.”

SECOND READING: *Ephesians 3.1-12*

I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the

gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all God’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

GOSPEL: *Matthew 2.1-12*

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

“‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.’”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.