

Please Pray for the Church in Sudan and South Sudan

Continue to pray about the political impasse in Sudan following the coup last October and for the escalating tensions as no government has yet been formed. ECS has called on all political groups - whether traditional parties, Forces of Freedom and Change, military or other opposition groups - to sit for dialogue and negotiation as this is the only means to resolve differences. Archbishop Ezekiel writes, 'Durable peace can any happen through dialogue, dialogue, dialogue.' Pray for brokers of peace

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

Monday: Psalm 2; Genesis 1.1-19; Matthew 21.1-17

Tuesday: Psalm 9.; Genesis 1.20-2.3; Matthew 21.18-32

Wednesday: Psalm 20.; Genesis 2.4-end; Matthew 21.33 - end

Thursday: Psalm 21; Genesis 3; Matthew 22.1-14

Friday: Psalm 67; Genesis 4.1-16, 25-26; Matthew 15-33

Saturday: Psalm 33; Genesis 6.1-10; Matthew 22.34 - end

Sunday: Psalm 145.1-13; Isaiah 49.1-7; Acts 16.11-15

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

9th January 2022



Services of Holy Communion
Wednesdays at 1030 am & Sundays at 10:00 am

This Sunday 9th January
Epiphany Carols in Church at 4:00 pm



Service will be Livestreamed and then available via our You Tube Channel

Little Stars Baby & Toddler Group are intending to recommence sessions on Monday 7th February 0930 - 1100 in the Church Hall.

St Barts Walking Group - Weather permitting, the first walk of the New Year is on Saturday 22nd January, meeting at 10:00 at the Shaw Village Centre car park at Ramleaze Drive SN5 5PY (where Tesco Express and Holy Trinity Church are). We will head for Lydiard Park and walk the outer loop, staying on fairly firm ground and cycle paths. The walk is about 4 miles and should take approximately 1.5 hrs. If you would like to join the walk, please email Pat Jeanes at pat.jeanes@hotmail.co.uk. Wishing you a Happy New Year, Roger and Pat.

Supporting St Bartholomew's – do please ask for our yellow Gift Aid envelopes if you would like to make a financial donation to St Bart's and can Gift Aid your gift. Otherwise a donations plate is by the door at every service. If you would like to find out how to support St Bartholomew's on a regular basis, then please go to our website here [Support \(stbartholomews-wb.com\)](http://Support(stbartholomews-wb.com)) for more information, or phone the Parish Office on 01793 853272. And thank you!

Sunday 9th January 2022

The 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.

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 43.1-7*

Thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth –
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

SECOND READING: *Acts 8.14-17*

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God,
they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that
they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of
them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).
Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL READING: *Luke 3.15-17, 21-22*

(In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance.)
As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts
concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by
saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I
am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy
Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to
gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable
fire.'
Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized
and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him
in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven,
'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'