

St Bart's News – Sunday 23rd March 2025

3rd Sunday in Lent

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 23rd March	8.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
	10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)
Wednesday 26th March	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 30th March	8.00am	Morning Prayer (CW)
	10.00am	Morning Worship (Mothering Sunday)

DIARY DATES

Thursday 20th March	7.45pm	Bellringing Practice
	8.00pm	Lent Course (details below)
Friday 21st March	2.00pm	Warm Welcome (Church Centre)
	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturday 22nd March	6.30pm	Bingo Evening (Church Centre)
Sunday 23rd March	8.45am	Prayer Breakfast (Church Centre)
Monday 24th March	2.00pm	CAMEO (17 Leonard Avenue)
Tuesday 25th March	1.30pm	Otford Primary School Visit to Church
Thursday 27th March	7.45pm	Bellringing Practice
	8.00pm	Lent Course (details below)
Friday 28th March	2.00pm	Warm Welcome (Church Centre)
	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturday 29th March	9.00am	Vicarage Working Party – skip filling and gardening

NOTICEBOARD

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Following the announcement of Kelly Parsons as our Priest in Charge, we are please to inform you that her licencing will be on 19th May at 7pm. We will let you know more details regarding this service as they become available.

SERVICES IN CHURCH

Our 10.00am **Sunday service** are livestreamed. You can access them via our YouTube channel [StBarts Otford](#) or [church website](#).

THANKS

Our welcome and thanks to Revd Ian Aveson for taking our Sunday communion service.

*** CHANGE TO SERVICES***

23rd and 30th March, 8am – these will be a services of Morning Prayer. There will be the usual service of communion at 10am on 23rd for those who wish to take communion on this day.

On Wednesday 26th March there will be a service of Morning prayer and not Holy Communion.

OFFICE OPENING

The office will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday this coming week.

PARISH PRAYERS

In our **cycle of prayer**, we pray for the residents of St Michael's Drive; and the work of the Christians Against Poverty. We pray for those who are unwell, including, Rosemary Hull, Madelyn Roets, Keith Howe, Richard Hunt, Pam Ubee and Linda, We remember the recently departed and those who mourn her passing. We also remember the family and friends of those whose anniversaries of death occur around this time.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Please join us for our Mothering Sunday service on Sunday 30th March at 10am. Posies will be given to all the ladies in church, and we will have the opportunity to give thanks for our mothers.

VICARAGE WORKING PARTY – Many hands make light work

There is quite a bit of work needing to be done at the vicarage and in the garden before the end of April. The first working party will be on Saturday 29th March from 9am (we hope to provide bacon butties in the latter part of the morning – yum!!). This working party will be mainly filling a skip with accumulated rubbish from the vicarage garage and store. There is also a significant amount of work to be done in the garden. Please let the [church office](#) know if you can help.

We also have some painting work (just walls) to be done in the vicarage. This can be done at times convenient to volunteers. Paint will be provided, but please bring your own equipment if you have it, otherwise we can provide some. Again, please let the [church office](#) know if you can help in this way.

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

This year sees a full revision of the church electoral roll. All names will be removed from the roll and new applications should be made to join. Emails or letters have been sent to all who are currently on the electoral roll along with applications forms and also an information sheet about what it means to be on the electoral roll of St Bart's. Some hard copies will be available at the back of church. Please take time to consider registering on the roll. **Being on the roll is an important statement of witness and a step along the path of discipleship. With your name on the electoral roll, the strength of the Church can be seen in our local area, and across the Diocese.** If you're a regular worshipper with us, we would welcome your application to be on the Electoral Roll.

Applications for the new electoral roll should be returned to the church office or given to a Churchwarden by 13th April. The new roll will be displayed from the 25th April and be presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 11th May.

LENT COURSE 2025 – ROOTED IN LOVE

This year's course, *Rooted in Love*, will be led by Mags and Dawn on Zoom. It offers reflections for Lent that lead us deeper into the meaning and practice of life in Christ today. Drawing on the collective wisdom of all the area bishops in the Diocese of London, we are led to grow as disciples and find ways to put God at the centre of your life every day.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84993678992?pwd=sfMLrurf2IS7aQbfwLRtrRgCvHLZua.1>

Meeting ID: 849 9367 8992

Passcode: 188899

BINGO EVENING

We will be holding a bingo evening on Saturday 22nd March 6.15pm for 6.30pm. Hot dogs and ice cream will be served so please let us know if you are coming, £5 per person. There is a sign-up sheet in the church lobby or you can contact events@stbartholomews.co.uk.

SAVE THE DATE - YOUTH WEEKEND 18TH - 20TH JULY 2025

Planning for this is in full swing. If you have young person aged 8 – early 20s we would love to take them away for a weekend of fun food and fellowship. **Total cost £50.** Booking forms available soon. Deposits £15 by the beginning of May, final payments by beginning of June.

We hope to have some subsidised places available. If there are members of the congregation who would like to help in this way, please contact the church office. Any contributions in this respect will be greatly appreciated.

CHRISTIAN AID FRUGAL LUNCH.

Sunday 23rd March 2025 at 12.30pm. St Mary's Church Centre, Kippington Road, TN13 2LL. Come and join us for our annual Christian Aid Frugal Lunch. Enjoy a simple Sunday lunch with friends - and please donate what you would have spent on your Sunday roast! Please let Jean Day know if you wish to attend at day@kent2.co.uk

THE LION THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

Our friends at Otford Methodist Church are showing the animated version of this film at their family film afternoon, Tuesday 8th April, 3.30pm (doors open at 3pm). This afternoon is free with popcorn and ice cream available. All children must be accompanied.

SAVE THE DATE – EASTER WREATH MAKING

We are fortunate to have Denise Thompson coming to St Bart's to run an Easter Wreath making workshop. Saturday 12th April at 3pm in the Church Centre. The cost is £25/head (£10 for children under 12) with refreshments. Please contact events@stbartholomews.co.uk if you would like to attend.

ST BART'S MENS'S GROUP – WINE TASTING

Saturday 26th April, 7.30pm

Venue: 7 Coombe Road, Otford TN14 5RJ (or Church Centre if there are too many people to fit in our house!)

Please come and join us for an informal evening of wine tasting, hosted by Jonathan Batchelor. We will explore a range of wines from different countries, comparing similar ones and maybe trying something a little unusual. It's going to be very informal, but hopefully a little bit educational too. We will make sure there is plenty of good cheese, meats and other snacks to accompany the wines. Feel free to bring your own tasting glasses if you like, but otherwise glassware will be provided. Cost: TBC but likely to be between £20 and £30 per person. If you would like to come, please contact us at before 18th April at events@stbartholomews.co.uk

PRAYER BREAKFAST.

Our next Prayer Breakfast is on Sunday 23rd March at 8.45am, between our 8am and 10am services. Stay on after one service or come early for the other. Join us in thanksgiving for all God has given us, for all that he will do through us, and for sending Kelly to lead us and work with us.

REFRESHMENTS

Refreshments are served in the Church Centre after our 10am service to which all are welcome. If you could help with serving coffee, please sign up on the new rota next to the serving hatch in the Church Centre, there are spaces to fill

POLICY IN RELATION TO DOGS IN CHURCH

After much discussion and review at various PCC meetings we now confirm that 'Fully Trained Assistance Dogs' are always welcome in Church. Well trained dogs are welcome to visit the Church with their owners up to 30 minutes before a service starts and from 30 minutes after a service finishes.

SALES TABLE

Don't miss out on the **card and mini gifts stall** in the church centre. If you have any used cards or new mini gifts you are willing to part with, we are sure we can make use of them. Many grateful thanks.

LOAVES AND FISHES

In particular at the moment the food bank is appealing for tins of tuna, chicken casserole, macaroni cheese, hot dogs, chilli con carne, beef curry, chicken curry, peas, sweet corn. Also, breakfast cereals (not cornflakes), rice, pasta sauce, UHT milk, biscuits, instant coffee, hot chocolate, vegetable oil, chocolate spread, marmite, shampoo, shower gel

If you wish to find out more about Loaves and Fishes or contact them please do so at www.sevenoaksfoodbank.co.uk or at sevenoaksfoodbank@gmail.com

PRAYER OF THANKS FOR THE FILLING OF OUR VACANCY

Dear God our Father, we thank and praise you for the appointment of Kelly to be our new Priest in Charge. We thank you that you have answered our prayers and that she has answered your call. We pray for Kelly and Michael as they prepare to leave their home and the Kent Downs and Malling Team, and in their preparations to move into the Vicarage here in Otford. We pray that we will offer them a very warm welcome and together continue to do your work here in this parish. We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and your blessings on Kelly and Michael, and on the whole church family. Amen.

READINGS

Sunday Morning: Isaiah 55:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9 (*used at 8.00am/10.00am*)

Evensong: No Service

BCP Communion: Ephesians 5:1-14; Luke 11:14-28 (*used on Wednesday morning*)

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY MORNING (*Hymn in italics omitted if there is a choir anthem*)

1. Christ whose glory fills the skies (BBC 143); 2. Forgive our sins as we forgive (BBC 272); 3. Come let us sing of a wonderful love (BBC 268); 4. All my hope on God is founded (BBC 281)

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY EVENING

No Service

COLLECT

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RESOURCES

OUR SERVICES ONLINE

You can watch last week's service and catch up with other recent services here: <https://www.youtube.com/@stbartsotford1735/streams>

CHURCH DONATION

You can make a **one-off donation** to the work of our church by visiting this site: <https://account.stewardship.org.uk/donation/oneoff/20293172>

CONTACT LIST

Please contact the [Office](#) regarding baptisms, weddings, funerals or requests for home communions

Church Office: St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

The Green Otford, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 5PD;
tel: 01959 523185

Emails

Office office@stbartholomews.co.uk
Vicar vicar@stbartholomews.co.uk (currently being directed to the church office)
Treasurer treasurer@stbartholomews.co.uk
Safeguarding safeguarding@stbartholomews.co.uk
Events events@stbartholomews.co.uk

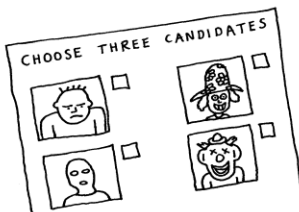
Social Media

Website www.stbartholomews.co.uk
Facebook [StBartsOtford](#)
Instagram [otford st barts](#)
YouTube [StBarts Otford](#)
A Church Near You www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19716/

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

REASONS TO JOIN IT

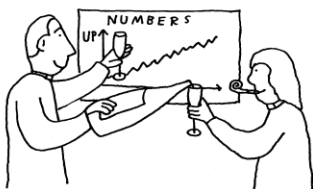
① YOU WILL DECIDE WHO SHOULD BE ON THE P.C.C. AND DEANERY SYNOD



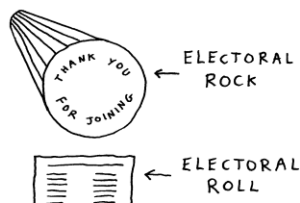
② YOU CAN PLAY A FULL PART IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH



③ IT WILL BOOST THE MORALE OF THE CLERGY



④ THERE MAY BE A THANK YOU PRESENT - SEASIDE CONFECTIONARY PERHAPS



⑤ YOUR NAME WILL BE EXHIBITED IN CHURCH FOR 14 DAYS



And here is a Dave Walker cartoon:

With every blessing,

The Wardens and Ministry Team