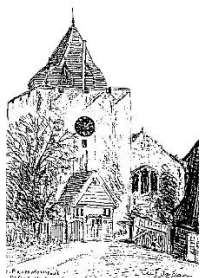


ST BART'S PEWS NEWS



Sunday 16th November

2nd Sunday before Advent

We are a Church of England parish church situated in the rural village of Otford. We are part of the Shoreham Deanery in Kent and part of the Diocese of Rochester.

We love being a village church and are intentional about serving our community and demonstrating the love of Jesus, lived out in our lives. This is reflected in our community engagement. The church is open every day for private prayer and the opportunity to light a candle.

We run a 'warm welcome' on a Friday afternoon where we contemplate life over a jigsaw or two, there are several flourishing Homegroups, CAMEO for our older residents and First Steps for the little ones, run in partnership with the Methodist Church. Our Youth Groups EPIC and YPF meet regularly and the Annual Youth weekend away is a highlight in the Church calendar.

We welcome people of all ages and stages of life and faith.

THIS WEEK...

Sunday 16th November 2025

2nd Sunday before Advent

- 8.00am Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly and Mags Southgate*
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19
- 10.00am Morning Worship:** *Mags Southgate*
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19
- 3.00pm Messy Church**
- 6.30pm Evensong:** *Margaret Lidbetter*
Daniel 6; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

NEXT WEEK...

Christ the King

(Sunday next before Advent)

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*
Colossians 1:11-end; Luke 23:22-43
- 10.00am Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*
Colossians 1:11-end; Luke 23:22-43

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Monday 17th November

2.00pm Cameo (17 Leonard Ave)

Tuesday 18th November

9.00am Morning Prayer

7.00pm Events Team

Wednesday 19th November

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) and coffee

8.00pm Finance Meeting

Thursday 20th November

9.00am Morning Prayer

7.45pm Bellringing practice

7.00pm Website Team Meeting

Friday 21st November

10.00am Christmas Market set up

2.00pm Warm Welcome (Church Centre)

8.00pm Choir Practice

Saturday 22nd November

10.30am Christmas Market (set up from 8.30am)

Strictly Come Dancing Evening

15th November **6 for 6.25pm**. If you're a Stricly fan and would like to enjoy an evening with others who are, join us in the church centre. We will provide cheese and biscuits, you just need to bring drinks and sequins. Please sign up in the lobby for catering purposes.

Messy Church

Our next Messy Church is on 16th November, 3pm, in the church centre. There will be all age craft activities to help us explore Advent and the theme of light.

All are welcome although this event is mainly for primary school children. No unaccompanied children please.

Christmas Market – 22nd November, 10.30am

With the Christmas Market fast approaching, we are seeking donations for:

Cards and Wrapping Stall : donations of new, unused Christmas cards and gift tags, also rolls of wrapping paper, Christmas themed or plain gift bags, bows, ribbons and boxes. All donations need to be sorted so please leave them in the church porch by 16th Nov.

Cake Stall - Cakes, jams preserves etc marked with ingredients, please.

Gift Stall – unwanted gifts or good as new items for sale on the gift stall

Grand Raffle – Would you be able to offer something as a prize for the Grand Raffle. Please drop items in to the church office.

General helpers – Can you offer some time to help set up during the day on Friday or Saturday morning, help on a stall for an hour, or pack down on Saturday afternoon. Any offers of help will be much appreciated by Janet Hunt please.

Prayer Breakfast

Please join us for Prayer breakfast on Sunday 23rd November between out 8am and 10am service.

Christmas Tree Festival

We are holding this on 5th-7th December and invite members of the congregations, families or individuals, to take part. If you would like to provide a decorated artificial tree please let us know by emailing events@stbartholomews.co.uk or by contacting the church office as soon as possible.

Services for Advent Sunday 30th November

We will be holding a Taize service at our 10am service and our special Advent carol service at 6.30pm. We would love to welcome you to these services

Please pray...

- For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Rosemary Hull, Madelyn Roets, David Hubner, Penny Anderson, David and Alison Crawley, Margaret Parry, Pat, Raymond Darby, Barbara Calder, Jane Lawrey, Holly and Jeanette. Also, we remember the recently departed, in particular Richard Phythian and Dilys Goodman and those who mourn their passing, and we remember those whose anniversary of death fall at this time.
- For those in our congregation who work in education. For wisdom, patience and creativity and for their witness at work.
- Giving thanks for all who contribute to our music each week leading us in our worship of God.
- Pray for the Parish Church of Plaxtol and the people of Plaxtol
- Pray for the church of St Giles and the people of Shipbourne
- For our local mission partners: Loaves and Fishes Foodbank, Sevenoaks Counselling Service, Sevenoaks Area youth Trust
- Remember our local schools. In particular this week we pray for the pupils and staff of Russell House School.
- For our link dioceses of Harare, Mpwapwa & Kondoia and Estonia.

Contact Us...

Please contact us by phone or email at

Revd Kelly Parsons - Vicar

(rest day Monday)

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vicar@stbartholomews.co.uk

Clive Southgate - Parish Administrator

01959 523185

office@stbartholomews.co.uk

The Church Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-12.00pm)

www.stbartholomews.co.uk

Live Streamed services [StBarts Otford](#)

