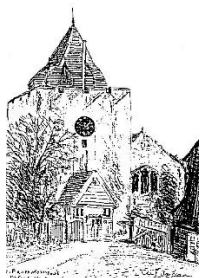


ST BART'S PEWS NEWS



Sunday 1st February

Candlemas

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 1st February

Candlemas

- 8.00am Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*
Hebrews 2:14-end; Luke 2:22-40
- 10.00am Christingle** *Rev Kelly and Dawn Hallam*
Luke 2:22-40
- 6.30pm Candlemas Evensong:** *Margaret Lidbetter*

Collect

God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us
by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

NEXT WEEK...

Sunday 8th February

2nd Sunday before Lent

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*
Romans 8:18-25; Matthew 6:25-end
- 10.00am Holy Communion** *Rev Kelly*
Romans 8:18-25; Matthew 6:25-end

Palm Crosses

If you would like to return your palm cross from last year so we can burn it to produce ash for our Ash Wednesday service, please drop it into the office.

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Monday 2nd February

2.00pm Cameo bible Study (17 Leonard Ave)

Tuesday 3rd February

9.00am NO Morning Prayer

Wednesday 4th February

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) followed by coffee

Thursday 5th February

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.30am Ecumenical Committee

Friday 6th February

2.00pm Warm Welcome (Church Centre)
8.00pm Choir Practice

Candlemas - 1st February

Our services on Candlemas, alongside our 8am holy communion service, will be:

10am - Christingle service, thinking about the work of the Children's Society. If you would like a Christingle collection candle, they will be available at the back of church during February. All proceeds will go to the Children's Society. Do join us, there will be Christingles for everyone!

6.30pm – Candlemas Evensong. We celebrate Christ's presentation in the temple when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. This is done through readings and music; the crib light is finally turned off as we move from the Sundays after Epiphany to the Sundays before Lent.

APCM

Save the Date...Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on Sunday 19th April at 11.30am. Please do your best to attend if possible. It would be good to have all parts of our church represented. The meeting will be followed by lunch in the church centre. There will be a sign-up list for lunch nearer the time.

Safeguarding Training

We will be running two in person Basic Awareness Safeguarding Sessions in February. We would really encourage everyone to come to one of these. Churches and church goers are often seen as safe places and safe people so having the tools to recognise potential need is really important. The sessions, and you only need come to one, are on:

5th Feb at 5.30pm – supper first, something warm and wholesome

28th Feb at 9.30 – beginning with coffee and pastries. Please sign up in the church lobby.

Lent Course

We have 2 Lent courses this year.

Gravity Defied based on scenes and ideas from the film Wicked. Also, Draw Near, that looks at cultivating habits and practices that help us draw near to God. Both courses run for five weeks, times and dates as follows:

Gravity Defied – from Tuesday 24th Feb 8-9pm at the Vicarage, repeated on Wednesdays from 25th Feb 8-9pm on Zoom

Draw Near – Wed 25th Feb 11.30am in the church centre followed by soup at 12.30pm if you can stay. Please sign up in the church lobby.

Loaves and Fishes

We are pleased to say that we were able to pass on over £1500 to Loaves and Fishes from money collected at the Christmas tree festival and Christmas services. Thank you to everyone who gave.

Please pray...

- For all in need of our prayers at this time: Rosemary Hull, Madelyn Roets, David Hubner, David and Alison Crawley, Margaret Parry, Pat, Raymond Darby, Barbara Calder, Jane Lawrey, Maureen Reynolds, Marion Bourke, Holly and Jeanette. Also, we remember the recently departed, and those whose anniversary of death fall at this time.
- In our cycle of prayer, we pray for the residents of Pickmoss Lane
- For those in our congregation who live alone. For balance in times of fellowship and their own space, for God's presence always with them.
- Giving thanks for those who prepare the church for worship each week.
- Pray for the Parish Church of Plaxtol and the people of Plaxtol
- Pray for our schools and in particular this week the pupils and teachers at Russell House School.
- For our national mission partners: Children's Society, Christians Against Poverty, Tear Fund.
- For our link dioceses of Harare, Mpwapwa & Kondoa and Estonia.

Contact us...

Please contact us by phone or email at

Revd Kelly Parsons - Vicar

(rest day Monday)

07415 855615

vicar@stbartholomews.co.uk

Clive Southgate - Parish Administrator

01959 523185

office@stbartholomews.co.uk

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

www.stbartholomews.co.uk

Live Streamed services [StBarts Otford](#)

