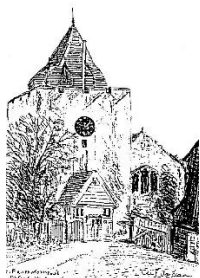


ST BART'S PEWS NEWS



Sunday 19th April

3rd Sunday of Easter

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 19th April
3rd Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly and Margaret Lidbetter*
Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Luke 24:13-35
- 10.00am Morning Worship** *Rev Kelly and Margaret Lidbetter*
Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Luke 24:13-35
- 6.30pm Evensong** *Rev Kelly*
Haggai 1:13-2:9; 1 Corinthians 3:10-17

Collect

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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.

NEXT WEEK...

Sunday 26th April
4th Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*
Acts 2:42-end; John 10:1-10
- 8.45am Prayer Breakfast**
- 10.00am Holy Communion** *Rev Kelly*
Acts 2:42-end; John 10:1-10

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Monday 20th April

2.00pm Cameo Bible Study

Tuesday 21st April

9.00am Morning Prayer
7.45pm Mission and Growth Team

Wednesday 22nd April

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 23rd April

9.00am Morning Prayer
7.45pm Bell ringing Practice

Friday 24th April

11.00am Interment of Ashes
2.00pm Warm Welcome (Church Centre)
8.00pm Choir Practice

Sunday 26th April

8.45am Prayer Breakfast
6.30pm YPF

APCM

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting is this 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. Please sign up in the lobby.

Pet Blessing Service

On Trinity Sunday, **31st May at 10am**, we will be holding our first ever Pet Blessing service on The Green. This service is for all whether you have a pet or not. We would love to welcome you and welcome your pets too.

Youth Weekend, Kench Hill, 3rd-5th July 2026

We are looking forward to welcoming our young people to this weekend. We will be thinking about Jesus, his life and ministry through discussion, arts/crafts and film. Pick up a leaflet from church for more details along with a consent form. These can also be found on the church website [Families & Youth – St Bartholomew's Otford](#). This weekend is for school years 5 upwards, but those slightly younger can attend for the day on Saturday with a parent or guardian.

Big Church Festival - 28th to 30th August 2026 Wiston Estate, near Worthing

Join us, and 35,000 other Christians, at BCF. Each day there are many different music venues and the variety of music is so wide there is something for everyone. On site there are loads of other activities to do from fairground rides to clay-pigeon shooting, football in a cage to art and craft activities. Some of us are planning to camp but you do not need to as the site is only one hour away. This really is the most amazing experience: worshipping God with so many people Talk to Mags if you are interested We have set up a group booking at <https://bigchurch.group/2026/sbo26>

Sevenoaks Counselling Service

Over the next three months, customers at Waitrose in Sevenoaks can vote for a cause by placing a green token in a collection box. Depending on the number of tokens received, Sevenoaks Counselling will be awarded a donation of £500, £1,000, or £1,500. This support will make a real difference to those in need. It will help SCS provide subsidised professional counselling to individuals in our local community who are struggling with emotional and mental health challenges but are unable to afford support.

SCS would be so grateful if you could consider supporting them in this simple way.

Please pray...

- For all in need of our prayers at this time: Rosemary Hull, Madelyn Roets, David Hubner, Margaret Parry, Pat, Raymond Darby, Barbara Calder, Jane Lawrey, Maureen Reynolds, Marion Bourke, Betty Canning and Jeanette. Also, we remember the recently departed in particular Pat Crawley and those who mourn her passing, and those whose anniversary of death fall at this time.
- In our cycle of prayer, we pray for the residents of Station Road.
- For those in our congregation who work in the arts or entertainment. For the creativity of God's Spirit, economic favour, a prophetic voice and their witness at work.
- Giving thanks for those who prepare the church for worship each week.
- Pray for the church of St Peter and St Paul and the people of Farningham
- Pray for our schools and nurseries. In particular this week the pupils and teachers at Otford Primary School
- For our overseas mission partners: Pursue (Harri and Rich Bell), Church Mission Society, Bible Society, Christian Aid, Hospices of Hope
- 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](#)

