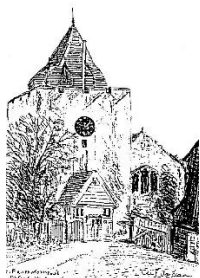


# ST BART'S PEWS NEWS



Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

5<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> May**  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*  
Acts 7:55-end; John 14:1-14
- 10.00am All Together Worship** *Rev Kelly and Dawn*  
1 Peter 2:2-10
- 6.30pm Evensong** *Rev Kelly*  
Zechariah 4:1-10; Revelation 21:1-14

### Collect

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

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## NEXT WEEK...

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*  
Acts 17:22-31; John 14:15-21
- 10.00am Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*  
Acts 17:22-31; John 14:15-21

## THIS WEEK'S DIARY

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00am Pop-Up stall at the Church Hall

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

9.00am No Morning Prayer

8.00pm Fabric Committee (Church Centre)

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

9.00am Morning Prayer

7.45pm Bell ringing Practice

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

2.00pm Warm Welcome (Church Centre)

8.00pm Choir Practice

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

6.30pm YPF

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### Pop Up Stall

Our next Pop-Up stall is on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 10am-12pm**. We will be selling books, bakes and plants. If you could provide cakes and bakes (with listed ingredients) please bring them on the day from 9.30am or to church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We would also be happy to receive **paperback books** from now until Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May. These can be left in the church lobby if the centre is closed. Thank you in advance.

### Soup Lunch

Please come to our next soup lunch **18th May 12pm** Following the lovely homemade soup and bread our coffee time speaker will be Sarah Fenn from Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA), Sevenoaks. Please sign up in the lobby or let the office know if you would like to come. All proceeds will to Christian Aid.

### Pet Blessing Service

On Trinity Sunday, **31<sup>st</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Christian Aid 10<sup>th</sup>-16 May

This year St Barts will be supporting Christian Aid Week **10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May**. Our collection in our services on the **10<sup>th</sup> of May** will go to Christian Aid. Any funds collected via our card machine between the 10-16th May will be added to the final total. If you would like a Christian Aid Envelope to donate that way, please pop into church and pick one up.

### Thy Kingdom Come 14<sup>th</sup> –24<sup>th</sup> May

This year we will be engaging with Thy Kingdom Come, a prayer initiate that encourages prayer for five people that you know to come to faith. We will have bags ready for you in church to pick up to help you pray. The bags will have new prayer ideas to try, prayer journals and cord on which to tie five knots to remind you to pray for your five. Look out for more information on prayer stations and a community prayer walk.

### 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 Tudor Crescent.
- 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 our Children's Workers and praying for them as they seek to nurture our children and young people.
- Pray for the church of St Mary the Virgin and the people of Kemsing
- Pray for our schools and nurseries. In particular this week the pupils and teachers at Russell House School
- For our local mission partners: Loaves and Fishes Foodbank, Sevenoaks Counselling Service, Sevenoaks Area youth Trust
- 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

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office@stbartholomews.co.uk

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

[www.stbartholomews.co.uk](http://www.stbartholomews.co.uk)

Live Streamed services [StBarts Otford](#)

