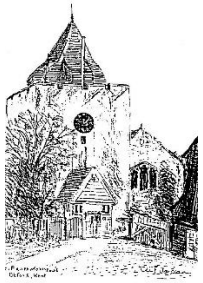
ST BART'S PEWS NEWS



Sunday 25th October

Bible Sunday

21st Sunday after Trinity

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 25th October
Bible Sunday - 21st Sunday after Trinity

8.00am **BCP Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*
Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 24:30-35

8.45am **Prayer Breakfast**

10.00am **Holy Communion:** *Rev Kelly*
Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 24:30-35

Collect
Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

NEXT WEEK...

Sunday 1st November
All Saints' Sunday

8.00am **Holy Communion:** *Revd Kelly and Mags*
Revelation 7:9-end; Matthew 5:1-12

10.00am **All Together Worship:** *Mags and Dawn*
Revelation 7:9-end; Matthew 5:1-12

3.00pm **Memorial Service**

6.30pm **Evensong:** *Revd Kelly and Mags*
Revelation 7:9-end; Matthew 5:1-12

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Monday 26th October
9.00am Morning Prayer
9.30am Vicar drop in (Church Centre)
2.00pm Cameo (contact Margaret Lidbetter)
5.30pm Compline

Tuesday 27th October
Revd Kelly's Rest Day

Wednesday 28th October
10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.30am The Prayer Course

Thursday 29th October
9.00am Morning Prayer

Friday 30th October
2.00pm Warm Welcome (Church Centre)
8.00pm Choir Practice

Saturday 31st October
9.30am Confirmation Preparation

Sunday 1st November
6.00pm YPF

Annual Memorial Service

Sunday 1st November, 3.00pm. There will be a special service to remember those who have died.

Everyone is welcome to come to remember a loved one; no matter how long ago they died or where the funeral originally took place.

Please contact the office on 01959 523185 or via email at office@stbartholomews.co.uk if you wish to come to the service or add your loved one's name to the Roll of Honour which will be read aloud in the act of remembrance.

Confirmation - 15th November 4pm

If you have been thinking about confirmation there is still time to talk to Rev Kelly to discuss the way forward. Just give her a call, drop her an email or catch her after the service on Sunday.

Christmas Market

Please put the date of the Christmas Market in your diary, **Saturday 21st November**. Offers of help, even for just an hour to relieve someone else, to Janet Hunt at jh@stbartholomews.co.uk .

With the Christmas Market fast approaching, the **Cards and Wrapping Stall** is asking for donations of new, unused Christmas cards and gift tags only at the present time. As the Christmas cards need to be sorted and repackaged, it would be very helpful if card donations could be received by **Friday 13th November**. There will be a box in the entrance to the Church Centre for the cards. A further plea for wrapping paper, gift bags, bows and ribbon will be sent out at the beginning of November. Thank you.

The Bulb Stall are looking for ceramic pots to plant up. The pot diameter should fit about 3 tennis balls in a triangle to allow for the growth of the bulbs. Please drop off at the church centre.

We are also asking for items for the **Gift Stall**, and also quality prizes for the **raffle**. These can be left at the church centre.

Christmas Tree Festival

Following last year's success, we will be holding this festival again on 4th-6th December 2026. If you would like to take part, now is the time to start planning your tree. More details to follow.

Please pray...

- For all in need of our prayers at this time: Rosemary Hull, Madelyn Roets, David Hubner, Margaret Parry, Pat, Raymond Darby, Jo-Jo, Barbara Calder, Jane Lawrey, Maureen Reynolds, Marion Bourke, Betty Canning, Jeanette and Jo. Also, we remember the family of Sheila Bonnett, and all those who mourn, and remember with thanksgiving those whose anniversary of death fall at this time.
- In our cycle of prayer, we pray for those who live in the High Street
- 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.
- Give thanks for our Sidespeople and for all they do to welcome and support us all in worship.
- Pray for the Parish Church of Plaxtol and the people of Plaxtol
- Pray for our schools and nurseries. In particular this week we pray for 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 & Kondoa and Estonia.

Contact us...

Please contact us by phone or email at

Revd Kelly Parsons - Vicar
(rest day Tuesday) 07415 855615
vicar@stbartholomews.co.uk

Clive Southgate - Parish Administrator
01959 523185 office@stbartholomews.co.uk

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

www.stbartholomews.co.uk

Live Streamed services StBarts Otford