

THE ANCHOR

NEWSLETTER

MARCH/EASTER
2018



ST BARTHOLOMEW'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH

ST BARTS, FWI

The Parish Letter

Dear Friends,

WELCOME to the March/Easter edition of the Anchor, your parish bulletin which we hope keeps you anchored to St Bartholomew's Anglican Church – whether you are reading this on the island or at home!

This edition of the Anchor was written during a week when **Hurricane Irma** has again been uppermost in our minds ... This was due to the strong ocean swell hitting the island which resulted in the island losing all telephone, mobile and internet connections!* The island kept a satellite connection from post-Irma to allow limited internet access, but it shows how much we rely (over-rely?) on telecommunication for our business, as well as social, needs!

It really feels a little like post Irma, as the waves also cut off City Water leaving those tourist and resident without cisterns high and dry – literally; as well as limited fresh foods stocks; and there is a threat of petrol/gas rationing! Additionally, the ATMs are not working and businesses are unable to accept credit cards.

I would like to remind our readers of our request to continue the **Worshippers Fund** this year to make up a budgeted shortfall in our 2018 income versus expenditure – see the back page for the budget summary. As last year, we are asking worshippers to consider donating US\$250 each or \$500 per family. **Last year we raised over \$22,000.** If you have already donated this year – a big thank you. Details of how to donate are also set out the back page.

We have included an update about **the Brook Lacour Garden** and the damage to the church - especially the wall - as we await both another detailed report from our engineer and the insurance expert's assessment. All donations are welcome, to what will be a complicated repair to try to preserve the look and feel of the original wall.



There is also an article about **the Rock Chapel** in North Wales where stained glass adds to the serene atmosphere of a chapel built for one.

For Easter this year, we welcome as our Priest-in-Residence, **the Revd Canon John Rice**. Our Holy Week is busy with events each day. More details are set out on page 2. If you are on-island please do try to come along to one or more of these special services. Following Christ's journey closely during this period helps us to make more sense of Easter, when we get to celebrate the joy that is **the Resurrected Christ**.

With blessings,
Philip

**Newsflash:
all systems getting back to normal!*

Weekly Groups & Services



Sunday Eucharist

9am Sundays
A contemporary service,
filled with music and prayer



Taizé Service

7pm Tuesdays
Contemplative music and
candles, held in the Church



Spirituality Group

11am Wednesdays
A topical discussion group
– all newcomers welcome



Meditation Group

7pm Thursdays
A bilingual group, with a
focus on calm reflection



Morning Prayer

8.30am Fridays
An informal prayer service,
held in the Church



Find us on Facebook

Keep up-to-date with what's going
on by liking our Church page:
[facebook/stbartschurch.stbarts](https://www.facebook.com/stbartschurch.stbarts)

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Holy Week and Easter



Palm Sunday Eucharist **Sunday, 9am – 10am**

As Jesus was greeted by palm waving crowds, we receive our own palms.



Holy Week Reflection **Monday, 6pm – 6.45pm**

Follow the story of Holy Week with scripture readings and prayer.



Holy Week Reflection **Tuesday, 6pm – 6.45pm**

Our biblical readings will continue, with a focus on the Lenten story.



Holy Week Taizé Service **Tuesday, 7pm – 7.45pm**

A special service in the candle-lit church, with simple chants and silence.



Holy Week Reflection **Wednesday, 6pm – 6.45pm**

A reflection with readings focusing on the events of the following days.



Maundy Thursday: Last Supper **Thursday, 6pm – 6.45pm**

An informal service of Holy Communion, just as Jesus did for his disciples.



Holy Week Meditation **Thursday, 7pm – 8pm**

Following the Last Supper, there will be a hour of silent meditation.



Good Friday: In Front of the Cross **Friday, 12 noon – 1pm**

The events of Good Friday will be told in readings, with silence and hymns.



Stations of the Cross **Friday, 1pm – 1.30pm**

Follow Christ's journey as depicted on the Church's 14 Stations of the Cross.



Easter Day: Celebration Eucharist **Sunday, 9am – 10am**

Our traditional Easter Service, followed by drinks, canapés and an egg hunt.



A Parish Directory – Join our community

There is no doubt that St Bartholomew's Anglican Church is a thriving church community – with a strong set of loyal, supportive worshippers ... and just because you are not with us all year long, we still think of you as members of our congregation.

We want to make sure we give you a warm greeting at each visit, so we would like to include our regular worshippers in a new Parish Directory. The idea is not to broadcast your contact details; but just to allow us, and other church members, to put a name to a face when you're on island.

If you would like to be included, please ask Philip to take a photo on Sunday or send him one by email. We'll publish the names & photographs; no other details! We'll put a copy of the Directory online and keep one at the back of the Church, from next month. Below are some faces you might recognize ...



Post Irma - the Repairs and the Brook Lacour Garden Project

Following Hurricane Irma, the Vestry and Friends have been looking closely at what repairs are needed, as well as our proposed Garden Project.

We were so blessed that the new roof held firm. When Hurricane Louis blew through island in 1995 we lost the roof, and it caused a lot of damage inside the church.

The most noticeable damage to the church property was the outside wall. We have had two contractors look at rebuilding it, and there are some differences of opinion as to whether we can retain that part of the wall that was not broken by the storm. We will try to keep those sections intact in order to preserve the historic feel/patina, but with



much deeper foundations to make it stronger; however it may not be possible! We are still in discussions with the expert about the fissure in the church façade, but we have been assured that it does not affect the integrity of the building – even after the recent tremors that have been felt on the island. And like many on the island, we are still awaiting the final word/cheque from our insurance company!

We are going ahead with the garden project in honour of Brook Lacour. We have now appointed Kevin Oeuvre to re-design the garden. Kevin is also working on the Gustavia park project, to bring back the lovely gardens around the harbor. We expect to start our works in May.



Let the light shine in – The Rock Chapel of St Bueno's

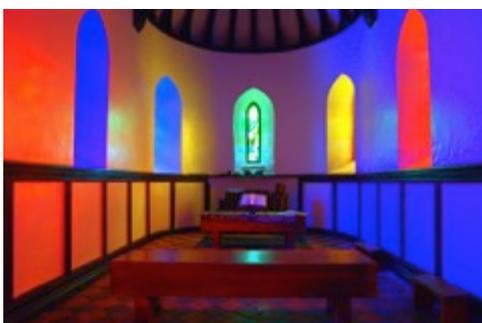
Following on from last month's article about the famous stained glass window in St Bartholomew's Church, Ontario, it reminded the Editor of a much simpler chapel, but in an equally breath-taking setting and with awe-inspiring stained glass. This is the 'Rock Chapel' at St Bueno's Retreat Centre in Northern Wales. This former Jesuit monastery now conducts silent retreats – a perfect 'get-away' from the rigours of our over-complicated 21st century life ... and highly



recommended by Father Lister Tonge, the Dean of Monmouth Cathedral, who led a retreat here on the island a couple of years back (and who has an open invitation to return and offer it again, hopefully in the not too distant future!), as well as visited by Father Charlie and the Editor!

The Rock Chapel has just one key; so only one person can take the 15 minutes hike to the top of the windswept hill in order to spend time there alone.

What awaits is a small, calm, divine space; filled with light from seven stained glass windows – each a separate colour of the rainbow. These windows let the light shine through no matter what time of day; and small candles illuminate them at night time.



The chapel was built around the same time as our church here on St Barts; although it was 150 years later that the idea to decorate the seven windows in stained glass came about. In 2011, Claire Mulholland was on retreat and happened to be a renowned artist in stained glass. She offered her artistic services for free and the seven 35in x 5in panels were completed later that year, just 12 months before Claire passed away at the age of 72.

Her passion for birds, as well as her strong Christian beliefs, are the main motifs found in the glass.



Visiting the chapel and seeing the changing light filtering through the arrow-slit size windows give the occupant a peaceful place to pray, contemplate and feel enveloped in God's embrace. The seven stunning panels of the chapel are an inspiration, a gift, a haven, and are undoubtedly a testimony to Claire's wonderful talents. More details can be found at www.pathwaystogod.org

A time for grieving and a time for loving

When we know someone is grieving a lost loved one, it is often difficult to know how to react or what to say - words alone can seem unsatisfactory, too trite, or too uncaring.

At a recent Bestseller Book Club we discussed a New York Times' hit which focuses on the theme of death of a loved one and grieving – **When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi**. All present agreed that the book, a short 200 pages, gave a tremendous insight into death and dying and allowed the reader to develop a better empathy for the ones left behind, as well as someone who has a terminal illness.

Here are few quotes:

- *"I began to realize that coming in such close contact with my own mortality had changed both nothing and everything. Before my cancer was diagnosed, I knew that someday I would die, but I didn't know when. After the diagnosis, I knew that someday I would die, but I [still] didn't know when. But now I knew it acutely."*

- *"The fact of death is unsettling. Yet there is no other way to live."*

- *"Even if I'm dying, until I actually die, I am still living."*

- *"I expected to feel only empty and heartbroken after [he] died. It never occurred to me that you could love someone the same way after he was gone, that I would continue to feel such love and gratitude alongside the terrible sorrow ..."*

- *"I will share your joy and sorrow; till we've seen this journey through."*

In our community over the past 6 months we have lost several valued members, namely; David Graham, David Swann and David Nichols, as well as Angus Wurtele. We pray for their loved ones left behind and hope these words will help the difficult grieving process for their friends and families.



Back Page Spirituality: Simple Pleasures

There are many small things we can do to make our lives seem a little happier, or perhaps even to feel blessed. These are life's ordinary pleasures that can make our lives more fulfilling. Sometimes our lives can be too busy, so that we forget the healing power of a small simple pleasure – both giving and receiving. Here are some ideas to help bring others or ourselves some simple pleasures.

1. Letting someone out in traffic.

We all know the feeling of being in a line of traffic and someone wants to come out from a side road: we tell ourselves that we are in too much of a hurry, or that the person behind us will do it. How about just flashing our lights, and letting them come out right in front of us? Nine times out of ten we'll receive a big smile or hand wave in return, and that will brighten our day. (And next time it might just be us in the other position wanting to exit!)

2. Doing a job we've been putting off.

There are many reasons for procrastination – especially when the task seems 'scary' or it's been put off for the longest time! The pleasure comes from: a) it not being as bad as we thought and b) "we've done it!" So let's address one item which has been troubling us for a while (hence the procrastination), and plan ahead to do it. It might be contacting someone we've been meaning to do for a long time, saying sorry to someone, or just tidying up the garage/spare room. But plan it for the weekend, tell someone else you're going to do it, and then turn off the television/game/iPad and make a start. We know that it won't be

as bad as we thought it would be, and afterwards it will definitely be a big weight off our minds.

3. Leaving 10 minutes early. We have all been there ... rushing for that meeting, even if it is just a social get-together, and we end up texting or phoning the other person while driving to say we're running late (itself a potential recipe for a fine ... or worse, an accident). By leaving early we give ourselves the gift of not being stressed. The time spent arriving early will be relaxing and will get any gathering off to a better, calmer start. And if we do this for the next train or plane we catch ... we'll start our journey off in a more composed state of mind and body!

4. Meeting someone. We all know what a pleasure it is to have a friendly face at the barrier when we arrive somewhere, especially somewhere new. So next time we have a friend or relative coming in, let's make sure we go and meet them and don't let them battle for the taxi or car rental line ... and don't forget to give them a big hug.

5. Mending something broken. Many of us will have in the bottom cupboard something that is broken and have been meaning to mend "when we have the time". Next time you're out shopping remember to get some good glue (or whatever it is that we need to make the repair) and then find some time. Like any creative project, repairing things uses the right side of the brain and it will be time well spent, which will give us a feel good factor. (And if it doesn't work afterwards, then fine ... it's time to throw it away!)

(Inspired by the book Small Pleasures to Save Your Life by Maeve Haran)

AA Group Meetings: Open Meetings in English are held every Tuesday and Friday at 6pm in the Church Centre. Meetings at other times can also be arranged. For more information call: 0690 65 61 22 or 0690 54 17 99.

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Vestry: The Wardens, Clarion Romney, Dawn Drouant, Lloyd Younger, Nancy Swann and Philip Trangmar

Treasurer: Alex Harbord

Music Director: Ombeline Collin

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2018 Worshippers Fund

As we outlined last year, the Church's operating costs are met by your Sunday contributions; Friends' annual contributions; income from the Friends' endowment fund; and also donations from on-island weddings. As you will note from the budget below, the forecast expenses for this year are approximately €144,000 - a small increase over 2017 on account of rising costs post-Irma.

However we are also forecasting a large downturn in our Sunday collections and donations from on-island weddings due to reduced visitors. While the Friends have agreed to fund part of this deficit (with a 50% increase in their contribution compared with last year), **we would like to raise the same amount as last year from our worshippers.**

Please consider making a minimum \$250 contribution per worshipper or \$500 per family to help meet the Church's 2018 expenses.

	Euros	Dollars
2018 Budgeted Income		
Collections	14,500	1.20
Local Donations - weddings etc	17,500	
Worshippers Fund	20,000	
Donations - The Friends	92,000	
	<u>144,000</u>	<u>172,800</u>
2018 Budgeted Expenditure		
Utilities	5,000	
Events/Programs/Outreach	6,000	
Printing Costs etc	2,000	
Cleaning & Gardening	15,000	
Administration, Web Site & IT	55,000	
Church Supplies & Insurance	3,600	
Bank charges, local travel etc	1,750	
Maintenance - ongoing	5,000	
Diocesan contribution & local giving	7,500	
Visiting Clergy	25,000	
Music Ministry	16,500	
Misc/Contingency	1,000	
	<u>143,350</u>	<u>172,020</u>

There are three ways to donate:

1. Send a check to the Friends – either when you get home in the mail or hand it to Philip or one of our local leadership who will deliver it to the Friends
2. Online via the church website (listed on the front page)
3. In cash or local check directly to the Church

Methods 1 and 2 are donations to our US Charity, which are tax deductible for US citizens.

Friends of St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

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