

Dear Friends

This is our seventh update from the island, and as of yesterday we have had no new cases of the virus.

Our main news this week is that it was announced on Friday that officials from St Barts had spoken with Emmanuel Macron and he had agreed that St Barts can come out of confinement as of 11th May. We are told that this means all businesses, including bars and restaurants, will be able to resume their normal activity, with customers respecting social distancing. However, the border restrictions will remain as they are; meaning that currently entry to the island is essentially limited to key professionals and returning full-time residents. (I will let you know if and when these entry controls are changed).

New testing kits have also arrived on the island, which are currently having their effectiveness officially verified in Guadeloupe prior to being put into use. The criteria for extending on-island testing is still being decided.

In other news, now we are allowed onto our beaches, people can see the changes on St Jean's main beach as the old Emeraude Plage Hotel has been razed to the ground ready for a new hotel to be built in its place over the next two years. I for one will certainly miss its distinctive look.

Our Service for the 4th Sunday of Easter has now been uploaded. Father Charlie is our preacher this week and the post-sermon meditation includes a wonderful collage of undersea photographs taken by a one of our visiting parishioners while diving in the waters of St Barts. The closing hymn is a choral version of Standing in the Need of Prayer – not quite as good as our own version, but a close second! The Sunday Service playlist link, which you can watch anytime from now onwards, is set out below.

The underwater photographs are an interesting addition to the usual views of St Barts, so I thought we might like to share our favourite 'undiscovered' places on St Barts during our virtual Zoom coffee hour at 10am on Sunday (details below).

Also below are details of our Bestseller Book club meeting on Monday 4th, as well as our virtual Taizé services/playlists plus our prayer list.

We continue to pray for all of those suffering at this time, as well as our church friends and their families plus all healthcare workers. Stay Safe and keep your distance ... it is not over yet!

With blessings  
Philip

***1. YouTube Channel: St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, St Barts***  
***4th Sunday of Easter Playlist: [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_4thEasterSunday](https://bit.ly/StBAC_4thEasterSunday)***  
***Sunday Sermon: [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_Sermon3May2020](https://bit.ly/StBAC_Sermon3May2020)***  
***Post Sermon Meditation: [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_3MayMeditation](https://bit.ly/StBAC_3MayMeditation)***

## **2. Prayer List**

*Brook Lacour*

*Lucy Day*

*Valerie Trangmar*

**3. Zoom meeting:** Sunday 10am (*I will go online 5 mins early to help any first-timers!*)

***Via the internet:*** <https://zoom.us/j/9713397133>

***Via the Zoom App:*** Meeting ID: 9713397133

***Via your telephone*** +1 253 215 8782 (USA) then input the Meeting ID: 9713397133

**Password, if needed:** 97133

## **4. Offering**

***If you would like to make an offering, please send cheques to:***

*Friends of St Bartholomew's Anglican Church*

*106 West River Road*

*Rumson*

*NJ 07760*

***Or use our Website link:*** <https://www.stbartholomewsanglicanchurch.com/donations/>

## **5. Bestseller Book Club - Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm**

***The Last of the Stanfields by Marc Levy***

*If you would like to know our next book, drop me an email.*

## **6. Taizé services**

*These are posted on our YouTube Channel.*

*There are several virtual services uploaded, as well as playlists with our favourite Taizé chants.*

***Our Taizé Services:*** [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_VirtualTaize](https://bit.ly/StBAC_VirtualTaize)

***Our Favourite Taizé Chants:*** [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_FavouriteTaize1](https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize1)

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Philip Trangmar

Parish Administrator

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