

**Subject:** St Bartholomew's Anglican Church – Corona Update #15  
**From:** St Bartholomew's Anglican Church <info.stbartholomews@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 27/06/2020, 5:51pm  
**To:** Info St Barts <info.stbartholomews@gmail.com>

Dear Friends

This is the fifteenth Corona virus update from the island, and it is our first week when St Barts is open to tourists.

The island greeted its first visitors for nearly four months with an unusual welcome – a sandstorm had blown in from Africa and our usual clear blue skies were replaced by a misty haze coupled with choking dust. Visibility, which is usually several miles from the hills and viewpoints around the island, was dramatically reduced – and you could just about see a few of the small islets around St Barts, but no sight of our neighbouring islands. The authorities cautioned against outdoor exercise and strenuous work and there was indeed a noticeable difference in our breathing, even when simply walking around outside.

On Tuesday, the islanders gathered in large numbers at the Catholic Church in Gustavia to pay their last respects to Marius Stakelborough. It was a significant moment when the cortège passed Le Select, symbolising Marius' final farewell before his burial in St Jean.

On a personal note, this past week I received the sad news of my Mother's passing. As many of you may have known, she had been diagnosed with lung cancer about 12 months ago and then had moved into a care home. She had responded well to her initial radiography treatment, and she was planning on returning to her own home next month. Unfortunately, some mild unexplained chest pain resulted in a short hospital visit, during which time she contracted the corona virus and then pneumonia. She died peacefully and is now at rest with my Father. We have decided to hold a memorial service for her later in the year, when Rachel and I will visit the UK.

Our service this week is a little different as Father Charlie was not available to record our usual Sunday Service. Hence, this week the service is Morning Prayer led by me. Our sermon this week is preached by the Revd Kevin Cross, who is usually here with us in May. Father Kevin is the rector of Holy Trinity Church, Oxford, Maryland. He is a very keen swimmer when he is down here, so I thought he would appreciate seeing our wonderful underwater photographs once again, for the post-sermon meditation.

Part 4 of our service this week includes our special version of the Lord's Prayer, including the words so you can sing along. And our final piece of music is The Blessing sung by churches across South Africa. This is not the first time I have included this song(!), but I hope you feel like me, and find the words "He is with you" uplifting when you are troubled or in need of a boost. You can also see the joy on the faces of the people singing in the video, and some of that joy is what I

hope our Church services (actual or virtual) give you after sharing time with us.

At 10am on Sunday we will hold our usual Zoom Coffee Morning (details below).  
The subject for our amicable discussion is how the lockdown has changed us!

Please note that Zoom are changing their systems so that all meetings will require passcodes to access them. **Our passcode is 97133.**

Also listed below is how to make an offering to the Church, as well as information about our next Bestseller Book Group (the next meeting is on Monday July 6th), and our virtual Taizé services; plus a link to previous updates, and our prayer list.

While the world continues to come out of lockdown, we pray for all those who have been affected. We also pray for the peaceful protests regarding the recent unlawful deaths and for equality in our society. And let's continue to Stay Safe.

With many blessings  
Philip

PS We are continually updating our mailing list, so if you missed any of our previous emails, there is a link below! Likewise, let me know if you wish to unsubscribe or know anyone who might like to be added.

### **1. Sunday Service**

**Sunday Playlist:** [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_Sunday28June](https://bit.ly/StBAC_Sunday28June)

### **2. 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 this Website link:*** <https://www.stbartholomewsanglicanchurch.com/donations/>

### **3. Prayer List**

*The Day family*

*The Stakelborough family*

*The Trangmar family*

*Rosemond Greaux*

*Paul-Lancelot Clequin*

### **4. Coffee Morning Zoom meeting:** Sunday 10am – **passcode 97133**

***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

**5. Bestseller Book Club** – *an informal discussion group which meets every three weeks or so.*

*Monday 6th July – The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes: a saga set in the Appalachians during the Post-Depression era. Please let me know by email if you would like to join us.*

### **6. Past Corona Updates**

*You can visit our website if you wish to read any of our previous updates:  
[https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_CoronaUpdates](https://bit.ly/StBAC_CoronaUpdates)*

### **7. Taizé services**

*These are also posted on our YouTube Channel.*

*There are several virtual services uploaded (including the most recent one from last Tuesday), as well as composite playlists with some of our favourite Taizé chants.*

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

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

*More favourite Taizé Chants: [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_FavouriteTaize2](https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize2)*

*And more favourite Taizé Chants: [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_FavouriteTaize3](https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize3)*

*Even more favourite Taizé Chants: [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_FavouriteTaize4](https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize4)*

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Philip Trangmar  
Parish Administrator  
+590 (0)690 54 17 99