

# 2020 Update - #18

[Campaign Preview](#)

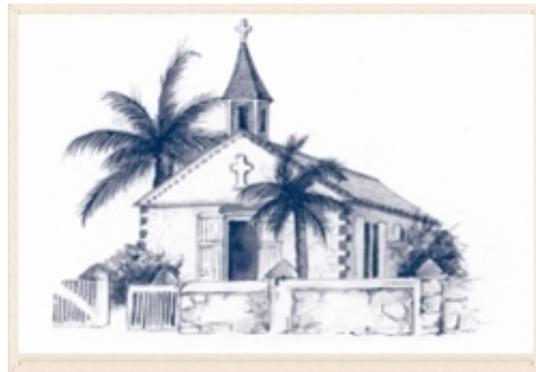
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St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, St Barts



[Click here to view our latest Sunday Service on YouTube](#)

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## Our Weekly News

Dear Friends,

This is the Church's eighteenth newsletter of 2020, and we hope that you are still enjoying receiving them. But first let me apologise, in advance, for sending it to you TWICE! The reason for this, and more information about the new email, is set out at the end of this letter.

This week the island celebrated France's National Day (aka 'le Quatorze Juillet' or Bastille Day) – which takes place on the anniversary of storming of the Bastille prison on 14th July 1789; and which can be best compared to the United States' July 4th. The island enjoyed watching the Collectivity's impressive display of fireworks, launched from the fort in Gustavia. This was followed by a big party on the Quai ... such festivities certainly show that life on St Barts is pretty much back to normal! Fortunately, the night was clear, as we have been having a lot more heavy rain showers in the past week – although our gardens and cisterns are not complaining.

We are still in the fortunate situation that there have been no new cases of Covid-19 reported. There is now a dedicated team in place at the airport, checking the temperatures of arriving passengers, as well as proof of a recent negative Covid test. And with SXM airport still closed to US flights, Tradewind reportedly have up to 5 flights arriving each day from Puerto Rico. Additional restaurants are now opening, with Nikki Beach, Bonito and Orega being the latest three. And it is noticeable that more masks are being worn by locals and visitors, especially in the supermarkets.

This week we have a change to our online service. As I mentioned last week, we will continue to offer a virtual Eucharistic service, but celebrated by one of our visiting clergy who will also provide the sermon – and to start us off this week, we have the Revd Steve Huber. The playlist will also have an introduction, a reading, and/or prayers recorded from inside our Church, so you don't forget what it looks like! And we would also be grateful for any willing volunteers to record a reading or prayers from their own home ... please email me if interested!

For our music this week I have chosen the theme of Amazing Grace – the Church's favourite hymn. We start off with a duet from our two church musicians, Ombeline and Michael, set to photographs of the Gustavia fireworks from last week (professional ones at the beginning and end, and mine from the Church steps in the middle!). For our post-sermon meditation, I have included Amazing Grace sung by Andreas Bocelli from Milan Cathedral at Easter during the lockdown – a good reminder of how far we have come, but also a reminder that this situation is not behind us yet! And then our final hymn is a more modern version, but using the same famous lyrics for its chorus. The song also includes the words *“You take our failure, You take our weakness ... So take my heart, Lord, I'll be Your vessel, The world to see, Your life in me.”*

At 10am on Sunday, we will hold our usual Zoom Coffee Morning (details below) and Father Steve Huber is hoping to get up early and join us from Palm Springs, CA. The subject for discussion will be your favourite classical music and/or any special memories of concerts that you have attended.

We also want to say a very big “Thank You” to all those who have responded to our past requests for help with our funding. We obviously appreciate this more than ever, knowing how almost everyone has been affected by this ongoing situation. However, as you will realise, because we are only holding our church services online and the island has a small number of tourists, our collection income this year will be significantly lower than expected. We would therefore

be grateful for your continued support – perhaps similar to that if you were worshipping with us in Church on Sundays. This will help keep St Bartholomew's a place of spiritual nourishment – wherever people are, who connect with us. There is an address below to send cheques or, if easier, a link so that you can donate online using your credit card (with the ability to make a regular monthly offering, if you so wish).

Also listed below is information about our next Bestseller Book Group (the next meeting is this Monday, August 3rd); and there are also details about our virtual Taizé services, plus a link to previous updates, and our prayer list.

**New Email:** The reason for sending out the same two emails is that after this week we are moving to the 'easier' more controllable emailing system – which goes by the name MailChimp! It will allow us to prepare the emails in advance and not require me to cut, paste and send all the emails on my Saturday afternoons – although that is when you will still receive them. So for this week only I have sent the newsletter out to you in the old form and this, new brighter coloured version (and if this email version has gone into your spam/junk folder, you may need to tell your computer that future emails from this source are not junk!). In the new email, you even get a nice picture of the church - see below! We do encourage you to forward this email to any friends or family who you think might be interested in St Barts news or our lively online Church service. Any feedback on the new email is welcome.

We are deeply aware that the world is still dealing with this virus, and the healthcare and economic consequences; and so we continue to pray for all those who have been, and continue to be, affected. And let's all Stay Safe – and where appropriate ... wash hands, wear masks and keep our distance!

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.

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## Links

### 1. Sunday Service

Sunday Playlist: [https://bit.ly/StBAC\\_Sunday19July](https://bit.ly/StBAC_Sunday19July)

## **2. Offerings to the Church**

See details/links below

## **3. Prayer List**

Larry O'Donnell

Brook Lacour

Rosemond Greaux

Paul-Lancelot Clequin

The family of Lucy Day

The family of Marius Stakelborough

The family of Valerie Trangmar

The family of Gaby Charneau

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

**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 on Zoom every three/four weeks. Our next meeting is on **Monday 3rd August** when we will be discussing *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchet. (And if you like audio books, the recording is narrated by Tom Hanks!).*

## **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, as well as composite playlists with some of our favourite Taizé chants.

**Our own virtual 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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# The Church brings spiritual nourishment to the island of St Barts - residents and visitors alike.

Please help us continue to grow ...

## Online Offering

You can make a secure donation online using your credit card. You are able to specify your donation to be either a one-off payment or monthly.

[Online Donations](#)

## Sending a check

Send checks to:

*Friends of St Bartholomew's Church  
106 West River Road,  
Rumson, NJ 07760*

[Church Website](#)





A beautiful reflection in our old path after the rain (*thanks go to Rick*)



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