

## 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 nineteenth newsletter of 2020 ... and I do hope it has been successfully received, as it is the first newsletter sent out only using our new email programme!

This week's big news is that masks have now become mandatory in all enclosed public places, in compliance with mainland France's national law, which extends to overseas territories such as St Barts. So this includes shops, restaurants & bars, offices and, yes, places of worship (we just about count as enclosed!). The French government hopes this extra precaution will help to control any further outbreaks of the virus.

We remain fortunate in that there have been no new cases of Covid-19 reported on St Barts; nevertheless, there have been two new cases on St Martin. But we do have other issues to contend with: the local health authority has announced that the Dengue Fever outbreak on the island has reached 'epidemic' levels, so 'measures' are being taken (although such 'measures' are yet to include island-wide spraying).

We are also carefully watching Storm Gonzalo, which is currently heading towards the Caribbean island chain. At the time of writing, it is staying far south

of us. However, many will remember the previous\* Gonzalo, six years ago; which was heading for Guadeloupe and then, unexpectedly overnight, it made a sudden turn to the north hitting St Barts and St Martin with significant damage – especially for those living on boats, including one local sailor who was sadly lost at sea. (\*It seems that names of Hurricanes are only ‘retired’ when they cause ‘major’ damage!)

This week we have Father Geoffrey Hoare celebrating our virtual Eucharistic service and preaching for us. Father Geoffrey was scheduled to have his first island visit with us right now, but of course that got overtaken by other unexpected events! He is the rector at St Albans in Washington DC, and the national cathedral ‘sits in his church grounds!’ English by birth, he was ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1983 and has served at churches in Atlanta, Georgia; Raleigh, North Carolina; and Alexandria, Virginia (but has not lost his accent!).

Our music this week includes our usual opening hymn – Spirit of the Living God. As I mentioned last week, we have been blessed with rain and so the Flamboyant Trees are now in full bloom, hence I included them as part of our video montage. (As an aside, these trees originate from Madagascar and are known on the nearby islands of Saba and Nevis as ‘July Trees’, as that is when they are at their best!). For our post-sermon meditation, I have chosen ‘Stand By Me’, as sung at the Royal Wedding a few years back. And then we end with a more traditional hymn – The Strife is Over ... and a video of a virtual recording by The Episcopal Church with over 600 participants! So, I do hope there’s something for everyone, in-keeping with St Bartholomew’s reputation of providing music for the soul!

At 10am on Sunday, we will hold our usual Zoom Coffee Morning (details below). The subject for discussion, inspired by the Flamboyant Trees, will be travels in Africa (not least because Rachel and I had hoped to visit later this year ... the trip has now been postponed to 2021, which gives us more time to have our appetites whetted!).

Also listed below is information about our next Bestseller Book Group (the next meeting is Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> when we will be discussing Anna Patchett’s The Dutch House - and if you like audio books, the recording is narrated by Tom Hanks). There are also details about how to make an offering to the church, our virtual Taizé services, plus a link to previous updates, and our prayer list.

We are well aware that you are all still dealing with this virus; and that healthcare and essential workers are still putting their lives at risk. So we continue to pray for you and for them, and for all those who have been, and continue to be, affected. Stay Safe – wash hands, wear masks and keep your distance!

With 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\\_Sunday26July](https://bit.ly/StBAC_Sunday26July)

### **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 Patchett**. (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 Flamboyant Tree - behind the Church



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