

St Bart's News – Sunday 4th May 2025

3rd Sunday of Easter

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 4th May	8.00am	Morning Prayer (CW)
	10.00am	All Together Worship
	6.30pm	Evensong (BCP)
Wednesday 7th May	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 11th May	8.00am	Morning Worship (CW)
	10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)

DIARY DATES

Thursday 1st May	7.45pm	Bell Ringing
Friday 2nd May	2.00pm	Warm Welcome (Church Centre)
	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturday 3rd May	9.00am	Churchyard Working Party
Sunday 4th May	12.00pm	Church DIY Working Party
	7.45pm	Bell Ringing
	2.00pm	Warm Welcome (Church Centre)
	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Saturday 10th	6.00pm	EPIC (Church Centre)
Sunday 11th May	11.30am	APCM and Lunch

NOTICEBOARD

WE HAVE ARRIVED !!

It has been an emotional few days. We have finally moved into the Vicarage. We just wanted to say a massive thank you for our warm welcome. Thank you for your prayers, those of you who cleaned, mowed and prepared the vicarage for us. Thank you for the many cards, gifts and flowers. We feel so loved and blessed to be here. We look forward to meeting you all properly in due course.

With every blessing,
Revd Kelly, Michael and Jasper.

SERVICES IN CHURCH

Our **10.00am Sunday service** are livestreamed. You can access them via our YouTube channel [StBarts Otford](#) or [church website](#).

THANKS

Our welcome and thanks to Revd Adie McCall for taking our Wednesday communion service.

*** CHANGE TO SERVICES***

4th May, 8am there will be a service of morning prayer. Unfortunately, we have been unable to find anyone to cover this communion service.

11th May 8am there will be a service of morning prayer. There will be a communion service at 10.00am for those wishing to take communion on this day.

PARISH PRAYERS

In our **cycle of prayer**, we pray for those who worship at our church but live outside the parish. We pray for those who are unwell, including, Rosemary Hull, Madelyn Roets, Keith Howe, Pam Ubee, David Hubner, David, and Linda, We remember the recently departed and those who mourn their passing. We also remember the family and friends of those whose anniversaries of death occur around this time.

OFFICE OPENING

The office will be open Wednesday and Friday this week.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

BOOK YOUR SEAT NOW - The Service to Licence Rev. Kelly Parsons as Priest in Charge of Otford will be held on Monday 19th May at 7pm. There will be a maximum of 110 seats available for members of the congregation. **If you would like to attend, please let the Church Office know by Friday 9th May** how many seats you require. The allocation will be on a first come first served basis with numbers per family being restricted should there be a high demand for seats. We will be livestreaming the service for any who are unable to attend. The Church car park will not be available to members the congregation, so please either park along the Sevenoaks Road, or in the Village Car Park.

We ask that you aim to arrive by 6.45pm on Monday 19th in order that the Wardens and Stewards can seat people in a timely manner.

If you require a lift to this service, please let the churchwardens know by the 9th May in order for arrangements to be made in advance.

A NOTE FROM REVD IAN AVESON

Thank you very much for the rose bush which you gave to Judith and me on Easter Day. The variety is Thomas a Becket, so it will always remind us of St Bartholomew's! It has been a pleasure and a privilege to share ministry with you for the last eighteen months or so: I wish you God's blessing for the new chapter in the life of the parish with your new priest, Revd Kelly Parsons.

SOUP LUNCH

Soup Lunch 12th May. Our coffee time speaker will be Isabelle Mercer Chair of Trustees of Sevenoaks Loaves and Fishes Foodbank. Sign-up sheet in the lobby. Joan

ANNUAL PAROCIAL CHURCH MEETING - APCM

Sunday 11th May, 11.30am sees our APCM held in the Church following our morning service. Anyone is welcome to the short Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting) to vote in the Churchwardens for the coming year. After this meeting is the APCM. All are welcome to attend this, but only those on the new electoral roll are entitled to vote.

These meeting will be followed by lunch in the church centre. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby for catering purposes.

SAVE THE DATE - YOUTH WEEKEND 18TH - 20TH JULY 2025

Planning for this is in full swing. If you have young person aged 8 – early 20s we would love to take them away for a weekend of fun food and fellowship. **Total cost £50**. Booking forms available soon. Deposits £15 by the beginning of May, final payments by beginning of June.

We hope to have some subsidised places available. If there are members of the congregation who would like to help in this way, please contact the church office. Any contributions in this respect will be greatly appreciated.

PRAYER BREAKFAST.

Our next Prayer Breakfast is on Sunday 25th May at 8.45am, between our 8am and 10am services. Stay on after one service or come early for the other. Join us in thanksgiving for all God has given us, for all that he will do through us, and for sending Kelly to lead us and work with us.

REFRESHMENTS

Refreshments are served in the Church Centre after our 10am service to which all are welcome. If you could help with serving coffee, please sign up on the new rota next to the serving hatch in the Church Centre, there are spaces to fill 😊

POLICY IN RELATION TO DOGS IN CHURCH

After much discussion and review at various PCC meetings we now confirm that 'Fully Trained Assistance Dogs' are always welcome in Church. Well trained dogs are welcome to visit the Church with their owners up to 30 minutes before a service starts and from 30 minutes after a service finishes.

SALES TABLE

Don't miss out on the card and mini gifts stall in the church centre. **Easter Cards now available.** If you have any used cards or new mini gifts you are willing to part with, we are sure we can make use of them. Many grateful thanks.

LOAVES AND FISHES

In particular at the moment the food bank is appealing for tins of tuna, chicken casserole, macaroni cheese, hot dogs, chilli con carne, beef curry, chicken curry, peas, sweet corn. Also, breakfast cereals (not cornflakes), rice, pasta sauce, UHT milk, biscuits, instant coffee, hot chocolate, vegetable oil, chocolate spread, marmite, shampoo, shower gel

If you wish to find out more about Loaves and Fishes or contact them please do so at www.sevenoaksfoodbank.co.uk or at sevenoaksfoodbank@gmail.com

READINGS

Sunday Morning: Acts 9:1-6; John 21:1-19 (*used at 8.00am/10.00am*)

Evensong: Isaiah 38:9-20; John 21:1-19

BCP Communion: 1 Peter 2:11-17; John 16:16-22 (*used on Wednesday morning*)

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY MORNING (*hymn in italics omitted if there is a choir anthem*)

1. See what a morning (Resurrection Hymn); 2. Here I am; 3. Amazing Grace – my chains are gone ; 4. Through your precious blood

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY EVENING

1. Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (NEH 124); 2. Just as I am (NEH 294); 3. Thine be the glory (NEH 120); Psalm 30

COLLECT

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

RESOURCES

OUR SERVICES ONLINE

You can watch last week's service and catch up with other recent services here: <https://www.youtube.com/@stbartsotford1735/streams>

CHURCH DONATION

You can make a **one-off donation** to the work of our church by visiting this site: <https://account.stewardship.org.uk/donation/oneoff/20293172>

CONTACT LIST

Please contact the [Office](#) regarding baptisms, weddings, funerals or requests for home communions

Church Office: St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

The Green Otford, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 5PD;
tel: 01959 523185

Emails

Office	office@stbartholomews.co.uk
Vicar	vicar@stbartholomews.co.uk (currently being directed to the church office)
Treasurer	treasurer@stbartholomews.co.uk
Safeguarding	safeguarding@stbartholomews.co.uk
Events	events@stbartholomews.co.uk

