

April 2020

# St. Bartholomew's News

Issue no. 30

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.



**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH IS CURRENTLY CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

Welcome to April's edition of our newsletter.

In these challenging, worrying and unprecedented times, we hope this finds you well, physically and mentally. At the time of compiling this, the majority of this country are staying indoors. We appreciate those who are still working and providing a necessary service. We pray for those who are ill, anxious, and those who care for us. We pray for God's help in supporting those who work tirelessly towards an end to this virus. I don't know what the state of affairs will be when this newsletter is read because information is changing daily. As there are currently no services in church, this newsletter will be available via the church website primarily.

For those that have access to our website, or Facebook, Father Mark has produced daily prayers and a weekly service sheet for you to refer to. Thank you Father Mark for all you have been doing to maintain our faith in these times, and for your input for keeping St. Bartholomew's fellowship going. Please remember to maintain contact with those who may be lonely, struggling, and need help. There is no better time than now to be neighbourly, kind and thinking of others, within health guidelines of course.

There will be no Craft Club or Open Table for the foreseeable future. We will try to give you advance notification when these groups recommence.

We are sorry for the disappointment for the last Open Table which was cancelled at short notice. Many were looking forward to meeting again after our few months break, and eagerly anticipated seeing the new kitchen and facilities. **Thank you Father Mark for all you did arranging the renovation at the Church Hall.** A delicious meal and dessert were planned for our March date, with a large number confirming they were coming. But sadly, for the safety of all concerned, we had to cancel, and I'm sure there was disappointment but we hope you understand that your safety was paramount. We await our next meal, and will inform all concerned when that date will be in the future.

Prior to the social restraints, we all met on the 8<sup>th</sup> March for a fabulous and interesting evening held by Ian Bott, our local historian. This celebrated the queen's visit to Wednesbury in 1962, along with rare memorabilia on display. It was well attended, with lots of delicious cakes and suitable royal accompaniments and refreshments. Sincere thanks to Ian Bott for all his hard work, the ticket sales and administration by Robert Yardley, Mario's singing, all who donated raffle prizes, those who bought tickets, and to all who baked and helped with refreshments. We raised the wonderful amount of almost £900 for church funds.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS:** Only providing everything has been approved, the health of the Nation has recovered and all is good, please make a note in your diary for **Saturday 4th July** when we will be entertained by one of the finest brass bands in the Midlands. Tickets will be available from Rob Yardley. We hope you will be able to join us providing all is okay.

Please turn over.....



**WHEN RESUMED, OUR REGULAR SERVICES WILL BE:**

Sunday 8.00am – Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
Sunday 10.30am – Parish Eucharist (including hymns).

Tuesday 10.00am – Communion – short service.

First Sunday of each month at 10.30am – All Age Service, all age family service including uniformed organisations. Open The Book Team also perform.

First Friday each month – 6.00pm Quiet Hour, reflective prayer and meditation.

Memorial Services – Sundays 6.00pm - 3 times a year, announced few weeks before each service. Please contact Father Mark or a church warden if you have any queries regarding our services.

**POSTS ON FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE.** Each week Wendy posts the weekly Prayers, Notices, Quote of the Week and Photo of the Week on Facebook and the relevant website pages. Regarding the Prayers, can you check the names on the list please? If you know the people listed are no longer ill please let us know. Many of those names have been on the list for many months. Also, if you need our prayers please let Father Mark know.

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