

April 2021

St. Bartholomew's News

Issue no. 42

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

Welcome to our church newsletter for April. We hope that you, your family, and loved ones are well. Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Easter.

As church services are recommencing, (see below), I will now print copies of this newsletter and leave at the back of church, rather than posting the ones I have been doing for the past few months. If you know of anyone who would like a printed copy, please ask me when I am in church, or alternatively, please leave a message via the church contact details (end of this newsletter).

Things have changed since the last newsletter I did for March, and I'm glad to say that things are looking so much better. Many have received their first Covid vaccine in the UK, and numbers now are increasing for those receiving their second vaccine, (hopefully supplies will be able to fulfill demand). Slowly, we are returning to a little more normality and how wonderful that is.

Of course, we still need to adhere to government guidelines, Hands, Face, Space, sanitizing everything as necessary, and I'm sure you are all still watching the news and local updates.

MESSAGE FROM FR MARK - SERVICES

Services at Saint Bartholomew's were recently suspended following a request from the Director of Public Health for Sandwell. With mass vaccinations now taking place and with the current lockdown being eased in the near future, we can once again take tentative steps in returning to worship.

Church will be open on Easter Sunday, (April 4th). Following this we shall once again have two services each Sunday, the first at 9 am followed by a second at 10 am. If you have previously attended either of these services, then your seat will automatically be kept for you. If you haven't attended before, then please contact Fr Mark - use the form on the Contact Us page (the vicarage telephone number is on that page also).

PLEASE NOTE that if you or anyone that you have been in contact with have displayed any symptoms then **PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND CHURCH.**

We shall maintain our Covid-safe environment for some time with sanitising, social distancing and face masks being compulsory.

Used stamps wanted: Did you know the Bible Society can raise money from used stamps? Please send your used stamps to **Bible Society, Stamp Appeal, Post Room, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG.**

Don't forget the Food Bank if you wish to donate any tinned/packet foods to help those who really need them. You can bring in to church or take to the Food Bank in Wednesbury. Their opening times are Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm and Friday 1 pm to 7 pm. Joyce is our contact if you require more information.



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Have you a positive story about Covid/lockdown to share? Please let me know if you have. Wendy and Father Mark are still working hard with their updates on the church website and Facebook, thank you both.*(If you don't know Fr Mark's email address, please complete the Contact Us form on the website and it will go to him).



Our Contact details : **Tel: 0121 556 0378.**

<https://www.facebook.com/StBartsWednesbury/> or <https://www.stbartswednesbury.com>

I'd like to share with you a seasonal poem my late mum wrote quite a few years ago.

SPRING.

When I was young and in my prime,
Spring was such a happy time.
Woolies stored and put away,
Fresh clean blouses every day.



A two pound perm, a lipstick bright,
Walks with boyfriend every night.
Sandals worn in place of shoes,
Forgetting all the winter blues.

Then when children came my way,
Joy – its Easter holiday!
Eggs and chicks and bonnets too,
Daffodils and skies of blue.



Now I am an O.A.P,
What does springtime mean to me?
I look at all the garden's needs,
And rush to buy my flower seeds.

In tubs that once held margarine,
I find tiny shoots of green.
This is confirmation too,
That life in spring can start anew.

And then, there is another thing,
Mother's Day occurs in spring.
As in all the other years,
I read my cards and weep my tears.



So spring can vary with your age,
The year has turned a brand new page.
And then the promise very day,
Summer is not far away.

How lovely it has been to walk in the fresh air and meet a friend or family member. Some days the weather has been beautiful, which always makes people feel better and gives encouragement.
May we all have hope for the future and God bless.

Cont....

The answers to last month's quiz are below, and the next challenge also follows.

Quiz 50 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. Who was Jethro?	Moses's father in law
2. Which insects did Moses change the dust into to plague the Egyptians?	Gnats
3. Where was the land of "milk and honey"?	Canaan/the Promised Land
	
4. Who ran faster than the king's chariot?	The prophet Elijah
5. Which king saw the writing on the wall?	Belshazzar
6. What did Salome do for Herod?	Danced for him
7. Which biblical city is often called Zion?	Jerusalem
	Her hair
9. Who wrote many of the epistles that are in the bible?	Paul
10. What is an epistle?	A letter

Quiz 51 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. Why did God save Noah and his family from the flood? 	
2. What did Balaam's donkey see that made it refuse to move?	
3. What kind of herbs did the Israelites use to daub the lamb's blood on their houses?	
4. Who tore a lion apart with his bare hands?	
5. How did David soothe Saul's bad moods?	
6. What did Boaz allow Ruth to do?	
7. Who gave Jesus the loaves and fishes to feed the five thousand?	
8. Who said to Jesus "If you had been here my brother would not have died?"	
9. What did Simon of Cyrene do for Jesus?	
10. Who said "You are the Christ"? 	