

June 2021

St. Bartholomew's News

Issue no. 44

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

Welcome to our church newsletter for June. We hope that you, your family, and loved ones are well.



I've compiled this newsletter a little early to remind you in advance of the annual APCM meeting taking place on Sunday 30th May at the only service of the day at 10.00 am. I'm sure the details of the meeting will be available on the website and, if necessary, I can include them in next month's newsletter for anyone who cannot attend or does not have internet access.

So, we're half way through the year – where has that gone? And what happened in May? What a miserable, cold and wet month that was. It must get better, mustn't it?



Our 9.00 am and 10.00 am services are now in full swing. We have had much welcomed music back into church recently, by Mario Castillo and a new duo Liza and Brandon Gill. Thank you for your beautiful singing and guitar accompaniment. Our church is such a lovely building giving a fabulous resonance to music performed in it. Although we as a congregation still cannot sing, it is lovely to hear music performed at a social distance. We welcome all the Gill family to our church.

Just as an update:

We are having 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. It's still hands, face, space and don't forget the fresh air too! Let's still be vigilant, the vaccine has helped so much, but we must still be thoughtful and careful, for ourselves and others.



This photograph and its description appears on our website, but it is such a lovely photograph I wanted to share it with you.

A rainbow looking as though it has landed on the church (it hasn't, of course). How wonderful. (Thank you to Dave Calloway for allowing us to use this photo. It's fabulous.)

During the pandemic the rainbow has been and still is a symbol of hope and it seems appropriate that it appears to be ending at the church.



CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES:

Can you pass on your boxes to Joyce Turner please? Thank you.

Last month, I recommended Walsall Arboretum as a beautiful park to visit. This month I'm recommending somewhere a little further afield. I've recently been to the Botanical Gardens in Edgbaston. There is a small entrance fee, but it's well worth a visit. Beautiful trees, plants, shrubs and flowers. The resident peacock gave a beautiful display whilst I was there too. There is a small café for refreshments and lots of benches and seating areas for a picnic if you prefer. I vowed to return and try to catch one of the musical afternoons in the bandstand.

The Express and Star have printed an article asking for photographs of Walsall Illuminations. There is going to be a free exhibition of old illuminations photographs at the arboretum bandstand on September 11th from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm. The illuminations started in 1951 and were sadly permanently closed in 2011. This year would have been its 70th anniversary. If you have any photographs you would like to share, please contact Alison Maxam via email on Alison.maxam@gmail.com, or you can hand them in to the reception desk at Walsall Leather Museum. Your photographs will be copied and returned to you. At its peak, the illuminations attracted 250,000 visitors and was well worth a visit. My children loved going when they were little.

BOOKING THE CHURCH HALL:

As further restrictions are being lifted by government soon, we look to the future when the hall can be used for some activities and events. We are pleased to tell you that Linda Russell has now taken on the role of church hall bookings. Thank you to Linda. Use this link to go to the Bookings [page](#) where you will find a link to her email address to make a booking. *Please note that the email link is for booking the Church Hall **only**. If you do not use email then please contact Wendy by using the message service on our Facebook page using this [link](#) and she will pass on the booking details to Linda.*

FLOODLIGHTING THE CHURCH STEEPLE:

We are not currently taking bookings for floodlighting the steeple. We are sorry but, unfortunately, work needs to be done first. As soon as it is possible to light the steeple again, we will let you know - check on the Bookings [page](#) from time to time.

CRAFT CLUB REQUEST:

The craft club would be grateful for help in making any or all of the following please:

- (1) FLOWERS to decorate the porch and the walls leading up to the church. **This is our first project but if you can help with the following also, we would be delighted.**
- (2) POPPIES to decorate the gate and porch of the church in November.
- (3) SMALL ANGELS and CHRISTMAS ITEMS (e.g. holly, mini Christmas trees, nativity figures, etc) in readiness for Christmas 2021.

Please have a look at the Craft Club [page](#) (using this link) for more information and links to websites for free patterns. If you can help, please let us know if you wish us to collect them by messaging Wendy on Messenger (use the Facebook Message service). Thank you.

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.

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>

Our next quiz is below:

Quiz 52 – level 2

Questions	Answers
<p>1. What is the name of the 3rd son of Adam and Eve?</p> 	
<p>2. Who said “I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field”?</p>	
<p>3. How did David show Saul how close he had come to killing him?</p>	
<p>4. What kind of wood was used to build Solomon's temple?</p>	
<p>5. What were the disciples able to do after the Holy Spirit had come to them?</p>	
<p>6. What kind of animal was sacrificed when Elijah took on the prophets of Baal?</p>	
<p>7. Which Queen gave Solomon a gift?</p> 	
<p>8. Who was called “the disciple who Jesus loved”?</p>	
 <p>9. Who did Jesus invite to come and have breakfast?</p>	
<p>10. Which disciple was a twin?</p>	