

March 2023

St. Bartholomew's News

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

Issue no. 65



Happy St. David's Day! (1st March).

My grandad was Welsh and for those who don't know me, we have a caravan in mid Wales which we often visit, so Wales is a beautiful country which holds some strong emotions for my family and I.

There is still a nip in the air but it's such a positive season with tulips, crocuses, daffodils and snowdrops poking through the hard, cold soil. An encouraging time for us all, and whilst currently going through Lent, a time of reflection and consideration of what Jesus went through leading up to his crucifixion.

I hope you are all well.

Alison

Our standard services:

9.00 am Sunday - Holy Communion

10.00 am Sunday - Communion Service

Thanks to those who participate in this service doing readings, prayers, singing, musical arrangements. Please contact Wendy if you feel you would like to participate in our services by doing one of the readings or saying the intercessional prayers.

Wednesday – 9.45am Morning Prayer

10.00am Eucharist

Friday - 9.45am Morning Prayer

10.00am Holy Communion.

FOR THE TIME BEING, MID WEEK SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT THE VICARAGE.

6.00 pm First Friday each month - Quiet Hour

6 WEEK INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

"Be still and know that I am God"

Meditation is an ancient form of prayer. Its aim is to bring the distracted mind to silence and stillness, and rest in the presence of God. Even in our modern busy lives this is possible.

We invite you to come along and try this form of prayer, which is simple and peaceful.

The introductory series provides an opportunity to experience the practice of Christian Meditation in a small group, to learn about its origins, and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer for the contemporary world.



Monday mornings

Beginning 27th February for 6 weeks throughout Lent

10 am

The Vicarage, 4 Little Hill

Wednesbury, WS10 9DE

Admission is free, for more information:

Email markjdanks@yahoo.co.uk or phone 0121 556 0378

CONFIRMATION: There will be a Confirmation Service at Saint Matthew's Church in Tipton, on Sunday 12th March at 4 pm. This will be conducted by Bishop Clive. Should you wish to be Confirmed yourself, or you know of anyone who would like to be confirmed, then please contact Fr Mark.

DETAILS OF OUR ESTER SERVICES FOLLOW. ALL WELCOME.

LENT AND EASTER SERVICES

Wednesday 22nd February 7 pm

Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of Ashes



Sunday 19th March 9 am and 10 am

Mothering Sunday



Sunday 2nd April 9 am and 10 am

Palm Sunday



Thursday 6th April 7 pm

Maundy Thursday service



Friday 7th April 3 pm

Good Friday service



Sunday 9th April 9 am and 10 am

Easter Day



CRAFT CLUB

Our monthly meetings are on the first Saturday of each month, 2 pm to 4 pm, in the church hall. Just 50p - which helps to pay for refreshments. We hope you will be able to join us and please bring a friend. Bring with you your own craft work and enjoy a couple of hours of craft and chat.

The next meeting will be on **Saturday 4th March 2023.**

Open Table.

The next Open Table will be **11th March 2023**. Food served at 1 pm. Please let Joyce know if you will be attending. All welcome.

Here are some photographs of the last meal served in February.



MISCELLANEOUS CONTACT NUMBERS AND INFORMATION FOLLOW WHICH MAY BE HELPFUL TO YOU OR OTHERS YOU MAY KNOW WHO MAY BE STRUGGLING WITH THE COST OF LIVING, OR WITH OTHER CONCERNS.

Sandwell and Walsall Citizens advice – 0300 330 9017

National Debt Line – 0800 8084000

Age UK 0300 3031234

Simple Energy Advice Line – 0800 444202

Crime Stoppers – 0808 1689111

Mental Health Crisis Line – 0800 953 0110

Energy Saving Trust – energysavingtrust.org.uk

Sandwell Council – 0121 569 2200

Sandwell Council Tax – 0121 368 1155

Work at an election

Jobs available at

- Polling stations
- The election count
- Postal vote opening



✗	No experience necessary
✗	Full training provided
✗	Get paid for your time
✗	Meet new people
✗	Takes five minutes to apply

Search
"Working at Sandwell elections" online



Sandwell Council are recruiting staff to help with the 2023 Local Elections on Thursday 4 May.

If you would like to work at a polling station or at the overnight count, we would like to hear from you.

No experience is necessary, full training is provided and you'll be paid for your time.

[Go to the Working at an Election webpage to find out more.](#)



C Curiosity - open questions

L Listen to them

O Open body language

U Understand them

D Avoid Distractions

S Support from BOWA

Call us on 0121 553 0090
Visit: www.blackcountrywomensaid.co.uk

If you think you know someone who has experienced sexual abuse, look to the clouds to help get the conversation started

Black Country Rape & Sexual Violence Services are listen, act support, act care

No excuse for abuse!

Abuse takes many different types. It can be emotional, physical, sexual or financial. It can be inflicted by anyone. It can take place anywhere, in person or online. It can be words, actions, or both.

But it's not normal. It's not your fault. And it's not ok.

[If you have experienced abuse of any kind, support is available.](#)

[More advice on domestic abuse support in Sandwell](#)

If you think you know someone who has experienced abuse, look to the clouds to help get the conversation started 🗑️

C - curiosity (open questions)

L - listen to them

O - open body language

U - understand them

D - avoid distractions

S - support from [Black Country Women's Aid](#)

For more information, support and advice, head over to [Black Country Women's Aid](#).

“Lent is the autumn of the spiritual life, a time during which we gather fruit to keep us going for the rest of the year. Enrich yourselves with these treasures, which nobody can take away from you and which cannot be destroyed.”

Saint Francis de Sales

Lent 2023
began on Wednesday 22nd February
and ends on Thursday 6th April

What will you do? Will you give up something OR will you take up something?

A prayer of preparation for Lent

Loving God,
Open the windows of my heart.
Open the door of my soul.
I welcome you here.
Thank you that you are with me.
Thank you that you are for me.
Thank you that your love will never leave me.
Speak new words of hope to me this Lent.
Grant me fresh insight, encouragement and peace.
Lead me further along the path of your light.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Answers to last month's quiz are below with our next quiz.

Quiz 72 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. Who committed the first murder in the Bible?	Cain
2. Who was the first murder victim in the Bible?	Abel
3. Where did the Queen who came to visit Solomon come from?	Sheba
4. Where was Sheba?	In Arabia
5. Who betrayed Samson?	Delilah
6. Why did the father of the prodigal son kill the fatted calf?	To celebrate his return
7. Who said he was not worthy to undo Jesus's shoes?	John the Baptist
8. Which disciple's name begins with the letter T?	Thomas
9. What did the Good Samaritan put on the wounds of the injured man?	Oil and wine
10. How many of Paul's letters are there in the New Testament?	Thirteen

Quiz 73 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. Who called to Adam in the Garden of Eden “Adam, where are you?”	
2. What kind of plants did Rahab hide the spies under on the roof of her house?	
3. What is a serpent?	
4. Who was Dagon?	
5. What was the name of the god of the prophets who Elijah defeated on Mount Carmel?	
6. What were the seraphim?	
7. Which king killed all the little boys under the age of two in Bethlehem?	
8. Which of Jesus’s disciples was a tax collector?	
9. In the parable, what was the woman who swept her house looking for?	
10. Who wrote most of the letters in the New Testament?	

Don't forget the Food Bank – always in need of packet foods, tins with a long shelf life, personal hygiene products etc. A list of items always required is at the back of church, along with the box to put any donations in. Joyce is our contact if you require further information.

Thank you.

Our Contact details : [Tel: 0121 556 0378.](tel:01215560378)

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