

vMay 2023

St. Bartholomew's News

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

Issue no. 67

Hello, and I hope you are well.

May! This year is flying by, and how lovely it is to have some warmer weather.

At the time of compiling this, the coronation is only a few days away, and regardless of what your opinion is of royalty, it will be history in the making, and let's hope King Charles the 3rd has a happy and prosperous reign. We pray that he will have the grace, wisdom and strength to live a life of service to God and to his people: We pray that he will seek to uphold the values of love, joy and peace, and always seek to follow God, our heavenly King. We pray that he may lead with patience, kindness and generosity, governing with humility and with a compassionate heart.



Like many parish councils, groups, businesses and individuals, St Bartholomew's will be planting a 'tree' to commemorate the significant royal occasion of the Coronation of King Charles III and his Queen. (This will be a commemorative rose tree.) It will take place after a short service of Morning Prayer at 9.30 am on Saturday 6th May. We hope you will join us. Thank you to Keith who has already prepared the ground ready to plant the tree.

More information on coronation events at the end of this newsletter.

And Eurovision following a few days after that! May is a busy month in the UK!

So what has St. Bartholomew's been up to?

Alison

A few words from Father Mark-

Do you know or remember the promises that were made to Jesus when you were baptised? In 1961, the US President John F Kennedy, spoke some challenging words at his inauguration: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Likewise, our nation's churches are asking you to consider the question, "Ask not what your Church can do for you, ask what YOU can do for your church." Many of us, if we're honest, have felt a sort of hesitation about going to church. In those moments or seasons, it doesn't take much to stop us, such as: the weather; a sore throat; a looming work deadline on Monday, etc. Your church needs you to be there, and you need your church to be there for you.

For centuries St Bartholomew's Church has been there for the people of Wednesbury and beyond. It has been there when you have needed it most in your life, whether it be a bereavement, a baptism or a wedding. Some people attend church for certain services only such as Christmas or Easter. Very often however, those people are very rarely seen again afterwards.

In many churches now, congregational size is small with only a few faithful people willing to work hard to keep churches going. So, if you want the church to continue to be there for you when you need it, are you willing to attend more regularly? Financially, too, churches are suffering. With a small congregation, very few people are contributing each week. Most churches have congregations who generously pay a monthly standing order to ensure some funds are available to keep the church running.

Like so many other churches, St Bartholomew's Church has bills to pay, whether people attend church or not. Would you consider, therefore, in making a financial contribution on a regular basis?

Are you also able to perhaps offer some time to help keep the church running efficiently. Your help could mean that St Bartholomew's Church is there for generations to come but, more importantly for the moment, to enable the church to be available when you need it the most?

Our main Sunday morning worship is at 10 am. We hope you will join us for that.

God bless you.

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

Our Easter services during April were well attended, thank you to all who came.

CRAFT CLUB

As the next date (6th May) is the King's Coronation we will not meet on that date.

Only one person replied to Wendy's Facebook post on 16th April when she asked if anybody might attend on 13th May. So, we have decided NOT to have a meeting in May. The next meeting will be on **Saturday 3rd June**. Lynn and Mario won't be there so it would be appreciated if somebody could help with the refreshments on the day.

Look forward to seeing you then. In the meantime we hope you enjoy the Coronation.

Wendy

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE? Can anybody knit or crochet some bunting for the Community Day event which is in May? Wool can be collected from the Library, Town Hall, the Museum and Art Gallery and the Sons of Rest. We can have a stall at the Community Day event on 21st May. We have to take our own Gazebo (Wendy can supply that), a table and chairs. Is anybody willing to help on the day, please?

OPEN TABLE.

After cancelling the lunch for March, our last meal was on the 22nd April. It was well attended and photos are below:



To allow a little break, **May's Open Table will be on 20th May 2023, 1.00pm.**
Please let Joyce know if you are coming.

On Saturday 20th May, there will be a day retreat at Saint Gabriel's church, Fullbrook, Walsall. The day will focus on Ignatian and Carmelite Spirituality and all are welcome. For more information, please check the church website or enquire in church.

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>

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

Quiz 74 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. On which day did God create human beings?	The 6 th day
2. Which of Joseph's brothers was accused of stealing a silver cup?	Benjamin
3. Who put a red thread in her window in Jericho?	Rahab
4. Which prophet saw a vision of God in heaven with seraphim above him?	Isaiah
5. How many wing does a seraphim have?	Six
6. Which Jewish girl became the wife of Xeres I, King of Persia?	Esther
7. Who climbed a tree because he was too short to see Jesus?	Zacchaeus
8. Who was Peter talking about when he said "I do not know this man of whom you speak?"	Jesus
9. How many epistles (letters) did John write?	Three
10. Who was put under house arrest in Rome?	Paul

Quiz 75 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. Where in the Bible would you find the story of Noah's ark?	
2. What relation was Isaac to Ismael?	
3. What did Rahab put in her window as a sign she and her family would not be harmed?	
4. What precious thing did the Philistines steal from the Israelites?	
5. Which prophet said to God, "Here am I: send me".	
6. What is the name of the "feast of unleavened bread?"	
7. What do James the son of Alphaeus and James the son of Zebedee have in common?	
8. Did the people of Israel put lamb's blood or flowers around their door during passover?	
9. Who appeared to Jesus in the wilderness?	
10. According to Paul, which is the greatest: faith, hope or love?	

Some information from Sandwell Council follows :



A large poster with a white background and a dark blue border. It features the same crest and bunting as the banner above. The text 'Celebrate The King's Coronation in Sandwell' is prominently displayed in a red ribbon banner. Below this, a dark blue banner reads 'The Big Picnic Lunch'. A blue circular badge with the word 'FREE' is positioned to the left. The event details 'Sunday 7 May from 4pm till late' and 'Sandwell Valley Showground' are listed in bold. At the bottom, there are three logos: 'Visit Sandwell', 'CELEBRATE SANDWELL' (with the tagline 'HOSTIN PEOPLE, HOSTIN PLACE'), and 'Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council'.

Celebrate The King's Coronation on Sunday 7 May
at Sandwell Valley Country Park

Big Picnic Lunch at 4pm

As Big Lunches will be held on this day across the country, The Mayor of Sandwell will be joining celebrations with his own Big Lunch at Sandwell Valley.

The Sandwell Valley Coronation Big Lunch will be a Picnic with the Mayor and all are welcome. Bring your sandwiches, snacks and drinks and join The Mayor celebrating the King's Coronation.

LIVE screening of the King's Coronation Concert from 5pm

Enjoy entertainment from local singers Apna Sangeet, platinum disc holding Bhangra band, Beverley, a much-loved Wednesbury singer, the fabulous Brandhall Community Choir along with Smile Musical Youth Theatre and much more.

You can sample a wide range of foods to choose to suit all taste buds from Caribbean, Punjabi, Korean, Mexican, American BBQ and cookie doughs, as well as wood-fired pizza and a licensed bar from Sandwell Valley, along with picnic boxes and prosecco hampers. Local vendors will also be selling goods from sweets and jams to wax melts and crystals.



If that's not enough, then bring your sandwiches and snacks and join us for a fantastic evening of live entertainment and local talent at [Sandwell Valley Country Park](#).

- Sunday 7 May from 4pm-late
- Sandwell Valley Showground
- FREE entry
- Local performers
- Street food
- Community stalls
- Children's activities



Volunteer in Sandwell on Monday 8 May

The Big Help Out will highlight the positive impact volunteering has on communities across the nation.

In tribute to the King's public service, The Big Help Out is encouraging everyone to have a go at volunteering in their local area.

We want our communities to have a big impact in Sandwell on this weekend and there are some great ways you can 'help out'. [Find out more on the Let's Go Sandwell website](#).

