

# November 2019

## St. Bartholomew's News

### Issue no. 25

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

Welcome to November's edition of our newsletter.

#### **Our current services:**

Our Quiet Hour service continues on the first Friday of each month at 6.00pm. Prayers and reflection.

We also have Holy Communion (BCP) on Tuesday mornings at 10.00am.

Our regular Sunday worship services are at 8.00am (Holy Communion) and 10.30am Parish Eucharist.

We also offer Home Communion to the housebound. Please contact Father Mark or Linda for further information.

Family Service (All Age) – First Sunday of the month at 10.30am – uniformed organisations invited.

#### **Previous events...**

Many thanks to all who attended the Harvest Service and brought donations of food on 13<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you also to Morrison's bakery who donated the wonderful creative loaf (below), including mice! All donations went to the Wednesbury Food Bank. The service also included our new All Age family service and a bring and share lunch. Here are some of the photographs from that day.



#### **OPEN THE BOOK**

Our Open the Book team has visited St John's C of E

Primary Academy during the first half term telling the stories of 'The Helper Arrives' (when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost); 'Tabitha Wakes Up' (when Peter believed it was God's power, not his own, that brought Tabitha back to life); 'Praying for Peter' (Jesus had taught those first Christians that whenever they were in trouble they could pray to God and in this story they did exactly what Jesus had told them - they prayed for their friend in prison). They finished the half term with 'God has no favourites' (a story of how Peter learnt an important lesson; that everyone is special to God and anyone can be part of God's family). The team went into Old Park Primary School at the beginning of October and delivered the story of 'Ruth Finds a Home' (when Ruth could have taken the easy way out and left Naomi to travel alone but, instead, she did the right thing and went with her to Bethlehem). On 13<sup>th</sup> October they performed 'The Marvellous Picnic' (feeding the 5,000) in church for the Harvest Festival and All Age Service. They managed to feed everybody in the congregation! They are looking forward to doing another story in church for the All Age Service on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

#### **MIDLAND WOMEN'S CONVENTION**

##### **The Lord our Rock**

Joyce Turner, Lynn Castillo, Marg Wood, Sue Stokes, Linda Stockall, Karen Bennett, Linda Russell, Alison Spencer and Wendy Bird attended the Midlands Women's Convention in Solihull on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October. This year's convention was about 'Trusting God in a Stormy World' concentrating primarily on 1 Samuel 2 and 2 Samuel 22. The morning started with refreshments before they moved into the Main Hall where musicians led everybody in worship and it was wonderful to hear 900 women (and a handful of men) sing together. The speaker for the day was Hannah Fox (no connection to Hannah in the Bible who was the morning's focus). She talked during the morning about Hannah's Prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-10 and then in the afternoon concentrated on David's song in 2 Samuel 22. Seminars on offer during the day were: 'Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament' (Karen Soole); 'What does the Bible say about anxiety?' (Helen Thorne); 'Talking about the good news in a bad news world' (Rachel Bell and Kirsten Burkett); 'Speaking to God in the storms' (Matt Searles); 'Women Discipling Women' (Leo Lucas) and, for 14-17 year olds, 'Youth Track' (Debs Hunt and Rachel Tomita). Attendees had the opportunity to go to one seminar during the morning and one in the afternoon. The afternoon concluded with singing in the main hall before the convention finished about 4.45 pm. It was a wonderful day of fellowship.

**Please turn over.....**

## **Future events.....**

### **CRAFT CLUB**

The next craft club meeting is on 2nd November. The group meets in the Church Hall 2 pm until 4 pm and we hope you will be able to join us. If the church hall is not available we will post information about it on Facebook and on the website. Please check these. Bring whatever you're working on and enjoy a couple of hours of craft and chat with a drink and cake. If you want help with anything, we have people in the group who might be able to help you. The crafts that people do are varied - knitting, crochet, sewing, painting, jewellery making, paper craft, etc. We look forward to seeing you. It would be great if you could bring along a friend, too. There is a page on the website with lots of photos. *The last meeting for this year will be on 7th December. You can follow us on our website and on Facebook.*

(<https://www.stbartswednesbury.com/lovingly-crafted.html>)

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lovinglycrafted.stbarts/>)

**Next All Age Family Service – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 10.30am, and the following one will be Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 10.30am.**

**Memorial Service 3<sup>rd</sup> November 6pm.** All welcome – whether you have lost someone recently or some time ago, we will remember them at this poignant service. Names can be read out on the evening as part of the service – please write the names of those you wish to remember on the sheet at the back of church, or they can be added on the evening.

**Remembrance Sunday Service – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November at **9.15am****

**Advance notice of a fundraising concert** - We will be putting on another concert on Sunday 1st December 2019 at 6 pm. We are thrilled to welcome 'Voices Entwined' - a community choir made up of four separate groups rehearsing across Walsall and Birmingham. They sing 3 and 4 part harmony unaccompanied singing songs from across the world and they have taken part in a variety of events. They are 'pencilled in' to sing at the 2020 Commonwealth Games! The choir will be performing free of charge and we thank them for this generous offer to help us raise funds. Please come along and support us on what should be an enjoyable evening. Tickets are £5 to include refreshments.

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***On a personal note, I'd like to thank all who attended mum's funeral, for all cards received, and for donations. A more detailed note regarding her funeral and where the money will be going is pinned on the notice board at the back of church. God bless you all. Alison O.***

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***Did you know.....***

We can do a floral arrangement in church with a suitable message if you wish to remember a loved one, or celebrate a happy event. Small arrangements/bouquets cost around £5, with larger arrangements a little more expensive, depending upon your choice of flowers. Please see Joyce or a flower arrangement team member who can advise you.

**Church Steeple** - if you want to celebrate a specific occasion such as an anniversary, birthday, memorial etc you can have the Church Steeple lit to mark the occasion at a cost of £20.

We also offer Home Communion to the housebound. Please contact Father Mark or Linda for further information.

Do you have any news you would like to share with everyone via this letter? Please contact me (Alison) in church.

Church telephone number– **0121 556 0378**

Church website –<https://www.stbartswednesbury.com> (select Services and Activities for details of church services, etc)

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/StBartsWednesbury/>

(There is an Event section on the church Facebook page detailing all the dates for 12 months and events will be added as appropriate).