

November 2020

St. Bartholomew's News

Issue no. 37

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

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



Sadly, Covid and all its problems are still so relevant and concerning. Let's continue to pray for an end to this as soon as possible.

It's been lovely to return to church for our 9am and 10am services. Strict Covid measures are still being undertaken, (face masks, social distancing in church, sanitising), and places must continue to be reserved for the time being.

ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETING.

Our annual parish church meeting was held in church on the 25th October. The treasurer's report for 1st – 31st December 2019 was read out and was very encouraging to hear as we had no debts at the end of December 2019. Unfortunately the next scheduled meeting was cancelled due to Covid. This year, of course, has been unprecedented and not being able to attend church for so many months will have an effect on our finances. Father Mark also read excerpts from Bishop Michael's recent pastoral letter. Father Mark also personally thanked many members of the congregation for their hard work and dedication to the church. We concluded that we pray and hope 2021 will be a much better year for us all. More details of the meeting are on our Facebook page.

REMEMBRANCE POPPIES:

The local WI (Victory Belles) need our help. They need people to knit, crochet, sew, paint or sculpt poppies; using any pattern you like. In these dark times under local lockdown, let's spread some colour around our town. Remembrance Day parades will not be taking place this year so let's put poppies where the people should be and create a poppy trail. The WI will assemble them all to create a poppy parade. You can contact Wendy on Messenger (m.me/StBartsWednesbury) or via the message service on our Facebook page (using this [link](#)) and she will arrange collection for you. Or you can drop them off at the British Legion on Church Hill in Wednesbury.

Remembrance Day this year will be different. Victory Belles, the local WI, is hoping to line the route with poppies where normally we would have people **and they need your help.**

HARVEST DONATIONS TO THE FOOD BANK :

We won't be able to have our normal Harvest Service this year. We have always supported our local Food Bank in the past but collecting items has been extremely difficult this year with the pandemic affecting our services.

Sadly, over 13 million people live below the poverty line in the UK and the need for Food Banks is increasing.

When you are attend a service during October and the first Sunday in November, could you put your offerings in the porch on the way into church, please?

The Food Bank will be grateful for any non-perishable food and items (see the list below) **but they are in particular need of tinned fruit, rice pudding, tinned meat and jam at the moment.** Thank you.

Cont....



If you are not able to attend a service, please deliver your donations directly to the Food Bank. Their opening times are **Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm** and **Friday 1 pm to 7 pm**. Here are some examples of much needed items:

- microwaveable puddings, tinned meat and fish
- biscuits, pasta sauces, baby food
- tinned puddings, cereals
- rice, tinned vegetables, dried pasta, shower gel, tinned soup, instant coffee, snack bars
- toiletries, long-life juice, tea bags, toilet rolls, long-life milk, tinned fruit
- vegetarian items

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).

No news yet regarding the Craft Club or Open table. We will advise when we have any more updates **on Facebook and website**. Each week Wendy posts the daily and weekly Prayers, Bible passages and Notices on Facebook and the relevant website pages.

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

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

Love can't be described.
It has no shape, it has no form.
Love is not an object.
Love does not conform.

Love enters our lives
The moment we are born.
From the cradle to the grave,
Love's in everyone.

Love burns like a candle
That sometimes flickers but never dies.
Love may be invisible,
Although it's right before your eyes,

Love can leave you empty,
Love can make you whole.
Love can make or break you,
Love is in your soul.

Love is in your heart,
Love is in your mind.
Love doesn't discriminate,
Love is always blind.

Love is universal,
It encompasses the globe.
No matter where you are,
Love has a language all its own.

Love is all around you.
There's plenty of love to spare.
You cannot see or touch it,
But love is everywhere.

Love's the greatest power,
And yet it is so small.
Love's a gift from God
To be shared amongst us all.

Hope you like this poem I found.

It was written by John P. Read.



On a personal note, I am in the process of selling my late mother's house. There are lots of items I am about to dispose of and donate to charities. However, if any of you know of any needy family who would be grateful for house hold items, (furniture, bed linen, towels, kitchen alia etc), please contact me personally and I can list what I have in case they would be of use to someone, before I deliver or arrange collection of these items. *(Perhaps a small donation to church funds would be wonderful for those who could afford it who had anything?)*

The answers to last month's quiz are below, and the next challenge also follows. I hope they have been of interest.

MAY YOU ALL STAY SAFE, TAKE CARE, BE KIND, AND PRAY. HANDS – FACE – SPACE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING UP AGAIN IN CHURCH IN THE FUTURE.

Quiz 45 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. Who said "Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"	God
2. What kind of tree blossomed to show that Aaron was God's chosen High Priest?	An almond tree
3. Who was surprised to find his donkey could talk?	Balaam
	
4. Who was Absalom's father?	King David
5. Which Jewish queen risked her life to save her people?	Esther
6. Who died because his long hair got caught in the branches of an oak tree?	Absolom
7. Where was Saul of Tarsus going when he had a vision of Jesus?	Damascus
8. Which island did Paul visit first on his first missionary journey?	Cyprus
9. Who was Paul's companion on his first missionary journey?	Barnabus
10. What do the words "alpha" and "omega" mean?	The beginning and the end.

Quiz 46 – level 2.

Questions	Answers
1. What roasted meat did the Israelites eat the night before they escaped from Egypt?	
2. Who became the first High Priest of Israel?	
3. Who was killed by a tent peg hammered into his forehead? 	
4. Where did Ruth go with Naomi, her mother in law?	
5. What did Jeremiah smash to illustrate his message to the people?	
6. Who was wrapped in “swaddling clothes”?	
7. In what form did the Holy Spirit appear to Jesus?	
 8. Who did Jesus bring back to life after he had been dead for four days?	
9. Who said “I am the resurrection and the life?”	
10. What fruit did Jesus say can't be picked from a bramble bush?	