

November 2023

St. Bartholomew's News

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

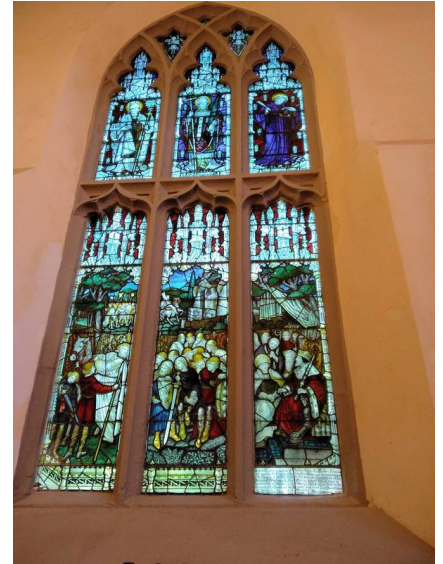
Issue no. 73

Hello, and I hope you are well.

So the clocks have gone back and it's very autumnal. Cold winds but we have the beautiful colours of the falling leaves and changes of the season.

The start of November is half term for our local children, and then we have Bonfire Night and Christmas is soon approaching so lots going on and things to look forward to. There are events at church over the next few weeks which are listed in this newsletter. Please share with your friends, relatives and neighbours who are welcome to attend and see what we are doing at St Bartholomew's. In the true spirit of Christmas, it will be lovely to welcome new faces into our Christian family.

Take care until next month. Alison



Our standard services:

9.00 am Sunday - Holy Communion

10.00 am Sunday - Communion Service

NOTE: there will be only ONE service on 12th November to enable people to get to the Cenotaph for the Remembrance Sunday service and parade.

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. Please check the church website for weekday services amendments.

Please also note some services are now held as a group service with other local churches, but check on our website in case of any changes.

A big **THANK YOU** to Joyce for standing in for Father Mark for the past 3 weeks and doing the Sunday morning services. We are grateful for your time and help and what a grand job you did. We also welcome Father Mark back and wish you a full recovery and good health.

Past events –

Saturday 21st October 2023

A big thank you to Joyce, Linda, Marg, Alison, Lynn, Mario, Ian and Kerry (plus granddaughter Nevaeh) and Wendy for cleaning the church this morning. A grand job - well done. Our wonderful church needs our tender loving care and cleaning every so often. The more that volunteer, the less work is shared out between us. Please let Linda know if you are willing to help us next time.

CRAFT CLUB

Thank you to everybody who came to our craft group on 7th October. We were happy to welcome 4 new members - Sonia, Carol, Elaine and Jill. A few of our regular members were not able to join us. The atmosphere was lovely and we had some entertainment by Mario (singing and playing his guitar). The next meeting will be on the 4th November. (2-4pm)

Come along and bring the craft you are working on. See Wendy if you require more information.

OPEN TABLE

Last month's meal was well attended. On the menu we had sausages and mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, gravy. Vegetarian option with veggie sausages.

Homemade bread pudding with/without custard or there are a few slices of homemade chocolate sponge with chocolate spread with/without custard.

Tea/coffee/squash.

Photographs below.



Please let Joyce know if you will be attending the November meal (11th) at 1pm, or if you can help on the day in any way, thank you.

West Midlands Police invite you to complete an on line survey on Crime and the Community. If you are interested this is the link

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/surveyCC2023>

More advice from them –

Heading out? Keep your phone safe!

We always see a spike in robbery and theft during the darker nights. It's easier for criminals to go undetected by digital doorbells, CCTV, and by dog walkers.

Thieves are targeting mobile phones, bags, and car keys. Stay alert this winter and keep your belongings out of sight.

Here are a few tips to help keep you and your belongings safe this winter:

Be aware of who is around you at the cash point. Use the machine inside a bank or building society if possible and alert bank staff to any suspicious activity

Don't let headphones restrict your ability to hear traffic, strangers or potential trouble

Never leave your mobile phone in plain sight on a bar or restaurant table. It may be within your reach but it will also be within reach of a thief

Don't hang your handbag on the back of a chair, out of your sight under a table or leave it unattended.

We advise you take full advantage of our 50% off deal with [SelectaMark](#) products to help protect your valuables. You can get 50% by using code WMNOW50.

Track your smart phone or tablet computer

Turn on your location or share your location with someone you trust so you can track this

Always let the police officer dealing with your theft know that you have traced your device

If your smart device pings in an unknown location do not visit the location or confront the individual without talking to the police.

In an emergency always call 999.

For further advice and guidance visit: <https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/your-options/robbery-and-theft>

At this time of year, as the nights draw in, we're working hard to keep our communities safe. So, here's some things you can do that will help protect your home and belongings against opportunist burglars and thieves.

Our key advice to you is - **'Lock up'**

You can make your house much less tempting to would-be burglars by making it look occupied, even when you are out.

Use timer switches to make lights come on as it gets dark, and close curtains and blinds, so your valuables can't be seen from outside.

Even if you are at home, remember to lock your front door and windows from the inside. Some front doors are often left unlocked when people are in and that makes it very easy for an opportunist thief to walk into your home. If you have a porch, locking the door can add an extra barrier.

Lock your back door, conservatory, and entry ways on the side of your house so criminals cannot enter undetected by neighbours or digital doorbell cameras.

Keep car keys away from the front door and in a Faraday pouch. Many cars are stolen by 'Relay attack' meaning criminals can unlock your car without even entering your property. As you lock up, be sure to double check your car is locked and you have a steering lock in place.

Remember in an emergency call 999, or report an incident via 101.

For more safety tips about how to keep your property safe please visit <https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/27stationroad>

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

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

Please keep in your prayers those suffering in the Middle East. Such atrocities, grief and desperation are hard to comprehend. Let us all pray for peace.

We also remember Ukraine and their continuing war, hatred and appalling loss.

Our prayers can be found on our website which include names of our sick and those who have died.

Can anyone come along early in December to help decorate the church for Christmas? Please see Joyce, Marg, Wendy or Linda if you can help. Thank you.



ADVANCE NOTICES -

Monday 4th December 7pm.

Carols and Cakes from Suzie's choir.

Please come along and support us in what will be an enjoyable evening to put us in the Christmas spirit.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY having a Christingle this year (Sunday 10th December), a lovely service. information about the activities at a later date.



If you are not able to attend the event itself, which is on Sunday 10th December at 4 pm, you can donate to The Children's Society charity. Use this page:

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/christingle/st-bartholomews-church>

We are (on family More to follow

Christingle

money to website

Christmas events in Sandwell Valley

Santa Paws 25th and 26th November 2023

Breakfast with Santa 2nd and 3rd December 2023 (including a festive train ride)

Breakfast with Santa 9th and 10th December 2023 (and enjoy the valley by twilight)

Check Sandwell Valley website for more information.

Quiz 80 – level 3

Questions	Answers
1. What is the most popular name in the Bible?	Shemaiah – 27 men have this name
2. Did Adam live to be 90 or 930 years of age?	930
3. Who went from a prison cell to a palace in one day?	Joseph
4. Who only cut his hair once a year when it got too heavy?	Absalom
5. Why did some little boys mock the prophet Elisha?	Because he was bald
6. Which bird did people believe to be immortal, always renewing its strength?	The eagle
7. What are the first recorded words of Jesus?	“Why did you seek me?”
8. Which 2 books of the new testament were written by a doctor?	Luke and Acts
9. Apart from a flaming pot, what else did God show Abram?	A blazing torch
10. When in prison, who did Paul ask to bring him his cloak, books, and parchments?	Timothy

Quiz 81 – level 3

Questions	Answers
1. What did God say the serpent would have to eat for the rest of its life?	
2. What are Moriah, Carmel and Sinai?	
3. What healthy diet did Daniel and his friends allow?	
4. Who hired 50 men to run ahead of his chariot?	
5. What animal did Solomon ride when he went to be crowned king?	
6. Who wrote over one thousand songs?	
7. When did Jesus say to his parents “Why do you seek me?”	
8. When was it dark “from the sixth to the ninth hour?”	
9. What three things did Timothy take to Paul in prison?	
10. Who tied up his own hands and feet to show Paul what would happen to him?	