

October 2019

St Bartholomew's News

Issue no. 24

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

Welcome to October's edition of our newsletter and we hope this finds you well. Let's bring you up to date with what has been happening in our church.

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.



Previous events...



We enjoyed a wonderful evening of music on 8th September. The Sedgley Ukulele Strummers entertained us with a variety of songs and we enjoyed singing along to them. During the interval, we had a plentiful and delicious buffet whilst Mario sang a number of songs. At the end of the concert Mario sang an emotional song called 'Going Home' and this was beautifully sung; something very special. (We are truly



blessed to have Mario sing each Sunday morning.) Thank you to the Sedgley Ukulele Strummers and Mario for a lovely concert. We are pleased to advise you that £500 was raised from this concert (£450 from the event and £50 in donations). This is a fantastic amount raised for the Church, helped especially by the Sedgley Ukulele Strummers who generously did the concert for free. *Thanks to Rob Yardley for organising this event. Thank you to all of you who attended, buying concert tickets and raffle tickets, to support our fundraising; we hope you enjoyed it. Thank you to Councillors Elaine Costigan and Peter Hughes for supporting us. Thank you to everybody who prepared and donated food, drinks and raffle prizes and to the ladies who served drinks and cleared up.*

OPEN THE BOOK - Our Open the Book team has visited St John's C of E Primary Academy twice during September and will be in Old Park Primary School on 3rd October. The team is still looking to recruit new members to help them take dramatised Bible stories out to local schools. If you prefer not to have a speaking part in the stories that's fine. Sometimes we just need extra people to form a small crowd, religious leaders, soldiers, part of a procession, etc. You don't have to be a member of the church congregation (although you will always be welcome to join us at a service). You will, of course, need to have a DBS check done because of working with children but please don't let that put you off.

OPEN TABLE - Unfortunately there will be no Open Table lunches for the time being due to circumstances beyond our control. We will notify you when the problem has been resolved. We are sorry for any inconvenience at the moment, and hope all will return to normal.

Future events.....

CRAFT CLUB - Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the craft fayre that was booked for Saturday 2nd November. The next craft club meeting is on 5th October. The group meets in the Church Hall 2 pm until 4 pm and we hope you will be able to join us. 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 2 meetings this year will be on 2nd November and 7th December. You can follow us on our website and on Facebook.*

<https://www.stbartwednesbury.com/lovingly-crafted.html>

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

Please turn over.....

MIDLAND WOMEN'S CONVENTION - Some ladies from our church are looking forward to this year's event in Solihull which is on 12th October. Hopefully they will be able to report on the event for the November issue.

Harvest Festival and Bring 'n' Share Lunch - Our Harvest Festival will be on **Sunday 13th October** (which is also the first 'All Age Service' although future 'All Age Services' will be on the first Sunday each month). **PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE OF DATE TO THE PREVIOUS NOTICES ABOUT THE SERVICE.** The service will be followed by a Bring 'n' Share lunch for us all to enjoy together (see details below). We are hoping and praying that the leaders and young ladies from the Uniformed Organisations will also be joining us for this. In addition, please begin to think and pray now about who you can invite to this service.

Harvest Donations - This year we are supporting the Breaking Bread Food Bank and their ministry to local people. Donations of non-perishable foodstuffs - dry, tinned and packet foods - would be most welcome. Thank you for any donations you can offer which will be greatly appreciated.

Bring 'n' Share Lunch - Can you please help with the Bring 'n' Share lunch after the Harvest Festival? There is a list at the back of church for you to indicate which food/s you will be able to bring for the lunch. Thank you. "They all ate and were satisfied..." (Mark 6:42)

Advance notice of a fundraising concert - We will be putting on another concert on Sunday 1st December 2019 at 6pm. We are thrilled to welcome a choir called '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.

Invitation - We have been invited to Choral Evensong (sung by the choir of Lichfield Cathedral) at St. Lawrence's Church in Darlaston (WS10 8AA) on Friday 18th October at 7 pm (The Feast of St Luke). The service will be followed by refreshments and all are welcome.

We are always happy to help support charities when we can. SSAFA is having a Quiz night at Churchills on Friday 18th October to raise funds. If you would like to attend the Quiz night please see Rob Yardley for tickets (only £5). The quiz will start at 7.30 pm so it's best to arrive just after 7 pm. SSAFA is the Armed Forces Charity (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) and is a UK charity that provides lifelong support to serving men and women and veterans from the British Armed Forces and their families or dependants. It is a wonderful organisation that helps in a number of ways, such as:

- Service men and women and veterans coping with depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress or any other psychological problems.
- Support groups for bereaved families.
- Health care for the military community overseas.
- Accommodation for the families of service men and women during their physical rehabilitation.

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*My mum's funeral will be on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 10.30am in church. All welcome. Thank you for your cards and sympathy shown. Alison.*  
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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).