

September 2019

St. Bartholomew's News

Issue no. 23

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG



Welcome to September's edition of our newsletter. We hope you have had some enjoyable summer days and if you have been on holiday, a lovely rest and you have relished a change of scenery. Let's also wish any children we know a happy and exciting return to school.

Here is our recent news/future events.....

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.

OPEN TABLE will be serving their next delicious lunch in the church hall on September 14th at 1.00pm. Please contact Joyce or Linda if you wish to book a place or would like further details. **October's Open Table will be on the earlier date of the 5th October – please make a note.**

CRAFT CLUB

The next craft club meeting is on Saturday 7th September. 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 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 following meeting will be on Saturday 5th October (2 pm until 4 pm) and the craft fayre will be on Saturday 2nd November (1 pm to 4 pm). Please note there will not be a craft club meeting on that day.

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

Our charity focus for this year started when the Food Bank in Wednesbury received a donation of mini knitted hats. After that some of our crafters and people from church knitted or crocheted more hats. Thank you to all of you. (See the photo showing what we have been able to donate to the 'Innocent Smoothies Big Knit project' this year. (<http://www.thebigknit.co.uk>))

Please note: We have already passed on this year's donation of hats as Innocent Smoothies needed them early July.



Please turn over....

The Craft Club is happy to advise you about the Saxon Hill Craft Barn. This is a non-profit and charitable organisation at Chasewater (Units 6 and 7, Chasewater Park, Brownhills, WS8 7NL). It is a resource and recycling centre, providing work based learning opportunities for young people and adults with physical and learning difficulties. It really is an Aladdin's Cave of creativity and everything is sold at a low cost. They are open 10 am to 2 pm on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. You can check them out on their Facebook page. (<https://www.facebook.com/saxonhillcraftbarn/>)

OPEN THE BOOK:

During August, the team have had a well-deserved holiday. They resume again on 11th September at St John's C of E Primary Academy. During the first term they will be visiting Old Park Primary School, too. The stories they will be doing over the next few months are: The Helper Arrives, Tabitha Wakes Up, Ruth Finds a Home, Praying for Peter, God has no Favourites, A Tale of Two Houses and, finally, Not so Ordinary Mary. As you can see, the stories are very varied.

Our Open the Book team are looking to recruit new members to the team to help them take dramatised Bible stories out to local schools. We're hoping to extend our team. Don't worry if you prefer not to have a speaking part in the stories. Sometimes we just need extra people to form a small crowd, religious leaders, soldiers, part of a procession, etc. You don't need 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.

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 about the event for next month's issue.

Rob Yardley is organising a concert on **Sunday 8th September 2019 at 6pm** here in church. It will be an evening with the Sedgley Ukulele Strummers. Tickets will be £5 to include refreshments. Please see Rob for further information and to support the church on what should be an enjoyable evening.

ALL AGE WORSHIP. We will be introducing an All Age service on the first Sunday of each month, **starting on 6th October 2019.** This will be an opportunity for people of all ages to come together to offer God their praise and worship. It will not just be a children's service with adults present or, indeed, an adult service with children present. The service will be aimed at all of the congregation. Please see Father Mark if you want more details.

Did you know.....

We can do a floral arrangement in church with a suitable message if you wish to remember a loved one, birthdays, anniversaries or any 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 (Janis, Alison O). Our church is blessed with beautiful fresh flowers and arrangements almost every week.

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.

Don't forget our box in the coffee area for any non-perishable food for the Food Bank. Toiletries are also needed. All items appreciated. Please see Linda or Joyce if you want suggestions of what you could bring or would like more information. We usually nominate the Food Bank as the recipient of any donations we receive for our **Harvest** – please contact Father Mark for the date of our harvest service, which is usually in September. (Unfortunately I do not have a confirmed date at the time of compiling this newsletter. Thank you).

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/>