

At the communion services, all who are confirmed or who are full members of other churches are welcome to receive Communion. All others, adults and children, are invited to come forward for a blessing.

### TODAY'S SERVICES

#### 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)

Celebrant: The Vicar  
Preacher: Andrew Bratby

#### 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)

Leader and Celebrant: The Vicar  
Preacher: Andrew Bratby  
Hymns (BBC): 121, 241, 325

Anthem:

Blessed be the God and Father -  
*S. S. Wesley*

#### 3.00 p.m. Commemoration of Departed Loved Ones

#### 5.00 p.m. CU@5

Leader: Dawn Hallam

#### 6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (CW)

Leader: The Vicar

### PARISH PRAYER CYCLE

This week we pray for residents in **Beckets Place** and for the work of **The Sevenoaks Christian Counselling Service**.

### VERSE FOR THE WEEK

The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save.  
He will take great delight in you,  
he will quiet you with his love,  
he will rejoice over you with singing.

Zephaniah 3:17

## SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS

### Zephaniah 3:14-end (page 946 OT)

Zephaniah prophesied in the early part of the reign of King Josiah of Judah (640-609 B.C.) prior to Josiah's great programme of reform in 621. Zephaniah spoke against the deterioration of the nation's moral and religious life which had occurred under the two previous Kings, Manasseh and Amon. In this passage he brings a message of restoration and hope, resonant of the joy that fills our Easter celebrations.

### Acts 3:12-19 (page 1095 NT)

Peter's speech follows the healing of a lame man. Peter explained that the power and the glory of Jesus were now at work in the life of the Church through faith in him. The people of Jerusalem had been involved in Jesus' death, but God was ready to forgive their ignorance and accept them again. Peter appealed to the people to turn again to God that they might know times of refreshing.

### Luke 24:36b-48 (page 1062 NT)

The disciples are talking with two followers of Jesus who have rushed to them with the tale of having met Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Then Jesus appears among them all. The disciples struggle to believe, first from sheer dread and then from the joyful fear that this could hardly be real. Jesus reminds them of the teaching he had given long before, drawing on the ancient scriptures and prophecies of his death and resurrection. He gives them a mission – to be witnesses to the risen Christ to proclaim repentance and forgiveness of sins to the world.

### DAILY READINGS

Day	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Mon	96	Deut.5:1-22	Ephesians 1:1-14
Tues	98	Deut. 5:22-end	Ephesians 1:15-end
Weds	105	Deut. ch.6	Ephesians 2:1-10
Thurs	138	Deut. 7:1-11	Ephesians 2:11-end
Fri	139:1-18	Proverbs 4:10-18	James 1:1-12
Sat	42	Deut. ch.8	Ephesians 3:14-end

## THIS WEEK'S DIARY

### Monday 27th April

7.45 p.m. Focus group (17 Leonard Avenue)

### Tuesday 28th April

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

### Wednesday 29th April

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) (Rev. Dennis Mihill) with coffee afterwards  
3.30 p.m. Thanksgiving Service for Betty Kent

### Thursday 30th April

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
7.15 p.m. Confirmation Group (Vicarage)  
7.45 p.m. Bellringing practice

### Friday 1st May

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
8.00 p.m. Choir Practice

### Saturday 2nd May

9.30 a.m. Churchyard Working Party  
10.00 a.m. Fabric Committee  
4.00 p.m. Kent County Association of Change Ringers Striking Competition

## NEXT SUNDAY

### 3rd May

8.00 a.m. **Holy Communion (CW)**  
Celebrant and Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 a.m. **Church Family Worship (CW) and Baptism of Andrew Simmons**  
Leader: Bill Lattimer  
Preacher: The Vicar

12 noon **Baptism of Elias Mines**

5.00 p.m. **CU@5 (Church Centre)**  
Leader: Mags Southgate

6.00 p.m. **FROGS (Church Hall)**

6.30 p.m. **Evensong**  
Leader: Margaret Lidbetter  
Preacher: The Vicar

**CHANGE OF THE MID-MORNING SERVICE TIME  
AND MONTHLY PATTERN OF SERVICES  
FROM MAY ONWARDS**

**AS FROM NEXT SUNDAY!**

**As from next Sunday, 3rd May, the timing of the mid-morning service will revert to 10.00 a.m.**

Also, there will be a slight change in the service pattern: the communion service held on the second Sunday of the month will now be celebrated at the mid-morning service rather than the evening service. At 6.30 p.m. the service will instead be Evening Prayer. This will mean that at the 10 a.m. service there will be an alternating pattern of Church Family/Morning Worship (1st and 3rd Sundays) with Holy Communion (2nd and 4th Sundays). At the 6.30 p.m. service there will be an alternating pattern of choral Evensong (1st and 3rd Sundays) with said Evening Prayer (2nd and 4th Sundays). The 8.00 a.m. service will retain its current pattern of Holy Communion.

**Magazines**

The magazines for May will be available for collection from Friday, 1st May.

The Prayer Diary for May is enclosed with this notice sheet.

**FEBA Radio**

The next meeting for FEBA Radio: Information and Prayer will be at 2.30 p.m. at 41 Park Hill Road, on Monday, 11th May.

**Easter Cards**

Please let Sylvia Grafton have your old Easter cards so that they can be re-made for next year. Thank you.

**Food, Fun and Fellowship**

Fun Day for everyone on Bank Holiday Monday, 4th May from 11.00 a.m. Lunch will be provided for a small donation in the Church Centre. Keep watching the notices for further details or speak to Mags Southgate.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

At the meeting on 21st April, Janet Hunt and Derek Shilling were elected as Churchwardens. Retiring members of the PCC, Colin Fleetwood, Bill Lattimer and Steve Vigis were re-elected and Sue Stephenson and Andrew Hill did not stand for re-election. We are very grateful for their commitment and dedication over the years. Mark Holmes was elected as a member of the PCC.

We are pleased to welcome Robert Horner as a Sidesman and Alison Walters as a Sideswomen. Thanks were expressed to Ken Johnson for 50 years unstinted service as a Sidesman. He has reluctantly decided to stand down.

The next PCC meeting takes place on Wednesday, 6th May at 8.00 p.m. in the Church Centre.

**Commemoration of Departed Loved Ones**

This service will take place in Church this afternoon, Sunday 26th April at 3.00 p.m.

**"Hear my Prayer" (Oh for the wings of a Dove!)**

A celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Mendelssohn - 10th May

On Sunday 10th May, after the morning Communion Service, our choir will be joining with choirs up and down the country in singing Mendelssohn's anthem, "Hear my Prayer" (which includes the well-known line, "Oh for the wings of a dove). This event is being organised by BBC Radio 3 and is in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mendelssohn. Further details may be found at [www.bbc.co.uk/composers/mendelssohn](http://www.bbc.co.uk/composers/mendelssohn)

THE PARISH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, OTFORD



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**WELCOME TO  
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH**

**Sunday 26th April 2009**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**COLLECT**

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained  
by his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

**Amen.**