

STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE FORMS

A big thank you to everyone who has returned their stewardship response forms. The information from the time & talents response forms will be used in the preparation of new sets of rotas and we will be contacting you over the next few weeks. Initial analysis of the financial response forms is encouraging.

We will communicate the outcome of this year's Stewardship Sunday at the beginning of November, so if you have not yet returned your forms, it's not too late to do so! Please send them in the envelope provided either to Brian Beacom, or leave them in the Parish Office.

Thank you for your share in the ministry of St. Bart's.

Bible Sunday

Today is Bible Sunday and there are Gift Aid envelopes at the back of church if you wish to make a gift to the Bible Society.

Magazines

The magazines for November will be available for collection from next weekend. Material for the December magazine should be sent to the Church Office, st.bartholomews@otford.net by 10th November.

Christmas Market

The Christmas Market will take place on Saturday 21st November from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Church Centre. Stalls will include: gift wrapping; cards; Christmas tree and table decorations; candles; cakes; winter woollies (scarves, gloves, hats, etc.); Christmas sweets and chocolates. A super Christmas raffle is also planned. Coffee, tea and soft drinks, together with Christmas biscuits, Stollen and mince pies will be on sale for you to enjoy while you chat with friends. Any offers of help, please contact Sylvia Grafton, 01732 452117.

Message from Sylvia Grafton

"I have been overwhelmed by the kindness of so many people, for the many beautiful cards, emails and telephone calls, and most especially for the prayers after my recent heart attack. I am making a good recovery after treatment at Farnborough and King's College hospitals, and am well and truly on to my next project: the Christmas Market! With much gratitude, Sylvia"

HOPEFEST

Tickets for Hopefest Events

St. Bart's has been allocated 14 tickets for each Hopefest presentation at the Stag at 6.30 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. on the three Saturday nights of 21st & 28th November and 5th December. The tickets are £2.50 each. Please prayerfully consider whom you will invite. We want to make sure our ticket allocation is fully used.

Some Dates for your Diary

- 8th November Remembrance Sunday Service 10 am
- 21st November Christmas Market (10 a.m.)
Hopefest Presentations at the Stag
- 22nd November Relicensing of Betty Reed as a
Reader at St. Barts (10 a.m.)
- 28th November Hopefest Presentations at the Stag
- 29th November Candlelit Advent Carol Service
(6.30 p.m.)
- 5th December Hopefest Presentations at the Stag
- 6th December Christingle Service (4 p.m.)

Rochester Cathedral

Anne Carter will give a talk on Rochester Cathedral on Wednesday 18th November at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall. This is being organized by the Otford and District Historical Society.

Darwin in the Diocese

On Tuesday, 27th October at St. Peter & St. Paul Church, Tonbridge at 7.30 p.m. Dr. Denis Alexander will speak on "Creation or Evolution. Do we have to choose?" Please contact their Parish Office on 01732 770962 if you are interested in attending.

Christian Aid

A Jumble Sale will be held at The Drive Methodist Church Hall, Sevenoaks on Saturday, 31st October at 2.00 p.m. Proceeds for Christian Aid.

THE PARISH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, OTFORD



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WELCOME TO
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH
Sunday 25th October 2009
Last Sunday after Trinity
Bible Sunday

COLLECT

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that,
through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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 and Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)

Leader: Betty Reed
 Celebrant and Preacher: The Vicar

There is a crèche available at this service

12 noon Baptism of Joseph Odell and Amelia Odell

5.00 p.m. CU@5

Leader: Mags Southgate
 Topic: Joseph - from childhood to ruler in Egypt

6.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (CW)

Leader: The Vicar
 Biblical Reflection: Brian Raynor

You are warmly invited to join us for refreshments in the Church Centre after the 10 a.m. Service

OFFERTORY ARRANGEMENTS

There is no plate collection in our services. Please place your offering in the box at the back of church for it to be presented and dedicated during the course of our worship. Thank you!

VERSE FOR THE WEEK

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, reproving, correcting and training in righteousness, so that all God's people may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16

SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 55:1-11 (page 742 OT)

The Lord extends an invitation to all to listen to his word. This will provide a source of rich nourishment for our lives. The Lord's word is powerful and active, accomplishing his purposes. So let us "seek the Lord while he may be found and call on him while he is near."

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 (page 1197 NT)

Paul encourages Timothy in his ministry. In particular, Timothy is to base his life on the Scriptures, which he has known since infancy. Paul affirms that the scriptures make us "wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus". The Bible gives us the guidance we need for right living, equipping us for every good work.

John 5:36b-end (page 1069 NT)

In a discussion about his authority, Jesus says clearly that the Hebrew scriptures testify about him. The relation between the Old and New Testaments may be characterised in this fashion: the new is in the old concealed; the old is in the new revealed.

PARISH PRAYER CYCLE

This week we pray for residents in **Rye Lane** and for the work of **The Bible Society**.

DAILY READINGS

Day	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Mon	126	2 Chron. 33:1-13	John 15:1-11
Tues	132	2 Chron. 34:1-18	John 15:12-17
Weds	117	Isaiah 45:18-end	Luke 6:12-16
Thurs	142	2 Chron. 35:1-19	John 16:1-15
Fri	145	2 Chron. 35:20-36:10	John 16:16-22
Sat	147	2 Chron. 36:11-end	John 16:23-end

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Monday 26th October

12 noon Funeral of Janette Randall
 7.45 p.m. Coffee and Chat (50 Well Road)

Tuesday 27th October

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Wednesday 28th October

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) coffee afterwards

Thursday 29th October

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 7.45 p.m. Bellringing practice

Friday 30th October

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

Saturday 31st October

8.30 a.m. Deanery Pastoral Assistants' Breakfast (Church Centre)
 3.30 & 6.00 p.m. "It's a Treat" Hopefest alternative All Hallow's Eve party (Mill Lane Centre, Sevenoaks)

NEXT SUNDAY

1st November: All Saints' Day

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW)

Preacher: Margaret Lidbetter

10.00 a.m. Church Family Worship (CW)

Leaders: Margaret Lidbetter
 Preacher: The Vicar

5.00 p.m. CU@5

Leader: Dawn Hallam
 Topic: Joseph's reconciliation with his family

6.30 p.m. Evensong

Leader: The Vicar
 Preacher: Margaret Lidbetter