

### Please Pray for Peace in our troubled world

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease.  
and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven.  
Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

Generous God,  
you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is small as mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory  
and the flourishing of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

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**Supporting St Bartholomew's** – There is a donations plate by the door at every service, and if you can Gift Aid your donation, please use & complete a yellow Gift Aid envelope with your details.  
There's also a "Contactless Collection Plate" if you prefer, also by the south door.

Or here's a QR code, which will  
take you straight to our donations page –



If you would like to find out how to support St Bartholomew's on a regular basis, then please go to our website for more information, or phone the Parish Office on 01793 853272. And thank you!

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**Keep in touch, or let us know if any help is needed at:**

Telephone: 01793 853272

Email: [churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com](mailto:churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com)

**Please visit our website:** [www.stbartholomews-wb.com](http://www.stbartholomews-wb.com)

for more information and links to Facebook & YouTube



**We seek to grow through prayer and  
share Christ's love through engagement with all.**

# Weekly News

## 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025



### Sunday

**8:00 am Holy Communion**

**10:00 am Parish Eucharist**

Followed by Refreshments in the Croft

Church Children on a Summer Break

### Wednesday

**10:30 am Holy Communion**

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**A Family-Focused Christian Festival at Bremhill, Wilts, SN11 9LQ** on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> August 2025. There's more details on our website or here's a link to the festival's website - <https://edenbridge.love/>

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm at the Croft:** Leo Tolstoy's *My Confession* (1882): Christian history is full of great thinkers and writers wrestling with the human condition and their understanding of God. Leo Tolstoy might be the greatest novelist in the world but, at the age of 50, when he suffers his existential crisis, nothing means anything to him until he finds his own kind of Christian Faith. Everyone welcome – no booking required!

**Ride and Stride** is on the **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September** this year. Sponsorships forms are available from me or online or I can email. Bus trip and walking this year, so hope for a good turnout. Michael Page R&S Czar.

**Treorchy Male Voice Choir** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September in church Experience an unforgettable evening of powerful choral performance. Tickets £20 pp, please see our website for more details.

**Response to Psalm 82**



# Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church:  
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### FIRST READING: *Jeremiah 23:23-29*

Am I a God nearby, says the LORD, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back - those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

### SECOND READING: *Hebrews 11:29-12.2*

By faith the people of Israel passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets – who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched

raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

### GOSPEL READING: *Luke 12:49-56*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.' He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens.<sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?