

### 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

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as  
judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.  
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

## 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025



**LIFT UP YOUR VOICE WITH STRENGTH,  
O HERALD OF GOOD TIDINGS**

**A VERY HAPPY, HOLY & PEACEFUL  
CHRISTMAS  
TO ONE AND ALL !!!**

**Sunday**

8:00 am Holy Communion  
10:00 am Parish Eucharist  
6:00 pm Carols by Candlelight



**\*\* Christmas Services \*\***  
**Christmas Eve**

10:30 am Holy Communion  
2:00 pm & 4:00 pm Christingle  
11:30pm Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day**

8:00 am Holy Communion  
10:00 am All Age Christmas Eucharist & Blessing of the Crib

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**Christmas Greetings** too from all at the Croft,  
and to advise that the coffee shop will not be open  
on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> December 2025 or the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026

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**Next Sunday** 8:00 am Holy Communion, 10:00 am Parish Eucharist

**Sunday 21st December 2025**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**COLLECT**

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING: *Isaiah 7.10-16***

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

**SECOND READING: *Romans 1.1-7***

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all

the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 1.18-end***

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,'

which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.



**Response Psalm 80**

