

## 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,**

in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
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.  
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

## 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026



### Sunday

**8:00 am Holy Communion**

**10:00 am Parish Eucharist**

Followed by refreshments in The Croft

**Church Children meet in the Croft for Lego Church**  
enjoying a Bible story and play with Lego!

### Wednesday

**10:30 am Holy Communion**

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### **Honor Page RIP**

Sad news that Honor died early last Sunday morning, following an illness of some 4/5 months.

Her funeral is planned for Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February in the morning, Please hold Michael and all who loved Honor in our thoughts and prayers.

**Eternal rest grant unto Honor, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**

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**Lent Lunches:** The first of our four Lent lunches will be on Wednesday, 25th February with the proceeds going to the Sudan appeal. We are looking for volunteers to delight diners with their favourite soups and we also need donations of bread and cheese. If you are able to help, please sign up on the sheet on the noticeboard in church. Many thanks, Dave Woollett

**Palm Crosses:** If you have last year's cross, could you please bring it in to church, so that it may be used to prepare ashes for the Ash Wednesday services. Thank you.

### **Next Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

**8:00am Said Service of Holy Communion using the BCP** and followed by Refreshments in the Croft

**10:00am All Age Eucharist** also followed by Refreshments in the Croft

**4:00pm A service for Candlemas** (marking the end of the season of Christmas) – with music from Taize, readings and prayers – followed by refreshments too.

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Conversion of Paul**

**COLLECT**

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; 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 1.4-10**

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,  
'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'

Then I said,  
'Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.'

But the LORD said to me,  
'Do not say, "I am only a boy"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you.'

Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.'

Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth.

See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms.'

**SECOND READING: Acts 9.1-22**

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing;

so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 19.27-end**

Peter said to Jesus: 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'