

### 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

### A Prayer for Christian Unity

Heavenly Father,  
you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ  
to continue his work of reconciliation and reveal you to the world:  
forgive us the sins which tear us apart;  
give us the courage to overcome our fears  
and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will;  
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

## 18<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 singing and music-making

### Wednesday

**10:30 am** Holy Communion

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**Ladies Guild:** A reminder meeting on **TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> January** in the Croft at 2:00pm (not Wednesday).

**Weekly Giving Envelopes** are ready for collection on the table by the door.

**The Friends of St Bartholomew's** invite you to a Coffee Morning in The Croft on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Coffee, Cakes, Raffle and a chat ! Raising funds to help maintain our beautiful church for future generations.

**The Friends of St Bartholomew's** are holding their AGM at **12:00 noon** on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February** in The Croft.

**The Ladies Guild** invite you to a Pancake and cuppa on **Shrove Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February** in The Croft 10:00 am – 2:00pm. Just £2.50 and there'll be a raffle too.

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### **Response to Psalm 40**



Great are the won-ders you have done, O Lord my God.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**COLLECT**

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.

**FIRST READING: *Isaiah 49.1-7***

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!  
The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he  
named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he  
hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.  
And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'  
But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God.'  
And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honoured in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength  
— he says,  
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of  
the earth.'  
Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,  
'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

**SECOND READING: *I Corinthians 1.1-9***

From Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our  
brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are  
sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every  
place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace  
to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been  
given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in  
speech and knowledge of every kind — just as the testimony of Christ has been  
strengthened among you — so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you  
wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the  
end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is  
faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our  
Lord.

**GOSPEL READING: *John 1.29-42***

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of  
God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me  
comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not  
know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be  
revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like  
a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent  
me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and  
remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and  
have testified that this is the Son of God.'

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched  
Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples  
heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them  
following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi'  
(which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them,  
'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with  
him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who  
heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first  
found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is  
translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You  
are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).