

**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,**  
give us reverence for all creation  
and respect for every person,  
that we may mirror your likeness  
in 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

## 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026



**Sunday**

**8:00 am Holy Communion**

**10:00 am Parish Eucharist**

**Church Children meet in the Croft for Lego Church**

enjoying a Bible story and play with Lego!

**Tuesday**

**7:00 pm Lent Bible Study in the Croft**

**Wednesday**

**10:30 am Holy Communion in Church**

**12:00 noon Lent Lunch in the Hall**

**Thursday**

**7:30pm Talk on Anglican Church in Sudan in the Croft – All welcome**

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**World Day of Prayer** - an invitation to everyone to join our ecumenical sisters and brothers here in RWB at a service marking the World Day of Prayer at **Sacred Heart Catholic Church** on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm**. This year's service – *I will give you rest, come* - has been prepared by Christian women in Nigeria. All are welcome to this service, after which refreshments will be offered.

**Join Harmony Singers for "A Night at the Musicals"!**  Come along for a fabulous evening of music and fun on **Saturday 7th March at 7:00pm** in Church. We'll be bringing you show-stopping favourites from some of the best-loved musicals, including Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables, Six, Evita, Moulin Rouge, Mamma Mia – and plenty more! Free entry. Donations welcome on the night. Refreshments served during the interval

**A Programme of Talks and Discussions about Christian Thinkers**

at the Croft all starting at 7.30pm Thursday 12 March 2026 Francis Spufford Unapologetic (2012), Thursday 9 April 2026 Karen Armstrong The Case for God (2009) Thursday 7 May 2026 C.S. Lewis Mere Christianity (1952) Harmony

**From the Fabric Committee** - You may be wondering where we are with the replacement of the Lady Chapel chairs. Unfortunately, the process of obtaining permission from the diocese has proved more protracted than expected and is still ongoing. We will provide a further update when there is more news.

# Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

## I<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

### COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:

give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;

and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save;

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: *Genesis 2.15-17,3.1-7*

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

### SECOND READING: *Romans 5.12-19*

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned – sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised

dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

### GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 4.1-11*

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."'

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."'

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."'

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.