

**O God of all justice and peace,**  
we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma and violence and fear which  
prevail in the lands of the Middle East.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering.

We pray for people of all faiths, Jews, Muslims and Christians, and for all the  
people of those lands.

And while we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment  
of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples.

Guide us into your kingdom, where all people are treated with dignity and honour  
as your children. For to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

(The prayer above has been adapted by the Dean of Salisbury, Nick Papadopoulos, from a  
prayer by the Archbishop of Jerusalem)

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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 273073. And thank you!

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

Telephone: 01793 273073

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> March 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!

**Wednesday**

**10:30 am Holy Communion**

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**Lent Lunches:** last Wednesday we held the fourth and final Lent lunch for  
2026. A huge "Thank you" to everyone who made soup, to those who donated  
bread and cheese, to the team who made everything run smoothly each day  
and, of course, to everyone who came along to eat. Together you raised £1262  
for the Sudan Medical Link. You are amazing! Dave Woollett.

**Annual Church Spring Clean: Next Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March** - "Many hands  
make light work" - all help will be greatly appreciated. There's a sign up sheet by  
the door.

**Revision of the Church Electoral Roll:** We are required to revise the roll  
annually, so you will see a formal notice in church. There is a copy of our  
current roll in case you'd like to check if you are registered, and forms if you  
would like to be added to the register.

The dates for revision are between the 16<sup>th</sup> March and 12<sup>th</sup> April, and a revised  
roll will be published in time for the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** on  
27<sup>th</sup> April. Please note that to be eligible to vote at the APCM, you need to be  
on the Electoral Roll.

**Next Sunday is Palm Sunday** and our 10:00am Service starts in the High  
Street, though you may prefer to wait in church for the procession.

**Holy Week Services** are all listed on the Services & Events page of our  
website.

**Response to Psalm 130**



**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**

## **Passion Sunday**

### **COLLECT**

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:

grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross

we may triumph in the power of his victory;

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: Ezekiel 37.1-14 SECOND READING: Romans 8.6-11**

*Sorry, no space to print the lessons this week*

**GOSPEL READING: John 11.1-45**

A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.