

**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 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

## 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026



### SUNDAY

**8:00 am Holy Communion**

**9:00 am Worship @ 9 in The Church Hall**

**10:00 am Parish Eucharist**

**Church Children** meet in the Croft  
to learn more about God and have fun crafting

### TUESDAY

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

Revd Michael Jones invites us to come and explore the Sunday Gospel readings  
during Lent

### WEDNESDAY

**10:30 am Holy Communion**

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

### THURSDAY

**7:30pm Christian Thinkers discussion group in the Croft**

Paul Archer will be looking at *Unapologetic* by Francis Spufford  
All very welcome

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## **New (Temporary) 'Phone Number for the Office 01793 273073**

(effective Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March)

Apologies for the inconvenience and any confusion, but as a result of a  
necessary upgrade to our systems, we have to accept a different telephone  
number for about 2 weeks. The work is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon and  
so should be effective as above.

It is a nuisance, but was deemed the "least worse" solution, and the promised  
outcome is an up to date, secure & robust system using Full Fibre to the  
Premises connectivity. Thank you in advance for your forbearance.

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Next Sunday is Mothering Sunday

**8:00 am Holy Communion**

**10:00 am A Special Service for Mothering Sunday**

A chance to say 'Thank You' to our mums... A chance to remember those mums who  
are no longer with us...A chance to think about motherhood...

A chance to celebrate Mother Church...

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**COLLECT**

Almighty God,  
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,  
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:  
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,  
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;  
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: Exodus 17.1-7 SECOND READING: Romans 5.1-11**

***Sorry, no space to print the full text of the lessons this week***

**GOSPEL READING: John 4.5-42**

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no

husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'