



Weekly News

17th May 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

Our lovely sister **Shirley People** died last week at the Firs Care Home in Calne where she had been residing for the last few months. Her funeral will be at St Bartholomew's on Thursday 11th June at 11am.

Eternal rest grant unto Shirley, 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.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat- this afternoon, 4pm, at the Memorial Hall, RWB. Featuring members of the choirs of RWB (including our own church choirs) and a live band. Entry is free, with a retiring collection being taken for local charities. Everyone is welcome ! **Any dream will do !**

St Bart's Ladies Guild are hosting a Cream Tea in the Croft on **Wednesday 20th May, 2pm - 4pm.** Tickets £5.00 per person, Raising Funds for Prospect Hospice.

St Bart's Walking Group - our planned morning walk on Saturday 23rd May will be at Ogbourne St George. Please contact pat.jeanes@hotmail.co.uk if you are interested in joining us.

The Friends of St. Bart's thank all who supported their afternoon tea and are very pleased to advise a magnificent £808.30 was raised – much appreciated towards the upkeep of the church.

Croft Garden Coffee Morning, 6th June: an appeal please, for donations of plants, raffle prizes and cakes. And please save the date !

Response to Psalm 68



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, Ukraine, Sudan and South Sudan.

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)

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!

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

Telephone: 01793 853272

Email: churchadmin@stbartholomews-wb.com

Please visit our website: 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.

Sunday 17th May 2026

7th Sunday of Easter/Sunday after Ascension Day

COLLECT

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 36.24-28

Thus says the Lord GOD: 24 I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. 25 I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. 28 Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

SECOND READING: Acts 1.6-14

6When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' 7He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' 9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.

11They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

12Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. 13When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

GOSPEL READING: John 17.1-11

1Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, 2since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. 5So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

6'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'