

**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 Papadopulos, 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

## 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026



### Pentecost

**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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Our friends at the **Freedom Church** in Wiltshire invite us to come and find  
out more about the Christian Healing Ministry, with Pastor Derek Balsdon and  
Mary Makepeace, on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June**, from 10am – 2pm at **the Orchard  
Room, Sundey Hill Farm, Brinkworth, SN15 5AS**. The day will include  
worship, testimonies, teaching and an opportunity to offer and/or receive  
prayer for healing. For further details please contact Derek Balsdon on 07958  
549146 or [d.balsdon@freedomchurchwiltshire.co.uk](mailto:d.balsdon@freedomchurchwiltshire.co.uk)

**Home Insurance:** we were very grateful to receive a donation of £130 to  
our church funds from Ecclesiastical Insurance, who are the church insurers, as  
part of their "Trust 130 Home Insurance programme" and they are happy to  
donate the same for any home insurance policy that is taken out with them.  
For more details, please see [www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130) or contact the  
office.

**Christian Aid:** Many thanks to all who supported the Coffee Morning last  
week, and for other donations. We're pleased to advise that thanks to your  
generosity, we are forwarding £340.20 to Christian Aid.

**Ladies Guild:** Many thanks to all who supported the Afternoon Cream Tea in  
many different ways. As well as a pleasant afternoon, we're pleased to advise  
that thanks to your generosity, we are forwarding £442.00 to Prospect  
Hospice.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

## **Pentecost**

### **COLLECT**

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **FIRST READING: Acts 2.1-21**

1When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' 12All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' 13But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' 14But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. 16No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 17'In the last days it will be, God declares,

that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. 18Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. 19And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. 20The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. 21Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

### **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13**

3No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. 4Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. 12For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

### **GOSPEL READING: John 20.19-23**

19 It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'