

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

Lord of heaven and earth,
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,
but always to bring our prayers before you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Supporting St Bartholomew's financially – A donations plate can be found by the main door at every service. And if you are able to Gift Aid your donation then please use (and complete with your details) a yellow Gift Aid envelope also to be found towards the back of church – or simply ask one of the welcomers. If you prefer to give via a debit or credit card there is a contactless collection plate also by the south door.

Or here's the QR code which will take you straight to our donations page.



For information on how to support St Bartholomew's on a regular basis please go to our website and our page on Supporting St Bart's, 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.***

Weekly News

27th September 2026



Sunday

8:00 am Holy Communion in The Lady Chapel

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

We can now confirm that the funeral for the late **Chris Taylor** is here at St Bartholomew's on **Thursday 1st October at 12 noon.**

Harvest 2026: come and celebrate Harvest next **Sunday, 4th October** – at our 8am Holy Communion, 10am All Age or 6pm Evensong services. And if you would like to support our Harvest appeal, we are collecting non-perishable food and non-food items for Swindon Food Collective and money for our brothers and sisters in Sudan (which will be forwarded to our Diocesan Sudan Medical Link).

Swindon Food Collective has let us know that they would particularly welcome: regular sized tins, jars, bottles, cartons or packets of potatoes; meat; fish; tomatoes; soup; vegetables; fruit; pudding and cereals; small jars of coffee; tea (40 bags); biscuits; 1L bottles of squash; washing-up liquid; toothpaste; laundry pods; 2 in 1 shampoo & conditioner; male and female deodorants.

The Friends of St Bart's would like to send huge thanks to all who supported the Cheese & Wine Evening and made it such an enjoyable event, Extra thanks for raising £946.23, this includes raffle proceeds and donations.

The final total for the **Marie Curie** coffee morning and book sale is £651.70. Many thanks to everyone for their support and generosity.

Hope, Resilience & Action: Stories from South Sudan: Wednesday 14th October 7:00pm, St Francis Church, Salisbury. Entry is free, but please book online. See Posters in Church and the Croft.

Don't Worry, have Peace – Taize Ecumenical Service: Sunday 18th October 5:00pm Sacred Heart Church, RWB. Posters in Church & Croft.

Sunday 27th September 2026

17th Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
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 18:2-4, 25-end*

²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

SECOND READING: *Philippians 2.1-13*

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish

ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 21:23-32*

²³When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’ ²⁴Jesus said to them, ‘I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?’ And they argued with one another, ‘If we say, “From heaven,” he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?”’ ²⁶But if we say, “Of human origin,” we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ ²⁷So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” ²⁹He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.’