

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

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.
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

4th October 2026



8:00 am Holy Communion BCP

Followed by refreshments in the Croft.

10:00 am All Age Eucharist

6:00 pm Evensong

Wednesday

10:30 am Holy Communion

Harvest 2026: come and celebrate Harvest this Sunday – 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. Thank you!!

St Barts Walking Group - after our summer break, we are starting up our monthly walks again and our first walk will be Saturday 17th October. Please contact pat.jeanes@hotmail.co.uk if you would like to join us.

Volunteer in The Croft: Looking for people who could kindly spare 2 hours, once a month (Fridays or Saturdays), to help out in the Croft Coffee Shop, making drinks and offering a friendly welcome to our customers. Just 2 hours, once a month would help tremendously, working as part of our wonderful team of volunteers. Please have a chat with Maxine or Barbara.

Celebrate the Bible with *Open the Book* - RWB Methodist Church at St Bartholomew's Church are hosting a joint celebration of the Bible at the Methodist Church at 3.00pm on Saturday 24 October, the day before **Bible Sunday**. Our local Open the Book team will be sharing several stories from the Bible, and there will be an opportunity for anyone who wants to join in the action! All are welcome. The service will last for just under an hour and will be followed by refreshments. We would love to see you there.

Sunday 4th October 2026

Harvest Sunday

COLLECT

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;
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: *Isaiah 5:1-7*

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice, but saw bloodshed;
righteousness, but heard a cry!

SECOND READING: *Philippians 3:4b-14*

⁴If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born

of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, ⁹not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 21:33-end*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: ³³Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' ⁴¹They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

⁴²Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.