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

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.
Amen

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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!

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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
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
15th November 2026

Sunday
8:00 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Parish Eucharist
Followed by Refreshments in the Croft
4:00pm Taize Service in Church
Wednesday
10:30 am Holy Communion

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Bible Study/Discussion in the Croft 7:00-8:15pm: 3rd of 4 sessions on **Tuesday 17th November**- with worship, bible discussion (Colossians Book Study), sharing and prayer.

Autumn Lunches Wednesday the 18th, sees the first of two. Please come and enjoy homemade soup, cheese, bread and good company in the **church hall** from **12 o'clock**.

Ladies Guild Bring & Share Lunch and AGM: Wednesday 18th 12:30 in **The Croft.**

Treorchy Male Voice Choir performing in Cirencester Friday 20th Nov, more details on our website
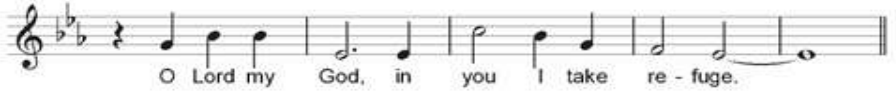
Advent Carol Service: Sunday 29th November at 4:00pm: Join us for a service of music, readings and prayers at the start of this season of reflection and preparation. Mulled wine and mince pies to follow.

Annual Toy Service Coffee Morning: Saturday 5th December
Annual Toy Service: Sunday 6th December, 10:00am
Please see our website for full information on these two events. Thanks,

Church Christmas Raffle (raising funds for the Church) An appeal please for donations of a festive nature to make up the hampers for a Grand Draw.

Croft Volunteers: we are looking for more friendly folk to help staff our coffee shop. Do you think this may be you ? Please have a chat with Barbara or Maxine.

Response to Psalm 90



Sunday 15th November 2026

2nd Sunday before Advent / Safeguarding Sunday

COLLECT

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING: *Zephaniah 1:7, 12-end*

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,
'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.'
13 Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.
17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

SECOND READING: *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

1 Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have
anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord
will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then
sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant
woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that
day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day;
we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but
let us keep awake and be sober; 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are
drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on
the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has
destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.
11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 25:14-30*

Jesus said to his disciples, 14 'The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey,
summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents,
to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.
16 The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them,
and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made
two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a
hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those
slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five
talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to
me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." 21 His master said to him, "Well
done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put
you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." 22 And the one with
the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two
talents; see, I have made two more talents." 23 His master said to him, "Well done,
good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in
charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." 24 Then the one who had
received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a
harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter
seed; 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have
what is yours." 26 But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did
you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you
ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have
received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to
the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they
will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be
taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where
there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"