

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

ANGLICAN CHURCH, ST BARTH, F.W.I.

The Anchor



APRIL 2015



Welcome to the April 2015 edition of The Anchor, which we hope will help make St Bartholomew's Anglican Church your spiritual anchor on St Barth.

This edition contains the first in a series of articles whereby readers can discover more about the other churches around the world that are dedicated to our saint.

We are starting off in London, but we will be covering the renowned St Barts on 5th Avenue, New York in a future edition. If you know of any other such churches in your area, do let us know.

We are also continuing Clergy Corner to give readers a better insight into our visiting priests - this month it is the turn of Canon Sandy Zabisikie.

We have also added a new spirituality/prayer column on the back page, which we hope you will find of interest.

As always, please let us know if there is anything you would like to see in our monthly bulletin and we welcome feedback from our readers and friends.

The next edition will come out in May/June and will cover our summer months.

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If you would like to receive a pdf copy of The Anchor when you are not on-island, please send an email to the address below. Or alternatively, you can download a copy by visiting our Website.

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Letter from the Vicar

Dear Friends,

This new edition of The Anchor comes out on the most important and exciting day of our Christian calendar – Easter Day! A promise of new life, new birth and a renewing of all things!

A spiritual journey is such an exciting and integral part of life – as it was designed for us to live! To live without it is like living life in black and white. The risen Christ comes to offer us life in all its fullness – in all its colour! The last few months during the high season here have been exhilarating and exciting. The Church has been full to overflowing and it's been wonderful to see old friends and make new friends alike.

Our 1855 appeal for the restoration of the Church and the Vicarage has been a wonderful testimony to the love that so many of us hold for this church. Within 8 weeks, we have nearly reached our goal of €430,000. A really remarkable achievement! We just need one final push to get us over the line and it's done! Do please keep this in your mind and in your heart. We are so grateful to all of those who have been so generous in their support.

We've been so fortunate to have so many wonderful visiting priests with us this year. All of their sermons are available for re-listening via the podcasts on our Website. Give it a visit and pick what might interest you! It will be wonderful to welcome back the Revd Canon Dr Sandy and Margy Zabisikie this week. They will be with us for the next three weeks.

A very happy Easter to all of you.

With love and blessings,

Charlie

PARISH OFFICE:

Our Parish Office is open 9am to 12 noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Weekly Service Times



Family Eucharist
Sundays at 9am

A contemporary service, filled with music and prayer



Taizé Service
Tuesdays at 7pm

Meditative chants in a candlelit & peaceful setting



Spirituality Group
Wednesdays at 10am

A lively discussion group - newcomers welcome



Meditation Group
Thursdays at 7pm

A bilingual group that has silent reflection at its core



Morning Prayer
Fridays at 9.00am

A prayerful service to start the morning

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Saint Bartholomew - the Great



One of the best known churches of 'St Bartholomew' is in London. It is known as **St Bartholomew the Great** to distinguish it from the nearby St Bartholomew the Less, so called due to its smaller size (more about that church in a later issue).

Founding father - The church itself was part of a large priory founded in 1123 by a man called Rahere. Previously, Rahere had been a courtesan of King Henry I, the son of William the Conqueror. It is thought that it was the death of the King's wife Matilda, followed two years later by the drowning of the King's heir, that prompted Rahere to renounce his former ways and become a monk; after which he made a pilgrimage to Rome.

Whilst in Rome he fell ill, and as he lay delirious he prayed for his life vowing that, if he survived, he would set up a priory and hospital for the poor in London.

He returned to London and kept to his word, arranging for a new church and Augustinian priory to be built just outside the old city walls.

Rahere's recovery contributed to the priory gaining a reputation for curative powers, with sick people filling all the seats and spilling into the aisles; most notably on St Bartholomew's Day (24th August).

The priory also set up a hospital to treat the sick, and this hospital is still in existence today, almost 900 years later. It is called St Bartholomew's Hospital, but is more commonly known to most Londoners as simply 'St Barts' or 'Barts' - hence some confusion can arise to those 'not in the know' when you say "I'm off to St Barts next week" and the reply is "Oh dear, I do hope it's nothing too serious"!

Meat Market - The church is located on the edge of 'the City' (now London's financial district) and right next door to Smithfield Market, a 150 year old meat market, which is still in operation. Hence visitors to the area will often see porters wheeling half a cow on their trolleys - very similar to New York's Meat-packing district; and which is likewise undergoing a regeneration as the meat sellers move out and their warehouses are turned into deluxe apartments and trendy restaurants.

Medieval Church - The current church comprises only a small part of the original priory, which was torn down during Henry VIII's dissolution



of the monasteries in 1543. The main part of the priory was demolished and only the original narrow choir stalls (where the monks used to sit) and surrounding walls still remain. Hence this is one of a few churches where the congregation all face inward towards the aisle rather than facing the altar to the front. The inside walls of the church consist of pillars from the original priory and give the church a unique medieval feel.

Over the centuries, the church was also used as a stable, factory and forge, before being restored in the late 1800s under the direction of the

architect Sir Aston Webb, best known for re-modeling the main facade of Buckingham Palace.

Hot Cross Buns - Each year on Good Friday, pursuant to a centuries-old bequest, alms are given to twenty-one local widows, together with the distribution of freshly-baked hot-cross buns (sweet pastries baked with a glazed cross on top, and traditionally eaten in England and other Commonwealth countries on Good Friday); with the ceremony taking place by the side of the grave of the original benefactor in the churchyard.



The main entrance from the street into the church grounds is also notable, as it is an original half-timbered Tudor frontage dating from the late 1500s.

Film Set - Because of its age and history St Bartholomew the Great is frequently used as a film set, including *The Other Boleyn Girl*, *Shakespeare in Love* and *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*; but possibly the most iconic scene, featuring the church, stars Hugh Grant when he changes his mind at the altar during the final wedding in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*!



As one of the capital's oldest surviving churches, the church is certainly worth a visit if you are ever in the Smithfield area of London, .

Clergy Corner - Canon Sandy Zabriskie

For over 20 years we have been welcoming the Revd Canon Dr Sandy Zabriskie and his wife Margy to St Bartholomew's, and they have become much loved and valued friends.

What some of you may not know is how much Revd Sandy has travelled during his working life and that St Barth was not his first post in the Caribbean.



Father Sandy was raised in the grounds of Virginia Theological Seminary, where his father, the Very Revd Alexander C. Zabriskie was the Dean following his service as a naval aviator during the First World War, patrolling the North Sea for submarines and zeppelins.

Revd Sandy followed his father's clerical calling, and after graduating at Princeton he returned to Virginia Seminary (where Bishop Ted Eastman served as a Trustee).

His first position could not have been further removed from St Barth as he was called to Alaska, where he served two parishes: St Matthew's in Fairbanks and St Mary's in Anchorage. This was where he met Margy, who was teaching in Nenana, a small Indian village in the Alaskan interior.

After ten years in Alaska, Revd Sandy then spent fifteen years at Trinity Episcopal Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania followed by a ministry at Christ Episcopal Church in Teaneck, New Jersey.

After this spell in the North-East, he then answered a call to go to Puerto Rico and became the Dean at St John's Cathedral in San Juan, which ministered to the English-speaking Episcopalian community on the island. Speaking of his time there, he commented that there life was "exciting, frustrating lovely, intimidating, and humid!" Sound familiar? Father Sandy and Margy have five grown-up children and 12 grandchildren, and they are expecting

their first great grandchild later this year.

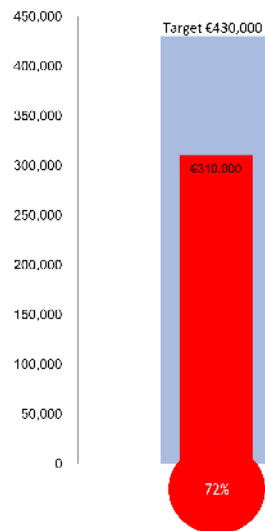
We also hear that Father Sandy and Margy are both painters of some repute.

And when they are on-island, we not only benefit from Father Sandy's wise words during the service on Sunday mornings, but afterwards we get to enjoy Margy's wonderful baking !

The 1855 Appeal

The amount being raised for the Church refurbishment and the Vicarage improvements is a total of €430,000 .

With the Vestry having received pledges to match all donations made, this means that we are now just €60,000 short of our target - which is a great achievement, but we are not there yet!



We therefore would like to ask all members & friends to consider making a donation to The 1855 Appeal so we can reach our target and allow us to start the work on schedule.

If you are based in the US, your donations are tax deductible, and you can donate by sending a cheque to the Friends (details can be found on page 4) or online via the Church's website.

If you are based on the island, or elsewhere, you can make a donation by giving it directly to the Church or by making a donation online.

We will acknowledge the names of the donors (if they wish) on a plaque to be placed on the wall inside the newly refurbished Church.

The Yacht 'Pollen'

Following the sinking of their boat 'Pollen' during Hurricane Gonzalo, we wanted to give readers an update on Mika, Edwidge, Zuli and Clemene, whom we temporarily housed in the vicarage last year.



Thanks to the support of some of our readers, they managed to repair their boat to allow it to be safely re-launched into the water. Whilst they have by no means finished all the necessary work (they still have to add the mast and rigging), Pollen is at least floating and watertight.

The family will now spend time working in France so that they can finish the repairs to Pollen, and then hopefully all return to St Barth and live aboard their home.



Parish Notices

SBH Prayer Chain

St Bartholomew's has a prayer chain to offer the support of prayer for those in need.

If you think this may be helpful for you or someone you know, or if you wish to include such people in your own prayers, please send an email to this address:

prayer.stbartholomews@gmail.com

AA Group Meetings

Open Meetings in English are held every Tuesday and Friday at 6pm in the Church Centre. Meetings at other times can also be arranged. For more information, you can call or text either 0690 54 17 99 or 0690 65 61 22

Is a 'multi-talented lawyer' an oxymoron? - Not on St Barth!

Lloyd Younger first came to the island with his wife Patricia in the 1980s, before many Canadians had even heard of this island as a centre of tourism or a 'snow-bird' destination. For many years they used to stay at Le Village St Jean, and the owners, the Charnau's, have become like a second family to them.

They are also familiar faces at Le Select during their time on the island, and most years make a special trip for their old-friend Marius Stakelborough's birthday – including his 90th in 2013.



Lloyd worked as a lawyer in the Canadian Federal Justice department in Ottawa for over 30 years. However he is somewhat 'unusual' in that, while he is a lawyer, he also has artistic talents (note: the editor is allowed to make such comments, also being an (ex)lawyer!).

His musical ability is twofold – firstly as we hear him on his guitar each Sunday morning, accompanying the piano and violin; and secondly, he takes very seriously his position as a tenor in our local choir, La Chorale des Bons Choeurs.

In both of these roles Lloyd was extremely close to our former music directors: Charles Darden & Shirley Dern. Lloyd had a great relationship with Charles; and he often recalls Charles' ability to play impromptu, which always kept him 'on his toes'! Lloyd was deeply affected by Shirley's death in 2014 and he wrote a moving piece for The Anchor last year, including these words: "Sometimes, when musicians really get to know and understand each other, there's a 'magic' that happens when they play together. That's why music is called 'the universal language'. Shirley and I were getting very close to finding that magical 'sweet spot'."

Lloyd was instrumental(!) in helping us persuade Ombeline Collin to come to St Barth and become our Director of Music and he made sure this transition went more smoothly than we could have hoped.

Lloyd also plays guitar and sings in the choir at his other 'home' church, St Paul's Anglican Church in Brockville, Ontario.

Lloyd's deep and very real spirituality is obvious to all those who know him. He is also a valued member of our Vestry committee.

His joy whilst playing and singing is infectious, and he loves nothing better than to play and sing loudly the 'Thank you Lord' at the end of our service ... perhaps we should just change the lyrics one time and sing 'Thank You Lloyd'!

Donations: We are an entirely self-funded church and dependent on your generosity and regular giving.

Do please talk to Father Charlie or one of the Church's leadership about how to most effectively support the Church or make a donation to the 1885 Appeal

Photos: Thanks to Rick, Philip Trangmar, Tony Duarte and unknown (Clergy Corner and The Other St Bartholomew) for the use of their photographs. All are copyrighted.

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The Friends of St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church US Non-profit 501(c)(3)

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Lester and Philip Trangmar

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Back Page Spirituality

There are certain times when we feel the need to communicate with God; and when this occurs, it is good to have a prayer which 'hits the right note'. Below is a prayer written by St Anslem, who was the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1100 and whose credo was:

"I seek not to understand so that I may believe, but to believe so that I may understand."

We hope you will find his words useful.

- Lord my God, let my heart desire you; and in desiring you, look for you; and in looking for you, find you; and in finding you, love you; and in loving you, redeem my faults; and once redeemed, help me not commit them again.

- Lord my God, make my heart contrite, my spirit repent, my eyes a source of tears, and my hands generous with alms.

- You are my King, extinguish in me the addictions of the body, and light the fire of your love.

- You are my Redeemer, hunt in me the spirit of pride, and let your kindness grant me the spirit of your humility.

- You are my Saviour, take away from me the fury of anger, and let your goodness grant me the shield of patience.

- You are my Creator, uproot in my soul rancor, and spread the spirit of gentleness.

- Give me, O kind Father, a strong faith, an assured hope, and faultless charity.

- You can lead me away from the vanity of the soul, the fickleness of the spirit, the distractions of the heart, the flattery of the mouth, and the pride of appearance.

- O God of Mercy, I ask you, by your beloved Son, to allow me to live showing mercy, applying piety, with compassion for the afflicted, and sharing with the poor.

Amen



Canterbury Cathedral (built 1070)