

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church



Fifth Sunday of Lent 22nd March 2015

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful weekend to be in St Barths! The Bucket circus is indeed a fantastic spectacle and creates a truly exciting community buzz on the island!

Perhaps I'm getting older, but it seems only yesterday that we were doing the same thing! It is funny how used we are to things staying the same. Change is difficult and often very scary! In a strange kind of way, even the renewing of the church building and the vicarage is scary. None of us really want it to change! Well, it won't in its essence. It will be renewed but maintain its much loved personality which has developed over the last 160 years!

In this morning's Gospel. Jesus says "unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains but a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit". Sometimes change comes in attractive clothing – but often it can seem extraordinarily unwelcome! It's only when we step out into the unknown – if we are truly listening to the voice of the Divine – taking a risk but one that is foundationally guided, that we find the next and best step to our journey. Is that happening in your life at the moment? If it's not, it certainly will be at some point! That is why Lent is such an important time to try to reconnect with the Divine voice. We need to keep picking up the telephone!

And so next Sunday, we start Passion Week. Do come and join us for some or all of the services that will take part during that week culminating in the great celebration of Easter Sunday.

It's been wonderful having the Rev'd Canon Dr John and Mackie Rice with us for the last month. So many thanks to them and we much look forward to seeing them next year.

With love and blessings

Charlie

The 1855 Appeal: "Building on Tradition"

We are raising money to repair the Church & Vicarage, details of which can be found in the yellow Brochure (available at the back) or on our Website. Yellow Pledge Cards are also available.

Book of Jeremiah – Chapter 31

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Letter to Ephesians – Chapter 2

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

If you are new to our Church and would like to be added to our mailing list, please fill out a visitor card & place it (or a business card) in the collection basket or one of the boxes at the back.

The Gospel according to John – Chapter 12

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say— "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.'

Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder.

Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.'

Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.'

He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Church Notices

Association Annual General Meetings

Our Annual General Meeting will be held after the service today – All are welcome to attend.

Bestseller Book Club

The next group is on **Monday, 23rd March at 6pm.** The book to be discussed is **The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt.** Everyone welcome.

Parish Office

Our Office is open in the Church Centre on **Mondays, Wednesday & Fridays: 9am to 12 noon.** Do stop by if you have any questions.

SBH Prayer Chain

If you think this may be helpful for you or someone you know please send an email to this address: prayer.stbartholomews@gmail.com

Please feel free to take this sheet away with you to read again at home.

Services & Groups for this week

Tuesday	7pm	Taizé Service
Wednesday	10am	Spirituality Group
Thursday	7pm	Meditation Group
Friday	8.30am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	9am	Sunday Eucharist

AA Group: Open Meetings in the Church Centre
In English on Tuesdays & Fridays at 6pm.

In French on Wednesdays at 12 noon.

For more info call 0690 54 17 99 or 0690 65 62 11

People

Bishop: The Rt. Revd Errol Brooks, Bishop of the North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba

Vicar: The Revd Charlie Vere Nicoll

Visiting Clergy: Revd Dr John Rice & Mackie

Parish Administrator: Philip Trangmar

Church Wardens: Marjorie Romney, Trinette Wellesley-Wesley & Rachel Barrett-Trangmar

Treasurer: Alex Harbord

Vestry: The Wardens, Dawn Drouant, Clarion Romney, Richard Lester, Nancy Swann, Philip Trangmar & Lloyd Younger

Director of Music: Ombeline Collin

Sunday Pianist: Michael Parisot

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

Do talk to Father Charlie or one of our leadership about how to most effectively give to the Church or The 1855 Appeal.

You can now donate online using your credit card by visiting our Website.

If you are a US citizen, giving through our US foundation is tax deductible.

**Friends of St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church
US Charitable 501(c)3 Foundation**

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