

St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, St Barts



[Click here to view our latest Sunday Service on YouTube](#)

Our Weekly News

Dear Friends

This is our twenty-fourth newsletter of 2020 – which to my reckoning is 6 months' worth! Quite a time to spend together!

The end of August marks the close of the season here on St Barts, for the island to take some time off to relax a little, repair and regenerate – ready for the new season ... while keeping half an eye out (well probably two) for any storms heading our way.

The majority of the shops, restaurants, hotels and properties on the island are shuttering up for their annual 'fermeture'. Nevertheless, many St Barts residents will be having 'staycations' this year, while others may be venturing to the 'metropole' (i.e. mainland France) or further afield depending on the ever-changing restrictions.

St Bartholomew's Anglican church will equally be taking time to 'recharge its batteries', so both this email newsletter and our Sunday online services will be put on pause for a month or so.

However, we will still hold our **weekly Zoom Coffee Morning fellowship every Sunday at 10am AST/EDT (details below)**. And we will include a few prayers at the outset to allow us to continue our worship together. Do think about joining us, and you might see a familiar face or two.

We will be sending our next email in early October with information about the new season. We will hopefully start to hold services inside the church, welcoming all those present on the island (with social distancing!) ... and we also hope to offer streaming or recordings for you to enjoy, no matter where you are. In November, we will have the Revd John Dephouse, followed by the Revd George Conger – both returning for their second visits.

This week we have the Revd Barbra Robinson celebrating our virtual Eucharist. The playlist starts off with a collage showing our Zoom participants over the past few months, as well as a montage of our visiting clergy – which is my way of thanking them for their dedication and precious time taken to share God's message with us.

I also wanted to say "Thank You" to those who have responded to our past requests for help with our 2020 funding. We obviously appreciate that everyone will be experiencing some economic hardship as a result of the ongoing situation. However, as we have been holding our church services online and the island only had a limited number of tourists, our collection income this year is significantly lower than expected. We would therefore be grateful for your continued support – perhaps making an offering as if you were worshiping with us in Church on a Sunday. This will allow us to keep St Bartholomew's a place of spiritual nourishment. There is an address below to send cheques or, if easier, a web link so that you can donate online using your credit card (with the ability to make a regular monthly offering, if you so wish).

Set out below is our prayer list and information about our Bestseller Book Group, plus details of our virtual Taizé services, as well as a link to previous updates.

We continue to pray for all those who have been, and continue to be, affected by this virus; as well as those affected by Hurricane Laura.

Please do stay safe – continue to wash your hands, wear a mask and keep your distance!

Blessings
Philip

PS We are continually updating our mailing list, so if you have missed any of our previous emails, there is a link below! Likewise, please let me know if you wish to unsubscribe or know anyone who might like to be added.

Links

1. Sunday Service
This Sunday's Playlist: https://bit.ly/SIBAC_Sunday30August

Our Service Booklet (as a pdf): <https://bit.ly/SIBACservicebook>

2. Other Online Services
National Cathedral, Washington DC: <https://cathedral.org/worship>
Canterbury Cathedral, UK: <https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/#onlineservices>
SXM Anglican Church with Archdeacon Terrence Rawlins: <https://www.facebook.com/sssjanglicanchurch/>

3. Offerings to St Bartholomew's Anglican Church
See details/links below

4. Prayer List
Larry O'Donnell
Brook Lacour
Rosemond Greaux
Paul-Lancelot Clequin
The family of Lucy Day
The family of Marius Stakelborough
The family of Valerie Trangmar
The family of Gaby Charneau

CaringBridge Site for Larry O'Donnell
<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/FriendsAndFamilyofLMO>
(NB Sue has specifically requested visitors to the webpage not to make donations - the page is purely so we can have news about Larry and leave our own personal messages of support).

5. Coffee Morning/Fellowship Zoom meeting: Sundays 10am
Via the internet: <https://zoom.us/j/9713397133> (see NB below)
Via the Zoom App: Meeting ID: 9713397133
Via your telephone +1 253 215 8782 (USA) then input the Meeting ID: 9713397133

NB: From this Sunday you will enter the Zoom Meeting via a Waiting Room, in line with Zoom's new increased security policy.

6. Bestseller Book Club – An informal discussion group, which meets on Zoom. Our next meeting is on **Monday 31st August** when we will be discussing **Dunbar by Edward St Aubyn** (a modern retelling of Shakespeare's King Lear). After that the club will take a two month break, but we will be avidly reading **Paul Auster's** tome called **4321**, which we will be discussing in November.

7. Past Island Updates
You can visit our website if you wish to read any of our previous updates:
https://bit.ly/SIBAC_CoronaUpdates

8. Taizé services
These are also posted on our YouTube Channel. There are several virtual services uploaded, as well as composite playlists with some of our favourite Taizé chants.
Our own virtual Taizé Services: https://bit.ly/StBAC_VirtualTaize
Favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/SIBAC_FavouriteTaize1
More favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/SIBAC_FavouriteTaize2
And more favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/SIBAC_FavouriteTaize3
Even more favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/SIBAC_FavouriteTaize4
Some more favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/SIBAC_FavouriteTaize5

The Church offers spiritual nourishment to the island of St Barts, for both residents and visitors alike.

Please help us continue this outreach ...

Online Offering
You can make a secure donation online using your credit card. You are able to specify your donation to be either a one-off payment or monthly.

[Online Donations](#)

Sending a check
You can also send checks to:
Friends of St Bartholomew's Church
106 West River Road,
Rumson, NJ 07760

[Church Website](#)



May His love surround you, like an invisible cloak to mind your life.

'A Blessing' by John O'Donohue

(as used by Father John Rice on his many visits)

On the day when
The weight deadens
On your shoulders
And you stumble,
May the clay dance
To balance you.

And when your eyes
Freeze behind
The grey window
And the ghost of loss
Gets into you,
May a flock of colours,
Indigo, red, green
And azure blue,
Come to awaken in you
A meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays
In the currach* of thought
And a stain of ocean
Blackens beneath you,
May there come across the waters
A path of yellow moonlight
To bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours,
May the clarity of light be yours,
May the fluency of the ocean be yours,
May the protection of the ancestors be yours.

And so may a slow
Wind work these words
Of love around you,
An invisible cloak
To mind your life.

*traditional celtic sailboat

