

Sunday Services across the Team

St Bartholomew's:	8.00am (2nd & 4th Sundays) 11.00am each week
St Thomas'	8.00am (1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays) 9.15am each Sunday
St George's	9.15am each Sunday
St John's	8.00am (1st & 3rd Sundays) 9:30am each week
St James'	8.00am (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays) 10:45am each Sunday
St Katharine's	8.00am & 11.00am each Sunday

For all enquiries relating to baptism and weddings, and for other routine matters, please come to Bartholomew's Church on any Monday [other than Bank Holidays] from 6 – 7pm

DIRECTORY

Team Ministers

Team Rector	Revd Carol Pharaoh – from 1 st February 2019 01942 859251: rectordhww@gmail.com
Team Vicar	Revd Angela Wynne 01204 468150
Reader Emeritus	Alan Morris 01942 817871
Reader	Christine Radford 01942 790091
Reader	Elaine Simkin 01942 810762
Curate:	Revd Kirsty Sreeton 01942 575383

Parish Wardens

Margaret Dolphin	01942 790415
Edward McHale	01942 812193

Deputy Wardens

St Bartholomew	Christine Andrews 01942 817146
St George	Pat James 01204 492994
	Sarah Barry 01942 840441
St Thomas	Tim Browning 07827 275262
	Janet Perfect 01942 814090

www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter @Wparishchurch and on Facebook

Items for inclusion in future newsletters should be sent to the parish office:

westhoughtonparish@outlook.com

or given to Edward McHale, churchwarden and Director of Music

www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk



Parish of St Bartholomew
Westhoughton
St Bartholomew St Thomas
St George



NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2019

Institution & Induction – Revd Carol Pharaoh

Thursday 31st January 7:30pm at St. Bartholomew's

The Service of Welcome for the Revd. Carol Pharaoh as Team Rector of the Blackrod, Daisy Hill, Westhoughton and Wingates team is as shown above. All welcome to attend.

Carol will be leading her first services across the team as shown below:

St. Bartholomew's:	Sunday 3 rd Feb 11:00am
St. John's:	Sunday 3 rd Feb 8:00am & 9:30am
St. George's:	Sunday 17 th Feb 9:15am
St. James':	Sunday 17 th Feb 10:45am
St. Thomas':	Sunday 24 th Feb 9:15am
St. Katharine's:	Sunday 24 th Feb 11:00am

Candlemas 2nd February

Candlemas also known as “the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord” and “the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary”, is a Christian Holy Day commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. It is based upon the account of the presentation of Jesus in Luke 2:22–40. In accordance with Leviticus 12. It falls on February 2, which is traditionally the 40th day of the Christmas–Epiphany season. On Candlemas, it was traditional to bring candles to the local church, where they were blessed and then used for the rest of the year; for Christians, these blessed candles serve as a symbol of Jesus Christ, who referred to himself as the Light of the World.

Although a Christian feast day, it also has a bitter-sweet nature. We join with the celebrations of Simeon and Anna, but the prophetic words of Simeon point to the passion and Easter. We have a final look back to Christmas before looking ahead to the forty days of Lent, swapping the white vestments for green and then purple. Special vigil services were held often using candlelit processions and singing the words of Simeon [the *Nunc Dimittis*] to gather at the font where those marked with the cross of Christ at baptism can turn from his birth to his passion as we prepare again to mark his death and resurrection.

Lancashire Evening

**Friday 1st February 7:30pm at St. Bartholomew's
Presented by Ged Robinson-Todd**

An evening of traditional Lancashire songs, verse and entertainment with Ged Robinson-Todd. Pasty and peas supper provided, please bring your own drinks. Tickets £10 available from Christine Andrews / Margaret Dolphin. Please do support this event – it promises to be a cracking evening.

Daisy Hill Coffee Concert

**Saturday 9th February 11:00am at St. James'
The Camira Trio – flute / clarinet / bassoon**

These are always excellent concerts with a high calibre of performers and wonderful refreshments. Tickets are £6 and include coffee / tea and cake [under 18s are free if accompanied by an adult].

All welcome – please see posters for booking or tickets on the door.

St James' Daisy Hill Open Mornings

Saturday 2nd February 10:00am – noon

In 2019, the open mornings at St James' church will move to **the first Saturday** of the month, starting on 2nd February 10:00am - noon. Everyone welcome for tea and a chat.

Town Mayor's Event – Houghton Weavers

**Sunday 2nd February 7:30pm
Brookfield Hall, Peel Street, Westhoughton**

Tickets £12 – further details on the posters in our churches.

St. George's Fundraising

We're relaunching our smarties appeal for 2019 having raised over £330 in 2018.
Look out also for our second-hand bookstall coming soon.

Holocaust Memorial Day

NEVER AGAIN

The gateway arch and the railway line leading into Auschwitz 2 better known as Birkenau built on the site of the original Polish village of Brzezinka as an "overspill" to Auschwitz 1 will be familiar to anyone who saw the film Schindler's List. It has, since 1979 been on the UNESCO World Heritage List. From the watch tower over the gate-way one can look out over a barbed wire and guard-tower enclosed 175 hectare site with only the brick chimneys (the wood from the huts having long since disappeared) that once provided the only heating available standing out as gaunt and emaciated as the former 'occupants' like a petrified forest. Also visible are the remains of the gas chambers and cremation ovens.

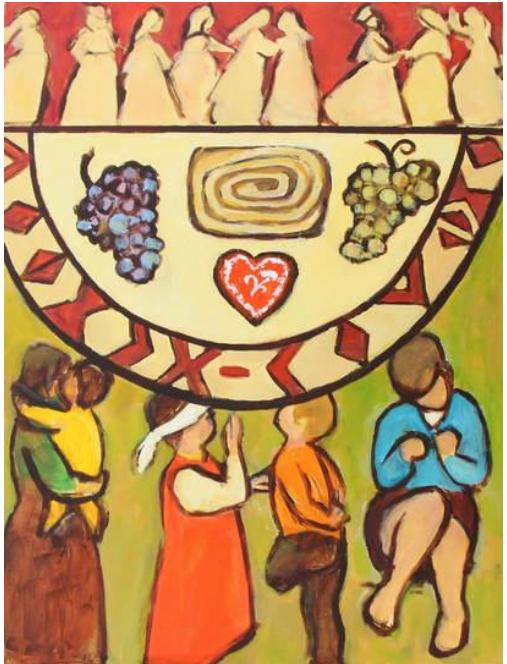
In the nearby Auschwitz 1 with the world infamous entry gates bearing the legend "ARBEIT MACHT FREI" (work will make you free) is Block 11, the most terrible place I have ever set foot in. Here was the "starvation or suffocation cell" 1 yard square with the only entry at ground level almost like a kennel door. Here died those waiting trial for breach of camp rules or escape attempts. 4 people at one time in the square yd. with only a 2 inch hole for ventilation.

Back in Krakow still stands the factory once owned by Oskar Schindler where the office has been preserved. On the desk is a very thick visitors' book containing names from all over the world of those who suffered and died in the death camps. Long lists of names usually from many members of the same family are recorded. One in particular caught my attention written by the son and grandson of a Milo (surname unclear) in Spanish but easily translated to "died in Dachau" with underneath in English "NEVER AGAIN".

Auschwitz was not unique and there were similar camps in Burma, Singapore as well as those in Europe during the Second World War. More disconcertingly in more recent times we can list Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Darfur etc. "NEVER AGAIN" seems at times to be a forlorn hope which makes it essential that although we are commanded to forgive we must never, ever, forget.

Contributed by Alan Morris

Women's World Day of Prayer



**Friday 1st March 7:00pm
Westhoughton Methodist Church**

The World Day of Prayer this year has been organised and prepared by women from Slovenia with the theme "**Come – everything is ready!**" It's focussing on the Bible passage from the Gospel of Luke chapter 14, v 15 – 24.

At the core of the theme for WDP 2019, an invitation – Come; and to enable the response – Everything is ready. Come to praise, thank, and proclaim the kingdom of love.

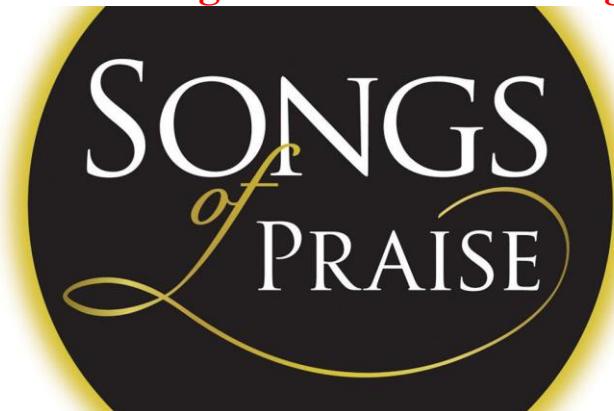
The invitation is grounded in the parable that Jesus told about a great dinner which was attended by the ones called off the streets, as the ones invited excused themselves. The community formed around the table is not enough to fill the house – there is still room. Who are missing from the table in your community?

The artist, Rezka Arnuš, wanted to present two topics with her artwork pictured - the country of Slovenia and the main biblical story of the worship service. At the top there are women dressed in national traditional costumes. The semicircular ornament with Slovenian folk embroidery represents a plate or a table with their best known national dish - *potica* - and grapes from various wine producing vineyards. Partly under the table, one can see the children from the margins of the society. They heard the invitation to the feast. The red and white colours used reflect Slovenian folk embroidery. The green background colour emphasizes the green Slovenia, fields and forests. The warm colours of children express the joy of heartfelt invitation.

Further details at: www.worlddayofprayer.net/slovenia-2019.html

In March 2020, the annual service will be held at St. Bartholomew's church.

BBC "Songs of Praise" Recording



BBC Songs of Praise will be filming 'Congregational Singing' and the 'Young Choirs Festival' at Victoria Hall, Bolton on the weekend of 8th to 10th March.

Victoria Hall are aiming to fill the hall with as many people as possible on the 3 dates:

Fri 8th March, 6-30pm: Congregational Sing (The congregation will be filmed singing songs for the programme – no rehearsal, it will all be done on the evening).

Sat 9th March and Sun 10th March, 2-30pm to 6-30pm: The 'Songs of Praise Young Choirs Festival' (Audiences are needed for this event).

Everyone is invited to be a part of this

The events are free to attend but If anyone would like to be a member of the congregation at any of the events they need to register their interest by enquiring at the Victoria Hall Box Office (01204 522569) or by visiting their website: www.boltonmethodistmission.org.uk so that the organisers have a clear idea of numbers attending.

Supporting Wellbeing of Young People

A one day conference for Christian leaders across Bolton
Expression of interest. Date to be confirmed.
St Catherine's Church, Highfield Road, Farnworth, BL4 0QZ

Emotional Health
Understanding how to support and minister to a range of emotional health conditions including depression, anxiety and self harming

Sex, Likes and Social Media
Helping young people make good choices in a modern world with an understanding about identity, consent and life balance

Speakers:
Lily Jo - Mental Health nurse and founder of the Lily Jo Project
Mark Cowling - Vicar and founder of Third Space Bolton
Additional speakers to be announced shortly

£10 entry fee payable on the day.
Pre-booking essential - office@thirdspacebolton.com
Lunch provided.

THIRD SPACE thirdspacebolton.com

The Fit 4 Life "At Work" Course

Starts Friday 18th January 1pm
Third Space Café, 133 Deansgate, Bolton

Twelve concise and accessible 45 minute sessions covering foundations to wellbeing in the workplace, suitable for small and medium size group discussions.

Mark Cowling is a Church of England minister in Greater Manchester and founder of Third Space Bolton, a charity supporting, inspiring and uniting people to overcome the obstacles to their wellbeing. Fit 4 Life is one of the tools developed in response to the cultural, social, and spiritual needs of our times.

St. Bartholomew's Tower Captain

Peter Ormshaw has decided to stand down as Tower Captain after 15 years of dedicated service in that role. He became a Tower Captain in 2004 following the death of our much loved ringer and former captain, Geoffrey Fothergill, in Oct 2003. We thank Peter for his many years working in that role, largely unseen but always heard and appreciated. Congratulations also to Ryan Battersby who has been elected as Tower Captain to succeed Peter.

Ladies' Night at St. Thomas'

Friday 8th March 7pm for 7:30pm

This is a joint PTFA and Church event.

Fashion Show including the opportunity to purchase products from Neal's Yard and Hidden Gem and others.

Colour Consultant to offer advice on what suits us best.

Tickets £5 to include a glass of Buck's Fizz on arrival – only 100 tickets available. There will also be a bar and raffle.

Come and treat yourselves!

Thank you to all who contributed to our Christmas Pudding Appeal.

Urban Outreach had around 200 volunteers making & distributing 1270 hampers feeding 4325 people.

Of course, our Green Grub Tubs run all year round, so please carry on giving.

St Thomas' Café Church / St Georges' Café Church

St Thomas's Café Church meets fortnightly on a Wednesday during Term Time 3.45 - 4.15pm. We gather in the main hall and entrance to Café Church is from 3.25pm through the church entrance.

DATES: 30th Jan, 13th Feb, 27th Feb, 13th Mar, 27th Mar

St George's Café Church meets fortnightly on a Thursday during Term Time 3.45 - 4.15pm. We gather in the main hall and entrance to Café Church is from 3.25pm through the main school entrance.

DATES: 31st Jan, 14th Feb, 28th Feb, 14th Mar, 28th Mar

We meet for half an hour to worship: sharing in song, prayer, conversations and snacks.

All are welcome to attend - children MUST be accompanied by an adult at all times.

