

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George



SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2021

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Welcome to Worship today for our Harvest Services

Sunday Services

<p>St George's Church 9:15am</p> <p>Service of the Word Revd Andy Jones</p>	<p>St Thomas' Church 9:15am</p> <p>Service of the Word: Elaine Simkin</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church 11:00am</p> <p>Holy Communion Revd Andy Jones / Revd Carol Pharaoh</p> <p>HYMNS: as on the service sheet</p>
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This week we pray for:

Those who are ill: Cassie Buono, Brian Cato, Maurice Ginniff, Christine Greenhalgh, Jenny Harris, Keith Haworth, Mario Heaton, Edith Ibbotson, Joan James, Patricia James, Mike Johnson, Geoff Kyte, Edward Lakstigala, Eileen Marsh, Jean Partington, Norman Sidlow.

Those who have died recently: Donald Darby, James Tonge

And on their anniversaries this week we remember: Ethel Beardsworth, George Benett, Gladys Bowden, Ada Emmett, Isabela Gregory, Peter Livsey, Edna Partington.

Coming Up this week:

<p>Sunday 10th 1:00pm 2:00pm</p>	<p>Baptisms St Bartholomew's Church</p>	<p>Grayson Marcus John Bayfield Matilda Emma Roddie</p>
<p>Monday 11th 10:30am – 11:30am</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church</p>	<p>Office Hour</p>
<p>Wednesday 13th 7:30pm</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church</p>	<p>Choir Practice</p>
<p>7:30 – 9:00pm</p>	<p>On Zoom</p>	<p>"Being With" course – session 2</p>
<p>Thursday 14th 6:00 – 7:00pm</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church</p>	<p>Confirmation Course – Session 3</p>
<p>Saturday 16th 9:30am – 12 noon</p>	<p>St John's Church, Wingates</p>	<p>Saturday Morning Confirmation Course – Session 2</p>

Further details on all events at the end of this pewsheet. Do keep any news, views and feedback coming. Please also check our Team YouTube channel for online services including today's Harvest service:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDx266HLh9ShYeBJnON8ODg>

Next Sunday: 17th October

20th Sunday after Trinity

Readings: Isaiah 53. 4 – end / Hebrews 5. 1 – 10 / Mark 10. 35 - 45

9:15 am	Service of the Word at St George's Church	Revd Carol Pharaoh
9.15am	Service of the Word at St Thomas'	Revd Andy Jones
11:00am	Holy Communion at St. Bartholomew's Church	Alan Morris / Revd Carol Pharaoh

Today's Readings:

Collect:

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for the harvest, may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Joel 2. 21 - 27*

²¹Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! ²²Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. ²³O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD our God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. ²⁴The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. ²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 6. 25 - 33*

Jesus said to his disciples: ²⁵Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is

thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you - you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'



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Homily: Reverend Andy Jones

In recent weeks we have again seen the panic buying of the early days of the pandemic, this time it wasn't hand sanitiser, hand wash and toilet rolls it is petrol. We have seen queues just to get to the petrol pump, at one-point Sainsbury's petrol station in Westhoughton had to close. Yesterday on the news there was an item about the potential soaring price of turkeys if the supply is limited near Christmas. If anyone is interested, I have a very good nut roast recipe.

It is understandable that people are concerned about how they are going to get hold of the items that they need on a day to day basis, but a few people stockpiling goods leaves shortages for other the people who may be on lower incomes at risk of not been able to access the essentials for everyday life.

There have been further catastrophic effects of the pandemic than just people's income. Between April 2020 and March 2021, the Trussell Trust who are responsible for the running of local food banks say that 2.5 million emergency food parcels were given out. Right here in Bolton, Urban Outreach does some fantastic work across the borough supporting children, families, vulnerable adults and homeless people. During COVID their food pantries were feeding 1200 per week, to this day they continue to feed 400 Bolton families. The grub tubs outside our churches are one of the ways that we can support this wonderful organisation.

In our reading from Matthew, Jesus seems to telling us to stop being anxious about where our food and clothing comes from. When we think about this, we could say that this is all well and good but not everyone has sufficient food, clothing, shelter and sanitation. As I said in the opening of this talk, there are people in the UK who are reliant on charities to provide them with the basics.

Is the point here more that Jesus is getting us to stop and think what is important, what is it that really matters? In the time of Jesus's teachings, there were still worshipping idols, the sun, moon and rain. They would ask the elements to sustain them for example through increasing their crop yield, which would lead to material wealth, they did this while still praying to God and following Jesus.

Jesus tells us that his Father, our Lord God is the one whom controls all that we have in this wonderful line Jesus says: "Your heavenly father knows you need all these things." He is of course referring to the fact that God knows all that we need in our daily lives.

We have seen countless times were God has provided in the bible for those in need. The one that always comes to mind to me is the manna from heaven which was given to the Israelites, and still if we remember despite God providing sustaining food there were still gripes and grumbles. No matter how much God cares for us is always going to be an element of the Oliver moment "Please God, can I have some more?"

The deeper message in this is that we need to ask ourselves about what life is about. I'm not here to go into this today as this is something that has been written about by people with far more knowledge than me, but we do sometimes need to take stock of

what is important in life. I always reflect at harvest time about the millions of farmers, factory workers and lorry drivers it takes to keep us clothed and fed.

It is amazing when we think about it that much of our food starts life as a seed or a bulb planted out in the natural elements to grow and multiply. Sometimes our crops yield is affected by bad weather but by some logistical miracle our food shelves are kept stocked.

Is it productive for us to spend all our lives worrying about crops growing for harvest and will there be enough food to eat? Jesus tells us not to worry as there is no point in worrying about something that we have no control over, his Father will provide. Does worrying about these concerns add anything to our lives? I would suggest not.

Taking more time to grow in relationship with Jesus will have a very different yield. The seeds that we sow in our relationship with Jesus are always going to grow. Jesus will always be there to help nurture us, but like when tending to crops we still need to take time in tending our relationship with God, through prayer we will germinate and grow.

I became quite preoccupied as to why my tomatoes did not grow well this year and Katie would come outside and point out to me standing watching them is not going to make them grow. She was correct of course and perhaps my overzealous tomato growing was a bit waste of time as it didn't affect the outcome. I could have used the time more wisely on lots of other jobs that Katie had so very kindly lined up for me.

Joking apart it is not easy for people not to worry about the future, especially if we are anxious about the economic situation we are in at this moment. However, there are charities that are here to help like the Trussell Trust and Urban outreach.

I always remember a lecture I attended by the Church Army chief exec, who said:

"I don't worry about money, the Lord has given me all the money I need, it's just in your wallets." While this made me smile a lot it was a reminder of the fact that we need to do all we can to help others.

When we give our trust to God and when we help to provide for those in need we grow as his disciples. As we celebrate harvest, we are reminded of the importance of sharing our wealth with others, whether this be through financial contributions or through our time.

Although it can be hard, endless worry about our future is fruitless. Jesus says, "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own." We can spend so much time worrying about the future but miss the presence of here and now.

So, let us trust our Lord and rejoice in the fact that he will watch over us and provide for us.

Amen

NOTICEBOARD:

Harvest Festivals – This Sunday

Sunday 10th October

We'll be holding our Harvest Festival Services on Sunday 10th October.



We're supporting Urban Outreach again this year, which we continue to support throughout the year with our green Grub Tubs. For more details of their work through their foodbank see

<https://www.urbanoutreach.co.uk/portfolio-posts/storehouse/>

We're collecting tinned and packet goods again, all items please within their sell-by dates. There is a recommended list of donations on the sheets available in all our churches. Please don't bring fresh produce as this cannot be stored or distributed efficiently.

If you're not able to be at the services, we will have St. Bartholomew's church open between 9:30am and 10:30am on Saturday 9th October if you wish to drop off items in advance.

Many thanks for your generosity.



Urban Outreach Foodbank – Essential items needed

Urban Outreach are currently short of a few specific items for their regular foodbank deliveries – **UHT Milk, Toilet Rolls, bottles of cordial and Size 6 Nappies.**

They also regularly need:

Tinned meat, veg, chopped tomatoes, fruit, 500g boxes of breakfast cereal, Cordial, Long life milk, Custard powder, 1kg bags of rice, Pasta (500g), Baked beans, Tinned soup, Jars of pasta sauce, Tinned pulses, Tinned vegetables (sweetcorn, peas, carrots and potatoes), Biscuits, Cereal bars, Tinned fish, Tea, jars of baby food (different ages), Incontinence pads, Male toiletries, Nappies, Wipes, Toilet rolls.

If you are able to provide any of these items please take them to Unit 4, Trinity Retail Park, Bradford Street, Springfield, Haugh, Bolton, BL2 1HY (in the old 'Office Outlet' unit at the bottom on the far right opposite where Toys R Us used to be) on weekdays between 10am and 4pm or please place items in any of the grub tubs located at stores, churches and community centres across the town.

Please click [here](#) if you'd like to give a monetary donation.

For further information please contact Sam Bagley at samuel.bagley@urbanoutreach.co.uk

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

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Church Attendance for School Places:

To register attendance, **please e-mail:**

bdhww.churchattendance@gmail.com

giving both your name / your child or children's names and the church you would usually attend. You will need to do this even if you attend a service and sign in. Only one e-mail per week will be counted [even if you would have attended more than once in any week]. Please do NOT use any other e-mail address to register church attendance as these will not be included. Thank You

Confirmation Course:

Pathway one: will be held at St Bartholomew's church, Westhoughton from 6 pm to 7 pm on a Thursday evening starting from 23rd September and will be completed over six weeks.

Pathway Two: will be held at St John's Wingate on Saturday mornings 9.30 am to 12 pm – the second and final of these sessions is this Saturday 16th October.



The Confirmation Service is at St Bartholomew's on Sunday 7th November at 3pm.

Office Hour Returns: Booking a Baptism

We're going to run Office Hour each Monday morning from 10:30 – 11:30am.

If you wish to book a baptism, please come along and we'll make the arrangements then.

If you can't make Mondays, we are also offering some Saturday mornings. These will be by appointment, so please e-mail westhoughtonparish@outlook.com and we'll fix up a suitable time.

If you wish to book a wedding or arrange for your Banns to be read, please contact the rector.

OCTOBER – INCOME SURVEY:

It's almost that time of year again when we have to do our income survey. If you are 16 years old or older and attend church 12 times or more each year, you'll be given a form and just asked to tick which box best reflects your income.

Even if you have a low or no income or receive a student loan / benefits, we need you to complete a form. Once completed, place the form in the box provided.

The form is anonymous [your name will not appear on it] and no-one from our churches will ever see it.

PLEASE complete one form each [not one per family], but ONLY one even if you attend every week, and do it at the church you attend most often [if you attend different churches within the team]. Our diocese use the information to determine our annual parish share so we need the information to be complete and accurate.

Many thanks for your help with this.

BIBLE STUDY - OLD TESTAMENT CHARACTERS

Bible Study groups based on Old Testament Characters are running in autumn. Some of these sessions will be face to face and others will be online on zoom. All are invited and welcome to attend any of the sessions. The attached gives details and times of dates of these. If people would like to attend an online session, please contact the leader in charge and the zoom details will be sent accordingly.

SESSION	Evening ONLINE	Daytime ONLINE	Face to Face
SAMUEL Hearing God's voice	Tuesday 19 th Oct 7 pm	Thursday 21 st Oct 2 pm	Thursday 4 th Nov 7.30 pm
	Leader: ANDY JONES	Leader: ELAINE with CAROL P facilitating	Leader: ANDY JONES Venue: St Bart's
ABRAHAM Following God's call	Tuesday 16 th Nov 7 pm	Thursday 18 th Nov 2 pm	Thursday 9 th December 7.30 pm
	Leader: ANGELA W	Leader: CAROL P	Leader: ANGELA W Venue: St Katharine's

Secondary School Forms:

School Admission Forms (Secondary Schools ONLY)

If you have any school admission forms that you would like us to complete, please put your forms in an envelope along with a note stating which church building(s) you usually attend. If you attend St Thomas' Church, please also include a photocopy of your church attendance card(s). Please also include a contact number for us to contact you on. Then please bring your envelopes along to any of our churches when they are open for church services and drop them in the box provided. Alternatively you can pop them through the Rectory letter box. (Off Market Street in Westhoughton, up the drive by the old Barclays Bank building.) We will let you know when your form is ready to collect and where from. Alternatively, if you would like us to post the form(s) back to you, please include a stamped self-addressed envelope. **Please be aware** that all the schools are only asking us to provide information relating to church attendance, up to and including 15th March 2020. No church attendance or intent to attend from this date, will give you any additional points. THANK YOU.

Wednesday Midweek Communion Service:

The next one will be on **Wednesday 20th October at St Bartholomew's Church** at its new time of **11:00am**.

This is so we can follow the service with Luncheon Club at lunch time rather than as elevenses!



Annual Memorial Service

Sunday 31st October 2:00pm
St. Bartholomew's



Our annual Memorial Service at which we can remember our loved ones by name, by lighting a candle or simply in silent prayer will be on Sunday 31st October at 2:00pm at St. Bartholomew's church. The service will last about one hour.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

We'll have some sheets out soon to which you can add names of those you would like read out at this service.

BEING WITH

You are invited to join an exciting new 10 week course called "Being With" which is for those wishing to explore the Christian faith more in an inclusive and supportive environment

Start date will be Wednesday 6th October

The course will take place on zoom from 7.30 to 9pm please contact for more information and joining information:

revawynne@gmail.com
reverendandyjones@gmail.com

Team Quiet Day

Saturday 30th October 10:00am – 3:00pm
St. John's Church, Wingates

Revd Malcolm Wearing is planning to run a quiet day in the Team, on Saturday 30th October 2021 at St John's Wingates. The theme will be "Who is God", and will reflect on our understanding of who God is through reflection on the words of five Psalms. If that sounds a bit heavy, it really isn't, each input session is only about 5-10 minutes reflection, with a piece of music at the start and end, chosen to draw out the theme. Then in between there will be space to just reflect quietly, do craft, and walk and pray a labyrinth. If you have never walked a labyrinth before it can be quite a moving thing to do. The details are still to be finalised, but it is expected to run from 10.00 AM until around 3.00 PM, there will be a light lunch of soup and a roll. Please let Malcom know if you want to attend so he can manage numbers malcolm@revmw.co.uk.

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

BOLTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & BCMCS CHORAL
PRESENT
TRADITION & REDEMPTION
A concert to inspire hope and salvation

Conductor - Ben Crick
Beethoven
Symphony No 5
in C minor Opus 67
Bruch
Kol Nidrei
Opus 47
Fauré
Requiem
Opus 48

Victoria Hall Bolton
7.30 pm - Saturday 13th November 2021
Tickets £12.00 (no concessions) - Under 19s free (ticket needed)

Online at www.victoriahallbolton.co.uk
Victoria Hall Box Office - 01204 522569
Registered Charity No. 1077033

There's a concert at the Victoria Hall in Bolton on Saturday 13th November at 7:30pm featuring Beethoven's 5th Symphony [you'll all know the first four notes of that] and the Requiem by Gabriel Faure, a very suitable piece for Remembrance Time.

CONTACT US:

Team Rector: Revd Carol Pharaoh 01942 859251 carol.pharaoh@gmail.com

www.westhoughtonchurches.org.uk

Team Vicar: Revd Angela Wynne 01204 468150 – revawynne@gmail.com

Curate: Revd Andy Jones 01942 813 750 Email: reverendandyjones@gmail.com

FACEBOOK – locate us by searching Westhoughton parish

Follow us on twitter @Wparishchurch

@Westhoughtontowerbellringers

Material for the news sheet should be sent to Joan Warner by Wednesday morning
01942 818821 joan.warner35@outlook.com

Or to westhoughtonparish@outlook.com