

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George



SUNDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2023 THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Welcome to Worship today

Sunday Services

<p>St George's Church 9:15am</p> <p>Holy Communion Rev'd Andy Jones</p>	<p>St Thomas' Church 9:15am</p> <p>Holy Communion Rev'd Angela Wynne</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church 11:00am</p> <p>Holy Communion Rev'd Carol Pharaoh / Elaine Simkin</p> <p>HYMNS: 38, 714, 646, 601 / 51, 787</p>
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This week we pray for:

Those who are ill: Harry Bowyer, Brian Cato, Libby Evans, Georgia Gidney, Denise Gilliland, Nigel Ginniff, Kathleen Grundy, Keith Haworth, Mario Heaton, Edith Ibbotson, Joan James, Patricia James, Eileen Marsh, Ted Morgan, Jean Partington, Arthur Robinson, Norman Sidlow, Arthur Winrow.

Those who have died recently: Elizabeth Sutcliffe, Margaret Callis, Susan Roberts, Ann Pharaoh

And on their anniversaries this week we remember: William Andrews, Frederick Baldwin, Mona Binns, Louise Chomley, James Hayes, Peter Harper, Henry Hodson, Vera Lovett, Rodney Mills, Douglas Moyses, Dorothy Peavy, Thomas Smith, John Sutcliffe, Victor Wilcox, Lilian Winrow.

Coming Up this week:

<p>Sunday 19th 1:00pm 6:30pm</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church St John's Church</p>	<p>Baptism: "Kingdom" theme – Team worship service</p>
<p>Monday 20th 9:30 – 11:00am 9:30 – 11:00am 7:30pm</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church St Bartholomew's Church St Bartholomew's Church</p>	<p>Office Hour – for booking baptisms / other church business Toddler Group with Wiggle Worship St George's Committee Meeting</p>
<p>Wednesday 22nd 9:45am [new time] 3:45 – 4:30pm 7:30pm</p>	<p>St Bartholomew's Church St Bartholomew's Church St Bartholomew's Church</p>	<p>Year 4 Schools Service – the Kingdom of God Café Church: Prayer – Prayer Stations Choir Practice</p>
<p>Saturday 25th 10:00am – 1:00pm</p>	<p>St James' Church Daisy Hill</p>	<p>Christmas Fair</p>

Next Sunday: 26th November 2023 Christ the King Sunday

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday Next before Advent / Christ the King

Readings: Ezekiel 34. 11 – 16 and 20 - 24 / Ephesians 1. 15 - 23/ Matthew 25. 31 - 46

9.15am Service of the Word at St George's

Elaine Simkin

9.15am Café Church at St Thomas'

Rev'd Angela Wynne

11.00am All Age Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

Rev'd Andy Jones / Alan Morris

To receive these pewsheets or special events leaflets electronically, please e-mail

westhoughtonparish@outlook.com

Readings for Sunday 19^h November 2023**Collect:**

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Zephaniah 1.7 and 12 - 18

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.' ¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.1 - 11

¹Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so

that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Gospel:**Matthew 25. 14 - 30**

Jesus said to his disciples, ¹⁴The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." ²¹His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." ²³His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." ²⁶But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Post Communion Prayer:

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Hymns – St Bart’s Blessed Assurance 150th anniversary

The blind hymn-writer, Fanny Crosby was visiting her friend Phoebe Knapp as the Knapp home was having a large pipe organ installed. The organ was incomplete, so Mrs. Knapp, using the piano, played a new melody she had just composed. When Knapp asked Crosby, "What do you think the tune says?", Crosby replied, "Blessed assurance; Jesus is mine."

The hymn appeared in the July 1873 issue of Palmer's *Guide to Holiness and Revival Miscellany*. It appeared on page 36 (the last page) with complete text and piano score.

The popular hymn reflects Crosby's walk of faith, as expressed by the apostle Paul in Philippians 1:21, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain"

Today is Safeguarding Sunday.

We join thousands of other churches across the UK to highlight the importance of protecting vulnerable people as part of Safeguarding Sunday, an awareness-raising national campaign organised by Christian safeguarding charity Thirtyone:eight.

TONIGHT:

“Kingdom” Team Worship Service



**An evening of worship,
readings and reflection
led by the
Team Worship Band**

**Please join us on
Sunday 19th November
at 6.30 pm
St John’s Wingates**



**Refreshments will be served
after the service**

NOTICEBOARD

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at-risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**



Archbishop Justin Welby / Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

Recording Attendance for School Admission

We are recording physical church attendance for school admission purposes.

Parents will need to sign registers or, in the case of St Thomas, have their card stamped if they physically attend the service – nothing else will count.

NOTICE FOR PARENTS

If you would like your attendance at church to be recorded for school admission purposes, please note that, in line with the individual school admission policies, we do expect children and their parent(s) to attend a full service from the beginning start time until the service concludes.

If you arrive after the service starts or leave before the end, your attendance will not count. If this is the case, please do not sign the register or have your attendance card stamped at the end of the service.

We know some families repeatedly arrive late (sometimes 30 minutes after the start time) and this, we feel, is unfair to the families who do attend the full service each week. If our system of recording church attendance is abused, we will have to take steps to amend our administration practices. Thank you.

Sunday School

We're meeting at both St George's and St Bartholomew's this week 19th November.

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

Office Hour

We're running this week on Mondays from 9:30am – 11:00am

We're still running some limited Saturday morning appointments for booking baptisms. Please e-mail westhoughtonparish@outlook.com for an appointment.

Parent & Toddler Group with Wiggle Worship - St Bartholomew's

We're running on Mondays in November 9:30am – 11:00am

Committee Meetings - Dates

St George's Committee are meeting this Monday 20th November at 7:30pm

PCC: Mondays at 7:30pm [** = St Bart's Committee will meet at 6:30pm on those dates]

15th January 2024 **

11th March 2024 **

Café Church

We're back on Wednesday 22nd November from 3:45 – 4:30pm at St Bartholomew's church continuing our look at prayer. See poster below.

	PRAYER		
8 Nov	The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6. 5-15 (Bible Chat Mats / Family Time)	Carol	Carole Linda
15 Nov	Listen and do / Samuel - 1 Samuel 3.1-21	Elaine	Lynne John
22 Nov	Prayer Stations (Experience session)	Angela	Sue Ged
29 Nov	The Pharisee's and tax collector's prayers - Luke 18:9-14	Joan	Jean Fran
6 Dec	Advent Agape Service	Andy	Carole Linda
13 Dec	Preparing for Christmas – Matthew 1.18-23	Christine	Lynne John
20 Dec –	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS		
8 Jan	Next Café Church 10 th January 2024		

Café Church

It meets each **Wednesday** in term
time at **St Bartholomew's church**
3:45 – 4:30pm

This week we're having an **Experience**
Session with

Prayer Stations



Wednesday 22nd November

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

November Diary ... what's coming up

<p>Sunday 19th</p> <p>1:00pm</p> <p>6:30pm</p>	<p>Second Sunday before Advent</p> <p>Services at all our churches</p> <p>Baptism at St Bartholomew's</p> <p>"Kingdom" Team Worship Service at St John's, Wingates</p>
<p>Monday 20th</p> <p>9:30am – 11:00am</p> <p>St Bartholomew's</p> <p>7:30pm</p>	<p>Office Hour</p> <p>Toddler Group and Wiggle Worship</p> <p>St George's Committee meeting [at St Bartholomew's]</p>
<p>Wednesday 22nd</p> <p>9:45am [new time]</p> <p>3:45pm – 4:30pm</p> <p>7:30pm St Bartholomew's</p>	<p>Year 4 Schools Service at St Bartholomew's</p> <p>Café Church at St Bartholomew's</p> <p>Choir Practice</p>
<p>Saturday 25th</p> <p>10:00am</p>	<p>St James' Church Daisy Hill Christmas Fair</p>
<p>Sunday 26th</p> <p>6:00pm</p>	<p>Christ the King Sunday</p> <p>Services at all our churches</p> <p>Taize Advent Worship at St Katharine's, Blackrod</p>
<p>Monday 27th</p> <p>9:30am – 11:00am</p> <p>St Bartholomew's</p>	<p>Office Hour</p> <p>Toddler Group and Wiggle Worship</p>
<p>Wednesday 29th</p> <p>3:45pm – 4:30pm</p> <p>7:30pm St Bartholomew's</p>	<p>Café Church at St Bartholomew's</p> <p>Choir Practice</p>

Christmas Fairs

There are lots of Christmas Fairs coming up in November

Saturday 25th November from 10:00am
St. James' Church, Daisy Hill



Town Lights Carol Service
TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

The tickets for church members will be available from this Sunday 19th November and are free.

Please request them if you want one by Sunday 26th November, so any left can be distributed elsewhere.

NB as in recent years, entrance to this event is by advance ticket only

2024 Team Retreat

Building on the great success of the retreats in 2022 and 2023, we have booked a weekend at the Foxhill Retreat Centre in Cheshire for 24th to 26th May 2024. Cost will be £190 per person for the whole weekend, or £45 for just the Saturday (including lunch). Most rooms are en-suite rooms all have private bathrooms. Please contact Revd Malcolm Wearing to book a place on the retreat for 2024

Taize Service at St Katharine's, Blackrod

The next Taize service at St Katharine's, Blackrod on **Sunday 26th November at 6pm** with the theme of Advent - "Light in the Darkness". Everyone is welcome to join us for a service in the Taize style. The service will be around 40 minutes with prayers, readings, silence, together with Taize music to draw us into a closer relationship with our friend Jesus and the peace that only He can give.



Christmas Dinner on Jesus:

This year we've agreed to collect **400 selection boxes**

Any size / content is fine.

Please check that the use / eat by date is after Christmas Day and PLEASE don't bring them yet as we have nowhere to store them.

We'll be collecting in our churches between Sunday 19th November and closing date of Sunday 3rd December. Please don't bring them earlier as we have nowhere to store them.



URBAN
OUTREACH (BOLTON)



**Between our churches over the
next few weeks, we're aiming to
collect**

400 selection boxes

Any size / content

Use by date must be after 25th December

**If you can help, please drop them
off at any of our churches between**

19th November – 3rd December

Thank you

St Bartholomew's Church An Afternoon with Santa.



**Come and join us on Saturday the 9th
December 2pm to 4pm**

**For refreshments, Crafts, fun, games,
A gift from Santa ...**

Then Santa will lead the Carol singing.

**Tickets £ 5.00 per child,
available from Church, or by telephoning**

Rev. Andy on 01942 813750

Joan on 07816855384

Christine on 07919946272.

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

The Brixii Singers
Conductor Richard Lea

Handel's Messiah

Ellen Riley (Soprano)
Julie Whittle (Mezzo)
Philip O'Connor (Tenor)
Joe Murphy (Bass)

Sunday December 10th - 7.30
St Bartholomew's Church
Westhoughton BL5 2BG
Price £10 Under 16s free
(Tickets on the door or contact 07862736766)

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON
St Bartholomew St Thomas St George

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S
PARISH CHURCH,
WESTHOUGHTON TOWN
COUNCIL**



Friday 1st December

7:00pm



**Community
Carol Service**

**With the lighting of the Christmas Displays by
the Town Mayor**

Entry: BY TICKET ONLY

**One ticket per seat, everyone [including
children] must have a ticket for this Carol
Service in church**

ADVENT /
CHRISTMAS
SERVICES
DECEMBER 2023



Friday 1st December

7:00pm St. Bartholomew's Switching on of the Town Lights Carol Service
TICKET ONLY – limited attendance

Sunday 3rd December

9:15 am St. George's
9:15 am St. Thomas'
11:00 am St. Bartholomew's

3:00pm St. Bartholomew's

Advent Sunday

Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Service of the Word

Parish Christingle Service ++



Please arrive at 2:30pm bringing an orange to make your Christingle

Sunday 10th December

9:15 am St. George's
9:15 am St. Thomas'
11:00am St. Bartholomew's

Second Sunday of Advent

Service of the Word – Nativity ++
Service of the Word – Toy Service++
Holy Communion -

Toy Service & Nativity ++

***We hold our Toy Services today – please bring unwrapped gifts which are donated to Fort Alice [St. Thomas'] or Bolton Lions [St. Bartholomew's]*

Wednesday 13th December

11:00am St. Bartholomew's

Holy Communion / Luncheon Club

PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

Sunday 17th December

Third Sunday of Advent

9:15 am St. George's

Holy Communion & Christmas Party

9:15 am St. Thomas'

Carol Service & Nativity ++

11:00am St. Bartholomew's

Carol Service ++

Our traditional Carol Services with the well-known readings telling of the birth of Christ and favourite carols for all.



Thursday 21st December

Pretoria Pit Anniversary

7:45am Ditchfield Gardens
Act of Remembrance

10:00am St. Bartholomew's
Pretoria Pit Anniversary Service

We gather to mark the 113th anniversary of the Pretoria Pit Mining Disaster.



Sunday 24th December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15 am St. George's

NO SERVICE

9:15 am St. Thomas'

NO SERVICE

11:00am St. Bartholomew's

Holy Communion ++

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm St. Thomas'

Crib Service ++

6:00 pm St. George's

Crib Service ++

11:30 pm St. Bartholomew's

Holy Communion

The first Communion of Christmas with favourite carols in a candlelit setting



PARISH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW WESTHOUGHTON

St Bartholomew

St Thomas

St George

Monday 25th December

Christmas Day

10:00 am St. Bartholomew's

Holy Communion ++

There will be no services at St. Thomas' or St. George's churches today

Sunday 31st December

The Sunday after Christmas

11:00 am St. Bartholomew's

Holy Communion

There will be no services at St. Thomas' or St. George's churches today

Services marked ++ are particularly family and child friendly

Urban Outreach's 'Christmas Dinner on Jesus' Hamper Making



Christmas Volunteers wanted: For those who are willing to be a volunteer for this year's Christmas Dinner on Jesus, there are a number of jobs including box making, hamper box packing and fresh bag packing - along with the usual setting up and clearing away. In order to allow as many people as possible the opportunity to volunteer you will only be allocated one volunteer slot. If you would like to sign up for more than one you will be added you to a reserve list just in case there are not enough volunteers. Please book in for the session you would like to volunteer by emailing admin@urbanoutreach.co.uk or by calling Urban Outreach on 01204 385848 and asking to speak to Laura or Jeanette.

Tue 12th December 10am-12pm Hamper Box Making

Wed 13th December 10am-12pm Hamper Box Making

Thur 14th December 10am-12pm Hamper Box Making

Fri 15th December 10am-12pm Hamper Box Making

Mon 18th December 10am-12pm Single Person Hampers

Thur 21st December 10am-1pm Veg Bag Making

Great Sacred Music event

Saturday 25th November at 3pm. Oldham Parish Church, OL1 3UH

This Great Sacred Music event featuring the Diocese of Manchester Choral Scholars will focus on Advent; it will be followed by refreshments and then Evensong (led by the Choral Scholars) at 4pm. All are invited to see this hugely talented group of young choral scholars.

CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD



Our Diocesan Prayer of Thanksgiving and Hope

Living and Loving God,
as your pilgrim people in Manchester Diocese
we thank you for the great commission
with which you have entrusted us:
to love and serve, and to bring
our parishes, schools, chaplaincies,
and all our communities
into new life in Jesus Christ.

Through your abundant love
lead us into your Kingdom
and grant us the trust to follow you;
meet our weariness, our griefs and fears
with your tender and comforting Spirit
that we may greet the promise
of each new day with joy and trust.

Teach us to pray in faith, hope and love,
that we may go out into your world
confident in your wondrous mission
and full of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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

OFFICE HOUR: Mondays 9:30am – 11:00am at St. Bartholomew's church [just drop in]
or Saturday mornings by appointment e-mail westhoughtonparish@outlook.com