

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN MELBOURNE, SMISBY,
STANTON-BY-BRIDGE AND TICKNALL

THE BULLETIN

A weekly publication for the Benefice

Sunday 23rd August 2020



Bartholomew the Apostle

**Join us for livestreamed worship on our Facebook
page (Melbourne Parish Church)
Sunday at 10.30 am**

From the Rector

Dear all,

One of the highest points above the city of Gloucester is in the village of Churchdown. Chosen Hill rises some 500ft giving fantastic views across to Gloucester, to Cheltenham and beyond through the Cotswolds. Atop Chosen Hill is the beautiful and ancient church of St Bartholomew. Until fairly recently, it was in a fairly precarious position as, due to Victorian tree planting, it was slowly sliding off the top of the hill.

Thankfully, after many years of careful monitoring, conservation and repair the future of this little gem of a church is now secured.

Also, until recently, it would have been very easy to miss St Bartholomew's church -even with its lofty vantage point- as it was almost totally obscured by the aforementioned trees. Now, though, with the necessary removal of the trees, it is once again beautifully visible gazing down on the Gloucestershire countryside.

It was on the morning of my ordination to the diaconate that I was very grateful for the visibility of that little church. I was staying in Glenfall House on the edge of Cheltenham and, like most of my ordinand companions, was incredibly nervous about our rapidly-approaching ordinations. Many of us, myself included, had slept quite badly and now we were wrestling with how to insert a clerical collar for the first time. It wasn't going well!

Quite despondently, I looked out the window and, although I had been in my room for some three days, for the first time, I noticed Chosen Hill out in the distance. At that very moment, the sun burst through the rain clouds (you will remember that it rained quite a bit in the summer of 2007!) and spectacularly lit up St Bartholomew's church, just for a few seconds. Any later and I would have missed it. There was a church that I had worked for and one that had played a key part in my Christian nurture – and now a sign of God's light bursting through the gloom of that ordination morning.

So, you might just see why I have quite a soft spot for St Bartholomew, the saint about whom little is known and is quite easy to miss but whose light still shines on through eternity.

Webmaster

After many years of faithful service, Nigel Coupe wishes to stand down from the running of our church website. A huge thank you to Nigel for all his hard work.

So, we have an opportunity for service— do get in touch if you would like to take on this valuable ministry or if you know someone who might like to help. This may suit someone with tech skills from outside the church fellowship who might like to share their expertise?

Warden at Melbourne

From our 'Contact us' section, you will see that Terry as our acting warden is now beginning his new ministry amongst us. As pleased as we are to have Terry, there is still one remaining vacancy for churchwarden. If you feel God might be calling you to this vital ministry, do speak to myself or Terry.

Church reopening for Sunday worship

We are still on target to be in a position to reopen for Sunday worship in early September. The work continues in earnest preparing a draft risk assessment that can be reviewed and then submitted to our archdeacon. More news hopefully next week and watch this space!

God bless,

Steve

From Kate

Thank you to all who have sent me cards, presents and good wishes during my illness; I am truly overwhelmed with them all. I am feeling much better now but still have chemotherapy to undergo so I won't be around for a while. Take good care of yourselves and thank you once again. Till soon, Kate xx

BBC Choral Evensong

With no live singing in Churches since lockdown in March, it has been good the past 4 Wednesdays for the BBC to have arranged live services sung by professional singers from St. Martin in the Fields, London for their Choral Evensong programme. The services in the residency have featured four London-based choirs, all of whom complied with social distancing guidelines throughout, with no congregation present. This has been the first time live choral singing has been broadcast in the UK since the suspension of worship and religious services in churches in March.

On 29th July Choral Evensong featured St Martin's Voices, who are based at the Trafalgar Square church. The hymn 'Lord of all hopefulness' set to the traditional Irish tune 'Slane', opened the broadcast as it was the final piece of music heard in St Martin-in-the-Fields the night before the church was forced to close due to the coronavirus pandemic. One of our choir's favourites, the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis in B minor by T Tertius Noble was also included.

The second broadcast (Wednesday 5 August) featured a professional octet from the Church of Great St Bartholomew, London's oldest parish church, singing a programme taking in Arvo Pärt's setting of the Beatitudes and Peter Maxwell Davies' St Bartholomew's Prayer.

The BBC Singers featured on the third broadcast (Wednesday 12 August) under Nicholas Chalmers, for a service which included an anthem by John Scott, St Paul's Cathedral's former choirmaster, marking the fifth anniversary of his death.

The final broadcast of the St Martin's residency on Wednesday 19 August was sung by the Gesualdo Six, with a programme including the world premiere of 'Night Prayer' by the group's director Owain Park. I found this broadcast particularly moving and beautifully sung.

I can recommend all of these services and they are still available on the BBC website via the following link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006tp7r/episodes/guide>

A VJ Day broadcast

My attention was also drawn to a live broadcast which took place last Sunday as part of Northern Ireland's marking of the anniversary of VJ Day. It involved Belfast Cathedral Choir broadcasting live on BBC Radio Ulster. The choir is an all adult one of just 12 singers, all socially distanced.

There were readings from a representative of the Royal Irish Regiment and from the First Minister of Northern Ireland, as well as a sermon from the Dean of Belfast. The music included an anthem by Philip Stopford, a former Director of Music of Belfast Cathedral, written in February 2020.

The link to this one is: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000lsj5>

Weekly Music suggestions

Tomorrow, 24th August, is the day we celebrate St. Bartholomew, one of the Twelve Apostles and our service and my choices this week reflect that. Thanks again to those who have been in touch about my weekly suggestions – it's good to know that they have been found helpful and that some use them as preparation for the Facebook service which the Rector and his family have been offering on Sundays at 10.30a.m. Please do keep in touch: 07808 474236 or simon.e.collins@btinternet.com . For this week:

Hymns

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZT59b3Kaw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMYVdGjUC2c>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6S8eQNIIApA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4MD5yLRtuY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJeg-KcHYyI>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_UvXe-of-s

Ye watchers and ye holy ones

Blest are the pure in heart

The kingdom is upon you

Palms of Glory

Hark the sound of holy voices

For all the saints (Sine nomine)

Choral Music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRXL31-5QQQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ZDPcXOI7Mw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azVITZ-zNAs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62ttyjde-ZY>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0eiXWzKj_mo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jboAvfWY3o>

Francis Jackson: O praise God in his sanctuary

Wesley, S.S.: Thou wilt keep him

Anon 16th Century: Rejoice in the Lord

Ives: There is a land of pure delight

Harris: Holy is the true light

William Walton: The Twelve

Organ Music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oo3PUyd59aY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LD680XjsYKg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Ems8jE6Nlo>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhYUG0DZ_vg

Bach: Fugue in C (BWV545)

Campbell: Gaudeamus

Herbert Howells: Prelude on 'Sine nomine'

William Walton: Orb and Sceptre Coronation March

I do hope everyone is keeping well and I look forward to when we can all meet again.

With very best wishes,

Simon Collins

Director of Music

A pattern for daily prayer, so that, at home or at church we can pray together:

Monday: Those in great poverty or need.

Tuesday: Those who have asked for our prayers: Anne Brazier, Roo Hubbard, David Ingram, Kate Landenberger Bob Smith, Margaret Stockley Joan Tatam.

Those in Derby's hospitals and hospices. All at Pool Cottage.
All who are suffering from Covid-19.

Wednesday: Our group of parishes and our diocese. For our bishop, bishop Libby and our new cathedral dean, Peter.

Thursday: The church worldwide. All Christian people.
The local church. The Anglican Communion.

Friday: All in need, especially the hungry, poor and homeless.

The Departed

With thanksgiving we remember Jeff Barnes of our Smisby congregation and Donald Briffet of Ticknall. We also remember those whose anniversaries occur near this time among them Barbara Moore, Eric Hulse, Arthur Morely, Muriel Honner and Fred Heafield.

Bible Readings for Today

Old Testament Reading – *Isaiah 43.8-13*

Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears! Let all the nations gather together, and let the peoples assemble. Who among them declared this, and foretold to us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify them, and let them hear and say, "It is true." You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no saviour. I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses, says the Lord. I am God, and also henceforth I am He; there is no one who can deliver from my hand; I work and who can hinder it?

Gospel Reading: *Luke 22.24-30*

A dispute also arose among the disciples as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

"You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Collect for Bartholomew the Apostle

Almighty and everlasting God,
who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace
truly to believe and to preach your word:
grant that your Church
may love that word which he believed
and may faithfully preach and receive the same;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Amen.

Daily Hope

The Church of England continues to run a free phonenumber service of hymns, reflections and prayers. To access call: **0800 804 8044**

Contact Us

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<https://www.facebook.com/Melbourne-Parish-Church-Derbyshire-198938417583824/>

If there is anyone you know who would like to go on our prayer list or who would appreciate a phone call, do please contact Steve or the parish office. Thank you.

**Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present,
nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8.38,39**