St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church



Fourth Sunday of Easter 26th April 2015

Dear Friends,

Even though Easter was only 3 weeks ago, it seems like almost a distant memory! But it's not! We are only half way through the Easter season celebrating the whole notion of New Life and the healing that comes through that and which is always available!

This week, we have all read the headlines about the hundreds, if not thousands, of refugees that have lost their lives seeking to escape desperate living conditions in Libya, Syria and Iraq, and hoping to find a new life in Europe. How do we react to this news? How do we respond to it? The political issues are indeed complex and difficult. However the humanitarian issues are quite straightforward. These are human beings, like you and I.

I wonder whether we almost ignore the news through 'compassion overload' or whether this phenomenon has now just become numbers?

In this morning's first letter from John he begs the question as to how we can really believe that we are in communion with The Divine if we see one of our brothers or sisters in trouble and do nothing about it. A really difficult issue!

A huge thank you to Sandy and Margy for being with us for the last 3 weeks and for all Sandy's help in taking over while I've been away. We wish them all blessings for safe travels home.

With love and blessings Charlie

The 1855 Appeal: We are raising money to repair and refurbish the Church and our Vicarage, details of which can be found in the yellow Brochure (available at the back of the Church) or on our Website. Please consider helping our Appeal by filling out a Yellow Pledge Card.

Please do take this sheet home with you to read again or to refer to later

Acts of the Apostles - Chapter 4

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.

When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?'

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

First letter of John – Chapter 3

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Readings (cont'd)

Gospel according to John – Chapter 10 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.

The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again.

I have received this command from my Father.'

Donations: We are an entirely self-funded Church and dependent on your generosity and regular giving.

Do talk to Father Charlie or one of our leadership about how to most effectively give to the Church or The 1855 Appeal.

You can now donate online using your credit card by visiting our Website.

If you are a US citizen, giving through our US foundation is tax deductible.

Friends of St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church US Charitable 501(c)3 Foundation

Chairman: Bill Barrett; Secretary: Ann Green P.O. Box 6199, Fair Haven, New Jersey 07704 Tel: 1-732-741-1500; Fax: 1-732-741-1925 Email: anncwgreen@aol.com

Weekly Service Times



Family Eucharist Sundays at 9am A contemporary service, filled with music and prayer



Taizé Service Tuesdays at 7pm Meditative chants in a candlelit & peaceful setting



Spirituality Group Wednesdays at 10am A lively discussion group newcomers welcome



Meditation Group Thursdays at 7pm A bilingual group that has silent reflection at its core



Morning Prayer Fridays at 9.00am A prayerful service to start the morning

People

Bishop: The Rt. Revd Errol Brooks, Bishop of the North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba Vicar: The Revd Charlie Vere Nicoll Email: vicar.stbartholomews@gmail.com Tel: 0590 27 13 06 Visiting Clergy: The Revd Dr Sandy Zabriskie Parish Administrator: Philip Trangmar Email: info.stbartholomews@gmail.com Tel: 0690 54 17 99 Church Wardens: Marjorie Romney, Trinette Wellesley-Wesley & Rachel Barrett-Trangmar **Treasurer:** Alex Harbord Vestry: The Wardens, Dawn Drouant, Clarion Romney, Richard Lester, Nancy Swann, Philip Trangmar & Lloyd Younger Director of Music: Ombeline Collin Sunday Pianist: Michael Parisot Website: www.stbartholomewsanglicanchurch.com

AA Group: Open Meetings in the Church Centre In English on Tuesdays & Fridays at 6pm. In French on Wednesdays at 12 noon. For more info call 0690 54 17 99 or 0690 65 62 11