

St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, St Barts



[Click here to view our latest Sunday Service on YouTube](#)

Our Weekly News

Dear Friends,

This is our twenty-third newsletter of 2020, and we are now nearing the end of August – which will effectively bring the tourist season to a close on St Barts. It is fair to say that this season has been like no other!

Just as in the rest of the world, here on the island we had our lives – both work and leisure – curtailed in order to protect us from the Corona virus. However, this little tropical island has valiantly led from the front in offering residents and visitors the best haven possible, within the limits of health concerns and travel restrictions. It is and will always remain a very special place to live and visit – and nothing, whether hurricanes, viruses or anything else, will ever change that.

Although we are wearing masks a lot of the time, it is still possible to see people's positive smiles, including a few familiar faces returning to the island. The church may not be offering our usual Sunday services, but it remains open for private prayers. And our little Visitor/Prayer Book has had some notable signatures; including recently that of Salinne Freer Passburg, who many of you will remember from church (and the only person who was allowed to interrupt Father Charlie's sermons by raising her hand and asking questions!).

It was an added benefit during the lockdown to have Father Charlie Vere Nicoll with us on island celebrating the Eucharist each week - which we then able to share virtually with you all. And although he left St Barts a few weeks ago, I am pleased to say that Father Charlie is with us again this week celebrating from his home in Switzerland – and giving us one of his wonderful sermons!

Our musical offering this week starts with *Here I am Lord* (aka *I, the Lord of sea and sky*), which is many people's favourite hymn, and which Father Charlie told me was played at his ordination some 21 years ago. This got me thinking nostalgically ... so I have included a few photos of church celebrations from a few years ago. Our meditation piece is *Paris Angelicus*, sung by Laurent Clequin, and we think the second voice is that of Cliff Hood. Our final hymn is *The Blessing*, which Father Charlie introduced to us during the lockdown; in particular the version sung by many different churches across the UK. As Father Charlie said, it has become our 'Anthem' for this period ... with its simple, embracing melody and powerful words (which are reprinted in full at the bottom of this email). Do listen to it again – Father Charlie and I have no doubt that you will find it both moving and uplifting.

At 10am island time on Sunday, we will hold our usual Zoom Coffee Morning (see link below). The subject for discussion is 'Our favourite hymns, either sung in our church or other churches'. Do join us!

Set out below is our prayer list, and I have included a link to a Caring Bridge webpage, which has the latest news about our dear friend Larry O'Donnell, who has been on our prayer list for the past few weeks.

Also listed below is information about how to make an offering to the Church; plus details about our Bestseller Book Group and our virtual Taizé services, as well as a link to previous updates.

We remain safe here on St Barts, with no new Covid-19 cases reported this week. We continue to pray for all those who have been, and continue to be, affected by this virus.

Stay Safe – wash hands, wear masks and keep your distance!

With blessings,
Philip

PS We are continually updating our mailing list, so if you have missed any of our previous emails, there is a link below! Likewise, please let me know if you wish to unsubscribe or know anyone who might like to be added.

Links

1. Sunday Service

Sunday Playlist: https://bit.ly/StBAC_Sunday23August

Our Service Booklet (as a pdf): <https://bit.ly/StBACservicebook>

2. Offerings to the Church

See details/links below

3. Prayer List

Larry O'Donnell
Brook Lacour
Rosemond Greaux
Paul-Lancelot Clequin
The family of Lucy Day
The family of Marius Stakelborough
The family of Valerie Trangmar
The family of Gaby Charneau

CaringBridge Site for Larry O'Donnell

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/FriendsAndFamilyofLMO>

(NB Sue has specifically requested visitors to the webpage not to make donations - the page is purely so we can have news about Larry and leave our own personal messages of support).

4. Coffee Morning Zoom meeting: Sunday 10am

Via the internet: <https://zoom.us/j/9713397133>

Via the Zoom App: Meeting ID: 9713397133

Via your telephone +1 253 215 8782 (USA) then input the Meeting ID: 9713397133

5. Bestseller Book Club – An informal discussion group, which meets on Zoom every three/four weeks. Our next meeting is on **Monday 31st August** when we will be discussing **Dunbar by Edward St Aubyn** (a modern retelling of Shakespeare's King Lear).

6. Past Corona Updates

You can visit our website if you wish to read any of our previous updates:

https://bit.ly/StBAC_CoronaUpdates

7. Taizé services

These are also posted on our YouTube Channel.

There are several virtual services uploaded, as well as composite playlists with some of our favourite Taizé chants.

Our own virtual Taizé Services: https://bit.ly/StBAC_VirtualTaize

Favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize1

More favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize2

And more favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize3

Even more favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize4

Some more favourite Taizé Chants: https://bit.ly/StBAC_FavouriteTaize5

The Church brings spiritual energy to the island of St Barts, for both residents and visitors alike.

Please help us continue to reach out ...

Online Offering

You can make a secure donation online using your credit card. You are able to specify your donation to be either a one-off payment or monthly.

[Online Donations](#)

Sending a check

You can also send checks to:
Friends of St Bartholomew's Church
106 West River Road,
Rumson, NJ 07760

[Church Website](#)



His door is always open - to bless you and give you peace!

Words to the song '*The Blessing*'

The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His Face to you
And give you peace
Amen

May His favour be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children and their children

May His presence go before you
And behind you and beside you
All around you and within you
He is with you, He is with you

In the morning, In the evening
In your coming and your going
In your weeping and rejoicing
He is for you, He is for you
Amen

