

CAROL SINGING AROUND THE PARISH 2017
 Wednesday 13th December Barthomley
 Thursday 14th December Balterley and Englesea
 Brook

We aim to field strong choirs on both nights so that we can cover the whole parish. The proceeds will be shared between our Church Funds and St Bertoline's charitable giving initiatives.

Please meet at the White Lion at 6.30pm for departure at 6.45pm. Warm clothing, strong shoes and torches required. Adults and accompanied children welcome, no previous experience necessary, the more the merrier. Everyone is guaranteed a great evening ending with warm refreshments in the homes of two generous volunteers. If you would like to offer hospitality on either of the evenings please contact Chris Bailey 01270 873253 or Len Griffin 01270 879771



(If you know you are going to be out, or would prefer the Carol Singers not to call please contact Chris Bailey 01270 873253)

Christmas Eve

24th December at 4pm

CHRISTINGLE combined with the NATIVITY

Specially for the children.

Candle-lit service with collection going to the Church of England Children's Society.



Donate £130 to St Bertoline's at Nil cost to You!!.

Here's news of an unusual opportunity to give £130 to St Bertolines without reaching for your cheque book !.

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group is celebrating its 130th anniversary by offering to donate £130 to a nominated church for each new home insurance policy taken out with them in the twelve months to 30 September 2018. For a quote call on Freephone 0800 783 0130 quoting TRUST 130 & St Bertolines or visit www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130

St Bertoline's –Why we're here.

That the community we serve may know that St Bertoline's is here to profess the faith, to celebrate it in worship and prayer, and to share it in fellowship, so that we may say, "We would see Jesus".

The Rectory November 19th 2017 Barthomley

My dear Friends,

For the Church, December and Advent mean the new year is with us, so a thought or two about what lies ahead of us during this next twelve months.

At its meeting last week, the PCC spent a considerable time discussing a particular "what if" situation. Our application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant to restore the Moses and Aaron paintings has been sent in. We should know the result by the beginning of 2018. The "what if" is how to respond in the event of our application failing. No answer was arrived at, nor was that the purpose of our discussion, but to be forewarned is to be forearmed. At least we would not be taken by surprise. We still have in our 2018 fixtures the Heritage/Moses and Aaron Weekend – September 8th and 9th, which is also St Bertoline's Tide.

At its September meeting the PCC agreed to take up the sponsorship of a couple working with the Church Mission Society in Tanzania. Festo and Grace Kanungha are deeply involved in education at St John's Seminary in the Diocese of the Rift Valley. The Seminary is a Nursery, Primary School, Secondary School and Bible College. Our sponsorship is initially for three years, to start in February next year.

Grace and Festo are expecting to be in England in the Spring of next year. We are in the early stages of planning a visit to Barthomley for them, hopefully with their two sons, Zephaniah and William, aged 4 and 2.

I am sure that 2018 will have much more in store for us – this is just a taster of things to come. Meanwhile, to get us going, we have all the preparations for Christmas to look forward to, as well as the celebration of the festival of our Lord's coming among us: as St John puts it 'pitched his tent with us'.

A very happy Christmas to all of you.

Darrel and Angela Speedy

CALENDAR for JANUARY 2018

January

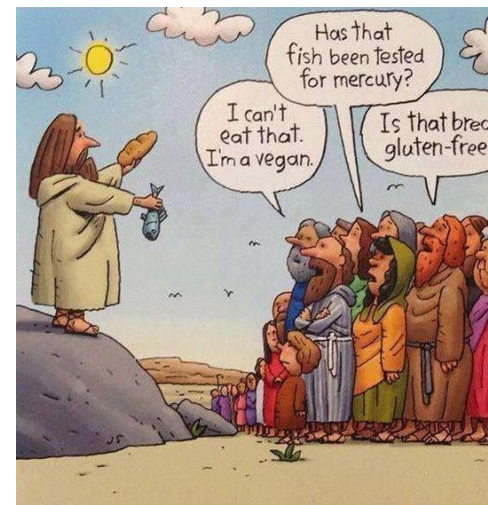
7.	SUNDAY	EPIPHANY
		10.30am Sung Eucharist (CW)
14.	SUNDAY	SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
		10.30am Family Communion
17.	Wednesday	Parochial Church Council 7.30pm Village Hall
21.	SUNDAY	THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
		10.30am Sung Eucharist (BCP)
28.	SUNDAY	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
		10.30am Mattins



Again a large agenda awaited members on the evening of the AGM. However most items covered our planning for parties and responding to invitations. This was dealt with before we were taken on our trip to India!

Well, it was a trip via Oxford. Our President, Bev Newton had recently been on a course at Denman College, the WI's centre for learning. There is always a wide range of courses to choose from including cookery, craft and life-style. Everyone is welcome – men and women, members and non-members. Accommodation is included and the catering is divine. Bev had chosen “An Introduction to Bollywood Dancing” as her course! So this was more of an experience – no need for notebooks and masses of reading! She led our AGM dressed in her full dance regalia (she had made her own outfit). Her dress was in the style of a colourful sari, it had a gold border and was dripping with shiny discs. Shoes of course were sequined! Bev then taught the members the range of hand movements she had learned during the dances. The Village Hall suddenly turned into a scene from “Slumdog Millionaire”! Normal service was resumed in due course. Bev accepted the invitation to lead us as President again for 2018 and we were delighted to welcome 3 new members to the Committee so we are very optimistic about the future of our Institute. New members bring fresh ideas and enrich the W.I. experience for us all. We are going to The Academy restaurant at The South Cheshire College for our Christmas celebration so no one has to wash up!

Our first meeting of the new year 2nd January at Barthomley Village Hall starting at 7pm. Our speaker will be Roger Browne who will be talking about the common ground between Jazz and Musical Theatre using his electric piano to illustrate – just my cup of tea! Sounds exciting. Why not join us for the first meeting of 2018. We are a warm and friendly group who would like to expand.



St Luke's Hospice – Christmas Card Boycott

Jo Tomlinson, Staff Nurse at St Lukes, is organising a fund raising project. It will cost £31.04 an hour to care for one patient on Christmas Day. We have been invited to fund one or more of these hours by taking part in the Christmas Card Boycott. Instead of sending cards to colleagues, the idea is to donate the money saved by donating to St Lukes. The display is in church but you don't have to go to church to partake. Just drop off your donation at The Rectory or to Chris Bailey at the Old Rectory or Len Griffin, 8 Dart Close Alsager. Remember St Luke's give care not cards and they promise to make that time on Christmas Day as special as they can.

Len Griffin

BARTHOMLEY TEA-SET
 The next meeting is on Tuesday 12th December 2017 at 2pm
THE STORY OF SOAP AND ITS PRODUCTION
 Presented by MATTHEW LEPP of
 TigerMuffin Soaps
 bringing their products, gift sets
 and gift bags to buy.
 Admission of £2.50 includes afternoon tea

Village Hall Cheese and Wine quiz evening 28th October
 What a wonderful evening! A 12 foot cheeseboard and an unlimited flow of wine enhanced an evening of fun by way of a cheese and wine inspired quiz which challenged everyone's brain cells; memory; and team skills. The highlight of which was a “Call my Bluff” style blind wine tasting. The panel of 3, Alan Smith, Lynne Evans and Laurence Bennion all put in Bafta award winning performances!
 Alan was Quizmaster and also organised the evening and our thanks to him and everyone who helped him for a really fun evening. We hope the new formula continues! Modesty prevents me telling you which team won, suffice to say our celebrations were very quiet and mooted!

Viv Belcher