

Flower Ladies

Over the last few years some of the staunch older flower ladies have hung up their secateurs. It is a great loss to lose their creativity and experience.

I wish to thank them all for their hard work and support over the years. Although a working team before, they all took on the challenge of the "Flower Festival" and continued on there afterwards wowing the parish with their artistry.

As described by them, I hope "the young ones" will follow in their steps, ignited by their flare and passion.

Thank you all you lovely ladies and happy retirement.

Jackie Marshall

St Bertoline's Christmas Fayre 2024 Saturday 30th November 9:30am-12:30pm



*Come one, come all, to St Bertoline's Fair,
A festive delight, with Christmas in the air!
On November 30th, there will be fun for all,
So get yourselves down to the village hall!
Stalls filled with treasures, perfect for gifts,
From handmade crafts to holiday twists.*



*Try your luck at games, with prizes galore,
and see what the season has waiting in store!
A magical morning to spread Christmas cheer,
At St. Bertoline's – don't miss it this year!*

Any donations for prizes for the stalls, tombola and hamper would be greatly appreciated. There will be boxes located at the back of the church to collect donations. If you would like to volunteer on the day please contact

Tabitha Leather
tabitha.leather@yahoo.com



Scan to donate to St. Bertoline's Church. Help to meet its escalating costs.

From The Rectory

"See I am making all things new"

Those words come from the Book of Wisdom. The natural world shows forth God's power to restore and renew. Autumn by autumn the leaves fall from the trees. "In the eyes of the foolish they seem to have died." But in next to no time new buds appear and in the Spring nothing can hold back the new life. Day by day the sun goes down and darkness falls. The day "Seems to have died." But come the morning, the cycle begins again. New day, new life.

Everyday the same is true of ourselves. At the end of the day we fall into bed. Activity ceases – Sleep takes over us like a mini-death. But in a matter of hours we bounce back;

"Through sleep and darkness safely brought,
Restored to life and power and thought."

Belief in God opens the door to perceptions of his power and glory. God, who is love, cannot be other than loving. And love has a special power to make things new. We know the truth of that through our own experience. People walking through illness can be brought into the light through the patient love of those who care for them. People who have lost their self-esteem through what they perceive as failure can be built up into newness of life by others who entrust them lovingly with their confidence. People who find assurance in the experience of loving and being loved becomes, in effect, a new person.

At this season of the year we remember God's Saints – men and women who, believing in God, have caught a glimpse of his glory and reflected it into the world by their deeds, their words, their life-style.

Not many people in the northern hemisphere welcome November with open arms. It is the first month of Winter. Autumn mists give way to fog dirty and dangerous. The sun loses its warmth and there's an all pervading dampness. But the month has its compensations. The Festival of All Saints and All Souls which we are celebrating in church on Sunday 3rd November provides an opportunity for us to say "Thank You" for the people in Christian history down through the ages – people who found new life in responding to the saving work of Jesus Christ.

This month also come the Fireworks, Rockets, Catherine Wheels, Sparklers, Cascades of Stars, Roman Candles burning brightly, brightness which illuminates the smiling faces of those we love.

The November sky is dark but it can be brightened by the Fireworks. The gloom of a sinful world is dispelled by saints made new. "See – I am making all things new."

With every Blessing
Peter



SO MUCH TO BE GRATEFUL FOR

October was a busy but enjoyable month with two christenings and the excellent Harvest Supper. Thank you to all who supported the Harvest Supper and especially to those who catered for such a large number. Jackie Marshall made a beautiful Autumn Door Wreath for the raffle and many others gave prizes. Brian Whittaker and his family entertained us. Now we move into November and I think poppies and Remembrance. Our Service of Remembrance is at 10.30am on Sunday 10th November; a very special poignant time, do join us, come, wear your poppy with pride. We move on to the Cheese and Wine with Quiz on Saturday 16th November at 7.00pm then the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30th November 9.30am-12.30pm, both occasions which we hope you will support. The Tea Set flourishes; come and join us on Tuesday 19th November 2-4pm in the Village Hall when Rev Brian Williams will regale us with "Life on his Narrow Boat".

At the recent Harvest Festival Service, in lieu of fresh, dried or tinned goods, money gifts were made to the Cheshire Agricultural Chaplaincy for the necessary work they do with the farming community. The C.A.S send their sincere thanks for the splendid donation of £359-50 sent from Barthomley Church and assure us the money will be put to good use. A personal thank you to the many people who sent me cards, gifts, flowers and phoned me during my recent surprise stay in hospital. Your many acts of kindness were much appreciated and I realise how lucky I am to live in this caring community. Sincere thanks.

Chris Bailey Churchwarden

Press Release for Barthomley WI following the October Meeting

It's sometimes interesting at this time of year to reflect on the variety of speakers who have visited us in the past 12 months. It also helps our programme secretary to plan ahead for our next year. Variety is essential. This year we all enjoyed individual guidance from a leading image consultant on how to recognise that clothes should be an extension of ourselves - we loved that! We also received much valuable advice in September on growing our own flowers and vegetables when we invited May and her husband to share the secrets of their success and how they manage to win lots of trophies at the many county shows they enter each summer.



However, plans for October involved something self-generated, so we asked two of our own very talented members to lead us in a Christmas Craft activity. The end product was to be an angel to hang on our tree. We followed our instructions diligently and despite getting our fingers stuck with glue, we still managed a cup of tea and a slice of cake at the same time. Naturally all the angels were perfect and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the activity.

Next month we will be holding our AGM, so I'm sure there will be lots of time for reflection on the past year and enthusiasm for the new year ahead! We would love to see some new faces and welcome visitors if you would like to visit. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.pm in Barthomley Village Hall.

