

Dates for your diary

March 24th. Vestry Meeting 7.30pm
March 31st. Fete Committee meeting 7.30pm
April 12th. APCM meeting 12 midday

What's On and Coming soon

Zoom course on Martin Luther King Jnr

Rev Jonathan is taking a five week course on Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Civil Rights Movement on Zoom on behalf of Adult Learning at St Albans Cathedral. Continues on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. If you are interested the link to book is www.stalbanscathedral.org/Event/redeeming-the-soul-of-america

St. Bart's Book Swap and Library

IS OPEN for swapping books. Please feel free to borrow books from the library or bring books in for others to share.

Medieval Music Concert:

On Friday 15 May 2026 at 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm), at the historic **St Mary's Church, Northchurch, Marco Cannavo** and **Steve Tyler** present **Musica Medievalis**, an instrumental journey into the music of medieval Europe. Featuring hurdy-gurdy and its early predecessors, alongside harp, lute, citole, portative organ, bladder pipe, and tambourine, the concert explores rhythms and melodies from both sacred and secular traditions, interpreted with imaginative freedom while remaining rooted in historical sources. Tickets are £15.00 and concessions £12.00. Please follow the link: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/marocannavo/2018737>

Wigginton Preschool Craft activities for children

Hi all, we hope you are keeping well. Just wanted to let you know Wigginton Preschool & Little Stars are posting various craft activities on their Facebook pages. Lovely ideas to keep children busy.

St. Barts Weekly News

Rector: Rev. Canon Jonathan Gordon 01442 871547

Priest: Rev. Michael Eggleton 0758 5600408

Readers: Peggy Sear and David White

Sunday 15th. March Mothering Sunday

8am Holy Communion BCP
10am Parish Eucharist
Hymns: 313, 106, 298, 21

Readings:

Exodus 2: 1-10
2 Corinthians 3: 12-17
Luke 2; 33-35

6pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 31: 1-16
Micah 7
James 5

Sunday 22nd March Fifth Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion BCP
10am Parish Eucharist
Hymns: 442, 231, 479, 30

Readings

Ezekiel 37: 1-14
Psalm 120
Romans 8; 6-11
John 11: 1-45

6pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 30
Lamentations 3: 19-33
Matthew 20: 17-end

**Remember, our clocks go forward on
29th. March at 1am from GMT to BST**



***Services during
Lent and Easter***

Sunday 15th. March
Mothering Sunday
10am

Friday 27th March
School Easter Service

Sunday 29th. March
Palm Sunday 10am

Thursday 2nd. April
Maundy Thursday
7.30pm

Friday 3rd. April
Good Friday Devotions
2-3pm

Sunday April 5th.
Easter Day
8am Holy Communion
10am He is Risen
Eucharist
Easter Egg hunt at
11am

Origin of Hymns

“And can it be”

Charles Wesley wrote “And Can It Be” in the days immediately following his profound evangelical conversion on 21 May 1738. The hymn captures the astonishment, relief, and joy of someone who has suddenly discovered the depth of divine grace. It stands alongside “Where Shall My Wondering Soul Begin?” as one of Wesley’s earliest and most personal hymns.

Significance:

The hymn quickly became a defining anthem of the early Methodist movement. Its blend of personal testimony, biblical imagery, and bold theological declaration helped shape the spiritual identity of Methodism. The famous line “My chains fell off, my heart was free” echoes both Acts 12 and Wesley’s own experience of liberation.

More than 280 years later, “And Can It Be” remains one of the most beloved hymns in the English-speaking church—cherished for its emotional honesty, doctrinal clarity, and enduring sense of wonder.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, when the world seems in disarray, and nobody really seems to know what is going on, help us to trust that you are ultimately in control. We pray for all the innocent people caught up in the conflicts. We pray for the leaders of the nations that they may be people of humility, integrity and peace. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Lord, you saw everyone. You noticed what was going on. You understood people so you knew immediately how to serve them. Forgive us for the times when we walk by on the other side, when we don’t appreciate what is really going on, when we fail to respond appropriately when people need our help.

We pray for those in our church fellowship and local community who are hurting today. We pray for those who are sick, especially.... We pray for those who are sad, remembering... We pray for those who are confused, lonely, anxious or unloved, especially.... Lord, reveal yourself to them and help them know your closeness.

Lord, we pray for all those who live with a disability. We pray that they will not receive discrimination in their schools, workplaces, local amenities. We pray for schools that are struggling to meet the needs of young people with extra challenges. Help us always to see the person you have created and not the people society wants us to see.

In the UK we are celebrating Mothering Sunday today, so we thank God for our mothers and/or all those who have been like mothers to us. We pause to remember a special moment or something kind they have done for us and we praise God.

Lord, we also remember those whose family life is not happy; those who are not able to live with their natural families; those who live in abusive households; those who live with sadness or pain; those where a family member is in prison. Be especially close to these people today,

