



St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Our Vision: *Transforming lives through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Our Mission: *To share Christ's love and His Word with our community and the world through Christ-centered outreach, worship, prayer, and biblical study.*

VOLUME 63, NUMBER 6

The Chatter

JUNE 2020

HOW LONG DO WE HAVE TO WAIT?

I know that is a question many of us have been asking. It's hard to believe but we have been in quarantine for almost 80 days now! Really a double quarantine as the word "quarantine" comes from the Italian word "quaranta" and referred to the 40 days that sailors had to isolate themselves in port if there had been an outbreak of disease on their ship. In the Bible forty days was often a period of time that God used as a test. Think of the rain falling upon the earth for forty days when Noah and his family were in the ark or how Goliath taunted the Israelites for forty days before he faced young David and his slingshot. And of course, it was Jesus who fasted in the wilderness for 40 days and nights.

Such testing requires patience and perseverance. It indeed has been difficult as we have socially distanced and not been able to experience the joy of worshiping together. And yet, we still have been able to worship and pray at home through the live stream services. Don't think for a moment that such prayer and worship are not effective in the eyes of God. It is not the place of worship that is most important, but the attitude and object of our worship that is essential. Think of Jesus' words to the Samaritan woman at the well when He said that **"God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."** (Jn. 4:24) He said this in response to her statement that for the Samaritans, Mt. Gerizim was the place of true worship.

Certainly COVID-19 has disrupted our lives in a major way. We're all grieving something. The loss of work, sports seasons, graduations, face-to-face time with family and friends, and of course gathering in person as the Church! Some of us are sick or know someone who is, and some of us have lost loved ones to the pandemic. God says during times like these we are to cry out to Him and surround ourselves with brothers and sisters in Christ. And I realize this is the challenge we all face. We haven't been able to do that in the usual way. We have followed the directions and advice of health **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

St. Bart's Web Information

www.stbartston.org

Also see our [Facebook](#) page for more!



St. Bartholomew's
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Tonawanda, NY 14150
Phone: (716) 831-1777

and government officials because it was in the best interest of health and safety. This will continue. In fact, the bishops of our Anglican Church have encouraged all churches to follow the guidelines of their local officials. Bishop Bill Atwood has instructed that the following be implemented before and when we open back up for worship. The words in bold print are my comments. The requirements are as follows:

- 1) Cooperate with the phases implemented by local authorities. ***THIS IS KEY and why we will not be reopening for at least a few more weeks at best.***
- 2) Sanitation and distancing procedures must be followed - ***This will mean seating will be spaced out and we will open the Fr. Amend Hall if necessary to provide the space needed.***
- 3) Face masks are required for everyone - ***Please bring your own face mask but if you forget one, we will have new face masks available for you to use.***
- 4) Communion is in "one kind" for now. ***We will administer communion in the upright position with 6 feet in between each person while you are in line.***
- 5) Child care, Children's Sunday School, and Children's Church should not be offered yet. Remember, children do not understand distancing! They will have to stay with parents. ***Thus, there will be no Sunday School or Nursery Care, and no Coffee Hour during the summer months.***

We will remove all prayer books and bibles from the pews so bring your own bible and prayer book if you can. The service, however, will be on the screens for everyone to follow.

Here is a summary of the Bishop's recommendations:

- 1) That we lag behind the phases introduced by local authorities of what is permitted by a few weeks.
- 2) In person church gatherings outside of Sunday morning should be extremely limited for now. ***(When we reopen we hope to proceed with the summer service schedule: 4:30 PM Sat., 8 & 10 AM Sun. & 9:30 AM Wed.)***

Again, I realize these are difficult times with tough adjustments. But they are all done for the safety and well-being of those around us. We do not know if there will be a "second wave" of infections and it would be extremely unwise and reckless to let down our guard down at this time. Even more important, it is sad to see some in the wider Christian community making this a divisive issue. Whether you think the restrictions are necessary or not, such differences of opinion should NEVER divide us. We need to be patient with the process, with one another, and as God's Word constantly reminds us: think of others before ourselves!

So be encouraged! This is only for a season. We will be back together before you know it and though it may be a bit awkward, in the short term we will not only get through this together, but I believe we can become spiritually stronger because of it.

I look forward to seeing everyone SOON!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Ward

We would like to thank **Fr. Russell Amend, Rector Emeritus**, for donating a new silver and gold plated chalice and paten in memory of his beloved wife, Joan Katherine Valentine Amend, who went home to the Lord on Sunday April 26, 2020.



VESTRY

Sunday Services: Will continue to stream live until it is safe to do otherwise. You can click on a Facebook link from our website (stbartston.org). It should be noted that when we open for public worship, it will be under the guidelines and requirements of the governing officials, the ACNA House of Bishops and the Diocese. Until then, we will not be doing anything beyond what is required and recommended. We need to remember there are serious liability issues if we do otherwise.

Remote Vestry Meetings: Due the Covid-19 virus and the social distancing requirement, the full vestry met once again with Fr. Ward via “Zoom”.

Donations: On-line giving is now available through Rebelgive. Please go to our website for the link. If you do not have the ability to give on line, please contact the office to notify them a check is being mailed or being dropped in the mail. This will ensure your check is not blown away because the door on the mailbox is not closed properly and/or tightly.

North Tonawanda Food Pantry: Recognizing the need to do our part in social distancing, please consider making a much-needed financial donation in lieu of dropping off bags of groceries.

Printed Sermons: Knowing some of you do not have the means to watch services on line, a printed version of the sermons can be sent to you. Please contact the office if you would like to receive a printed copy.



Happy FATHER'S Day

TO ALL OF THE MEN
OF OUR
CONGREGATION

CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OF THE
HIGH SCHOOL AND
COLLEGE SENIORS
GRADUATING THIS YEAR



PRAY for those in the MILITARY

Please keep those from our Parish Family who are serving our country in the Armed Forces in your prayers.

Please let the church office know if there is anyone that should be added to or removed from this prayer list.

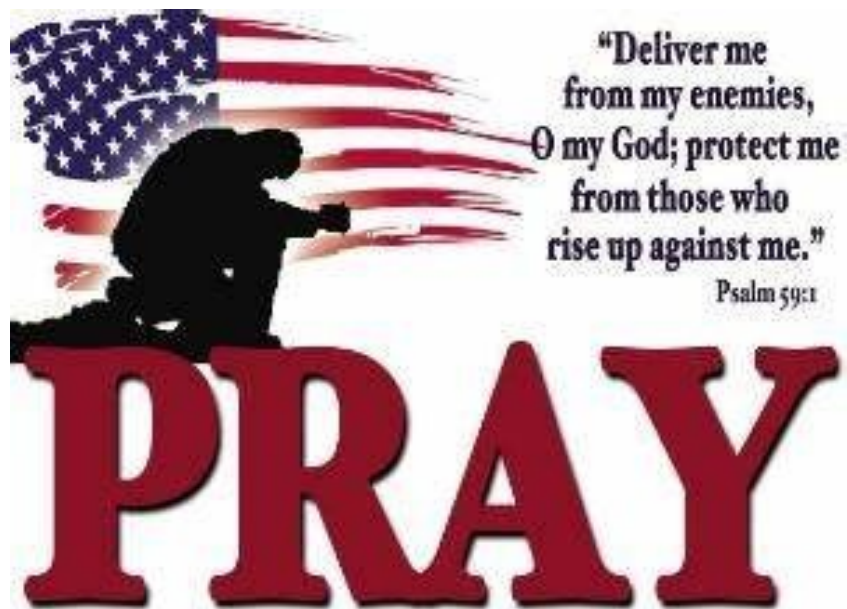
Virginia Boy– US Navy

James Kerins– US Army

A.J. Matteliano– US Army

Matthew Prohaska– US Air Force

Andrew Rebl– US Army



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

*All material for the **JULY** Chatter should be submitted no later than June 21. Chatter deadline is **ALWAYS** the 3rd Tuesday of the month.*

Thank you.

ALL activities at the church are suspended until further notice. Watch for email updates as to when things may resume. Until we meet again, keep everyone in your prayers.

FOOD PANTRY: Because we are unable to collect food at this time please consider making a financial donation to:

North Tonawanda Food Pantry

100 Ridge Road

North Tonawanda, NY

14120



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 1 Candace Kane, Mary Krause,
Linda McGee

June 2 Abby Hoy, William Ruhland,
Craig Schwab

June 3 Emily Bush, Robert Krieger,
Chailyn Seymour, Chase Seymour,
Chyler Seymour, Jennifer Stacks

June 4 Pam Machelor, Michael Spence Jr.

June 6 Lee Hilliker, Richard Hubbard,
Ellen Siegel, Gregory VanNorman,
Edward Zurzuski

June 7 MJ Brzeczowski

June 8 Frank LoCicero, Emma Scibetta

June 9 Mary Hillery, Kristin Poeller,
Karin Seymour, Gary Zuefle

June 10 Marjorie Saunders

June 11 Louis Callari, Carol Lower, Linda Soltis

June 12 Karen Heer

June 13 Benjamin Shotwell, Truth Woolcott

June 16 Beverly Graber, Brenda Small

June 17 Tom Daniele, Robert Derrett III,
Debra McGuire

June 18 Leslie Horvath

June 19 Neal Hodgson, Dillon Lobdell,
Carol Nelson, Griffin Poeller,
Christopher Szymanski,
Stephen Tarapata

June 20 Kyle Brunner, Madaline Crosby,
Doreen Flatley

June 21 Brett Kyser, Audra Lakeman

June 23 Maryellen Anello

June 25 Christopher Abramo, Juliette Cleary,
Grace Giambanco, Barbara Hubbard

June 26 Eden Bush, Jason Crosby,
Archie Wilkowski

June 27 Jonathan Merrick,
David Waddington Jr.

June 28 Babe Decourcey, Matthew LaDuca,
James Schwartzmyer

June 29 Elijah Osmon

June 30 Carl Calabrese, Anita Will

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY
EVERYONE!!!***

July 1 Bryce Sortino

July 2 Carl Hoffman

July 3 Caleb Chiaravalle, Daniel MacLeay,
Carolyn Oliveri, Rosemary Styn

July 4 Joseph Fisher, Denise Stacks,
Brenda Wisz

July 5 Mary Machelor, Anthony Prohaska

If you notice a mistake in the birthday list please call (831-1777) or email the secretaries: secretaries@stbartston.org

PERSECUTED CHURCH CALENDAR

June

Hearing God's Word

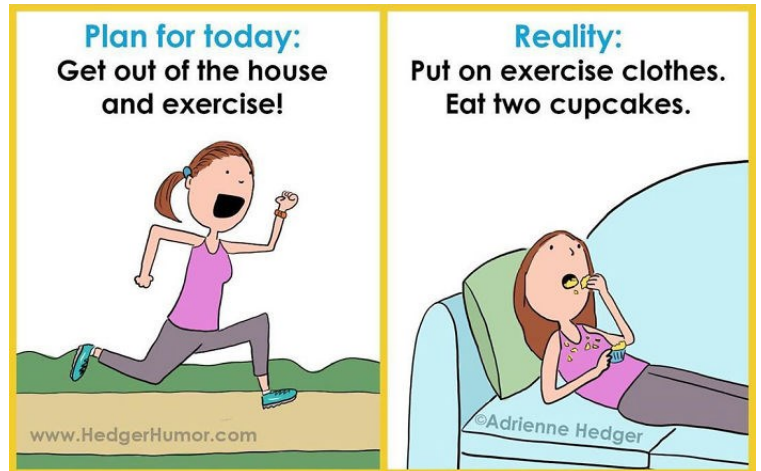
Believers in northern Nigeria rejoice after receiving digital audio Bible players in a region where Islamic extremists have destroyed thousands of Bibles.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 EGYPT Pray that churches in Egypt will continue to send missionaries throughout the Middle East.	2 NORTH KOREA Pray for imprisoned Christians who are tortured.	3 AFGHANISTAN Pray that every tribal group and language will have access to God's Word.	4 SAUDI ARABIA Pray that more Christians will be sent to Saudi Arabia to be Christ's witnesses.	5 NEPAL Pray for the protection of those distributing Bibles.	6 BANGLADESH Pray for national leaders taking the gospel to Rohingya refugees.
7 MALI Pray that Christian converts from Islam will boldly share the gospel.	8 UZBEKISTAN Pray that Christian leaders will not be forced to leave the country to support their families.	9 TURKEY Pray that the thousands of estranged and persecuted Christian refugees will receive hope and comfort.	10 YEMEN Pray for an end to civil war and suffering.	11 SUDAN Pray for hospital chaplains in the Nile Mountains as they comfort patients in Jesus' name.	12 PAKISTAN Pray that pastors will remain faithful despite continuous oppression and persecution.	13 INDIA Pray that persecutors will come to know and accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
14 KYRGYZSTAN Pray that Christians who support themselves through microbusinesses will witness to their neighbors.	15 CUBA Pray for the safety of leaders and pastors who are interrogated.	16 CHINA Pray for the pastor and members of Early Rain Covenant Church who are in prison.	17 UGANDA Pray for Christian women who are abandoned by their husbands because of their faith.	18 INDONESIA Pray that front-line workers will be bold and wise as they share the gospel.	19 KENYA Pray that young people will follow Christ and reject worldly ideologies.	20 MALI Pray for stability in the north so displaced Christians can return.
21 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Pray that the church remains united despite national fragmentation due to ongoing conflict.	22 TURKEY Pray that Christian families will be a light in this dark country.	23 ETHIOPIA Pray that believers whose homes and belongings have been destroyed.	24 TURKMENISTAN Pray that Christians will be able to disengage existing Turkmen discourse and watch Christian programs.	25 PHILIPPINES Pray for the protection and wisdom of front-line workers traveling through mountains and jungles.	26 IRAN Pray for the disarming, wisdom and understanding of teams following up on inquiries made by Muslims seeking Christ.	27 SOMALIA Pray for so-called believers who are unable to fellowship with other believers.
28 PAKISTAN Pray that Bibles distributed throughout the country will be read and applied to believers' lives.	29 MYANMAR Pray that new believers in rural areas will reject drug abuse and the drug trade.	30 NIGERIA Pray for rural evangelists who bring the gospel to their fellow tribesmen at great risk.				

Quarantined!!!



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.



"It feels like God has sent us all to our rooms to think about what we've done."

