



ST BARBARA'S PARISH CHURCH EARLSDON // ISSUE NO.478 // AUTUMN 2023

ST BARBARA'S NEWSLETTER

stbarbaras.com

Buzz at St B's Weekend Away



A group of parents and children from St Barbara's spent a fantastic weekend together in the Peak District back in June. Together we enjoyed walks, songs around the camp fire and plenty of tea and cake! But best of all we deepened our relationships with God and one another. Roll on Buzz Weekend 2024!

Join us for Tearfund's Big Quiz Night

St Barbara's Church is joining in again with Tearfund's Big Quiz Night on Saturday 7 October. The Big Quiz Night is a nationwide, multi-venue quiz. On the same night hundreds of churches and thousands of people will come together across the country for a night of quizzing fun, raising money to help end extreme poverty through the work of Tearfund (www.tearfund.org), a charity which fights to combat global poverty and injustice.

The quiz is suitable for all the family and will take place in St Barbara's church hall, with a break part way through for fish and chips (alternatives available, including vegetarian options). Tickets (to cover the cost of the meal) are £6 per person and should be booked in advance. You will have opportunities to support the work of Tearfund both on the night and online via their Just Giving page (<https://justgiving.com/page/st-bs-bigquiz2023>). Please arrive by 6.30pm ready for a prompt start at 6.45pm. Either come with a team of up to six or join one when you arrive. For more information, or to book tickets, contact Alison on stbarbarasocial@gmail.com or 07960 04 2537.

Thought for the Season: *More than bricks and mortar*



This summer I was fortunate to visit a number of European cities. Some places left me open-mouthed in awe or in surprise.

In Rome, I walked into the ancient Senate House in the Roman forum, two thousand years old, and one could almost touch the history of the place, as we stood in the place where Roman emperors and senators would debate. In Amsterdam, on a cycling tour of the city, I was taken completely by surprise when we turned a corner and cycled through the centre of the famous Rijksmuseum, the wonderful art galleries on view through the windows on either side of us.

Places do indeed have the power to move us, their histories to shape us. This month, we celebrate that the St Barbara's church building was dedicated 93 years ago. As churches go, it is not a particularly old building, but even in its short life-time it has witnessed many life-changing events. It

has witnessed over a thousand baptisms - each one a celebration of the gift of new life and a commitment to following in the ways of Christ. It has witnessed hundreds of weddings and blessings, the celebration of love and commitment of two people to each other. It has witnessed hundreds of funerals too, the place of grief and consolation, of sadness and hope. And it has witnessed in the region of 150,000 services(!), each one offering prayer and worship, thanksgiving and supplication.

No wonder it is a special place, a place where many find peace and joy. But, as important as it is, the building is not nearly as important as the people who are part of it. The church is first and foremost not a building but a people—a people bound together by love for God, each other and the world around them, a people committed to enabling all to experience life in all its fullness.

As I returned from a holiday seeing some remarkable places, I was reminded afresh that the greatest joy is in the people around us. Do come and enjoy our special building, and do come and be part of this community of faith too - you will be very welcome.

Rev Tulo Raistrick

Why not visit stbarbarasearlsdon.com/talks to read more reflections on faith and life?

Choir concert - Noah

St Barbara's Church Choir are staging a concert in the church at 3.30pm on Sunday 22 October. They will be singing Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo, a light-hearted cantata, originally written for children, about the adventures of Noah and his family. The concert will also feature a few choral pieces and some instrumental pieces from soloists or small groups. Do come along, everyone is welcome and no tickets are required. The concert is free but there will be a donations bucket in aid of a charity yet to be confirmed. Tea and cake will be served afterwards.

St Barbara's Church

Christmas Fair

Saturday 25 November 2023
11am—3pm

*Featuring stalls, refreshments and some singing from our choir
Jewellery, knitted and crocheted items, handicrafts, bunting,
cakes, books*



Church Services

You can join all our 10am Sunday services in person, or online via our church website: stbarbaras.com

Every Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

This is a quiet, meditative service.

10.00am Parish Communion

This is our main Sunday service, lasting just over an hour, attended by adults and children of all ages. We sing hymns and modern songs, led by an excellent choir, there is a thought-provoking talk, and time for prayer. There is a Sunday school group for primary and pre-school children during the service.

Every Wednesday (in term time)

9.30am Prayers and Bears

This is a short, fun and special service for the under-5s and their parents/carers, followed by snacks and crafts. It takes place at Earlsdon Methodist Church.

Every Month on a Sunday Afternoon

5.00pm Buzz at St B's (on 17th Sept, 15th Oct, 19th Nov and 10th Dec)

This is a fun, creative and interactive service for families involving lively songs, craft, drama and other activities. It lasts 40 minutes and is followed by sandwiches and cake.

Special Events and Services

Sunday 24th September 10.00am Dedication Service followed by Bring & Share lunch

Saturday 7th October 6.30pm Quiz Night & Fish and Chip Supper (see page 1)

Sunday 8th October 10.00am Harvest Service (see page 4)

Sunday 22nd October 3.30pm Choir Performance 'Captain Noah' (see page 2)

Sunday 5th November 3.00pm Service of Commemoration & Thanksgiving (see page 4)

Sunday 12th November 10.30am Remembrance Day Service

Saturday 25th November St Barbara's Christmas Fair

Sunday 3rd December 10.00am Christingle Service

Saturday 9th December 2.00pm Pies and Poems

Would you like prayer for someone or for yourself? Feel free to email Christine on prayerchstb@gmail.com or telephone the vicar on 07869 603216. Prayers can be said in church services or confidentially—just let us know.

Meet the Andersen Family

How did you come across St Barbara's?

We have been going to St Barbara's since the beginning of 2021. We were looking at getting married in the summer of 2021. We both had some connections to St Barbara's such as David attending scouts there as a child and Amanda attending a relative's wedding there. We both aspired to live in the parish of St Barbara's too so it felt like the right church for us to attend and say our vows in. After talking with the vicar, Tulo, in preparation of our wedding, we knew St Barbara's was going to be a lovely church to be a part of.

What do you like about St Barbara's?

Firstly, we really like the vicar, Tulo. He has made us feel so welcome and shares some similar interests to us.

We love that the church offers numerous services and is very family focused. We enjoyed meeting other St Barbara's families on a weekend away in the Peak District. We have enjoyed getting involved with the crafts for the children who attend Prayers and Bears.

What do you like to do outside church?

As new parents, we spend a lot of time at parent and baby classes. When we do get the time we enjoy yoga, baking, reading, journaling, painting or crafting, hiking and walking with our dog.



Remembering loved ones who have died

On 5th November at 3.00pm, St Barbara's will be holding its annual **Commemoration and Thanksgiving Service for Those who Have Died**. This a quiet and moving service, where we remember those who have died and offer them and ourselves to God.

If there are people that you want to remember who have died, whether recently or in years past, you are very welcome to join us. There will be the opportunity to say prayers and light a candle as a sign of your love. And if you would like someone's name to be read out during the service, then please let Tulo, our vicar, know, either by email on tulo@raistricks.com or by phone on 07869 603216.

Harvest Sunday—Freedom to grow

On Sunday 8th October at our 10am service we will be celebrating Harvest. We will be thanking God for all the good food we are able to enjoy. We will also be looking at how climate change is making it harder and harder for subsistence farmers around the world to grow the food they need to survive. We will be seeing how we can make a difference and stand up for the needs of others around our world. Do come along and join us for a service that will be for all ages. And please do bring along donations of non-perishable food that we will be handing on to Carriers of Hope, a charity working with refugees living in Coventry. All fresh produce will be auctioned after the service, and the money, as well as our offering, will be donated to Tearfund.

CONTACTS

Vicar: Rev'd Tulo Raistrick

07869 603216

tulo@raistricks.com

Hall Bookings: Elaine Parnell

024 7671 5583

stbarbarashallbookings@outlook.com

Choir Director: Mrs Katherine Owen

01926 851568

Organist: Mr Norman Owen

01926 851635

