

A Great Place to Start

St Barbara's has many different kinds of services to suit the wide diversity of people that make up the community of Earlsdon.

From our exciting and inter-active young families service on a Sunday afternoon to our mid-week, quiet and contemplative service of holy communion, there is a service that will meet every need.

On the second Sunday of the month we encourage every one to come together for our **Worship for All** service, a service that expresses our diversity as a church, from the youngest baby to those 100 and above.

Through prayer, drama, visual aids, music and discussion, we share together the joy of being a community to which all are welcome.

In recent months, the children have shared in a meal that has been celebrated for two and a half thousand years, we have been visited by an alien from outer space (in dramatic form only, it must be said!), and we have imagined what it must be like to escape from slavery and arrive in a promised land.

If you haven't been to church for a while, or are interested in coming for the first time, our Worship for All services are a great place to start. Lasting just 50 minutes, they are relaxed and informal, with both well known hymns and easy-to-learn newer songs, and a great place to meet people and be inspired.

Contacts

Vicar Rev'd Tulo Raistrick
024 7501 7889 or
tulo@raistricks.com

The vicar is always ready to help in an emergency but would like to keep Monday as his day off.

Hall Bookings Mrs Elaine Parnell
024 7671 5583

Newsletter Editor Mrs Josie Howie
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Choir Director Mrs Katherine Owen
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For more information go to
www.stbarbarasearlsdon.org.uk



How Great Thou Art

In October an exciting two-week arts festival – How Great Thou Art – takes place in Earlsdon.

Organised by five local churches, including St Barbara's, it promises to be a wonderful celebration of the arts,

from photography to poetry, from dance to drama, from folk music to steel bands.

One of the most exciting ventures is the community opera taking place at St Barbara's – Benjamin Britten's Noye's Fludde – which combines the talents of children, amateurs and professional singers and instrumentalists. It promises to be a fantastic experience, for participants and audience alike. If you would like to get involved then please contact rachel.wildlife@tiscali.co.uk.

Last Words! Recently, the family of St Barbara's were pleased to celebrate the 80th birthday of one of their long standing members. This was Don Driver, but being on holiday in Corsica at the time my husband and I were unable to go and celebrate this event.

Don came to Coventry from Kettering in 1968, in order to improve the street lighting. He was born in London, but his family moved to Kettering during the Blitz. He has been retired for over twenty years but in that time has become a stalwart of St Barbara's always there and always willing when a job wants doing. Married to Andrea, one of our church wardens, between them they form part of the blocks on which St Barbara's is built.

As the Vicar says elsewhere we are a family at St Barbara's loving and supporting each other. And because we see each other as family we are only too happy to bring other people into our sphere and offer friendliness, help and support if and when needed. So having gone all soppy and sentimental let me just reiterate that if you choose to come one Sunday morning you will be very welcome and you might even want to come again—or even have your wedding or your child christened here. We'd love to see you, no special ticket required or obligation to carry this newsletter with you, just come to the service and worship with us and then have a cup of tea afterwards and mingle!! *Josie Ed*



St Barbara's Newsletter

www.stbarbarasearlsdon.org.uk

St Barbara's Parish Church, Earlsdon

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Losing your marbles

Older people may sometimes be written off, or joked about as having "lost their marbles". Well, marbles may be the very thing they do have.

A few months ago my parents came to stay. The children love their grandparents and are always really pleased to see them.

Watching side on as my parents encountered the full frontal force of child enthusiasm and excitement; the barrage of noise and chatter; the bouncing on the sofas and the firing of plastic missiles, there were moments of concern as to whether they would be able to cope. I was conscious of just how demanding a house with children can be.

The children, in their enthusiasm, were as keen as ever to impress grandma and granddad. They proudly presented them with their latest artwork, their ability to stand on their head against a wall until their face goes bright red, and the speed with which they could zoom down the hall on their scooter. And the grandparents, as always, looked

suitably amazed by these feats of creativity and derring-do.

But the amazement didn't just flow one way.

Grandad played a trick with his hands that made it look like he had just chopped off one of his thumbs. The children, needless to say, were suitably impressed.

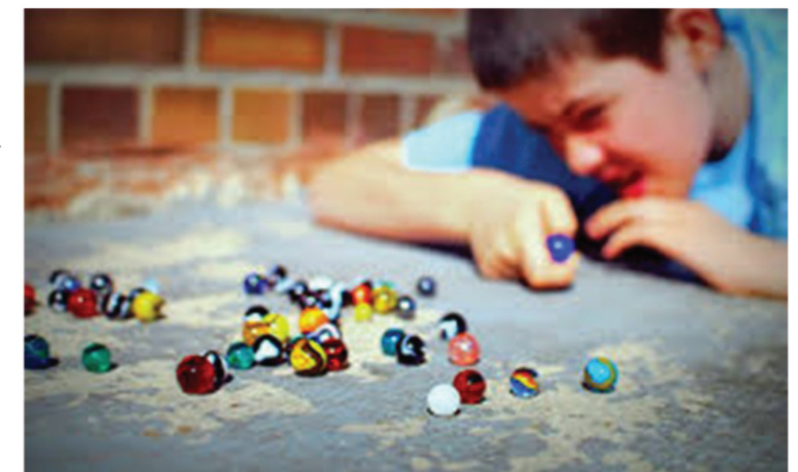
But the highlight of their last visit was when one of our boys found some marbles. He kindly offered to teach grandma the rules of his marble game, only to discover that grandma knew a thing or two about marbles herself. Rolling back the years, she was on hands and knees teaching flicks and spins, cannons and ricochets. This was marbles the likes of which my children had never seen before. And they loved it.

There is a special bond between the old and young that can often bring out the best in both, as was witnessed on our patio that day.

The Bible speaks of the wisdom of the old and the value of the young. In a world that seems to esteem neither the old or the very young, but instead hankers after youthful adult independence, the Bible encourages us to delight in childhood, respect old age and treasure the joy of inter-generational relationships.

Anyone for a game of marbles?

Rev Tulo Raistrick



Say a prayer for me!

At St Barbara's, we try to make sure that the answer to the question "will you pray for me?" is always "Yes".

Because we believe prayer changes things.

We don't always know how or why, but it has been a universal human experience for much of the last few thousand years that prayer makes a difference.

Prayer can change situations. Coincidences seem to happen more often when we pray. And prayer can change us. We can find renewed strength or hope to face a difficult time as we pray. We can find comfort in the knowledge that others are praying for us.

That is why at St Barbara's, prayer is an important part of our life together. We pray regularly for those who are sick or bereaved. And we offer prayer at the end of our services, too.

Harry, an older member of St Barbara's, who has been



praying with people for many years, regularly prays with people after our services as part of our healing prayer team. "People come asking for prayer for themselves or for other people," he says. "Some ask for prayer for healing for physical problems; others for difficult circumstances and other problems. We are encouraged to continue

because often they come back and report that things have changed because of our prayers."

As well as our Healing Prayer Team, there is the opportunity to request prayer for yourself or for someone you know. Just email Christine on cob27@mac.com or ring Tulo the vicar on 024 7501 7889, and they will ensure that a number of people will regularly pray for your request. You don't need to be a member of the church – it is simply our privilege to support you in this way.

Prayer changes things. So do get in touch.

Get me to the church on time

If you are planning a wedding, or know someone who is, have you thought about having the wedding in church?

Here are just a few things we can offer at St Barbara's:

A beautiful building. St Barbara's is a beautiful church, a really fitting place for a couple to speak of their love for one another and make promises to each other. And you'll be following in the footsteps of hundreds of other couples who have been married here over the years.

A wonderful choir. St Barbara's has a great choir who are very happy to sing at weddings. At recent weddings they have sung a real selection of music from modern and contemporary music through to a rousing rendition of Handel's Hallelujah chorus.

A sense of God. Many couples are aware that there is something special, even sacred, about the act of getting married. What better place to recognize that, and to ask for God's blessing, than in church.

Preparation and support. Tulo, the vicar, will help you think through the whole service, making sure it reflects who you are and that it is special to you. He will also help you think about the difference marriage will make to your lives, whether you've already been together for a long time or whether this will be the start of living together.

Prayer. All couples who get married at St Barbara's are prayed for in church for several weeks before their wedding day. We know what an important day it is and we want you to be truly blessed.

A place to return to. Churches aren't just for weddings, but having got married there, it will become a special place for you. It can become the place where you will want to return to week-on-week or to mark other special moments in your lives – the birth of children or an anniversary.

To find out more, do visit the weddings page on our website – www.stbarbarasearlsdon.org.uk - or get in touch with the vicar: tulo@raistricks.com ; 024 7501 7889



WHAT'S ON AT ST BARBARA'S

Every Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

This is a quiet, meditative service which takes place in the beautiful side-chapel inside St Barbara's Church. The service lasts about 40 minutes and is attended by between 10-15 people each week.

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.

It is attended by about 100 people each week and children are especially welcome. We have groups that cater for pre-school, primary and secondary school ages, that meet during the service.

Mid-week Service

Holy Communion: Every Wednesday at **11.30am**

This is a small, intimate communion service that follows the Book of Common Prayer. It provides a space of quiet and stillness in the middle of the week to pray and reflect, and receive communion.

Prayers and Bears: Every Wednesday at **9.30am** at Earlsdon Methodist Church. A service for the under-fives and their parents/carers, followed by snacks and crafts

Every Month

Buzz @ St B's: **19 July 5pm**
16 Aug 5pm
20 Sept 5pm

This is a fun, creative and interactive service for families. The service involves lively songs, craft, drama and other activities. It lasts 40 minutes and is followed by tea, with a delicious range of sandwiches and cakes.

Special Services

Soul Space **2 Aug 6.30pm**
6 Sept 6.30pm

A simple 40 minute service of silence, meditation, prayer and reflection, allowing one's soul to breathe.

Other Events

Friendship Group

This has merged with the Earlsdon Methodist Group which meets every fortnight in Wellspring at 2.15pm

July 22nd 'Footsteps' Christine Lockwood. A programme of Gospel Songs

August Summer Break

Sept 2nd 'Macular Degeneration' Judith Missenden

Social Events

Sunday August 23rd - 1pm

BBQ and sports day, games for the whole family.

Film nights - 7pm for 7.15pm in the church hall, on the first Thursday of the month.

Aug 6th 'The Secret Life of Bees' (2008) 12 The story of a 14 year old girl haunted by the memory of her late mother. She runs

away to a town that holds the secret to her mother's past.

Sept 3rd 'Enough Said' (2013) 12A with Julia Louis-Dreyfus and James Gandolfini. A romance between two divorced people facing the imminent departure of their children blossoms and then falters as Eva learns the truth about her new friend Marianne's ex-husband.

From the Registers

Baptisms

10th May Beatrice Cowlshaw and Charlotte Friend

28th June Ella & Scarlett Moorley, Oskar Dadzis

Weddings

24th May Patricia Settle and Christian Grierson

Funerals

3 June Peggy Lane

Churches Together in Earlsdon & Chapelfields

Prayer Breakfasts Saturdays 8am

1st Aug Earlsdon Methodist Church

5th Sept Hearsall Baptist Church

2nd Oct St Barbara's Church

Other Events



Below are listed a few of the many events on the programme of the Arts Festival from 2-17th October!

Saturday 3rd Oct and Sunday 4th Oct at 6.30pm at St Barbara's Church **'Noye's Fludde'** A community opera by Benjamin Britten
Sun 11th Oct 2:30pm Church walk starting from St Barbara's Church.

Would you like prayer for someone or for yourself?

Feel free to e-mail Christine on cob27@mac.com or telephone the vicar on 024 7501 7889. Prayers could be said at the Wednesday or Sunday services as well as being added to the prayer chain that can be confidential if desired.

