



## ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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March 18, 2020

Dear People of St. Bartholomew's,

Our vestry spent a great deal of our meeting on Sunday discussing how we worship and care for one another in this new time of God's world. This is an unprecedented time in all of our lives as well as in the life of our church. When many of us feel the need for communal worship more than ever, we are denied it, and when we want to connect and support each other more than ever, we feel restrained by the need to protect each other and our greater community. We are praying for God's guidance and your support and participation as we try to address these new needs.

First of all, worship at a distance without face to face community is strange and difficult. Fortunately, we live in a time of advanced technology, even if some of us don't understand or use it, we can take great advantage of it. We are planning online worship opportunities such as [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) which are easy to use (and we can help you learn how to use them). For Facebook click on "not now" when asked to Log In or Create New Account."

Equally important to us, is pastoral care. This is a great concern of the Vestry and Rector and we need your input to help us serve each other as the Body of Christ. We are enclosing a [survey](#) that we need each person who receives it to complete and return to us ASAP. This information will be used to update our records so we may build a stronger community of faith. We all have many different needs: there are families with children who have to go to work or work from home; families with elderly members; and others who may also have underlying health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, or immune deficiencies. Some live alone and have no nearby family members. St. Bartholomew's wants to help all as much as we can while staying within guidance from the CDC and Bishop Wright.

We have thought of some ways that we can help each other and you may have other ideas. Some people who don't have children or older members in their household are volunteering to do shopping or errands for other who may not want or be able to get out. Others have offered to be a buddy and call another person every day to check in with them. Please share any ideas you have either for own needs or how you could help others we can learn new ways to be the Body of Christ. Please pray for our parish and the world as we all seek health and peace in this difficult time for our world.

**Here are few things to look forward to and helpful information:**

### **Worship**

- Sunday, March 22, 10:30am Morning Prayer from the labyrinth, livestreamed via [Facebook](#) and archived on [Youtube](#). Mark Johnson, seminarian preaching.
- Palm Sunday, April 5, 10:30am Morning Prayer livestreamed from the

labyrinth.

- Wednesdays at 12:15 prayers for healing will be livestreamed from the labyrinth.
- A weekly Announcement sheet will continue. Please pray for persons on the prayer list and birthdays. Continue to send prayer requests to [Angela](#)
- Sunday Morning Prayer liturgy will be sent by email.
- The Book of Common Prayer [online version](#)
- Daily Prayers for All Seasons will be used in the future available [here](#)
- [Faith at Home](#)
- [Illustrated Ministry](#) (including coloring pages)

### Staying Connected

- Pastoral Emergencies call 404-634-3336 press number 5, or when prompted extension 265.
- We have subscribed to [Zoom](#). [How to participate tutorial](#). You can also join by phone. This means groups no longer able to meet in person may do so this way. Each meeting can host up to 100 people. Please email [Audry](#) or call the church 404-634-3336 to schedule a meeting.
- Wednesday night check-in via Zoom. Connect with others for conversation and conclude with Compline. Dates and times TBD.
- Counselors from Emmanuel Counseling Center will offer a webinar about spirituality, mental health, and sharing space with loved ones in trying times. Time TBD.

### Supporting Others

- The Rector's discretionary fund is available to help persons in need. Contact Mother Angela directly through the pastoral care number above or via [email](#). Your needs will be kept confidential. You may also make contributions to this fund via USPS or online through [St. Bart's Connects](#).
- Toco Hills Community Alliance is in need of fresh sliced bread, peanut butter, almond butter, jelly, tuna, rice, individually wrapped snacks, and hand sanitizer. Please let us know if you any of these items to donate.
- Sheltering in place may further impact persons living with domestic violence. [Click here](#) for information. The national hotline number is 800-799-7233 or text LOVEIS to 22522

### Office Hours

Starting next week, office hours will be Monday and Wednesday, 11 am - 3 pm. Most staff will work remotely or a hybrid.

### Financial Giving

This is a difficult time for all of us. Please continue your financial support of St. Bart's as you are able. Mail in your offering to:

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
1790 LaVista Rd. NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Make contributions directly from your bank or annuity account.  
Give online [click here](#).

### Other

A tech team has emerged and they have been working hard to make certain we are able to stay connected.

As you can see, your vestry, rector, and staff are moving right along as just one portion of the Body of Christ. We are all in this together.

God's peace be with you,  
Bobbi Geery, senior warden, Margaret Jones, junior warden, Peter Berg, treasurer, Susan Dugan, Giselle Gilmore, Cindi Knighton, Mary Grybeck, Jim Engstrom, Clayton Powell, John Ford, Charlie Michael, Chris Palmer, Bryan Jones, Angela Shepherd+, rector

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1790 LaVista Road, Atlanta GA | 404-634-3336 | [stbartsatlanta.org](http://stbartsatlanta.org)