



Welcome to St Botolph's Church

Jesus said "If anyone is thirsty,
let them come to me and drink"

Sunday 16th November 2025

Welcome

Welcome!

God's arms stretch wide to welcome you into warmth, comfort, and peace.

Whether you come seeking refuge or renewal, you are embraced just as you are.

Silence is kept

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Safeguarding Sunday – our culture

Gospel Reading - John 13:34-35 (Please stand)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John; **Glory to you, O Lord.**

A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His Word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy Name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forevermore!

Safeguarding Sunday – all are welcome

We say sorry to God and one another

Loving God Help us to love each other as you love us.

For times when we have failed to see when people may have felt unsafe.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those occasions when we have not listened effectively to those in
distress or danger.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

For times when we have seen and heard but have failed to act in order
to keep others safe.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We are forgiven

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all
goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Psalms 91 read by Alan Grimsey

¹ Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

² I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.'

³ Surely he will save you
from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.

- ⁴ He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.
- ⁵ You will not fear the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,
⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at midday.
- ⁷ A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.
- ⁸ You will only observe with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.
- ⁹ If you say, 'The Lord is my refuge,'
and you make the Most High your dwelling,
¹⁰ no harm will overtake you,
no disaster will come near your tent.
- ¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;
¹² they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.
- ¹³ You will tread on the lion and the cobra;
you will trample the great lion and the serpent.
- ¹⁴ 'Because he loves me,' says the Lord, 'I will rescue him;
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.'
- ¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble,
I will deliver him and honour him.
- ¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.'

Safeguarding Sunday – God's protection

Hymn

Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.

New Testament Reading – I John 3:16-24 *read by Alan Grimsey*

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹ This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰ if our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: we know it by the Spirit he gave us.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Safeguarding Sunday – love in action

Hymn

Make me a channel of your peace:
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O, Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

We are led in prayer led by Emma

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

We declare our faith in God (Please stand)

Do you believe and trust in God the Father creator of heaven and earth, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in God who made us.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son who became like one of us, died for us, and rose again?

I believe and trust in God who rescues us.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God and makes Jesus known in the world?

I believe and trust in God who helps us.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We share God's Peace

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation.

The peace of the Lord be always with you; **and also with you.**

Communion

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory. Great is the mystery of Faith: **Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ; **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

We share bread and wine together

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Everyone is welcome at the Lord's Table. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your hands by your side.

We kindly ask that you refrain from dipping your wafer into the wine. Thank you.

Prayer after communion

God of peace, we thank you that by sharing bread and wine, we are more aware of your love for us and for all humanity. Guide us as we meet those in distress, that we may love as you love and be moved to compassionate action. Help us to share in your work of keeping your precious ones safe, comforted, and cared for. Amen.

Notices

Hymn

*Soldiers of Christ, arise, and put your armour on
Strong in the strength which God supplies through His eternal Son
Strong in the Lord of hosts, and in His mighty power
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts, is more than conqueror*

Stand then in His great might, with all His strength endued
But take, to arm you for the fight, the panoply of God
That, having all things done, and all your conflicts passed
Ye may overcome through Christ alone, and stand entire at last

Stand then against your foes, in close and firm array
Legions of wily fiends oppose, throughout the evil day
But meet the sons of night, and mock their vain design
Armed in the arms of heavenly light, of righteousness divine

Pray without ceasing, pray, your Captain gives the word
His summons cheerfully obey, and call upon the Lord
To God your every want, in instant prayer display
Pray always, pray and never faint, pray, without ceasing, pray

From strength to strength go on, wrestle and fight and pray
Tread all the powers of darkness down, and win the well-fought day
Still let the Spirit cry in all His soldiers, "Come"
Till Christ the Lord descends from high and takes the conquerors home

We are sent out

And now may God the Father protect and keep us,
May Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, lead us and teach us,

And may the Holy Spirit fill us and inspire us to do God's will.
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Go out as God's hands and feet, watching over one another with love.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary Minuetto E Minore Third Movement from Piano Sonata
Number 11 In B Flat Major by Beethoven

Please stay for refreshments in the hall (at the end of the corridor)

GIVING

Giving is an important part of our worship.

One of the easiest way to give is by using the Parish Giving Scheme?
www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/

And if you pay tax, please ask for a Gift Aid form.

SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDING

St Botolph's is a public space. Please note that CCTV operates throughout
the building, and we kindly ask that you do not leave your valuables
unattended.

Do you have a concern about a child or an adult at risk?

You can report your concern to the St Botolph's Safeguarding Team:
01206 542307- sarahtruder@gmail.com

Or you can report your concern to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team
01245 294444 - safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

If you believe a child or adult is in immediate danger, please call the
emergency services on 999 right away.

NOTICES



Mid-Week Bible Study

Wednesday, 19th November



10:30 am – Refreshments

10:45 am – 12:00 noon – Bible Study



Midday Prayer

Wednesday, 19th November



12:00 pm – 1pm



All are warmly welcome!



Does any member of the congregation have good computer skills and would be prepared to produce a monthly news leaflet (double sided folded) if they are given the information. We will print them in the church office. For more information see Gill Poppleton

During this month and December, we have several concerts coming up which may interest you. All details can be found on the church website.

Colne Endeavour Band – Sun. 30th Nov. at 2.30pm.

Crafty Drama – Fri. 5th Dec. at 7.00 pm.

Army Benevolent Fund Concert – Thurs. 14th Dec. at 7.30 pm.

David P. has tickets at £15 each for this.

SUNDAY SERVICES

30th November at 10.30am - We will join Castle Methodists
for our Annual Covenant Service

7th December at 10.30am – Holy Communion led by Michael Fox

14th December at 10.30am – Morning Worship led by Chris Smith,
Emma Smith and Jo Jeffery

21st December at 10.30am – Carol Service led by Chris Smith

24th December, Christmas Eve at 6.30pm – Holy Communion led by
Chris Smith



MAKE ROOM

A Christmas Carol Service
for everyone

Sunday 21st December, 10.30am
St Botolph's Church



Brought to you by St Botolph's Church & St Botolph's Music Society

sibotolphs.org

STAY IN TOUCH

Visit our website or call the parish office for more information

www.stbotolphs.org

01206 542307