

## Reflection Luke 22:24-30

Today is the Feast Day of St Bartholomew, but who was he? He is mentioned once in Matthew, once in Mark, once in Luke and once in Acts. The verses leading up to today's Gospel is Luke's account of the Last Supper, but our reading records a dispute among the Disciples, as to who will be the greatest. Bartholomew we know would be there, being one of the 12. Did he join in the argument? We don't know, but Jesus points out to them, that people in authority out "there" in the secular world like to exert power over those who are under them. Jesus reminds those around that table, that "greatness" in Jesus' world "The Kingdom" is not about exerting authority and power, but is about service...the level of what is being done for the benefit of others.

Perhaps Bartholomew took Jesus' words to heart, we don't know, there is no record yet been found of what he ever did, but let us believe that he was an obedient servant of the Church.

*Fr Terry*



**NEXT SUNDAY 31.08.25 Trinity 11**

10.30am in the Church

**READINGS:** OT Proverbs 25: 6-7

NT Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15, 16

GOSPEL Luke 14: 1, 7-14



### CONTACT US

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# St Thomas, Exeter

**24th August 2025**

**Bartholomew the Apostle**

**10.30am in the Church**

### Today

**Sung Eucharist**

*Hymn Numbers*

*220 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds*

*148 From heaven you came (The Servant King)*

*110 Disposer supreme and judge of the earth*

### Wednesday 27th August

**10am** Holy Communion (BCP)

**2-4pm** Young at Hearts

### Thursday 28th August

**No** St Thomas Tots

**10.30-12noon** Knit & Natter. See notices

### Friday 29th August

**9.30am** Morning Prayer

**10am** Staff Meeting



## Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and to preach your word: grant that your Church may love that word which he believed and may faithfully preach and receive the same; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Isaiah 43: 8-13

Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears! Let all the nations gather together, and let the peoples assemble. Who among them declared this, and foretold to us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify them, and let them hear and say, 'It is true.' You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no saviour. I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses, says the Lord. I am God, and also henceforth I am He; there is no one who can deliver from my hand; I work and who can hinder it?

## Acts 5: 12-16

Now many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people held them in high esteem. Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord, great numbers of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he came by. A great number of people would also gather from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean

spirits, and they were all cured.

## Luke 22: 24-30

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. 'You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

## Post Communion

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## Notices

It has been arranged that **Revd Sarah Mounoury** will be appointed to our parish for a period of six months during our vacancy. Revd Sarah is currently licensed to the Sid Valley Mission Community just north of Sidmouth and completed her curacy earlier this year. This temporary appointment, which will not impact our search for a permanent incumbent, will give us some continuity during this time. Revd Sarah has experience of many facets of parish life and is looking forward to getting involved in our activities including St Thomas Tots, etc. The appointment is full-time and is expected to start in mid October. Revd Sarah and her family will

continue living in Sidmouth during her time with us. We look forward to welcoming them into our St Thomas community.

**Sunday 7th September. Extraordinary Annual Parochial Church Meeting** to accept the audited Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2024. This meeting will be held in the hall after the service starting at 12 noon.

**Knit & Natter** From the 24th July we shall be meeting in St Thomas Pleasure Ground every Thursday morning from 10.30 till 12 noon, weather permitting. If it's wet, we shall be in Jess and Jimmy's café (118 Cowick Street). Do join us, or just come to say hello, especially if you aren't a regular at Maple Road.

**Thank you** to those people who offered their services for cleaning the church after the call for volunteers last Sunday morning. There are still places available on the cleaning rota and for anyone who is able to help with the occasional arrangement of the flowers.

**Global Week of Prayer** 1st-7th September Churches across St Thomas are encouraged to be united in prayer during this week. A room will be made available at Riverside Church (24 hours a day!) for people to pray for whatever concerns them: our churches, our community, our country, the world. See Ian if you want to sign up for a one hour slot.

On **Thursday 11th September** probably starting at 6pm there will be a meeting for the congregation to discuss what qualities we should be looking for in our new Incumbent. The meeting will be led by the Archdeacon of Exeter, the Revd Andrew Beane. This is a very important meeting and we hope that as many people as possible will attend. In advance of the meeting please consider carefully and prayerfully about what particular roles we think it important our new incumbent should fulfill with us and what qualities they would need. These roles might include our engagement with the local and wider community including the local schools, groups and other churches. The style of worship will be a consideration but should not dominate our thinking. You are welcome to discuss any of these matters with the churchwardens.

