

**Felix of Thibiuca, the man who would not give up his Bible.**  
Do you value your Bible? If so, Felix of Thibiuca (247 – 303) is a good patron saint for you. The year was 303, and Diocletian was emperor in Rome. In February of that year he decided that Christians were NOT a good thing. So, he issued an edict: all copies of the Christian Scriptures and all liturgical books were to be surrendered and burnt. Diocletian had decided to 'wind up' this upstart religion.

The persecution began in Rome. By June of that year, the edict had reached North Africa, and Thibiuca, where Felix was bishop. Felix was arrested and interrogated. Yes, he said, he did have a copy of the Scriptures. No, he said, he would not hand them over.

Felix was a highly respected bishop, and even the authorities were loath to take immediate action against him. So they gave him three days grace to see sense, and back down. But Felix prayed and became only more certain that this was a conflict between the commandments of God and the commandments of men.

At the end of the three days Felix was referred to the proconsul. He still refused to hand over his Scriptures. His last words in public were memorable "God, I thank you. I have passed 56 years in this world. I have preserved my chastity; I have observed the Gospels; I have preached the faith and the truth. Lord God of heaven and earth, Jesus Christ, I bend my neck as a sacrifice for you, who abides for ever." He was condemned to be beheaded at Carthage, and became one of the first martyrs to die under Diocletian.

Needless to say, Diocletian did not succeed in destroying the Scriptures. Today there are hundreds of millions of copies around the world, **and today Sunday, 23rd October, let us thank God for the Scriptures as we celebrate Bible Sunday.**

For the two churches The Diocesan Safeguarding Officer is Jane Kinsell.  
If you have any concerns please phone her on 07968 589 606

**St. Bartholomew's & St. Barnabas are part of the North Wingfield Team.**

## **St. BARTHOLOMEW'S**

High Street, Clay Cross S45 9DZ  
www.claycross.org  
(01246) 769 364  
**11.15am**



Church Wardens:

Rod Leighton - 07828 674218  
- 01246 250035  
Dave Green - 01246 860082

Rev Lynn Hayler (Baptism)

## **ST. BARNABAS**

Pilsley Road, Danesmoor, S45 9BU.  
www.stbarnabaschurchdanesmoor.co.uk  
**5pm**

Church Warden:

Richard Crofts - 07932 054411  
These simple informal services of worship are held in the main hall of the St Barnabas Centre building or, weather permitting, in the garden or BBQ area to the rear. Please use the front entrance.

*Please come along and join us.*

Yvonne Haywood

# Welcome

## **BIBLE SUNDAY**



## Today's Readings



Isaiah 45: 9 -12, 15: 25  
Colossians 2: 6 - 14  
Luke 16: 16 - 31  
Psalm 91: 11 –16

## **NEXT SUNDAY**

### **30 October 2022**

### **'TEAM SERVICE'**

### **9.30am at St. Lawrence Church, North Wingfield.**

Job 19: 23 - 27

Revelation 20: 11 - 21: 4

Matthew 5: 1 - 12

Psalm 149

Rev Lynn Hayler

***Please take the opportunity before the service to be still before God. To pray for those taking part in the service and for those sitting near you.***

***PLEASE ALSO SWITCH OFF YOUR MOBILES.***



# COMING UP

**Bell Ringers practice every Friday at 7.30pm**



**The next Faithmakers Group at Smithybrook is Monday 24 October 10.30-11.30 am**

Everyone is welcome to come along in fact the more the merrier! We will be simply sharing Jesus with a couple of hymns, a chat about faith, and a short time of prayer.



**Open Door**



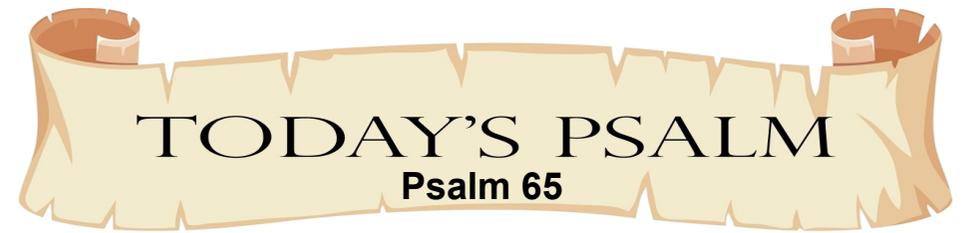
**Friday 4 November:  
2 - 3pm**

Come and enjoy our home made cakes with great company.

**'Time to Remember Service'**

**3pm 6 November at St. Mary's, Pilsley.**

*A quiet and reflective service for those both recently and long ago bereaved, to give thanks and remember those who touched and enriched our lives.*



## TODAY'S PSALM Psalm 65

Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled. You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.

When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!

We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Saviour,

the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas, who formed the

mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.

The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.

You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the wilderness overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

