

# Crosstalk 60p



The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad  
[www.thurstaston.org.uk](http://www.thurstaston.org.uk)

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Chester

April 2024



**You abundantly water the ploughed fields,  
You settle  
its furrows and soften the earth  
with showers. You bless its growth. Ps 65:10**

## "Cross Talk Subscription for 2024 is £6"

These are now due for 2024. If you see your deliverer please pay them.

Alternatively either post a cheque for £6.00 payable to Thurstaston PCC,  
to St Chad's Church Office, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH

or pay on-line at 40.52.40 00018674,  
putting your surname and mag subs as reference.

- I live in the parish and would like (to continue) to have Cross Talk delivered to my house. I enclose £6.00
- I don't live in the parish and would like (to continue) to have Cross Talk posted to my house. I enclose £16.00 (£6.00 subscription + £10.00 postage)
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**Safeguarding is  
Everyone's  
Responsibility**

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* "Your magazine needs you" \*  
\* Please send your contributions \*  
\* (eg. Poems. Prayers, interesting \*  
\* articles etc.,) \*  
\* to office@thurstaston.org.uk \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

.....  
The views and opinions expressed  
in the articles in this magazine are  
those of the author(s) and do not  
necessarily reflect the views or  
opinions of the editor, the Rector  
or the PCC.  
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### **Baptisms**

17th March - Otilie Williams

### **Weddings**

### **Funerals**

1st March - Graham Barley

## Thank You

Dear Friends

Thank you for all the love and incredible support you're all providing to us during this difficult time which means so much to us. We are truly grateful for your kindness and support. Your words and actions are a great comfort.

Thank you also for the amazing work you all did to help us honour Graham's life on the day of the funeral.

From Linda, Jacki, Catharine, Tim, James, Meera, Arianne, Faye and Rowan

## From Your Rector

### Called to be Fools!

April Fool's Day is the traditional way to begin this month. In medieval times the fool (or jester) was not just there for amusement. He had an influential role in the court, because he could speak the truth in ways others couldn't. As Christians we are also called to be fools; Paul described himself as a 'fool for Christ' (1 Corinthians 4:10). In what ways is this an appropriate description of a Christian? In his letter Paul expands on this theme.

#### A foolish message:

'For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.' (1 Cor 1:18). The heart of the Gospel does not focus on clever ideas, but on the Cross of Jesus Christ. This message of foolishness and weakness is both God's wisdom and power for our lives.

#### A foolish community:

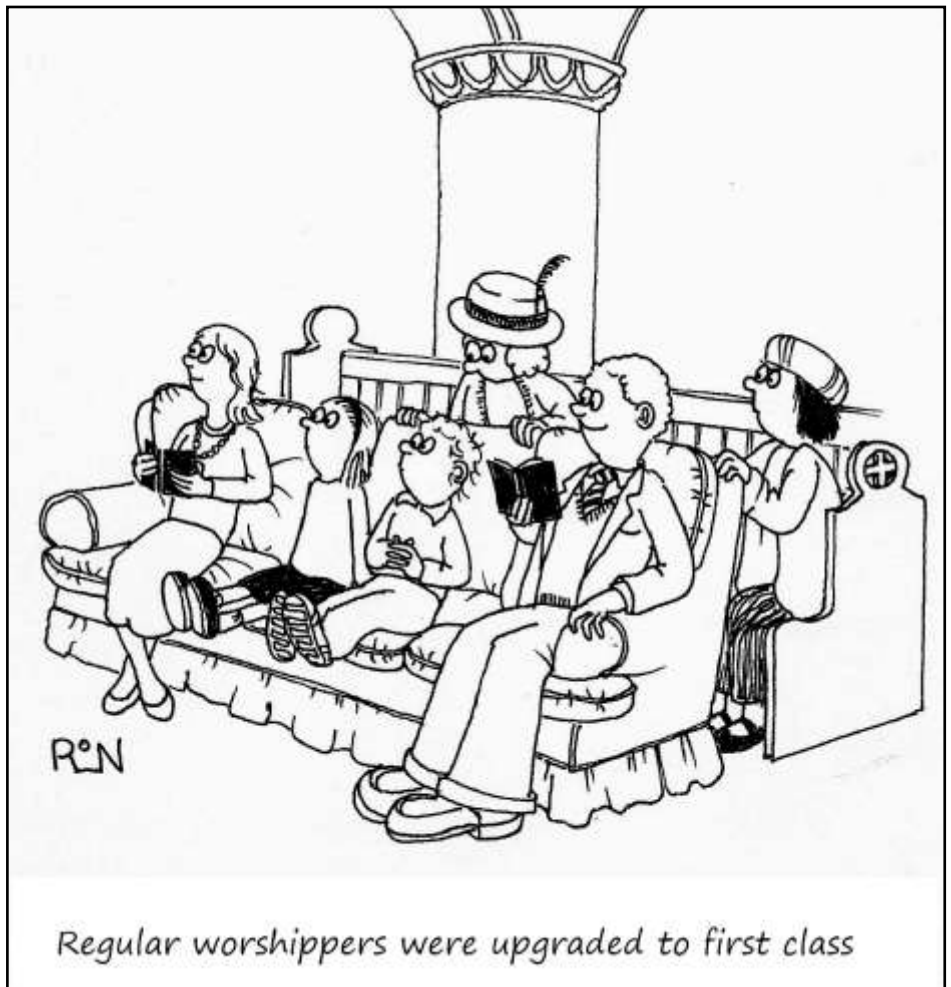
'But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.' (1:27). The church in Corinth consisted of slaves, rather than the rich and successful. God calls the weak and vulnerable to follow Him, in order to shame those who think they don't need God.

#### A foolish ministry:

'My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.' (2:4,5). Paul's ministry didn't rest on human wisdom, but on the power of the Holy Spirit. For us, this power is often displayed when we are at our weakest.

*'A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool.'* (William Shakespeare).

Revd Jane





## A message from Ailsa



As I write I am on retreat in Exeter and the Spring has most certainly sprung in the South West.

This reminds me of how lucky I am here in the UK and I think of my soldiers and Officers, just beginning to thaw out in Poland as temperatures start to creep up, albeit, very slowly.

A Squadron are now coming to the end of their 6 month tour of duty and are ready to come home - literally. They should be home for Easter and B Squadron then head out - it really is non-stop at the moment. My own son, Charlie deploys to Estonia also mid March for 6 months so its a busy time both personally and professionally for me.



“A” Squadron were delighted to receive so many cards and letters and pictures (two of my favourites from the Brownies are here) - and thanks so much to all those who took the time to write and also to for the lovely chocolates someone has donated that will be enjoyed by so many.

Those of you observing Lent - you are nearly there! Mothering Sunday of course marks the mid point and it was lovely to share the day with so many when I was home for the weekend - with of course the obligatory daffodils!

I am back for Easter and hope to see you then.

I wish you all a blessed Easter when it comes.

Ailsa





WaterAid

8pm Thursday 11 April

St Chad's Church Hall

Talk and CAKE SALE



Roslin Rd, Irby CH61 3UH

E-mail [office@thurstatston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstatston.org.uk) Tel: 0151 648 8169

## Community and social events dates for Diary All at St Chad's unless otherwise indicated

May Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>

Ness Gardens – meet 10am St Chads Carpark and share cars  
For a day out at the Gardens - weather permitting

June 1<sup>st</sup>

Walk to Hilbre Island – Details yet to be confirmed and weather permitting

July date to be confirmed

Guide Dogs Demo - in St Chad's garden - weather permitting



August/September Saturday mornings

Summer Saturdays St Chad's Garden – details to follow

August Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>

Ready Teddy Go! St Beartholomew's Day Teddy parachute from St Bartholomew's church spire.



## **WEDNESDAYS**

**12th, 19th, 26th**

**June,**

**3rd, 10th, 17th**

**July**

## **TABLE TALK**

**11.30am - 12.30pm at St Chad's**

**OR 7.45-9.00pm in the extension**

Table Talk provides an opportunity to take part in meaningful conversations about the things that really matter. Gather around a table to talk, laugh, be understood and get to know another's point of view.

The themes we will explore are: -

**Burnout:** How can I balance my life?

**Friendship:** How do we make and keep friends?

**Destiny:** How do we live a meaningful life?

**Beauty:** What does it mean to live an attractive life?

**Ecology:** How do we care for the planet?

**Spirituality:** How can we experience God?

# **Book Group – April/May**

Meeting in St Chad's Extension 7.45-9.00pm

## **“Journey to Contentment”**

Pilgrimage principles for everyday life.

By Sally Welch

Revd. Jane has 10 copies of the Book bought for £1.00 each on World Book Day. First 9 people to ask can have these for £1.00. Following that, you will need to purchase your own copy at cost price.

**Begin Reading on 1st April**

**Meeting on Wed 17th April**

**We will discuss Sections I, II and III – Days 1-15**

**Continue Reading**

**Meeting on 8th May**

**We will discuss Sections IV, V, VI and part of VII**

**– Days 16-38**

**Continue Reading**

**Meeting on 22nd May**

**We will discuss remainder of section VII, and VIII**

**– Days 39-52**



At each meeting we will discuss:-

Which days reading/exercise did you find

- most helpful and why?
- most challenging and why?

Did you make or write anything during these days that you are willing and able to share with the group?

## Ruth's Reflections

Hello again. I am writing this a bit earlier this month due to Easter being so early, so this will probably be a bit shorter than usual. Life has been a bit quiet lately, I am sure the wet weather has something to do with this!

I mentioned in my last scribblings that I was looking forward to having a family meal on February 14th. Well, I had a lovely time. We all met at a restaurant in the Albert Dock, called Lunya Lite, where my eldest grandson is the assistant manager. The food was delicious, and the highlight was when my grandson came out carrying a cheesecake with a candle in it and everyone sang Happy Birthday!! If you like Tapas, it is well worth a visit.

I have been going to the Photographic Society meetings and we have had some really interesting evenings. I have to admit I haven't been out with my camera much, my excuse is I am waiting for the weather to improve.

Talking of better weather, I have managed to get out in the garden a couple of times. I moved a couple of plants from the back to the front garden, hoping they will do better where it is sunnier! In the spaces left I planted some shade loving plants and so far, they are doing ok. I also planted in the garden a very pot bound fern. I am keeping my fingers crossed it will survive.

I went with the W.I. Craft group to Abakhan in North Wales, I wasn't going to spend any money but ended up buying dress material and a pattern. Hopefully I get round to it before my holiday in July! Also, with the W.I. I went to Gordale to a talk by a lovely lady called Karen, who showed us photos of her incredible garden, and telling us about the plants. Inspired by this and clutching a gift voucher (that I have had for over three year) I bought the plants that are now in my garden.



Yesterday, I was treated to lunch by my eldest daughter as a belated Mother's Day treat. I had a lovely meal, ate far too much and thoroughly enjoyed it

I am looking forward to various outings, roll on summer and the sunshine.

Take care and stay safe, everyone.

Ruth.



# A warm welcome at the **Warm Hub**

Every Tuesday 9.30am - 12.30pm

**Open to everyone, so please drop in!**

**St. Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH  
0151 648 8169**

**Guest speaker  
on 4th Tuesday of the month  
Talks start at 10.30a.m.**

**TUESDAY 23rd April 2024**

**Peter Cobley -  
Introduction to Family History**



**The Warm Hub  
belongs to a  
growing national  
network of  
Places of Welcome**



## **Jigsaw Library**

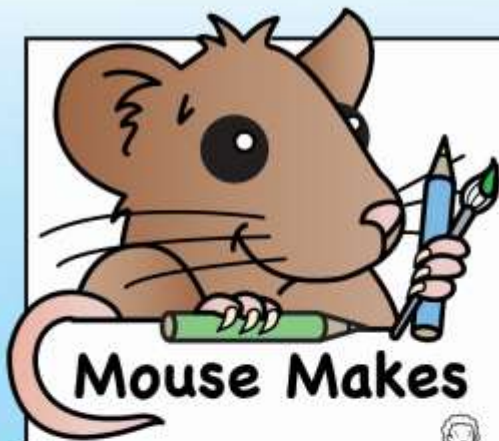
Over the time that Warm Hub has been operating, we have been gifted many jigsaws. While we always have a jigsaw in progress at Warm Hub, there are many waiting for us to use in the future. Rather than these jigsaws just piling up, with the winter nights ahead we would like to make these jigsaws available for individuals to borrow and then return to us. We can't vouch that all the jigsaws are complete as they are donated to us but if you would like to borrow one then we can make them available on a Tuesday morning when the Warm Hub is open - 9.30 to 12.30 at St Chad's



Susan Smale and Cheryl Goddard



You can make donations to Foodbank by placing items (non perishable food and toiletries) in the box by the office door at St Chad's.



# Mouse Makes

Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing.

They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked;

*"Have you caught anything?"*

*"Not a thing"* they answered.

He said to them *"Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some."*

So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net.

Then John recognised the man, *"It is the Lord!"*



*How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?*

Read John 21:14



**How many disciples were there?**

**Who were they?**  
Read John 21: 11

*How many fish did they catch?*

Read John 21: 11



**READ**

the story in **John 21**

Word search grid:

B	S	N	F	F	I	R	E	R	F				
W	A	T	E	R	I	F	D	A	Y	C	W		
R	I	G	H	T	A	N	I	I	B	O	A	T	Y
J	O	H	N	D	S	S	O	C	S	I	N		
M	S	H	C	B	N	T	B	A					
T	S	E	A	H	I	R	O	J	E	T			
I	S	I	M	O	N	P	E	T	E	R	H		
L	A	N	D	R	G	L	A	H	S	I	A		
F	O	J	K	M	E	H	E	D	I	U	A	N	D
B	R	E	A	K	F	A	S	T	N	S	S	A	
D	F	I	S	H	U	N	I	G	H	T	E		
C	A	U	G	H	T	L	D	O	F	U	L	L	

DISCIPLES • TIBERIAS • SEA • SIMON PETER • THOMAS • NATHANAEL • JOHN • DAY FISHING • BOAT • NIGHT • CAUGHT • NOTHING • WATER • SHORE • FISH • CAST • NET RIGHT • FIND • HAUL • LORD • FULL • LAND • FIRE • BREAD • BREAKFAST • JESUS

Colour in all the fish

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## Reflecting Faith – Easter Sepulchres

Over the last few months we've been looking at churchyards, grave memorials and the lychgate where the coffin may be rested on its entry.

This month we are going inside the church building to find a somewhat different and only really found in older churches that have survived re-ordering and renovations: the Easter Sepulchre.

A sepulchre is essentially a place of burial – a tomb – but in churches it can also be a receptacle for religious relics.

Easter Sepulchres can be very grand affairs. I'm aware that many writers say that they are constructed in wood, but I have only seen stone ones. They can be plain or intricately carved. They can be low to the ground or reaching up to the roof. Each style, of course, reflects both the richness and generosity of the patron, as well as their theology.

Some have 'layers' of carvings, with the angels at the top, then the patriarchs, followed by the Fathers of the Church and so on. Others are very simple and almost plain.

They are normally set into or against the northern side of the sanctuary in which stands the altar, and which is traditionally considered to be the 'holiest' place in a church building.



Their use is given in their name – on Good Friday some consecrated bread and wine and often a crucifix (rather than an 'empty' cross) is placed inside it and people take it in turns to 'stand watch' until Easter Sunday morning, when it is taken out with great ceremony and often paraded through the building. The reason is to reflect the death of Christ, His being placed in a tomb and His subsequent resurrection.

Today's ceremonies are usually less ostentatious, and whilst folk often take turns keeping watch on the Maundy Thursday, reflecting the disciples being asked to stay awake whilst Jesus went and prayed alone in the Garden of Gethsemane, less is made of the Sepulchre watch.

The items are simply removed before any Easter resurrection service takes place, either on Easter Saturday evening or early Easter Sunday morning.

### *This month*

See if you can find an Easter Sepulchre near you. Look at the decoration and consider all the different symbolisms it is trying to convey. If you cannot find one, then think what you would want to convey today?

## MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING **SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2024 in St Chad's, starting at 6.30pm**

During the two meetings, we will hear reports on the activities and finances of the church during 2023. We will also appoint members of the congregations as Churchwardens, members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Deanery Synod representatives.



The first meeting is the Meeting of Parishioners and is very brief. The second meeting is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

### The Meeting of Parishioners

The only business during the Meeting of Parishioners is to elect Churchwardens. Churchwardens are appointed for one year, working closely with the Rector and the PCC particularly in relation to the buildings and the church grounds. There is a time limit of six consecutive years on an appointment as churchwarden.

The appointment of churchwardens is especially important this year as there are not any in the parish. Churchwardens are essential members of the parish team and are one of the links between the congregations and the Rector. They are supported and assisted by the Rector, PCC members and others. Although one churchwarden can cope with all the requirements, it is much better if two churchwardens are appointed to share responsibilities.

If you are on the Electoral Roll and have an interest at all in becoming a churchwarden, please speak to the Rector as soon as possible.

The Rector must receive nominations for churchwardens on the proper forms before the meeting begins. The forms will be available in the churches and on the Church website (link given below) for downloading. Nominations for churchwardens may not be made after the meeting has begun. Anyone who lives in the parish (or who lives outside the parish boundary but is on the Electoral Role) can vote in the Meeting of Parishioners.

### The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of the churchyard, the buildings and their contents. With the minister, it steers the life of the church in its mission, witness and service in the parish.

PCC members are elected for three years, with four members retiring each year. We are hoping for new members who can bring new ideas and fresh thoughts to our discussion and decisions. Four members have reached the ends of their term of office, and may be re-elected and there are three other vacancies.

We also need people to represent us at Deanery Synod meetings. Deanery Synod members are

elected for three years (currently 2023-2026) and are automatically members of the PCC. There are three vacancies for Deanery Synod representatives.

Anyone who has any interest in becoming more involved in helping with church activities should speak as soon as possible to the Rector, the Interim PCC Secretary or to any PCC member. Everyone can offer something – **do not be put off just because you think you don't know enough about it.**

During the meeting we shall also receive written reports on what the PCC discussed and decided in 2023, the organisations associated with the church and detail of the church accounts. These will be available on the Parish website for downloading before the meetings.

Notices with more details of the meetings will be displayed on the church website, in both churches and by email. In due course nominations forms for PCC members, Deanery Synod representatives and Churchwardens, will also be available in both churches.

Finally if there are any matters that you wish to bring forward for discussion, please inform the Rector or the Interim PCC Secretary before the meeting.

C F Goddard (Interim PCC Secretary)

The link for the nomination forms (copy and paste in browser) is:

<https://thurstaston.org.uk/pcc-information/apcm-annual-parochial-church-meeting/nomination-forms-and-electoral-roll-application-form.php>

### Treasurer Needed

The PCC currently pays a bookkeeper to undertake day to day transactions, banking of money and paying of bills, etc. The PCC finance sub-committee makes decisions based on the information in the parish accounts, but would value and appreciate having someone to act as Treasurer (who does not need to be a member of the PCC) to assist with producing financial reports for the PCC and the annual meeting, as well as interpreting the more complicated aspects of banking decisions eg parish share.

Please speak to Revd Jane or the Interim PCC Secretary (Cheryl Goddard) or a member of the finance committee (Chris Smale, Malcolm Studholme, Pat Neil, Cheryl Goddard) if you think you could help.



# Your PCC needs you.

As we approach our Annual Parish Meeting, Would you consider putting your name forward for election to the Parochial Church Council?

Here's an invitation from some current PCC members:-



When it was suggested that I might consider being part of the PCC I almost laughed. Me! I wasn't even sure what the PCC did. But, in for a penny, in for a pound I decided to give it a go. So glad I did. I have learned so much about how a church is run. I realised that everyone has something to give to help the smooth running of our church, however little they may think it is. It would be wonderful to see some young faces at these meetings to give new ideas and thoughts for the future. So why not come and join us, we would love to see you.

Pat Neil

I have been a member of the PCC for over 15 years, and I thoroughly enjoy the experience. Of course, it was with some trepidation when first joining; I thought it would be extremely serious and quite "highbrow" and thus I questioned my abilities, and what I would be able to offer. However, of course the meetings do have a serious element to them, after all it is the operation of the church that we review and decide upon, but there is an excellent camaraderie between the members and everyone's opinion matters and is listened to. There are the sub-committees that people are invited to attend that have themes, such as finance, and peoples' skills set are matched towards these. The sub committees report into the main PCC and can influence the decisions made there.

Do I make this sound very time consuming and particularly demanding? It isn't, but I find being a PCC member both very informative and enjoyable. Please do join us if you are able.

Janet Trigg

A PCC member is similar to being a shareholder of a company, (without the remuneration). PCC members make decisions on how the church is run and it gives a person an insight into a wide range of topics on which decisions have to be made. They include financial affairs, when the lightning conductors have to be checked, maintenance of church buildings, church service patterns and many more.

It is not time consuming as we only meet about 5 or 6 times each year, sometimes there are similarities to "the Vicar of Dibley" at times, we don't always agree but generally we conduct business in a civilised and courteous manner, respectful of each other's opinions and views. There is an urgent need for fresh members, maybe younger members who wish to guide the parish (Thurstaston and Irby) to grow God's church and swell our churches again.

You may not have done this before, but it is very rewarding and you will be guided by those around you. If you feel you have the skills or want to learn more, please contact any PCC member to discuss what is involved.

Malcolm Studholme

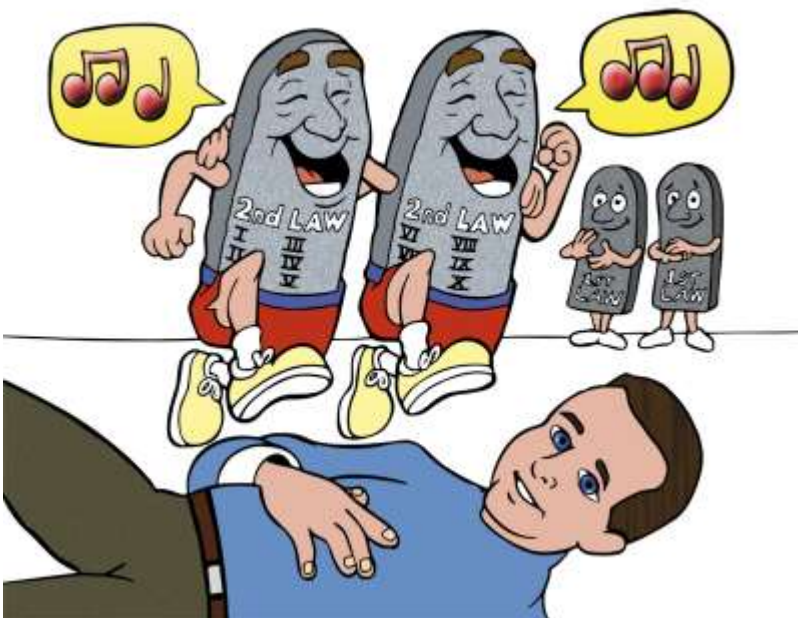
# What's the Big Idea?

## An Introduction to the Books of the Bible: Deuteronomy

The setting for these books is Israel's entry into the promised land after 40 years of wanderings in the wilderness. Deuteronomy gives us Moses' addresses on the plains of Moab, as the Israelites prepare to enter Canaan.

The theme of Deuteronomy is God's covenant and his call for His people's obedience, loyalty and love. The '*shema*' (Heb: 'hear'), expresses this response to God: '*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.*' (Deut. 6:4-6).

The book contains instruction on how to live intentionally as God's people in response to His love and mercy. Total loyalty to God is also crucial, with the worship of any other gods being totally rejected. It is also widely quoted in the NT eg. Jesus' temptations (Deut. 8:3, 6:13, 16).



### Deuteronomy Second Law

This picture shows two sets of tablets each bearing the Law of God. The '**Second Law**' or more accurately the second giving is to the 'wilderness raised generation' who hadn't been taught it.

One set of tablets is at the rear; they are for the generation passed. The second two tablets are running on ME! This gives us the name of this book – 'duet run on me' which sounds just like Deuteronomy doesn't it?

Deuteronomy is basically Moses' last three sermons. He begins by looking back at what God has done; then considers all God is doing and finally considers what is to come, as their faithful God goes with them.

Moses will not be going with them due to his disobedience but there is already a faithful, well-trained man to succeed him – Joshua. He was one of the two believing spies who spied out the land forty years previously.

## What's the Big Idea? An Introduction to the Books of the Bible: Joshua

The book of Joshua recounts the crossing of the Jordan and the victories that give the people control of Canaan.

The book of Joshua, with its description of the conquest of the land and the destruction of cities and peoples, reminds us that God's love and purposes for us are worked out in the messes, storms and sins of our daily lives. As God says Joshua: *'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.*

*Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.'* (Joshua 1:9).

Joshua (*'The Lord saves'*) is the same name as Jesus Himself. Jesus overcame all powers of evil to bring God's people into their eternal 'rest' (Heb 4:1-11).



### Joshua Conquers

Joshua was a trained soldier who saluted like the man in our picture. He is ready to play a game of conkers. That's a great memory peg for us to remember that Joshua **'Conquers'** the land! His first victory was over the city of Jericho and you can see the walls in our picture.

The first 12 chapters describe in detail how the land was conquered. This includes the amazing crossing of the Jordan River and the miraculous conquering of Jericho. However sin in the camp brings defeat at Ai.

The remaining 12 chapters give us all the boundary markers and town names for the land allocations given to each of the tribes. The tribe of Levi doesn't get a portion of its own but is given cities in each of the other tribal areas. There is no allocation for Joseph but he is doubly blessed as his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim get three allocations between them – spread across either side of the Jordan River.



## Quiz on the Book of Joshua

1. Whom did Joshua succeed as leader of Israel?

- a. Jacob
- b. Aaron
- c. Moses

2. What was the name of Joshua's father?

- a. Carmi
- b. Nun
- c. Eleazar

3. To what city did Joshua send two men to spy upon?

- a. Jericho
- b. Ai
- c. Gilgal

4. What was the name of the woman who hid the spies Joshua sent?

- a. Rachel
- b. Rahab
- c. Rebekah

5. How many stones did the Israelites take from the dry river bed of the Jordan?

- a. 7
- b. 12
- c. 40

6. Once the Israelites had entered the Promised Land, what happened in the days after they had celebrated the Passover?

- a. God stopped providing manna
- b. Joshua apportioned land to each tribe
- c. The Amorites attacked them

7. What did the captain of the Lord's host command Joshua to do?

- a. Gather his army against Jericho
- b. Build an altar to the Lord
- c. Take off his sandals

8. How many priests were chosen to carry the rams' horns as they marched round Jericho?

- a. 3
- b. 7
- c. 70

9. What was the name of the man who violated God's command not to plunder anything from Jericho?

- a. Phinehas
- b. Zabdi
- c. Achan

10. The Gibeonites tricked Joshua into making a covenant of peace, but as what did he make them serve the Israelites?

- a. Woodcutters and water-carriers
- b. Brick makers and messengers
- c. Stone-carriers and armour-bearers

11. What natural phenomenon helped Joshua defeat the Amorites?

- a. Sandstorm
- b. Earthquake
- c. Hailstones

12. What was the only tribe not to receive an inheritance?

- a. Levi
- b. Reuben
- c. Manasseh

13. How old was Caleb (one of the original 12 spies) when he was given Hebron as his inheritance?

- a. 40
- b. 70
- c. 85

14. What tribe was given a portion of Judah as their inheritance?

- a. Ephraim
- b. Simeon
- c. Benjamin

15. For what sin were the cities of refuge created?

- a. Accidental murder
- b. Theft
- c. Adultery

## 23<sup>rd</sup> April: St George and Hiccup and the dragon

Image by [Freeimages.com](#)



Have you seen the film *How to Train your Dragon*? It's set in a Viking village under attack from dragons, who steal livestock and burn down houses. Hiccup, the village Chief's son, invents a machine to capture dragons. However, when he catches one of the most dangerous dragons, he cannot kill it, when he sees that the dragon is just as frightened as he is. Through this friendship, the people and dragons eventually learn to live in harmony.

This month we celebrate St George, the patron saint of England. He is famous for slaying a dragon, a tradition which became popular in the Middle Ages. Whether he killed an actual dragon is open to question! However, we do know that the original George was a Roman soldier at the time of Emperor Diocletian. He refused to renounce his faith, as commanded by the Emperor, resulting in his death on 23 April 303 AD.

The contrast is clear: St George slayed the evil dragon, while Hiccup refused to kill one. However, they also have something important in common. Both acted according to their conscience, defying the popular understanding of those around them and not worrying about the personal cost to themselves. St George was martyred for standing up for his faith in Jesus before a pagan emperor, while Hiccup risked rejection by his father and village because of his compassion.

Today, we are still called to stand for Christ against wrongs and injustice in daily life, whatever the personal cost. However, we also need to be ready to look our enemies in the eye and meet their hostility with love and compassion. This is why we also remember this month that Jesus died and rose again, so that we might have God's power to do this in our lives.

### St. Chad's Tots and Tinies St Chad's Church (Roslin Road, Irby)

Every Thursday 9.30-11.30am  
(Term Time Only)

£1.50 for one Adult and one child - All Welcome

Additional children £1.00  
Additional Adults £0.50



Parents/Carers will be responsible for their child(ren) during the sessions

For further information please contact Allison via the Parish Office 648 8169

## Wordsearch : St George of the Golden Legend

St George is Patron Saint of England, but he never actually came here. He was a Christian officer in the Roman army under Diocletian, who refused to abandon his faith during the Terror. George was therefore martyred in Palestine about 300 AD. His courage became legendary, and St George became the example of a Christian fighting-man, a powerful helper against evil powers affecting individual lives. He was the soldier-hero of the Middle Ages. In the Golden Legend of the 13th century, Jacobus de Voragine tells the story of how St George helped rescue the people of Sylene in Lybia from a dragon, especially the princess, who had been offered to the dragon as a sacrifice. With the dragon dead, and the princess returned to her father the King, the people of Sylene converted to Christianity.

George  
Patron  
Saint  
England  
Officer  
  
Roman  
Army  
Diocletian  
Terror  
Martyred  
  
Palestine  
Courage  
Example  
Helper  
Evil  
  
Soldier  
Hero  
Golden  
Legend  
Dragon  
  
Princess  
Converted



### Answers to Joshua Quiz - page 17

Question 1: c (Moses), Question 2: b (Nun), Question 3: a (Jericho), Question 4: b (Rahab ), Question 5: b (12),  
Question 6: a (God stopped providing manna), Question 7: c (Take off his Sandals), Question 8: b (7),  
Question 9: c (Achan), Question 10: a (Woodcutters and water-carriers), Question 11: c (Hallstones) ,  
Question 12: a (Levi), Question 13: c (85) , Question 14: b (Simeon) , Question 15: a (Accidental murder)

## God in the Sciences:

### Science and Society: How Can We Approach New Ethical Issues?

Science tells us how the world works, and technology offers applications of that knowledge, but neither can tell us what we ought to do. All scientific discoveries or new technologies can be used to either help or harm others. For example, a smartphone can be used to stay in touch but also enables bullying.

It is important to get past our initial reactions: the 'yuk!' or 'wow!' These feelings may well change once we learn more about the science and other factors behind a new development.

Ethical thinking can be divided into three main categories. The **consequentialist** approach is demonstrated in Proverbs, when Wisdom calls young men to consider the outcome of their actions. Utilitarianism is a form of consequentialist ethic that tries to maximise the greatest good for the largest number of people affected, but unchecked it leaves minorities out in the cold.

**Duty or law-based** ethics start with intrinsic values, asking what is the correct course of action, or our duty? These values might be God-given, such as the Ten Commandments, or worked out by human reason. It is possible, however, to do harm while obeying the law, especially if someone asks 'What can I get away with?' Also, what happens when rules collide? For example, who should be treated first when resources are limited?

**Virtue ethics** are about building character, growing in wisdom and the fruit of the Spirit. There are plenty of biblical principles to guide virtuous living, such as the idea that we are 'made in the image of God' which supports the value of every human life (e.g., Genesis 1:26–27, Genesis 9:6, James 3:9–10), but the right decision can vary depending on circumstances.

So how can we make ethical decisions about new technologies? **The five Cs** bring together a number of different types of ethical thinking into a helpful framework for decision-making.

**Clarify** the facts and key questions.

**Consider** our choices: what could we achieve?

**Constraints:** External - what must we do? ; Internal - how should we behave?

**Compare** the pros and cons of each approach.

**Choose** what is best, with all parties in mind.

Finally, we have to recognise that the information available to us will change over time, our knowledge of God and His Word will keep growing, and we cannot avoid making mistakes - so our ethical decisions will need to be revisited and revised from time to time.

## God in Music : “Glorious the song when God’s the theme’: Allegri’s *Miserere*

In the 1980s thanks to Godfrey Smith, a columnist for The Sunday Times, there was a series of letters about particular pieces of music that have the TQ – the Tingle Quotient. As we listen, the music sends a shiver of excitement up and down the spine and opens out for us a new world of beauty and wonder.



The letters started with a novelist writing about his travels across the Sahara. In moments of desolation and loneliness he would think of music that meant the most to him and which he thought he might never hear again. Then a schoolmaster in Rochester wrote of a production of ‘Romeo and Juliet’ where the funeral scene virtually brought the house down. Juliet entered a darkened school hall, lit only by glimmering candles with music sung that brought the audience to tears.

For both novelist and schoolmaster, the work that had that TQ factor was Allegri’s *Miserere*. It provided consolation in the cold desert nights, and it created the impact in that production of Shakespeare’s play. Other readers supplied their list of TQ music, and always the *Miserere* was in the top five. I suspect that this music strikes the TQ for many of you as well.

Why is it, I wonder? We can provide an answer by talking of the contrast between the plainsong sung by the men’s voices and the responses from the choir that lead to that small group of solo voices where the treble or soprano reaches a high C and comes down the scale to the cadence. We can point to the intriguing history of this work for the setting by Gregorio Allegri (1582-1652) was the exclusive possession of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. To copy the music was a crime punishable by excommunication.

In spite of this, a 14-year-old Mozart heard the piece in 1770 and wrote it down from memory, paying another visit to verify some of the notes he had copied down. The Emperor, Leopold 1, the king of Portugal, persuaded the Pope to grant him a copy. When it was performed in his own imperial chapel, he was disappointed. He even thought the Pope had palmed him off with an inferior work. Then he realised that the beauty and magic of the music lay in its being sung in the Sistine Chapel where the plainsong and the high C cadences could ring out among the pillars and arches of that great building.

The *Miserere*, or Psalm 51 is the heart-felt cry of the Church for mercy. As one of the penitential psalms, it is a very personal expression of sorrow for sin and a moving appeal to God for mercy and restoration.

In Allegri’s setting that high C is reached as the individual acknowledges his sin, and again as he cries for mercy and finally as he proclaims that his tongue will sing of God’s grace and righteousness. A single voice in the music scales the heights of heaven to represent all of us as we turn to God with that same awareness of sin, that same plea for mercy, and that same affirmation that we will then turn to God with thanksgiving and the offering of a humble and contrite heart.

And so with the psalmist and with Allegri, we can pray ‘Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness.’

# Need a Meeting Room?

At St Chad's we have a large hall  
and some smaller rooms.

Booking Enquiries should be made by emailing  
**hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk**

For more information and prices please go to the website  
<https://www.thurstaston.org.uk/hall-and-room-hire/>



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<https://www.facebook.com/stchadsstbarts/>

If you are already on Facebook it is easy to find and "like" the page. Just search for "stchadsstbarts" or "St. Bartholomew's Thurstaston, with St. Chad's, Irby" and you will find us.

If you "like" the page you will receive notifications when we add events and other informative posts.

From our page you can also share individual posts and events with others you may think would like to hear about us and our events.

Please do share this page with your friends.

You do not have to be on Facebook to view our posts.

We also have a Twitter Feed:-

[@StBartsStChads](https://twitter.com/StBartsStChads)



*Did you know.....*

*.....back in the year 1976, a committee based at St Chad's Church was trying to raise funds for the RNLI.*

*They decided to hold an exhibition of paintings by local Irby residents. The exhibition was so successful that the artists decided to join together to form an "Irby Artists Association".*

*....and the rest, as they say, is history!*

*The Irby Artists are proud to have had such a long association with St Chad's.*

*We welcome new members and actively provide support to those wishing to try their hand at painting & drawing, with weekly Monday afternoon sessions, indoors during the winter, and outdoors in the summer months, and two exhibitions of members works per year.*

*For more information, contact the Chair:*

*Alan McMahon, Text:07889 404917*

*Or Email: [almac48@virginmedia.com](mailto:almac48@virginmedia.com)*

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## Contacts

### Churchwardens

Vacant

[churchwarden@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden@thurstaston.org.uk)

### Associate Minister

Revd Ailsa Whorton CF

(Chaplain to the Forces, Army).

[revdailsa@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:revdailsa@thurstaston.org.uk)

Ailsa works full time and will reply to emails when she is able around her work commitments

**678 4733** (Evenings only and messages will be passed on to Ailsa via her husband Derek)

### Reader Emeritus

Mr Alan Jones

**648 1400**

### Retired Clergy

Revd David Felix

07778 859 935

### Interim PCC Secretary

Cheryl Goddard

c/o parish office

### PCC Treasurer

Vacant

[pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk)

### Parish Safeguarding Officer

Mr Chris Williams

**07956621731**

[safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk)

### Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office

**648 8169**

### St Chad's Hall Booking

[hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk)

### Verger

Mr Jon Oliver

**648 1754**

### Organist

Mr Craig Vickers

**648 7405**

### Bellringing - Tower Captain

Dr Peter Robson

**648 6691**

### Flowers for both Churches

Team Co-ordinator Dawn Rudd

**648 0209**

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### Junior Church (3-10) and Seniors (11-16)

Mrs Julie Deboorder

**648 6331**

### Rainbows/Brownies/Guides

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Freephone

**0800 1 69 59 01**

## CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

### Christian Aid Representative

Vacant

### Children's Society Representative

Mrs Jean Heath

**648 6015**

### Leprosy Mission Representative

Julie DeBoorder

**648 6331**

### Adoption Society Representative

Mrs Chris Rostock

**648 1112**

### Baptisms and Weddings

To arrange a baptism or wedding, please telephone the Rector,

Revd Jane Turner on 0151 648 1816

or the Church office on 0151 648 8169.

**RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner**

**PLEASE NOTE: Rector's Rest Day - Tuesday**

The Rectory, 77 Thingwall Road, Irby, Wirral, CH61 3UB

Telephone: 0151 648 1816 (*Day off Tuesday*) E-mail: [rector@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:rector@thurstaston.org.uk)

**CHURCH OFFICE: Mrs K Butler St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH**

Telephone: 0151 648 8169. E-mail: [office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)

**OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm (term time)**

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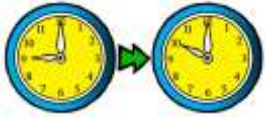
## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Thursday 28th March

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
**7.00pm Communion at St Chad's**

Friday 29th March

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**2.00pm "Hour at the Cross" at St Bartholomew's**



**Don't forget clocks go forward at 1.00am on Easter Day (March 31st)**

Sun 31st March

**EASTER DAY**  
**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am All Age Communion service at St Chad's**

## APRIL 2024 SERVICES

**Morning Prayer St Chad's Prayer Room 9.00am MOST Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays**  
(check with Revd Jane for cancellations due to other meetings or commitments)

**EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads**

**Sun 7th April**

**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's**

**Sun 14th April**

**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am All Age service at St Chad's**

**Sun 21st April**

**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's**

**Sun 28th April**

**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am Communion at St Chad's with Junior Church**

**Sun 5th May**

**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's**

**Prayer for April 2024**  
*based on John 20: 19-end*

Almighty Father,  
In these weeks after Easter, help us to receive afresh  
the new life Jesus' resurrection makes possible.  
Lord, come to us. Walk through the locked doors of our fears.  
Bring us your peace. Fill us with your Holy Spirit.  
Send us onto our daily front lines to share your resurrection  
peace and hope and love with those who are lost and lonely.  
Thank you for meeting us in Jesus, our Lord and our God.  
We are your Easter people. Hallelujah. Amen.