

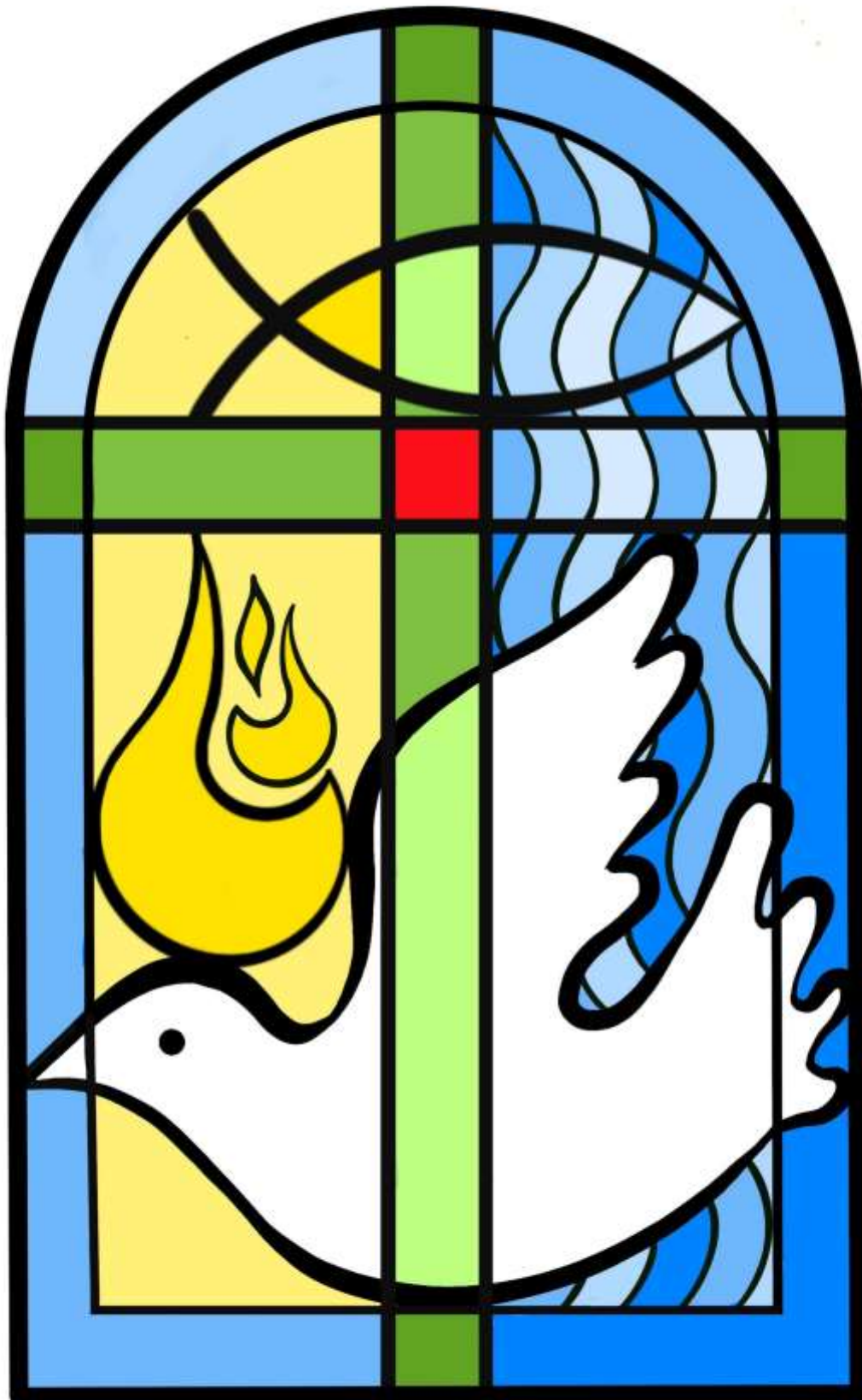
Crosstalk

60p



July 2023

The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad
www.thurstaston.org.uk



St Bartholomew and St Chad takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

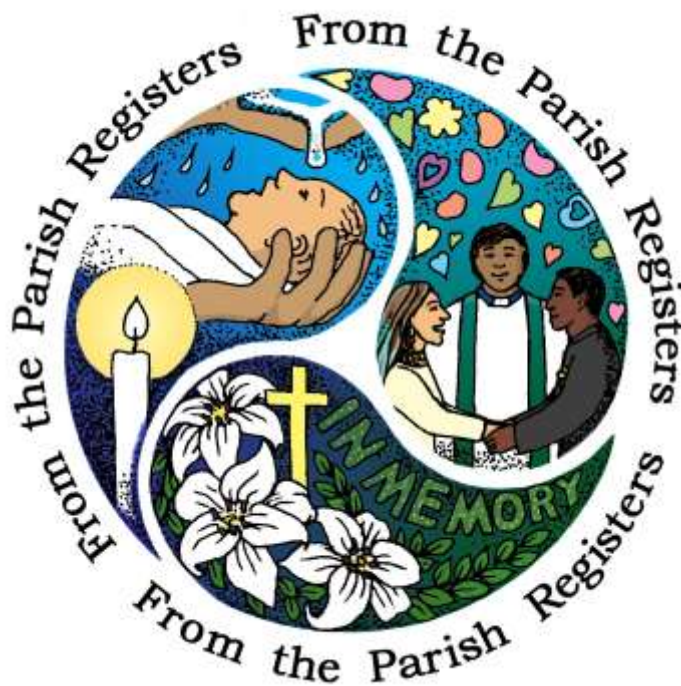
**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**

* **"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

Weddings

Funerals

22nd June - Leonard Galey

Graduation?


There were so many graduates waiting to receive their degrees that day, that speed was of the essence. Presenting their diplomas, therefore, the Chancellor simply smiled and said: "Congratulations, keep moving."

Actually, that is good advice for all of life, and for your Christian life as well.

If you've discovered the reality of God's love for yourself, you deserve congratulations, for in a very real sense, you have arrived...*but keep moving!* - there is so much *more* that God has in store for you! St Paul in 2nd Timothy said: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. *Now there is in store for me* the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day...."

So, wherever *you* have reached in your own faith pilgrimage, *congratulations, but keep moving!*

Revd Jane



Commit to the Lord
whatever you do,
and he will
establish your
plans.

Proverbs 16:3

MEN IN SHEDS



**Meet and chat
over a cuppa**



Friday 7 July 10 -1pm

**Friendly group which meet to
make things for the community**

Men or Women welcome

**Please contact Julie via the parish
office to book a place and arrange
transport office@thurstaston.org.uk**

Tel: 0151 648 8169

Ever wanted to know what Men in Sheds is all about? Come along and see inside the sheds and find out what happens. They are a friendly bunch of men who meet 3 mornings a week to make things for charities or community projects at Christ Church Higher Bebington, Kings Road CH63 8LX. We will get to look around, find out all about it and have a cuppa and cake. Not restricted to men, so anyone interested please get in touch with me, so I can let them know numbers and we can arrange transport or arrange to meet there.

Julie DeBoorder

God's Garden

Plant three rows of peas:
Peas of mind
Peas of heart
Peas of soul



Plant three rows of squash:
Squash gossip
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness



Plant three rows of lettuce:
Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be obedient
Lettuce love one another



Plant three rows of turnips:
Turnip for services
Turnip for meetings
Turnip to help one another

Plant three rows of thyme:
Thyme for God
Thyme for Bible study
Thyme for prayer.



Finally –
Water freely with patience,
Cultivate with love,
And remember
- you will only reap what you sow.



Ready, Teddy, Go!

2pm to 4pm

Saturday 19th August 2023

Celebrate St **B**artholomew's Day and bring your teddy along for the afternoon:-



register your bear
make your parachute
(string and carrier bag provided)
**watch your bear parachute
off the church spire!**

It sounds mad but it's very funny and no bears are hurt in the process, however, bear in mind that occasionally one may get temporarily stuck in tree, so choose your bear accordingly to avoid too many tears.

**It is a great family fun afternoon,
there will be**

- a children's raffle,
- tea and cake
- a lucky dip.

If you can help with

- setting up,
- being on a stall,
- donating or baking cakes,
- or have any donations for the children's raffle,
please get in touch.



Thanks,

Julie DeBoorder Email : Jules2121jule@gmail.com

**St Bartholomew's Church, Church Lane,
Thurstaston, CH61 0HW**

Sat, 15 Jul 2023 14:30
at St Mary Magdalene, Sale
(44 Moss Lane Ashton upon Mersey Sale M33 6GD)

Enabling All
God's People
'ALL STAND'

This service is for ALL
and is a celebration
of the gift of disabled
people to the Church.
Led by Bishop Mark with
guest speaker Revd John
Naude (pictured).



Commissioned by the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, to write 'ALL STAND' The Gift of disabled people to the Church, we are delighted that the Revd John Naude, newly appointed Incumbent of St Peter's Rock Ferry, will be the guest speaker at this service.

John is a wheelchair user and has been ordained in the Church of England for the 25 years. Prior to being ordained he was disability adviser and trainer within the UK and parts of Europe. He is an adviser to the World Council of Churches disability group and a member of the Committee for Ministry of and among Deaf and Disabled people within the C of E. He is also an Author and Adviser to a number of Christian organisations on disability issues. He is married with three adult children and loves to paint.

In addition, a band will lead the music and singing, A BSL interpreter and lip speaker will interpret the service. Large print, and Braille Orders of Service will be available.

We want to celebrate our different abilities and enable and empower all God's people to fulfil their vocation.

Please book on Eventbrite detailing any accessibility needs you may have or contact the diocesan Engagement and Inclusion Adviser, the Revd Vanessa Layfield, to speak about how we can ensure the service is accessible to you.

vanessa.layfield@chester.anglican.org

Life-changing Audio Bibles for people with sight loss



At the end of 2021, Torch took “a leap of faith” and ordered 1,000 Pathway audio Bible players containing the New Testament and Psalms read by the actor David Suchet.

Knowing the power of Scripture to change lives, they planned to “give these Bibles for free to anyone in the UK losing their sight. 16 months later, all of these Bible players have been sent out and the stories coming back are so amazing that Torch has ordered 1,000 more.”

Gayle-Ann told us “It is my friend...with me wherever, it is just so convenient. I have read the New Testament, but the way this is read is just easily understood”.

Kenneth wouldn't have called himself a Christian, and hasn't enjoyed audio books, but 'I like listening to the Pathway. I'm really listening to the New Testament now, not just odd verses. I'm realising what it all means.'

Losing sight can be a time of real questioning and searching, so what better gift can a newly blind person receive than the Word of God?

Torch is encouraging anyone who is living with sight loss to contact them for a free audio Bible at www.torchtrust.org/pathway , or by calling 01858 438260.

Most of the first 1,000 players were sponsored by individuals, churches or trusts. Torch is also seeking people to donate £20 to cover the cost of sending out one of the new audio Bibles.

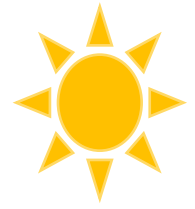
SAVING ENERGY



Try Googling “How much energy does an email use?” The facts are surprising. To reduce, they say, delete all unread and unneeded emails, unsubscribe to spam, and resist “reply all” unless absolutely necessary. For more information click on <https://www.pawprint.eco/eco-blog/carbon-footprint-email>



Ness Gardens Trip



We met at St Chads and filled up 3 cars. It was a glorious sunny day and the gardens were absolutely beautiful. We started together, then split up to suit our own pace and met up at various points and for our picnic. Finished off with coffee, tea, cake and ice-cream. A wonderful day had by all, we will definitely do this again!



Reflecting Faith: – the Pulpit

The pulpit is one of the four most obvious pieces of 'furniture' in a church; the others being the lectern, altar and the font.

Today the pulpit is usually the place where the preacher stands to give the sermon during a service. It is generally raised higher than the chairs or pews, so the preacher can be seen more easily by the congregation. Pulpits often have a 'sounding' board canopy above them, so that the words may 'resound' more audibly.

The pulpit may be simple or heavily ornamented; engraved with pictures and/or words in a creative manner. There are examples of some pulpits which require the preacher to climb up over a dozen steps to reach the preaching platform, while others have only five or six steps.

In Anglican churches they are likely to be situated between the nave, where the congregation sits, and the chancel, where the choir or church leaders sit. In Methodist chapels, pulpits are normally centrally placed, often above the altar.

In bygone generations, the pulpit was used for all sorts of announcements. Without any microphones, it was better to use a raised area from which to address people.

So the pulpits were used not only by priests for preaching, but also by the churchwardens for notices. The pulpit was also where Marriage Banns were called, excommunications were pronounced, and indulgences were advertised.

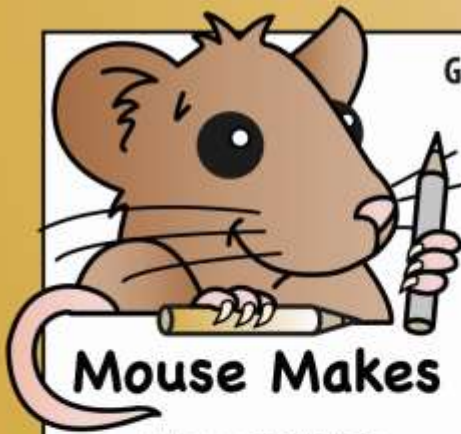
In fact, pulpits were not much used for sermons before the Reformation! This is because the clergy in those days were required to preach only four times a year.

Most commonly, the pulpit was used for the bidding prayers. These, partly in English, were said for the leaders of the Church, the King, the governing orders, the people, special needs, and, finally, for those parishioners who had paid to have their names read out.

This month

Have a close look at your church's pulpit. What does both the pulpit itself and the sermons that you hear from it reflect about your faith?





Mouse Makes

Where did Goliath come from?



1 Samuel 17:4

How tall was Goliath?



_____ cubits.
1 Samuel 17:4

What was Goliath's armour made of?

1 Samuel 17:5,6

What weapons did Goliath carry?



a JAVELIN,
a _____
and a _____
1 Samuel 17:45

How many stones did David take from the stream?



1 Samuel 17:40



Where did David's stone hit Goliath? On his _____

1 Samuel 17:49

Goliath, the champion of the Philistine army, taunted the Israelites.

"Choose a man to fight with me and if he kills me then we will be your servants!"

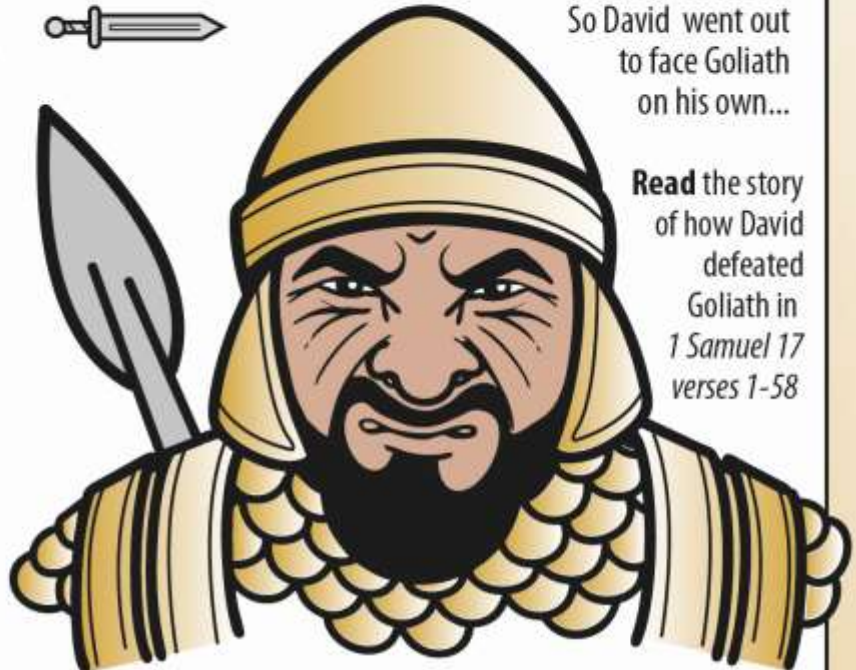


The Israelites were afraid, but **David**, a shepherd boy who had come to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield said:

"The **Lord** who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."



So David went out to face Goliath on his own...



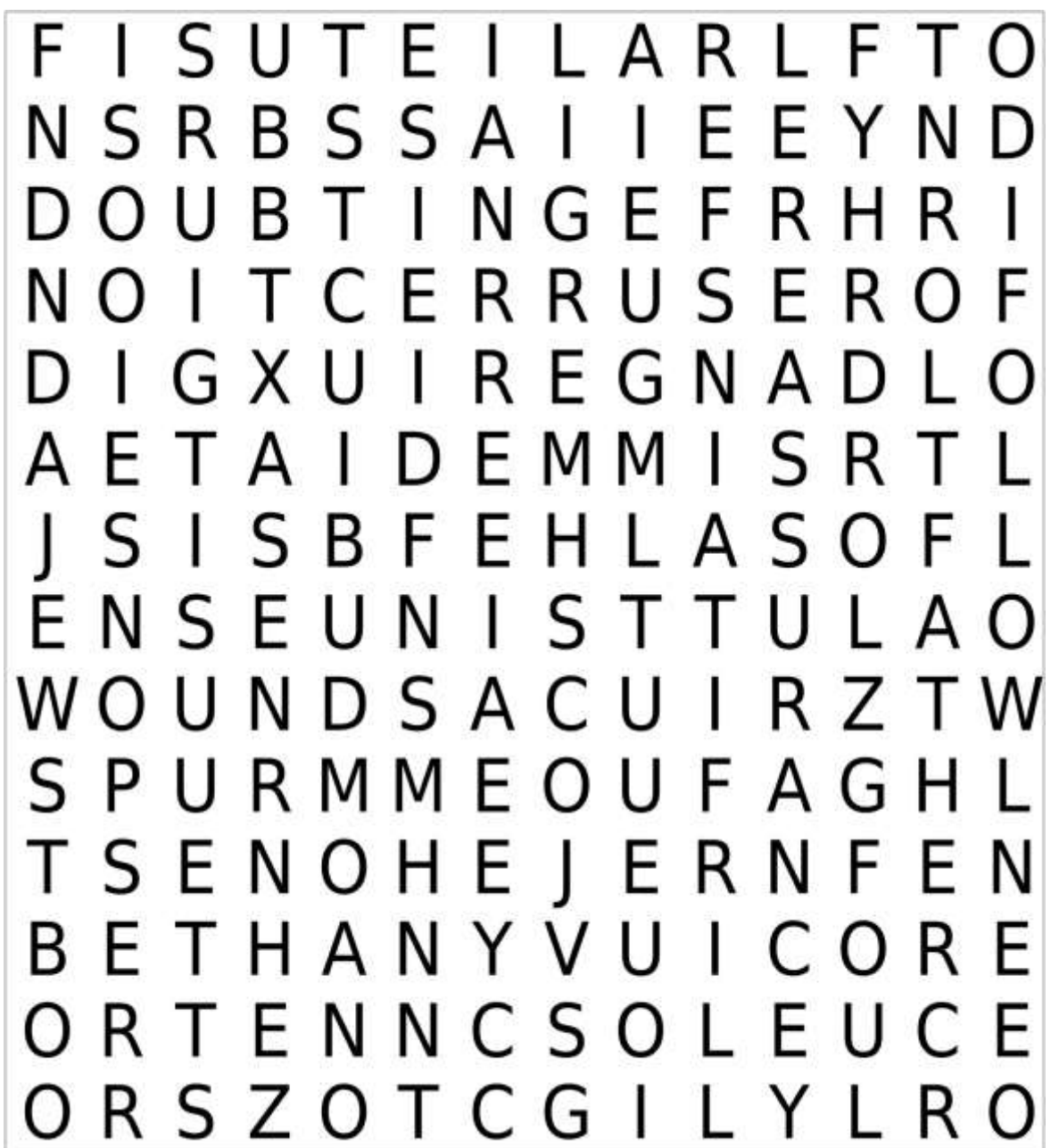
Read the story of how David defeated Goliath in 1 Samuel 17 verses 1-58

I L A D E S W O R D B K L
P A C A M P L I O N A D B
H I F I V E S L I N G A R
I T L E B A T T L E O V O
L E B E A R J A V E L I N
T S S I X M K H C F I D Z
S T A F F O R E H E A D E
T R U I I U P L A L T L G
O U L S G R I M M L H O O
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E K G A T H I T I D E D O
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CHAMPION • GOLIATH • HELMET • ARMOUR • JAVELIN • SHIELD • FIGHT • BEAR
LION • SHEPHERD • STAFF • STONES • BAG • SLING • STRUCK • HIT • FELL • GROUND

On 3rd July the Church remembers St Thomas, also called Doubting Thomas, because **he would not believe his fellow disciples' news of the Resurrection.** But 'doubt' did not mean that Thomas did not love Jesus! Only a few weeks before, Thomas had urged his fellow disciples to follow Jesus to see Lazarus in Bethany, despite danger from the Jews. **"Let us also go, that we may die with him."** (John 11:16) Instead, Jesus had brought Lazarus back to life. Thomas was sometimes very confused about just where Jesus was headed. But in John 14:5 Jesus untangled his confused commitment: **"I am going to my Father",** and **"No one comes unto the Father but by me."** Finally, after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to Thomas, showing him the wounds of His crucifixion. Thomas was electrified, and his response immediate: **"My Lord and my God"** (John 20.26ff). Thus **Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance** for thousands of people down the centuries.

July
 Thomas
 Resurrection
 Doubt
 Doubting
 Love
 Jesus
 Follow
 Lazarus
 Bethany
 Danger
 Jews
 Die
 Life
 Confused
 Going
 Father
 Wounds
 Crucifixion
 Response
 Immediate
 Lord
 God
 Honest
 Faith
 reassurance



Spiritual Disciplines: - Solitude

'Solitude is a time when we withdraw from the company of others in order to give God our undivided attention' (John Ortberg).

The spiritual discipline of *solitude* is about spending time alone with God, to grow in relationship with Him and hear Him more clearly. This practice was a priority in Jesus' life and ministry, especially at crucial moments eg *'Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed'* (Mark 1:35).

Solitude is not so much about what we *do* as what we *don't* do! If we want to hear God, we need to consciously shut out the external noise in our lives and focus on the quiet inside us. If we are honest, this can be a real struggle. We want to do it, but other things can so easily get in the way: distractions, tiredness, jobs that need doing, wandering thoughts etc. Solitude gives us an opportunity to enjoy God's presence, as somebody who we really want to spend time with.

Richard Foster (*'Celebration of Discipline'*) suggests some ways in which we might grow in this discipline:

'Little solitudes': small everyday moments to seek inner silence eg, coffee times, travelling to work and time spent outside.

Quiet place: having specific places where we go to be quiet, eg a room or special chair in our home.

Retreat: organising a retreat where we can have time in silence and solitude. We need to plan carefully how we use our time with God, including silent listening, meditating on Scripture, prayer, journaling, taking a meditative walk, or listening to a worship CD.

'If we possess inward solitude we do not fear being alone, for we know that we are not alone.' (Richard Foster)



GOD IN THE SCIENCES: A Scientist Reflects: Suffering and the Image of God

During the cost-of-living crisis, Food Banks have become a necessity for many desperate families. When they are given food, people reveal a variety of emotions: from relief, happiness, and hope, to quiet sadness, resignation, and desperation. Most often they display a mixture of several of these feelings at the same time.

I believe that our cries for answers at times like this, and our deep longing for things to be better, kinder, more just, less painful and chaotic, are a sign that we are made in the image of God. The Bible describes God creating men and women, instructing them to rule over the earth, and giving them the freedom to choose what they will do. The world God made was described as “very good”, but human wrongdoing caused a rift between people and God, and also between us and the rest of creation.

From a scientist’s perspective, it seems that the *potential* for accidents, disease and death – for both animals and humans – may have been part of God’s very good creation, and there was a real threat of famine, albeit far rarer than in our current mismanaged version of creation? How would we have managed life in what Genesis describes as an un-subdued world if our relationship with God hadn’t broken down, and evil hadn’t been unleashed? Maybe painful experiences would have been experienced as challenges that brought us closer to each other and to God, rather than bringing us the experience of suffering (which I would define more particularly as involving distress, isolation and fear)? Of course, these are theoretical questions that no one can answer, but perhaps they are worth exploring.

God has already responded to suffering at a root level by taking it on Himself. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus broke the power of sin and death. We do not yet see the final results of those decisive actions – the end of suffering for all those who trust Him – but we can already feel their impact. For example, many people have experienced the wonderful effect, either in their own lives or by receiving kindness from others, which is described by these words: “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh” (Ezekiel 36:26).

Some of the people who receive food are, in the words of one community leader, “really desperate”, but yet they still trust God to meet their needs. My hope is that the worldwide Church will, with God’s help, be part of the answer to their prayers – demonstrating our true status as people made in the image of God.

GOD IN THE ARTS

'He gave us eyes to see them': 'Herdsman with Cows by a River' by Albert Cuyp

'What is this life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare?'

Those words of W H Davies provide the theme for this year. The paintings chosen celebrate creation in all its



wonder and diversity, and we are encouraged to take time to look anew and so become aware of the author of that creation. But this month it is the other way around as we sense the animals looking at us in 'Herdsman with Cows by a River' painted in 1650 by the Dutch artist, Albert Cuyp.

It is a very ordinary scene of nature. Yet there is a radiance and a tranquillity that strike us as we see the herd of cows standing in the still waters. Around them there is a lot of movement: birds fly in the sky, boats are sailing off into the sunset and two fishermen are busy at their work to the left of the canvas. But the cows and their herdsman are quiet and contented, relishing this moment of the day closing, and contemplating the world going by. And two of those cows seem to be looking out into our own world. In many of Albert Cuyp's paintings the sun bathes each scene in a golden light. Here the clouds are gathering in the sky as the sun sinks down in the west, but there is still a glowing calmness brought by the light of the sky above.

In this month of July we are probably planning holidays. Some holidays can be a frenetic rush, others are those occasions when we simply sit back and relax, letting what we see around us bring refreshment and renewal. It is the way we are encouraged to savour the joy and delight of Scripture in what is called *lectio divina*. Monastic teachers compared it to cows grazing in the field. They pointed to four stages: *Lectio* – we take a bite of scripture; *Meditatio* – we chew on that word; *Oratio* – we savour its flavour and nourishment; and *Contemplatio* – we digest its goodness to feed body and soul.

The herd of cows in Albert Cuyp's painting have spent the day doing just that – grazing and ruminating in the fields nearby. The herdsman has brought them to the river to relax in the water. Soon they will take the journey home to the farm and the safety of the cowshed. Tomorrow will bring them the opportunity to graze anew in the gift of another day. Walt Whitman wrote in one of his poems, 'I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and self-contain'd, I stand and look at them long and long.' As we stand and look at the cows in this painting, perhaps we may realise that whether at work or on holiday, in Sunday worship or Bible reading at home, God can feed us through His world around and in His word in Scripture. As long as we take the time and the care to savour the delights that He offers us.

St. Chad's Tots and Tinies

St Chad's Church (Roslin Road, Irby)

Every Thursday 9.30-11.30am
(Term Time Only)

£1.50 per child - All Welcome



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

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

A warm welcome

for all
at the

Warm Hub

Free of charge

Everyone is welcome to come
and be in a warm, safe space

at St. Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH

0151 648 8169

Tuesdays 9.30a.m. – 12.30p.m.



Refreshments, free WIFI, disabled access
and a chance to chat with friends.



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 McMahan, Text:07889 404917

Or Email: almac48@virginmedia.com

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/>



facebook

St Bartholomew's and St Chad's
on Facebook

<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)



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Every time you shop, you'll raise a donation for us and **it won't cost you a penny extra!**

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 there has been a huge response

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St Chad's Church Office on 0151 648 8169 or
E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk

Advertising space is sold in good faith.
 The Parochial Church Council and/or Editor can take no responsibility for the quality of
 goods or services offered.

Contacts

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|--|--|--|
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| Reader Emeritus Mr Alan Jones 648 1400 | | Flower Guild (St Chad's) Mrs Dawn Rudd 648 0209 |
| Retired Clergy Revd David Felix 07778 859 935 | | Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's) Vacant |
| PCC Secretary Mr Graham Barley 648 1867 pcc-secretary@thurstaston.org.uk | | Cleaning Guild (St Chad's) Mrs Leslie Worrall 648 5590 |
| PCC Treasurer Vacant pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk | | Bellring - Tower Captain Dr Peter Robson 648 6691 |
| Parish Safeguarding Officer Mr Chris Williams 07956621731 safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk | | CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE |
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| Organist Mr Craig Vickers 648 7405 | | Rainbows/Brownies/Guides www.girlguiding.org.uk or Freephone 0800 1 69 59 01 |
| Electoral Roll c/o Church Office 648 8169 | | CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES |
| St Chad's Hall Booking hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk | | Christian Aid Representative Vacant |
| | | Children's Society Representative Mrs Jean Heath 648 6015 |
| | | Leprosy Mission Representative Vacant |
| | | 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](mailto:rector@thurstaston.org.uk) 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

CHURCH OFFICE: Mrs K Butler St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH
Telephone: 0151 648 8169. E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk
OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm (term time)

PARISH WEBSITE: www.thurstaston.org.uk

JULY 2023 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

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|---|---|
| Sun 2nd July | 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's |
| Sun 9th July | 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am All Age service at St Chad's |
| Sun 16th July | 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's |
| Sun 23rd July | 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Communion with Junior church at St Chad's |
| Sun 30th July | 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's |
| Sun 6th August Transfiguration Of our Lord | 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's |

