

# 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

May 2019



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.

**"Your magazine needs you"**

Please send your contributions  
(eg. Poems. Prayers, interesting articles etc.,)  
to [office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)  
no later than 20th May

## Contents

|       |                              |                      |                                       |
|-------|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3     | <i>Diary Dates/Registers</i> | 13                   | <i>Wirral Men's Breakfast</i>         |
| 4-    | <i>From your Rector</i>      | 14-15                | <i>God in the Arts/Kneeling</i>       |
| 5     | <i>GodParents Sunday</i>     | 16                   | <i>Facebook/Choir update</i>          |
| 6     | <i>Movie Moments</i>         | 17                   | <i>Mouse Makes</i>                    |
| 7     | <i>The Wisdom House</i>      | 18                   | <i>RDA/Age UK /Alleluia</i>           |
| 8     | <i>Christian Aid Week</i>    | 19                   | <i>Leasowe disabled swimming club</i> |
| 9     | <i>Word Search</i>           | 20/21/22/23/24/25/26 | <i>Advertisers</i>                    |
| 10-11 | <i>God in the Sciences</i>   | 27                   | <i>Contacts List: Who's Who</i>       |
| 12    | <i>EMU/ Dawn Chorus Day</i>  | 28                   | <i>February Services</i>              |

## Diary Dates

**Sunday May 5th**  
Godparents Sunday  
See page 5

**Wednesday 22nd May**  
EMU— "Garniture de legumes de Irby"  
8pm St Chads

**Various Dates in June/July/August**  
The Wisdom house  
See page 7

**Saturday 1st June**  
Wirral Mens Breakfast  
See page 12

**12-18th May**  
Christian Aid week

## *From the Registers*

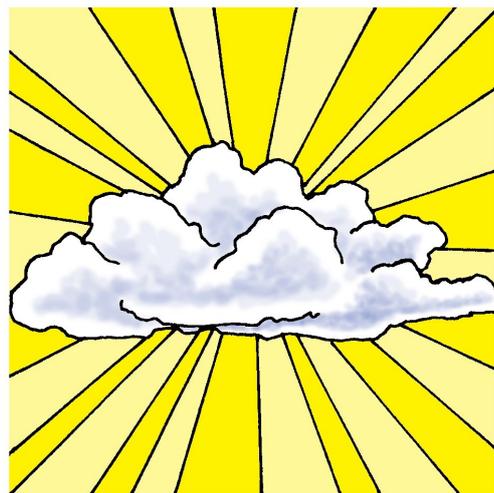
***Funerals***  
*We commend to God's eternal care*  
*11th April*  
***Margaret Ashcroft-Griffiths***

## From Your Rector

Dear Friends

### **The Truth of the Ascension**

*'While He was blessing them,  
Jesus left them and  
was taken up into heaven.'*  
(Luke 24:51).



The Ascension is a hugely neglected festival, which deserves to have a bigger place in our church life. How do we understand it?

*The Ascension tells us that Jesus is in control: 'Jesus has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand'* (1 Peter 3:22). Jesus occupies the top spot in the universe; the control of our world is in the safe, scarred hands of Jesus. We can offer Him our worship and allegiance, knowing that His plans are better than those of any Prime Minister or President.

*The Ascension tells us that God is committed to His world: 'And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus'* (Ephesians 2:6). Jesus did not leave His humanity behind when He ascended, for we are raised with Christ to heaven. Therefore, God is bound to His world and we can trust Him to fulfill His purpose for our lives and world.

*The Ascension gives us a job to do: 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations'* (Matthew 28:18,19). God's primary means of working in the world is now through us. He commissions for this task at Ascension and equips us at Pentecost. We are called to make disciples, starting in our workplace, family and community.

*'Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which He blesses all the world.'* (Teresa of Avila).

Come and join us to celebrate this festival. 7.30pm St Bartholomew's on Thursday 30th May.

# We'd love to see you on GODPARENTS' SUNDAY

*Celebrating godparents everywhere*

**5th May 2019**  
**9.30am St. Chad's**  
**Roslin Road, Irby**

Godparents and godchildren  
of all ages are welcome

*Continue the  
amazing journey*

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



**This service is for EVERYONE.**

At every baptism service, the whole congregation is reminded "The Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling" and then asked the question "People of God, will you welcome these children and uphold them in their new life in Christ?"

**Please do invite your godchildren (even if they are now grown up!) or godparents to join us for this service.**



**MOVIE  
MOMENTS**

**Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.**

## Celebrating difference?

‘The message in this film is one of inclusion, not just accepting difference but celebrating difference’ said the actor Colin Farrell at the world premiere of Disney’s new film *Dumbo*.

In the opening scenes his character, Holt Farrier, returns from the war without one arm, which shocks his children. ‘It’s still me’ he says, and that is perfectly true. But his follow-on ‘everything is going to be just like it was before’ is more wishful thinking than reality. He can no longer perform on his beloved circus horses, so is assigned to dressing as a clown and cleaning up the elephants’ dung.



And it is in their cage that he discovers the newborn baby elephant with big ears. The ringmaster who had hoped for a ‘precious bundle of joy’ calls Dumbo ‘a monster... damaged goods’ and tries to cover up the ears with a special bonnet, in the same way that he tries to cover up Holt’s missing arm with a fake one.

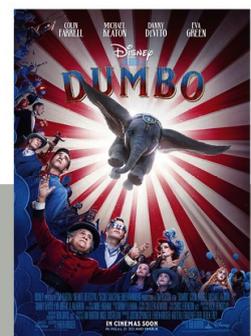
Dumbo is the quintessential outsider who is rejected and ridiculed just because of his looks, whilst Holt also faces his own rejection because of his disability. Tim Burton, who directed the film, not only brings to it his well-known talent for the fantastical but also his skill in provoking the audience to think about the value of the outsider – those who don’t fit the popular mould. And as the film progresses, Dumbo’s large ears enable him to rescue others in a dramatic scene in which Holt also plays a key role, regardless of his disability.



So, we are caused to think about the value of ‘difference’. If others make us feel unhappy with how we look, or if we face sudden changes to our bodies, do we feel pressured to cover up and try to continue just like we were before? Or can we celebrate the differences and embrace the changes, bringing them out into the open and using them for the good of others?



EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.



In cinemas from 29<sup>th</sup> March



## St Chad's Extension 8-9pm

**Each session is totally independent of the others. So choose which ones you want to come to.**

**You are of course welcome to come to all of them!**

### **Wed 5th June - Wide-awake dreams**

This session challenges us to think about our dreams, what our motivation is for pursuing them, and who or what it is that is influencing us as we try to achieve them.

### **Wed 12th June - Be my best friend**

What does it mean to have a good friend. And what does it mean to be a good friend? This session looks at how to be "real" in our relationships.

### **Mon 17th June - Difficult People**

We all come across people whom we find difficult to deal with. This session helps us to identify those who are truly on our side and gives us the opportunity to discuss the best ways to handle difficult characters.

### **Wed 3rd July - Love is something you do**

Is love simply something you feel, or is there more to it? We explore what it means to love with actions even when feelings aren't present. The material in this session relates to relationships in all areas of our lives.

### **Wed 10th July - Forgiveness**

Is it always right to forgive? Is forgiveness a reaction or a choice? Here we look at what true forgiveness is, what it is not, and what effect forgiveness may have on a person's life.

### **Mon 15th July - Living a life true to yourself**

At times we can find ourselves trying to be somebody that we just can't be. This session encourages us to recognise when we are living our lives in an attempt to meet someone else's expectations and encourages us to play to our strengths.

### **Wed 31st July - The long walk home**

The story of the prodigal son will prompt discussion on jealousy between siblings, forgiveness from parents, and whether it is always right to welcome the 'wanderer' back. It also explores the idea of God as a Father waiting for us to come home.

### **Wed 7th August - Thieves of Joy**

Hankering after the past or longing for a better future - both will steal your present joy. This session looks at finding contentment and grasping happiness now.



## **Christian Aid Week (12 – 18 May): ‘All mums should live’**

Sierra Leone is the world’s most dangerous place to become a mum. Every day 10 women die from giving birth. In Sawula district, the community struggle with a clinic which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

Jebbeh is heavily pregnant but as her baby grows, it’s not joy that fills her heart, but fear. When Jebbeh’s sister Fatmata went in to labour, there were so few ambulances that Fatmata had no choice but to walk for three hours under the baking sun, to the nearest hospital. The journey was long and with every step Fatmata struggled to keep walking.



Jebbeh told us: ‘My sister was crying out with hunger. She died on the side of the road. She never gave birth.’

This Christian Aid Week, together, we can make childbirth safe for mums and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the world’s poorest mums a chance to live.

This Christian Aid Week, 12-18 May, please look out for the envelopes in church . If our church raised £300, it could help provide a new delivery bed so more mums like Jebbeh can deliver their babies safely.

This month (31<sup>st</sup> May) the Church remembers the visit of the virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. Both were pregnant, and the visit gives us a poignant glimpse of two humble, ordinary women, caught up in a great event that would shape world history. Their trusting faith in God and total acceptance of His will, shine through.

After Jesus is born, Mary fades into the background, and makes few appearances: when she loses her Son in Jerusalem, when she urges Him to help the wedding party in Cana; and when Jesus gives her into the keeping of the beloved disciple when He is on the cross.

Mary, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ, one who is both God and Man, holds a unique place in the history of mankind. Down the centuries that have followed, the Church has paid special honour to Mary – and well deserved it is. “All generations shall call me blessed...”

Visit  
 Virgin  
 Mary  
 Cousin  
 Elizabeth  
 Pregnant  
 Glimpse  
 Humble  
 Ordinary  
 Women  
 Great  
 History  
 Trusting  
 Faith  
 God  
 Acceptance  
 Will  
 Jesus  
 Jerusalem  
 Cana  
 Special  
 Honour  
 Generations  
 blessed

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## **God in the Sciences Love Me to the Moon?**

Do you know the story of little nutbrown hare? His father cared for him so much that the only thing big enough to describe his love was the enormous distance between the Earth and the Moon - and back again. It's a wonderful story, but it pales into insignificance compared to the love that the Creator of the entire universe has for each one of us.

When Paul wrote to the Ephesians, he said that he prayed they would be able "to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge". So what sort of scale could you use to capture the size of a love like that?

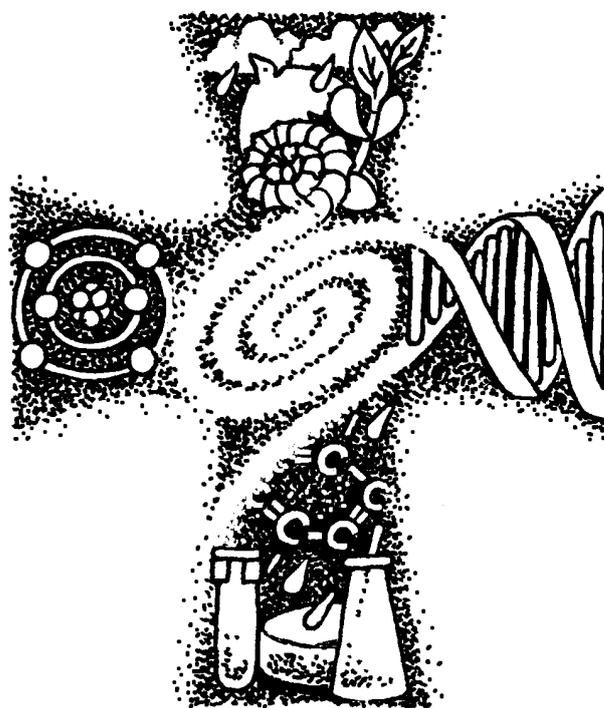
I have heard professional astronomers say it is impossible to keep the enormous scales of our universe in mind all the time and keep functioning normally. But every now and again it is worth trying to wrap our heads around these distances, and feel a sense of awe at our smallness compared to the vast distances of space.

One way to connect more personally with astronomical scales is to consider the total amount of DNA in our bodies. This long thin chemical carries all the instructions needed for building and maintaining each cell – every tiny building block – in your body. A human cell contains two metres of DNA, coiled up very tightly. If it were possible to take this long thin molecule out of every cell, unroll it, and line up every piece end to end, how far would it reach?

The average adult has about 3 trillion (3,000,000,000,000) DNA-containing cells in his or her body. Multiplied by two metres, that makes around 6 billion kilometres of DNA, which is immense compared to the distance to the moon. The sun is around 150 million kilometres from earth, so our DNA could take us there and back many times. Pluto is, on average, around 6 billion kilometres away from Earth, so with our string of DNA we could take a one-way trip to the very edge of the solar system.

God is the Creator of the vast spaces of the universe, but when Jesus described how God cares for us He said that 'even the very hairs on your head are numbered'. You could also say that He knows every molecule of DNA in your body. Jesus' death on the cross showed that His love for each one of us is more unbreakable than the love of a parent for a child. So what might He say in today's language - I love you to Pluto and back?

*Written by Dr. Ruth Banciewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.*





**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families



**EMU (Evening Mother Union) meets:-**

One Wednesday in each month, 8.00pm at St Chad's  
for more information contact Chris Rostock (648 1112)

**Next event:** Wednesday 22nd May 8pm at St Chad's



**"Garniture de legumes de Irby"** How  
to create a sparkle to your dinner party  
with eye catching vegetable garnishes!

By Jan DeBoorder



**Future Events :** Wednesday June 19th 8pm at St Chads

**"Just a week in Costa Rica"** Sue Turnbull & Linda Barley present  
a visual feast of the exotic creatures and birds  
envountered on their visit to Costa Rica.



**ALL WELCOME**

## **International Dawn Chorus Day 2019 – 5<sup>th</sup> May**

This popular annual event is promoted by the  
Wildlife Trust and is the perfect opportunity for all  
nature lovers to gather at dawn to enjoy the song  
of their local birds.



Nowadays Dawn Chorus Day is celebrated in more than 80  
countries, and even in parts of Antarctica and the Caribbean.

SATURDAY 1ST JUNE

## PETER VARDY

Sir Peter Vardy DL is a British businessman and philanthropist from Sunderland. His business interests have been mainly in the automotive retail business at the peak running over a hundred car dealerships which were eventually sold for £50 million in 2005.

Peter has built four Academy Schools, each with a strong Christian ethos and in 2012, he launched Safe Families for Children working with families in crisis in over 30 local authorities.

He is married to Margaret and his son (also Peter) continues the family tradition representing BMW, Land Rover, Jaguar and Porsche across Scotland.



### BOOK ONLINE:

[www.wirralbreakfast.co.uk](http://www.wirralbreakfast.co.uk)

NESTON ROAD, THORNTON HOUGH, WIRRAL CH63 1JF  
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WHO HAS ONE TOO!

ONLY £11.50  
PER TICKET



*The procession had taken the scenic route*

## Still Life with Strawberries, Gooseberries and Asparagus: Adriaen Coorte



The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter is traditionally Rogation Sunday, when we give thanks for the fruits of the earth and pray for all who work on the land. Rural churches often celebrate nature's cycle from seeds sown to crops harvested with Plough Sunday, Rogationtide, Lammas and Harvest.

Jesus in His teaching pointed out the miracle of that cycle in the seed – sown in the soil, but springing up to new life; a small beginning that becomes a great plant; a single seed that is multiplied. This month of May marks two seasons in that growth: the harvesting of asparagus and the gathering of strawberries.

They are two signs of the fruitfulness of nature depicted in this beautiful, intimate painting that was given to the National Gallery two years ago by the Dutch collector, Willem van Dedem. It was painted in 1703 by Adriaen Coorte. We know little about him apart from the fact that he lived in Holland and has left us a garland of canvases, all displaying what has been called ‘a wondrous tenderness.’

This painting is an ordinary, unpretentious scene. There is no moral lesson here, no symbolism: simply a depiction of the beauty of creation in miniature. The bowl of strawberries and the bunch of asparagus lie on a stone ledge with some gooseberries and a plum. Each a gift of nature to enjoy and share, and to find there a token of God, the giver of all good things.

‘For everything there is a season,’ and in this month of May with Adriaen Coorte, we give thanks for this bounty of the earth and we pray for farmers and agricultural workers. But more than that – as the hymn tells us, ‘we thank thee then, O Father, for all things

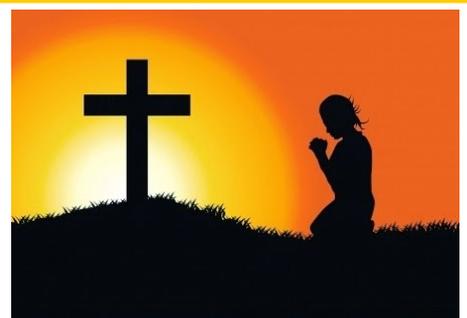
### **Kneeling with body, mind and soul**

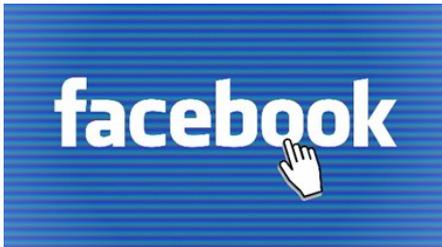
Some of us prefer to kneel for just about everything in church. People around us might sit - but we are kneelers! Time may have taken its toll though, and sadly the knees may not what they were. But if you visit different churches, you will find that not all of them have furniture designed to help you kneel.

Some have the wooden support so close to the pew back that you are ‘forced’ to perch your rear on the seat in order to physically fit. Others have the gap so wide you cannot reach the seat, so you have to kneel with a straight back. Some don’t have anything to kneel on at all.

But why do we kneel in church? In church we’re continuing the actions of those in the Bible - both at worship and when addressing Jesus. Just think of all those who knelt before Him to ask forgiveness or healing, or, like the single leper, to give thanksgiving.

In the conscious presence of Almighty God, as we come before Him in worship and supplication, what can we do but we kneel with our body, mind and soul?





facebook

St Bartholomew's and St Chad's now have their own Facebook page.

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.

There have been small business cards around the church buildings which have details of our Facebook page too.

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

Julie Parmenter

### ONE OFF CHURCH CHOIR—Friday 10th May

Thank you to all the choir who have volunteered for the choir for the Wedding , the practice went really well, the choir pews were full to overflowing and we raised the rafters!

On the day please arrive at 12.30pm in your best outfits, in any combination of shades of pink, peach, beige, cream or white and go straight to the choir pews. Water bottles can be stored on the pew shelves, but remember no loos! Nearest loo Church Farm.

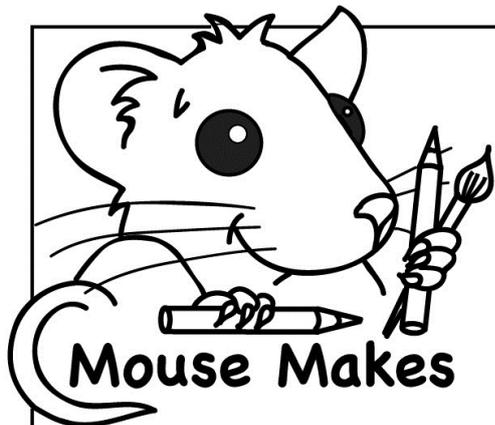
Don't forget your words, but if you lose them in the meantime, just let me know as I have spares, see you there.

Happy Singing

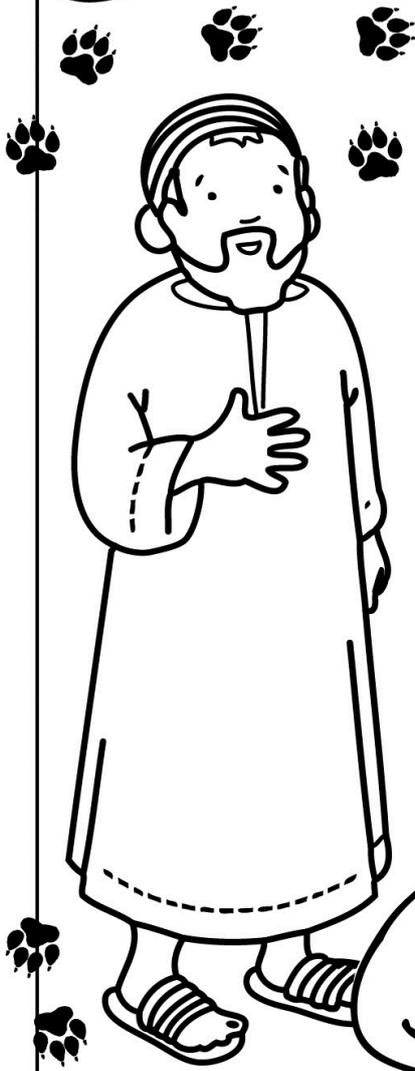
Julie

Home 0151 648 6331 / Mobile 07599 186893





You may have read the Bible story of Daniel in the **lions'** den, but have you ever read the whole book of Daniel? Take your time and read a little each day and find out about the **vegetables**, the **statue**, the **gold idol**, the **furnace**, the **tree**, the **writing** on the wall, the **lions**, the **four animals**, the **ram** and the **goat**, and the **man**.



W A L L O M I S H A E L A W  
 D S T A T U E T R E E O L U  
 A H A Z A R I A H W D R L P  
 N P N K D R E A M G O D I R  
 I E I D O L D A R I U S O A  
 E N W R I T I N G K F D N Y  
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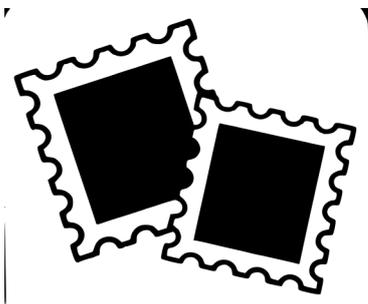
  
 Ashpenaz changed Daniel and his friends names. Look up **Daniel 1:7** to see what he changed them to.

Can you find these words from the book of Daniel in the wordsearch?  
 KING • NEBUCHADNEZZER • DANIEL • DARIUS • ASPHENAZ  
 HANANIAH • MISHAEL • AZARIAH • DREAM • STATUE  
 IDOL • FURNACE • TREE • WRITING • WALL • LAW • LIONS  
 DEN • PRAYER • LORD • GOD • TRUST • RESCUE • ANGEL



**Please collect your Postage Stamps**  
throughout the year for RDA  
(Riding for the Disabled).

There is a box in St Chad's foyer and  
an envelope at the back of St Bart's.



Wirral age UK are launching a  
new initiative called Joining  
Forces. This is a veterans  
project aimed at older  
veterans aged 65 plus. They  
will be based in Meadowcroft  
in Bromborough and are able  
to offer help and support in a  
number of areas including,  
Information and Advice, Health  
and Wellbeing and Reminis-  
cence work also.

Leaflets are available at both  
churches.

### **Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord'**

Not many university students are able to write Christian songs which become worldwide hits, but Don Emry Fishel managed it with his Alleluia No. 1. Nearly 50 years on, it is loved and sung by millions of Christians worldwide.

Fishel wrote it in 1971, while he was a student at the University of Michigan and also music leader of a Roman Catholic charismatic community based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. These were the days of folk songs and guitars, and Alleluia No. 1 fitted the prevailing mood perfectly. Written in E Major, it is ideal for guitar accompaniment.

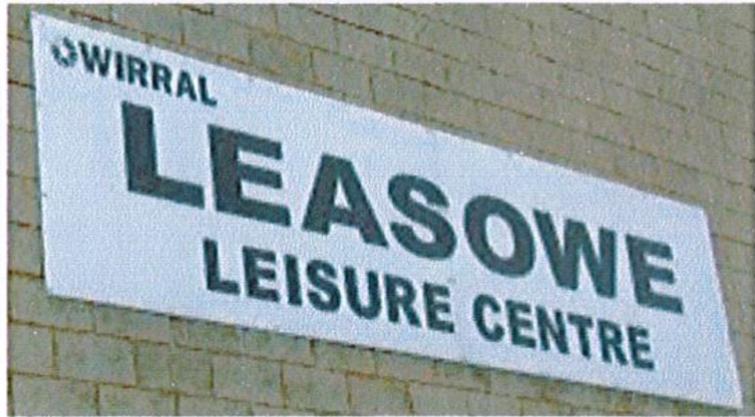
Mr Fishel became a freelance flutist, flute instructor and composer. He was publications editor for the Word of God and Servant Music for a number of years, and then worked in computers for 25 years. In 2008 he moved to Nashville and returned to music, teaching the flute.

Alleluia No 1 was Fishel's first song, written "rather quickly, in about an hour." It had four verses to begin with, but a fifth verse (which became the third verse) was added later, as he prepared for baptism. As Fishel explained, he wanted the line 'We have been crucified with Christ; now we shall live forever' "to be the centre of the song."

Alleluia No. 1 was first published in the UK in Sound of Living Waters, in 1974.



# Leasowe Swimming Club for the Disabled



**Leasowe Swimming Club for the Disabled:  
For people of all ages  
with disabilities and  
their carers**

***SATURDAY***  
**2.30 – 3.30**

**Pool hoist available**

**For further  
information contact  
Jan Gillison on  
07890192966  
or ask at reception.**

**Leasowe Leisure Centre  
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Terms and conditions 1. To celebrate our 130 year anniversary we are offering to make a charitable donation of £130 when a new Ecclesiastical Insurance plc Home Insurance policy (a "Policy") is purchased directly from us and your insurance cover commences on or before 31st December 2019, on the following terms and conditions. 2. One charitable donation will be made per Policy issued. 3. Quotation requests for a Policy must be made online or by telephone, quoting TRUST130. This charitable donation offer cannot be redeemed in any other way. 4. Underwriting terms and conditions apply and we reserve the right to not provide a quotation or offer to insure if the property that is the subject of the quotation does not meet our underwriting criteria. 5. The charitable donation is conditional on the named insured under the Policy notifying us of a church in the United Kingdom which is part of the Anglican Communion to receive the donation (the "Nominated Church"). Donations will be made by us directly to the Nominated Church, within 30 days of the Policy start date. 6. "We" and "us" in these terms and conditions refer to Ecclesiastical Insurance Office plc.

CONTAINS PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

# Help St Bartholomew Thurstaston and St Chad Irby raise FREE funds when you shop online!



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

## 1. Sign up to easyfundraising

Got to

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby)

and follow the simple steps to sign up.

## 2. Hit the shops

When you shop online, visit easyfundraising first, click through to the retailer and shop as normal. Everything costs exactly the same

## 3. Earn donations

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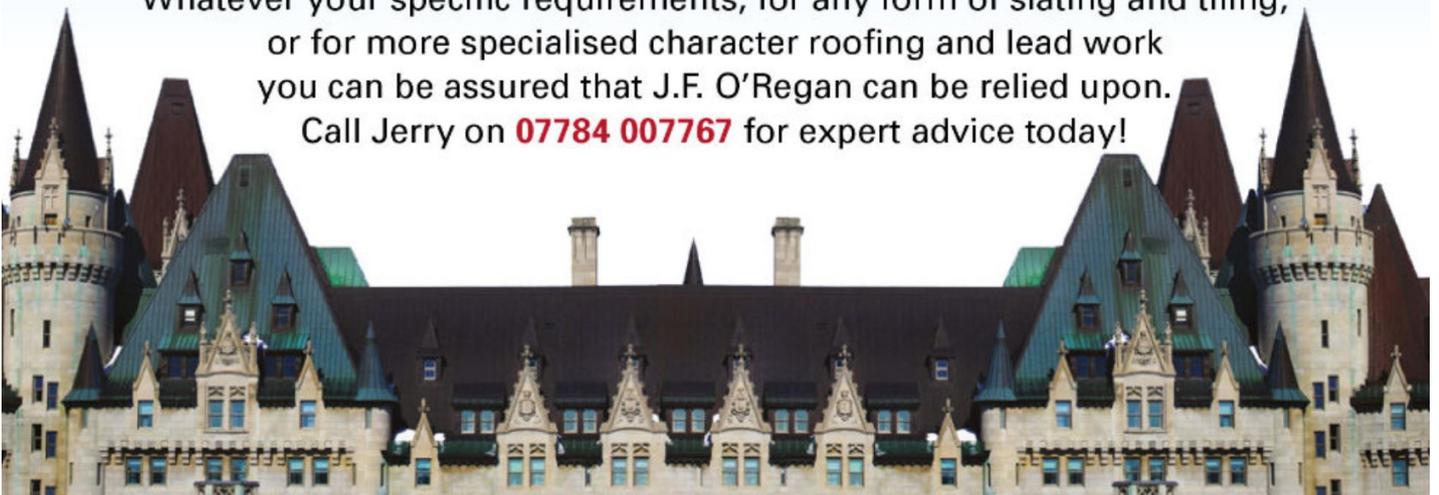
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## Contacts

### Churchwarden

Mrs Liz Whitehead

**606 9083**

### Reader

Mr Alan Jones

**648 1400**

### Retired Clergy

Revd David Trollope

**342 2648**

Revd Ray Dent

**792 2022**

Revd Margaret Fletcher

**648 1025**

### PCC Secretary

Mr Graham Barley

**648 1867**

### Evening Mothers' Union (EMU)

Mrs Chris Rostock (Secretary)

**6481112**

### Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs Elaine Jones

**648 1400**

### Flower Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs Dawn Rudd

**648 0209**

### Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs June Bibby

**678 8124**

### Cleaning Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs Leslie Worrall

**648 5590**

### Bellringers Tower Captain

Dr Peter Robson

**648 6691**

### PCC Treasurer

Mr Kevin Marley

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

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### Junior Church

Mrs Julie Deboorder

**648 6331**

### Verger

Mr Jon Oliver

**648 1754**

### Seniors/Youth (11-16)

Mrs Janet Trigg

**648 8821**

### Organist

Mr Craig Vickers

**648 7405**

### Rainbows/Brownies/Guides

[www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) or

Freephone

**0800 1 69 59 01**

### Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office

**648 8169**

### St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary

Mrs Jean Heath

**648 6015**

## CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

### Christian Aid Representative

Vacant

### Children's Society Representative

Mrs Jean Heath

**648 6015**

### Leprosy Mission Representative

Mrs Pat Hulme

**538 1953**

### Adoption Society Representative

Mrs Chris Rostock

**648 1112**

## Church Services May 2019

### Sunday Services

#### St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15am Holy Communion

**5th May**  
Easter 3

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15 am Morning Worship

**12th May**  
Easter 4

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15am Holy Communion  
3.00pm Baptism

**19th May**  
Easter 5

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15 am Holy Communion

**26th May**  
Easter 6

7.30pm Holy Communion

**30th May**  
**ASCENSION**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15 am Holy Communion

**2nd June**  
Easter 6

#### St Chad's

9.30am Family Service

9.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Holy Communion

9.30am Family Service

### Weekday Services

Holy Communion celebrated at St Chad's each Wed 10.15am  
ALL WELCOME

### 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.

**PLEASE NOTE: Rector's day off - Tuesday**

#### RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner

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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