

# Crosstalk

60p



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



November 2019

## From Your Rector

Dear Friends

### Bonfire Night Reflection

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ([Ephesians 1:3](#))



Naomi loved her Daddy. They always enjoyed spending time together. When he'd return home from work, she would welcome him with a big hug. She'd sit in his arms in the front garden and watch the cars whizz by. Their time together was priceless.

Her first Bonfire Night, Naomi and Dad watched as neighbourhood families celebrated in front of their houses. Fathers lit sparklers and everyone watched how each sent off brilliant, captivating colours into the air. Naomi was enthralled. Smiling from ear to ear, she clapped her hands in the excitement of the moment. She had never seen anything so spectacular.

As Dad settled down under a large oak tree in the park, he took Naomi's hand and set her in his lap. They surveyed the sparkling stars in the heavens, as Dad told Naomi about God's glorious creation.

Others from the neighbourhood came down to the park with blankets and chairs. Naomi wondered what was happening. A few moments later, as she snuggled into her father's arms, she figured it out.

Boom! Pop-pop-pop! "Oooooo!" Claps and shouts of laughter rang out among the crowd. Magnificent fireworks painted the quiet sky.

Although the loud blasts scared Naomi, her eyes quickly widened with excitement as bright colours flew toward the heavens.

Just as for Naomi, loud "booms" often distract me. At times, I allow my attention to be swayed. My overactive imagination starts to work. Yet, distractions, such as disbelief and unforgiveness, are fleeting. He is forever.

Each day God reveals His presence, power, grace, and love. And He continues to amaze me. He answers my long-awaited prayers. When I am discouraged, he is my encouragement. He gives me blessings in

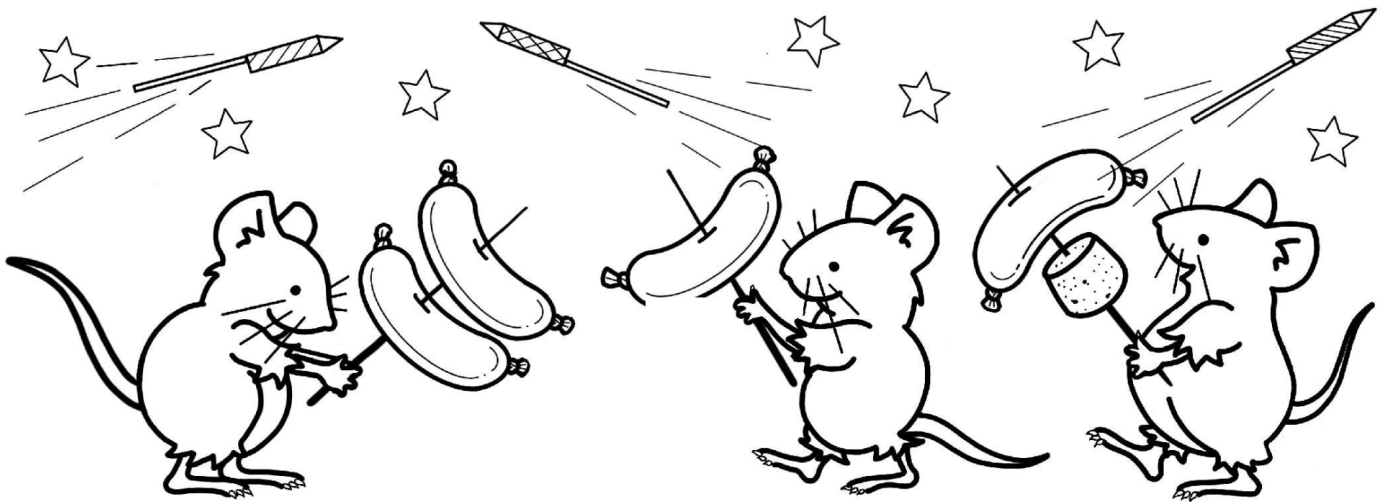
abundance.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ([Ephesians 1:3](#))

God is a magnificent fireworks display and He holds nothing back from us. Don't focus on the "boom", distractions because you'll miss the wonderful plans He has for your life.

God Bless

*Rev'd Jane*



If you are going to have fireworks and or bonfires - Please stay safe!

## Firework displays in Wirral

Once again a number of free firework displays will take place in Wirral.

**Saturday 2 November, 6:30 to 7:00pm**

Central Park, Liscard Road, Wallasey  
Birkenhead Park, Park Drive, Birkenhead

**Sunday 3 November, 6:30pm**

River of Light will entertain crowds with spectacular firework displays along the waterfront between New Brighton and Birkenhead.

**Tuesday 5 November, 6:30 to 7:00pm**

Mayer Park, Church Road, Bebington  
Lingham Park, Edgehill Road, Moreton  
Woodchurch Leisure Centre, Woodchurch  
Leasowe Adventure Playground, Twickenham Drive, Leasowe  
Mersey Park, Tranmere

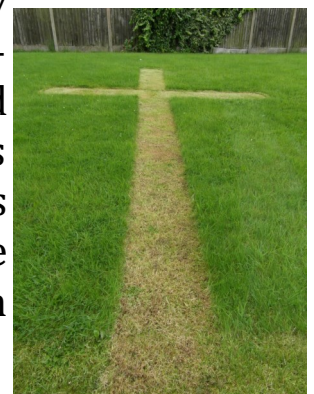
## God in the Sciences - Wonder and Worship

“I was travelling, and out early in the morning: at first there was a vast fog; but, by the time that I was seven or eight miles from home towards the coast, the sun broke out into a delicate warm day. We were then on a large heath or common, and I could discern, as the mist began to break away, great numbers of swallows (*hirundines rusticae*) clustering on the stunted shrubs and bushes, as if they had roosted there all night. As soon as the air became clear and pleasant they all were on the wing at once; and, by a placid and easy flight, proceeded on southward towards the sea”.

How many church leaders today have time to enjoy their surroundings? Gilbert White was a vicar who became famous for his observations about the flora and fauna of his parish. His letters about the local wildlife through the seasons were so beautifully written that they are still in print today, more than 200 years after they were first published as *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selbourne*.

White is a great example of someone who saw science and faith in harmony. He writes that he hopes his readers will be inspired to “pay a more ready attention to the wonders of the Creation”. His stories are often so vivid that he gets away with packing in quite a bit of scientific detail, painting a more accurate picture of the wonderful events he observed as he travelled around the countryside. White’s book is one of the classics of nature writing, and there’s even an apocryphal story online that this is one of the most printed books in the country, after the Bible and Shakespeare.

White may have been one of those people with a capacity for endless activity, or perhaps he took rather more care over natural history than his vocation. Either way, I do think that anyone - from the parish priest to the youngest member of the congregation - could learn from his appreciation of creation. It is well worth spending ten minutes every now and again staring into a bush, pond or tree—especially in winter when it’s easy to hurry indoors and put the kettle on. Experiencing wildlife first-hand is wonderful fuel for our worship of God and care for His creation. As Psalm 111 says, “Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them” (NIV).

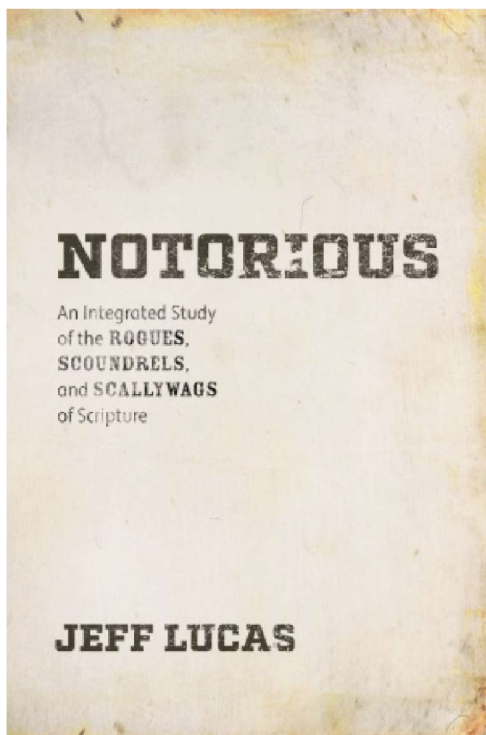


# NOTORIOUS

An integrated study of  
the ROGUES, SCOUNDRELS  
and SCALLYWAGS of Scripture.

The Bible is full of men and women who strayed from the path of good: the rogues, scoundrels and scallywags. But is there something good these bad people can teach us? What can Cain show us about authentic worship? How does King Saul's daughter help us understand kindness? What can we learn about faithfulness from the mob at Thessalonica?

**St Chad's Extension**  
**Thursdays 8.00-9.15pm (9.30pm at the latest!)**  
**Everyone Welcome**



**24th October**  
**31st October**  
**7th November**

**28th November**  
**5th December**  
**12th December**

**9th January**  
**16th January**  
**23rd January**

You DO NOT NEED a copy of the book but if you would like one it is available from the Christian Bookshop in Birkenhead or online bookshops. It is also available as an eBook.

## He gave us eyes to see them: 'The Virgin and Child with Saints' by Giovanni Martini da Udine

The National Gallery in London is a remarkable treasure house of art, founded in 1824 and home to over 2,300 paintings. Much work goes on behind the scenes to maintain this collection, and in August after a seven-year restoration project, a particular painting went on display for the first time in over a hundred years.



It is the work of an Italian Renaissance artist, Giovanni Martini da Udine, who died in 1535 - an altarpiece depicting 'The Virgin and Child with Saints.' Restoring the painting was complex and demanding work for the staff had to remove the varnish, repaint some areas and treat the woodworm. Thanks to the skill of those workers, we can now see the painting in all its beauty and grace. On the right St George has vanquished the dragon and is turned in prayer to the Christ-Child. On the left St James, the brother of John, has his hand on the shoulder of the patron. But he looks out at us and invites us into this scene in what is known as a 'sacra conversazione' – a holy conversation.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of this month we celebrate the great feast of All Saints – that rich communion of saints like James and George, whose lives we know, and also the many thousands known only to God: all who have offered their lives in His service. Just as specialists worked for seven years to restore this painting after the ravages of time, so on this day we give thanks for God working in the lives of His saints. Men and women like us: a mixture of hopes and ideals, of frailty and weakness, but ready to open their lives to be raised up and restored. These holy ones call us to travel in their company with our eyes set on God, who seeks to restore all of us to be channels of His grace.



## The Two Minute Silence

Schoolgirls in 1918 were warned that they might never be married. So many prospective husbands had been killed in World War 1, that their chances could be slim. It's hard for us to imagine the slaughter. The total number of both civilian and military casualties is estimated at around 37 million people, ending only when the Armistice took effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918.

The idea of a 'Two Minute Silence' originated in South Africa. The first minute was to be a time of thanksgiving for those who had returned alive, and the second minute was to remember the fallen. It was taken up by King George V, writing, "it is my desire and hope that at the hour when the Armistice came into force, there may be for the brief space of two minutes a complete suspension of all our normal activities."

It had an immediate impact. An observer wrote, "The whole World Stands to Attention. From the Indian jungles to Alaska, on the trains, on the ships at sea, in every part of the globe where a few British were gathered together, the Two-Minute pause was observed."

The Great War was said to be 'the war to end all wars'. But it wasn't. About three per cent of the world population were to die in World War 2. Today's 11th November commemoration, repeated on the nearest Sunday, now incorporates all wars.

The Royal British Legion describes the Act of Remembrance as a deeply personal act available to everyone, acknowledging the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces and their families, across all conflicts.

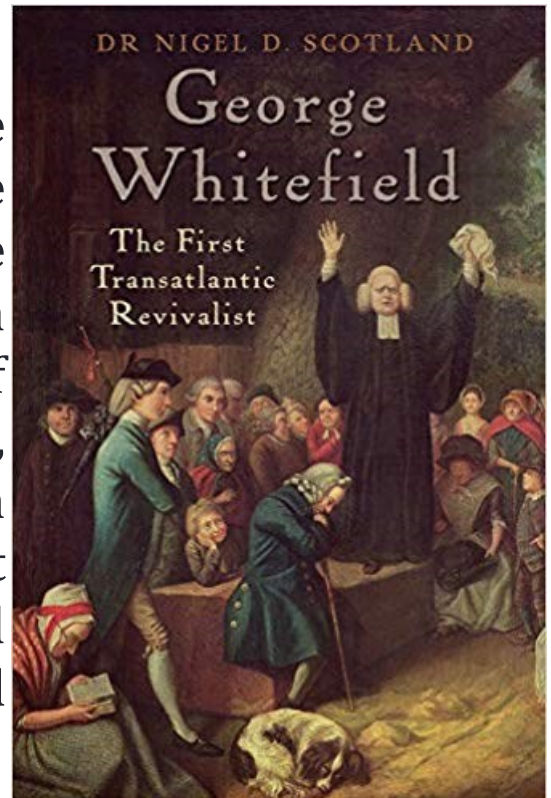
In keeping the Two Minute Silence, many will long for the day when, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."



# George Whitefield – the First Transatlantic Revivalist

By Nigel D Scotland, Lion Hudson, £12.99

George Whitefield proclaimed the Christian message to more people in history than anyone else, before or since, who spoke with an unaided voice. A preacher of revival almost from his childhood, when he prophesied his own destiny, he had a profound impact on the social, religious and political life of both Britain and America.



George Whitefield crossed the Atlantic 13 times, and emerged as almost a celebrity figure, whose message captivated both rich and poor alike. Whitefield was also a man of contradictions. He loved the Anglican liturgy, but would happily break canon law. He was a devoted Puritan, yet he was also able to befriend those with more liberal morals.

Above all, Whitefield's overwhelming passion was to preach New Birth in Christ - the theme he was to speak on over a thousand times. He valued education, opposed slavery, cared for orphan children and helped change the course of both British and American history.



# CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2019

With your help we can make Christmas special for someone who might be alone this year.

We provide a gift bag for every one of our residents at Christmas, and are able to do so because of the amazing donations we receive - sometimes people donate a whole gift bag, or several!, or individual items that we can make into complete gift bags.



- \* Please ensure that items are brand new.
- \* We would kindly ask that items are not wrapped up.
- \* We usually require more items for males.

## Thank You

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Shower Gel / soap / deodorants  
Toothpaste / toothbrushes  
Shampoo / conditioner  
Chocolate / Sweets  
Stocking fillers  
Novelty gifts / mugs / picture frames / writing pens

We are supporting this years  
Forum Housing Association Appeal.  
Please bring any filled Gift Bags or donations to  
either Church or the Church Office by  
**Thursday 28th November**  
We will then arrange for delivery to Forum

Please bring any donations to the church office by **Tuesday 3rd December**



# ADVENT CALENDAR NOVEMBER 2019

During this month please try to put one item each day into your own collection box.



01 Rice Pudding	02 Coffee	03 Tinned Soup	04 Tinned Fish
05 Pasta	06 Tinned Fruit	07 Tinned Meat	08 Instant Mash
Tinned Vegetables	Nappies (any sizes)	11 Rice	12 Jam
13 Tinned Fruit	14 Toilet rolls	15 Tinned Potatoes	16 Packet Soup
17 Tinned Spaghetti	18 Tea	19 Instant Mash	20 Hot Chocolate
21 Long Life Milk	22 Tinned Custard	23 Sugar	24 Biscuits
25 Pasta Sauce	26 Tinned Tomatoes	27 Sponge Puddings	28 Packet Soup
29 Squash	30 Tinned Potatoes		

TO BE DELIVERED TO THE FOODBANK BY 1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK IN DECEMBER PLEASE.

Please deliver all of the food to our address:

Wirral Foodbank

Unit 14, Wirral Business Centre, Dock Road, Birkenhead CH41 1JW

[www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk)

[enquiries@wirralfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wirralfoodbank.org.uk)

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## Smile Lines

The rector of a church had just made the happy announcement that a member of the congregation was with child. Then he reminisced a bit: 'As far as I know, there have been no pregnancies in this church for years – until I arrived!'

A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments. They were ready to discuss the last one. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off the neighbour's wife."

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup to come out of the bottle. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her four-year old daughter to answer it. "It's the minister, Mum," the child said to her mother.

Then she told her caller: "Mummy can't come to the phone right now. She's hitting the bottle."

Don't worry about avoiding temptation...as you grow older, it will avoid you. – *Winston Churchill*

## Advent, Christmas and New Year Special Services:-

Sun Dec 1st All Services as Normal

Sun Dec 8<sup>th</sup> All Services as Normal

Sun Dec 15<sup>th</sup> All Services as Normal

Sun Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>

8.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's

9.30am Nativity Service at St Chad's

11.15am **NO SERVICE**

3.00pm Joint Carol Service at St Bartholomew's

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service at St. Bartholomew's

5.00pm Crib Service at St. Bartholomew's

As in previous years, we will run two services exactly the same one after the other.

We suggest that the 4pm service is for younger (up to and including Reception) children

and that the 5pm service is for older children. If you have children in both age brackets -

you choose! If coming to the 5pm service, please don't arrive until 4.45pm in order for the 4pm service to have cleared church and car parking spaces!

11.15pm First Communion of Christmas at St Bartholomew's

Wednesday December 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day

8.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's

10.30am Family Communion at St Chad's

You are invited to bring one of your presents  
to show to everybody else.

**NO OTHER SERVICES TODAY**

Sunday December 29<sup>th</sup> All Services as Normal

Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup>

8.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's

**NO 9.30am Service**

10.30am IRBY METHODIST Covenant Service

11.15am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's

Sun January 12<sup>th</sup> All Services as Normal



**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 13th November 7.00pm  
Christmas Meal at The Gravesberie in Greasby

**Future Events**  
December—No Meeting  
January 29th The Potting Shed.  
Please speak to Jayne Oliver if you wish to come along

**ALL WELCOME**

### **Put your garden nets away**

Don't leave netting out in your garden over the winter – it is killing our hedgehogs. So warns the RSPCA, after reports of dozens of hedgehogs getting entangled in football, badminton and pond nets.

Evie Button, a wildlife scientific officer, warns: "Netting can be a particular hazard for wild animals, as they can easily become entangled. As they thrash around trying to escape, the netting can tighten round them and cause terrible suffering."

Since the 1950s, the number of hedgehogs in England has shrunk from 30 million to one million.





## **Leprosy Mission Boxes.**

It is time once more to collect the Leprosy Mission Boxes. I would be most grateful to all members of both congregations, if you could return your boxes to either church, from where they will be collected and returned.

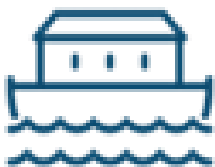
Unfortunately this form of giving seems to be less popular, and the total collected each year has steadily decreased. Please may I remind you that a one off donation at any time of the year would be most welcome.

Your gift will be used to help those still suffering from Leprosy, bringing healing, hope and dignity to their lives. Leprosy is a dreadful but curable disease.

Thankyou, in anticipation, of your continued help to the Mission. If you require any further information as to how you can help the amazing work of the Leprosy Mission , please contact me,

Pat Hulme on 538 1953.

### **Could you Volunteer to help the Homeless?**



Wirral Ark

The church and community night shelter Wirral Ark is running from November- February this year. They utilise a number of venues around the Wirral for up to 12 rough sleepers every night, with the venue changing each week. Each night is entirely staffed by volunteers, full training will be given to everyone who wants to get involved!

You could be there for 1 evening, 1 night or 1 morning, or volunteer for as many sessions as you would like to.

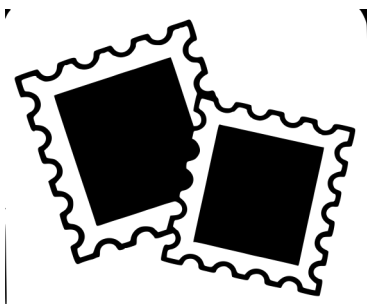
An information pack is available from the parish office for anyone who would like more information.



**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.



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



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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.

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## 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

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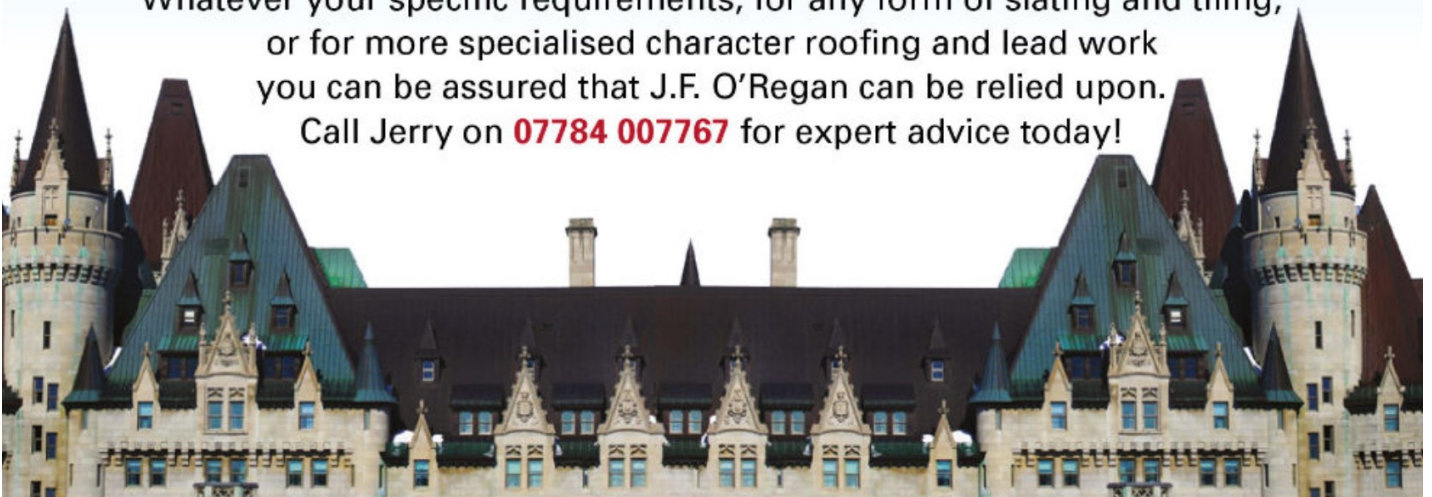
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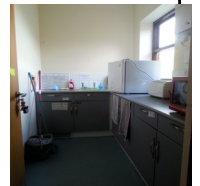
For further information please call Trudi on 0151 342 2614

Heswall Hall, 111 Telegraph Road, Heswall, CH60 0AF Tel: 0151 342 2614, Email: [trudi@heswallhall.co.uk](mailto:trudi@heswallhall.co.uk)  
Web: [www.heswallhall.co.uk](http://www.heswallhall.co.uk)  
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Mrs Jean Heath: 648 6015

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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 October 2019

### Sunday Services

#### St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15am Holy Communion

**3rd November**  
4th Before Advent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.15am Traditional Service  
11.05am Family Service

**10th November**  
Remembrance Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15am Holy Communion

**17th November** r  
2nd Before Advent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15 am Holy Communion

**24th November**  
Christ the King—  
Sunday before Advent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.15 am Holy Communion

**1st December**  
Advent Sunday

#### St Chad's

9.30am Holy Communion

**NO SERVICE**

9.30am Morning Worship

9.30am 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

### 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](http://www.thurstaston.org.uk)