

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad  
Thurstaston and Irby  
15<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3**



Welcome to Church today.

We hope that you enjoy the service and gain a sense of God's presence with us.

**Children are Welcome at our Services**

**In St Chad's**, we have activity bags available and there is also a box of toys and cushions in the foyer, in case you feel your child would be happier playing there.

**In St Bartholomew's**, there are some colouring sheets and toys at the back of church.

**Children from age 2½ can attend Junior Church (term time) at St Chad's**

**Collect**

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the  
way of your Son:

give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these  
heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

*Amen*

**FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**For the World:** Please pray for all those impacted by the Volcano eruption in New Zealand.

**For the Parish:** Please pray for a good Advent Journey together

**For the Diocese:** Almighty God, who sent Jesus Christ to be the cornerstone of your Kingdom and to call us to follow him; guide your Church, by the Holy Spirit, to show love and mercy as we build your Kingdom. We pray for the person you are calling to be the next Bishop of Chester; bless, guide and strengthen them to answer your call; in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**For the Sick:** Please pray for Albert den Otter and Samuel Williams (extended family of Linda and Graham Barley), Audrey Percival (Aunt of Liz Whitehead), Eric Jones and for all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

**For the Bereaved:** Please pray for the family and friends of Dorothy Joyce and John Appleyard.

**From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle** Pray for those experiencing homelessness now, and for policies and actions that will change things permanently for the better.

**From the Anglican Prayer Cycle:** Bishop Augustin Omole, Sokoto (Nigeria); Bishop Juan David Alvarado Melgar, El Salvador (Central America)

## Services Today – Advent 3

8:00 am	Holy Communion	St. Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Morning Worship	St. Chad's
11.15 am	Holy Communion	St. Bartholomew's

## Services next week

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

10.15 am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
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### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Advent 4

8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Nativity	St Chad's
3.00pm	Joint Carol Service	St. Bartholomew's

Please note there is no 11.15am service at St. Bartholomew's

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve

4.00pm	Crib Service	St Bartholomew's
5.00pm	Crib Service	St Bartholomew's
11.15pm	First Communion of Christmas	St Bartholomew's

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
10.30am	Family Service	St Chad's

## The finale of Journey into Light.

The finale and thanksgiving service will be held at St George's Church, Stockport (SK2 6NU – access is via “the South Avenue” from Buxton Road), on Tuesday 17 December. Doors open at 6pm. Guests will have a chance to mingle, view the exhibition, and enjoy music, carols, and alcohol-free mulled wine. The service begins at 7.30pm and is due to finish no later than 8.30pm.

Everyone Welcome – but you will need to book a ticket, so that the right number of canapés and mulled wine can be ordered. To book your FREE tickets, go to the front page of the diocesan website ([www.chester.anglican.org](http://www.chester.anglican.org)) and click the Journey into Light banner.

Journey into Light launched in October 2018 and features over 40 individual pieces of artwork produced by prisoners at HMP Styal and HMP Thorn Cross, Cheshire. The aim of the exhibition is to demonstrate to visitors that behind every prisoner's conviction and sentence is a personal story of love, hope and loss. Just under 40 parishes have hosted *Journey into Light* since it was launched at Chester Cathedral. Around the diocese, an estimated 6000 people have viewed it.

## Notices and Announcements

### Christmas Greetings from Simon and Joyce Beckley

We have received a Christmas Card which says: "To all of the fellowship of St B and St C, God Bless You at Christmas, Love in the Lord, Simon and Joyce"

**Linda Barley** is collecting second hand hat, scarves, gloves, ladies handbags and new toiletries to pass to a friend who is collecting for the **Charles Thompson Mission**, if you can help please pass the items to Linda.

**NOTORIOUS:** St Chad's Extension on Thursdays 8.00-9.15pm (9.30pm at the latest!) Everyone Welcome next session 9th January – more details in Parish Magazine. "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? Why not join us as we discover together

**Thank you** to all who donated to the Wirral Foodbank Advent appeal, we donated 70.72 kg of food, which will contribute towards helping them support people in crisis within our community.

**Service Booklets:** Could you help to repair some of our service booklets? It just needs some of your time and a roll of sell otape! If you can help, please take a box of books home (from the cupboard at St Chad's, or speak to Liz at St Barts), do the repair job and bring them back. We are currently using the purple Advent ones, so please don't take them. Thank you for your support.

**Huge Thank you** to those who worked so hard to bring together the Christmas Bazaar. The event raised £884.67!

**Children's Society** boxes this year raised £971.90p, a big thank you to all the box holders. If you would like a collection box please contact Jean Heath

**Dawpool Admissions – Supplementary forms.** If you require Revd Jane to sign one of these forms please deliver it to the Rectory. They will be processed as usual and delivered to school (by hand) on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Readings for 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Readings for 22 <sup>nd</sup> December
Is 35:1-10	Is 7:10-16
James 5:7-10	Rom 1:1-7
Matt 11:2-11	Matt 1:18-25

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

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9.30am-12.30pm (term time)

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Revd Jane Turner 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday). E-Mail: [rector@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:rector@thurstaston.org.uk)

## **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2-11**

### **All: Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>2</sup> When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples <sup>3</sup> to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

<sup>4</sup> Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. <sup>6</sup> Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

<sup>7</sup> As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? <sup>8</sup> If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. <sup>9</sup> Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you."

<sup>11</sup> Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

### **All: Praise to you, O Christ**

Would you like to receive this notice sheet every week direct to your email in-box? If so, please send an email request to the parish office ([office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk))