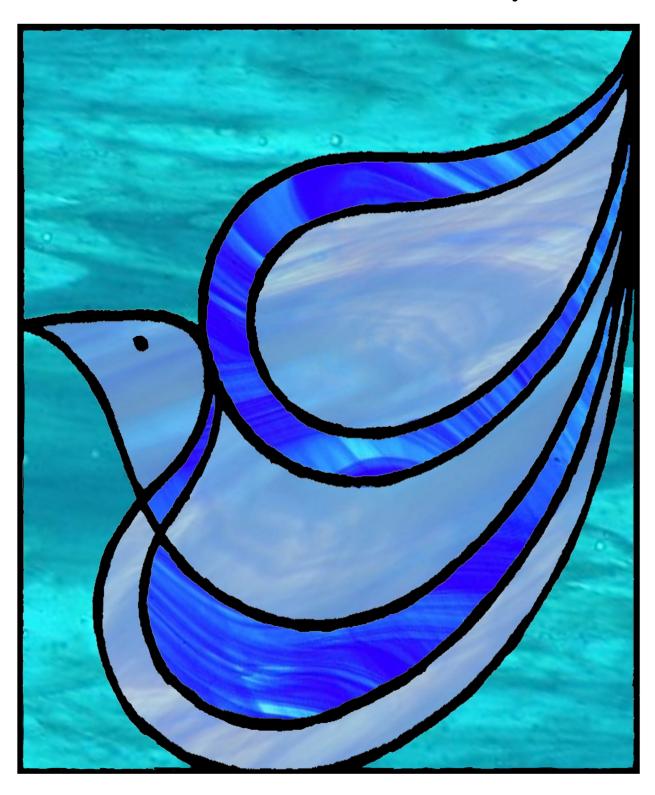
Crosstalk 60p

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





February 2020



"Cross Talk Subscription for 2020 is £6"

These are now due for 2020. 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 enclose £6 and would like to continue to have Cross Talk delivered to my house
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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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Diary Dates

1st February

Wirral Men's Breakfast—P16 8—10am Thornton Hall Hotel

Worship in the Wilderness

Throughout February, March and April 8pm St Chads—see page 5

9th February

World Leprosy Sunday - P13 9.30 am St Chad's / 11.15am St Barts

Sunday 23rd February

Junior Church Pancake Party St Chad's—See page 7

6th March

World day of Prayer—P14
1.45pm Heswall Methodist Church &
7.30pm Emmanuel Church , Pensby

22nd March

Evensong for Mothering Sunday
5pm St Bartholomew's

Foxhill Retreat 26th—29th May See page 10

From the Registers

Funerals

We commend to God's eternal care

20th December

John Appleyard

2nd January **Dorothy Joyce**

13th January

Barbara Helm

17th January

Eric Jones

27th January

Harold Stott

From Your Rector

Dear Friends,

This month sees the start of Lent, the season of penitence, self-examination and fasting running up to Easter. Fasting can be a neglected discipline, but it plays an important part in the Christian life. Jesus began His earthly ministry by fasting in the wilderness for 40 days and He taught His disciples to fast (i.e. not *if* but 'when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen.' (Matthew 6:17,18).

Why Fast?

Firstly, giving up something in my life underlines my desire to put God first in my life. Secondly, fasting shows me how much I depend on things other than God in my life, so I can surrender my idols to Him. Thirdly, fasting encourages me to have a deeper hunger and dependency for God in my life. Therefore, fasting gives me space to humbly focus on God for His strength, provision, and wisdom and results in a more intimate relationship with Christ. It also enables the Holy Spirit to reveal my true spiritual condition, leading to brokenness, repentance, and a transformed life, with a heart more attentive to God.

How can I fast?

Usually fasting involves missing one or two meals during the day, although some can't abstain from food for medical reasons. It might

also include abstaining or limiting the time I give to television, alcohol or social media. However, Lent can also be a time to embrace new spiritual disciplines e.g. joining a study group, 'random acts of kindness', or giving more time to prayer and Bible study. Whatever you do, make Lent count this year!

Revd Jane



"Pancake party?" said Simon, "What Pancake Party?"

Worship in the Wilderness Together in Church Services

Feb 26th(8pm) Ash Wednesday A Secret Journey
1st March Lent 1 A Spirit-led Journey
8th March Lent 2 A Simple Journey
15th March Lent 3 A Sorrowful Journey
22nd March Lent 4 A Sacrificial Journey

This is also Mothering Sunday - see bottom of page for more details

29th March Lent 5 A truth-Speaking Journey

5th April Palm Sunday A Surprising Journey

Worship in the Wilderness Personal Devotions or in a Small Group

Worship in the Wilderness is a Lent series, journeying with

Jesus through the desert. Explore this rich biblical theme, which touches on subjects such as simplicity, silence, sorrow, truth-speaking and being led by the Spirit.

The Personal Devotions book is an A5, 56 page full colour book. It contains five daily readings per week up to Palm Sunday. There are biblical reflections, creative responses and practical applications for earthing the ideas in real life.

Small group will meet on Thursdays 8.00-9.00pm at St Chad's

EVERYONE WELCOME - You will need a copy of the book which is £6.00 - Let Jane know if you want one (initially ordered 10 copies)

5th Mar: A Secret Journey and A Spirit-led Journey

12th Mar: A Simple Journey 26th Mar: A Sacrificial Journey 19th Mar: A Sorrowful Journey 2nd Apr: A truth-Speaking Journey

JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH THE DESERT FOR LENT SARA AND SAM HARGREAVES

Mothering Sunday 22nd March

We will distribute flowers as usual at all morning services, but as you can see from above the theme of the service will be a Lenten one. Junior Church will do appropriate craft activities for Mothering Sunday. And then for those who feel that they would like a service with more of a Mothering Sunday feel, there will be a special service:-

5.00pm Evensong for Mothering Sunday at St Bartholomew's - All Welcome

Christmas Fair/Bazaar 2020

We need someone to organise the Christmas Fair which is our only major community fund raising event each year. It would usually be a Saturday towards the end of November. It will only take place in 2020 if an individual or small group of people agree to organise it. You will have the freedom to run it how you choose.

For many years this was very much a Church Event with lots of stalls being run by Church Members - Julie DeBoorder would be willing to share with you the wisdom and knowledge she has gained over many years, if you wanted to run it in this way.

In 2019, it took the form of Bazaar with lots of small businesses and community groups having a table and church just running Refreshments, Raffle and Santa's Grotto. This was very successful and a great community event. This style of event would ideally be planned much earlier in the year as the small businesses get booked up very quickly. Again Julie could share wisdom from last year and Kate in the parish office will have most of the contact details for the businesses that we used as well as the ones we tried to get but were already booked up.

Please speak to Revd Jane if this is something that you could take on.

NEW TESTAMENT LIVE Sat. 14th March 2020, 10.00am - 4.00pm St. Luke's Methodist Church, 19 Market Street, Hoylake, CH47 2BF

The booking DETAILS...
It is just £14 per person for a life changing day.
Please bring a packed lunch

https://www.bible.org.uk/wtb_event_tickets.php

Everyone receives a full colour workbook and free re-admission for life

11 - 16 year olds can attend for free with a paying adult (but they will not receive a book)

Junior Church Pancake Party

There will be the annual Pancake Party held during Junior Church on Sunday 23 February for Children and Seniors, involving daft games, crafts and lots of pancakes.



Suggested donation of £1 per family to cover food on the day please. There will be Pancakes (readymade) with fruit, cream, lemon juice, sugar, syrup etc.

If you have allergies please speak to Julie DeBoorder and she can purchase something to suit accordingly. Please complete the list at the back of church to help gauge the amount of food and crafts.

Junior Church needs leaders and helpers

During 2019, due to changing personal circumstances, several of the junior church team have needed to step away from Junior Church. In order to continue we need more helpers and leaders. Please think about volunteering to help us in whichever way you can, as a helper or a leader.

We have easy to follow books which leaders can use for the sessions. If you could be a helper, you would be asked to help with a craft or game.

The Junior Church team past and present, did and continue to do a brilliant job of nurturing our children and young people to become wonderful young Christians.

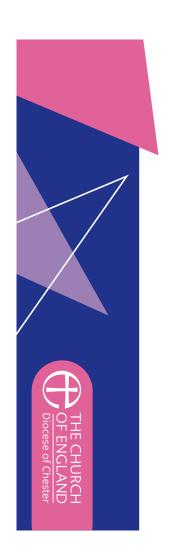
You will find it a very rewarding part of our church family to be involved with, and it is an essential part of our children's early years.

Young or old, male or female, all* are welcome to join us. Please let me know of your interest, with a view to visiting us this term to have a look, and starting to help or lead in the near future.

Thank you, Julie DeBoorder

Email: jules2121jule@gmail.com, Mobile: 07599 186893, Landline: 648 6331

*All leaders and helpers have to complete a DBS check to ensure the safeguarding of all of our children and young people



Or

A prayer for our diocese

Almighty God,
who sent Jesus Christ
to be the cornerstone of your Kingdom
and calls 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.

The Electoral Roll

All Church of England parishes are required to maintain an electoral roll. Those people whose names are on the roll are entitled to attend the Annual Parish Meeting and to vote. They are also eligible for election on to the Parochial Church Council. The number of people on the electoral roll also determines how many representatives can be sent to the Deanery Synod where decisions may be taken that effect the churches within the deanery. It is therefore important that all those eligible should be entered on to electoral roll for this parish of St Bartholomew Thurstaston and St Chad Irby. Although the roll may be updated regularly a new roll has to be created every 6 years and 2019 was the most recent year in which this had to be done.

To be eligible applicants must be baptised, over 16 and *Either* Live within the parish boundary

Amen.

Have been a regular worshipper at St Bartholomew Thurstaston or St Chad Irby for at least 6 months.

Application forms available at the back of both churches or from the parish office between 25th January and 16th February 2020.

Electoral Roll

4

Belong

N

Participate

Contribute

Could you be our Church Warden?

We currently only have one church warden.
We need another.



Church wardens are elected for one year, but can serve up to six consecutive years if re-elected.

The basic number of churchwardens is two for each parish. There is no legal sanction if a parish does not have the full number, but it is important to ensure a full complement if at all possible. This is because a single churchwarden acting alone can be placed under an unreasonable burden. It is also unsatisfactory for a parish to be left without cover if a single ochurchwarden is unable to carry out his or her duties for a time, for example because of illness or unavoidable absence...

Churchwardens are chosen and hold office for only one year at a time. (From the "Guide to the Churchwarden's Measure 2001)

Church Wardens are appointed to serve the whole parish and not a particular church building or congregation and so anyone who is

baptised, on the electoral roll, an "actual communicant" and aged over 21

can be considered for this role.

A churchwarden is

- The Bishop's officer
- A support to the Rector
- A leader in the PCC and the Standing Committee
 - Responsible for some church property
- Responsible with sidespeople for order in church services
 - A 'caretaker' during a vacancy

There is a booklet available which explains this in more detail. If you'd like to read it please let Revd Jane know. There will be no assumption that you wish to take on the role, just an understanding that you want to know more.

If you think God could be calling you to be our Church Warden or if you think someone else would be the right person to serve our parish in this way, then please speak to Revd Jane, Mrs Liz Whitehead (Church Warden) or any member of the PCC.

(PCC members are Malcolm Studholme, Chris Smale, Julie Parmenter, Graham Barley, Janet Trigg, Julie DeBoorder, Pat Neil, Jon Oliver, Chris Williams, Roger Jackson, Roger Dennison, Andy Harford, Judith Hodgson)

WHAT IS A CHURCHWARDEN?



by Saints of the Christian Tradition. prayer methods used and encouraged This retreat will reflect on some of the

experience alternatives It will focus on diffferent ways of praying, offering the opportunity to 'usual' ways of praying seem less when

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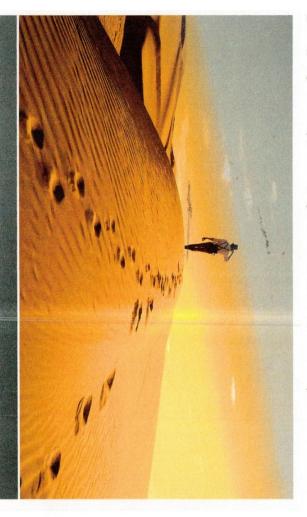
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Walking in the Footsteps of Giants

A prayer retreat with Sister Winnie

Last year several of us went on a similar retreat. Here are some reflections of our experiences.

All in a peaceful place with listening and contributing. new and old friends. A time for thinking, Hood good too. Pat.N.

cup of tea but it was so Not everything was my completely hooked! First time on a retreat,

and time for just you, or a Adjust quantities to suit on a bench. Something for Refreshment of body, mind and spirit. something available to all your needs. walk with a friend, a chat Result:add to all that, also space and the food delicious. To suit. A very peaceful there was always relaxed, it was fine and Sprinkle in:-The staff were lovely too rejuvenating experience

Retreat Recipe

rejuvenation Transport to Foxhill (not far) Take one tired person in need of

- joyful, uplifting worship
- interesting thought provoking teaching
- powerful prayer time
- very edible food ©
- drinks (cold/hot) always available
- early morning scampering around soil, climb up towards the sunlight at the view) stirring through the leaves, marvel the arboretum (smell the damp
- peace and quiet

or companionable chatting

blessed SILENCE

Julie.D. I horoughly recommended

Beverley.A.

Revd Jane is booked in. Would you like to join her? If so, contact Foxhill by email or phone.

God in the Sciences: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

Every person who ever lived was once a sperm and an egg. Those two cells fused together, and in nine months they turned into a living, breathing, human being. Each of us emerged from this same embryonic development process, which is highly complex and organised, but variable enough to turn out a unique individual every time.

If you like order – such as neat piles of stationery, or tidy colour-coded files – you will enjoy this story. One of the most important stages of an embryo's development is when each section of the body, from head to rump, takes on its identity. Each part is told what shape to take, and which limbs or internal organs to grow: legs or arms, lungs or kidneys, and so on.

The most beautiful part of this body-patterning process is that it brings the dimensions of time and space together in such a neat way. The DNA instructions for the procedure, known as genes, are organised in the order in which they are needed during development *which* is also the order in which they appear on the body. No other sets of genes are known to be arranged in such a tidy pattern.

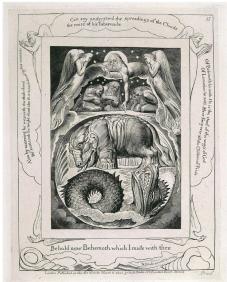
So, as the embryo develops, the tissues near the head end activate the first sets of genes. Those active genes then make all the proteins needed for that part of the body to grow and develop in the right way. The tissues just below the head then switch on the second set of genes, and so on. A wave of activation passes down the embryo, specifying each section of the trunk in turn.

The Wisconsin-based developmental biologist Jeff Hardin often quotes Psalm 139 to express the wonder of embryonic development. The Psalmist did not understand how this process happened, but he knew that it was a marvellous thing. "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb…your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth."

The story of the tidy genes brings out the hidden beauty in the very early stages of embryonic development. The more biologists get to find out about how we came to be born, the more we can say, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made"!

He gave us eyes to see them': William Blake's engravings of Job

The canticle we call the Benedicite began its life as the *Song of the Three Holy Children*. In the midst of their terrifying ordeal in the burning fiery furnace, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego praise God. They call on the sky above, the seasons, and all that grows and moves on the earth to join them. Their song invites the whales in the sea, the birds of the air and all creatures to echo their praise. Finally, they ask all people who are holy and humble in heart to bless God the creator of all that is.



During this year we are exploring the glory and wonder of creation, especially animals and birds. The song of the Benedicite praising that creation is born of pain and testing. That ordeal is the theme of another book in the Old Testament - Job. We are told that he was an upright, blameless man, but he suffered. That pain tested his faith and he demanded an explanation from God.

The book of Job inspired the visionary work of the poet and painter, William Blake. In 1823 he began creating a series of 22 engravings illustrating Job which were based on earlier water-colours. Plate 13 depicts God answering Job out of the whirlwind. We can read of this in chapters 39-41. God asks Job if he was present at creation. Indeed, can he even begin to understand the marvels of this world - the mountain goat giving birth, a horse running through a meadow, or the eagle soaring in the sky. They praise God like the creatures in the Benedicite by their very being. And finally, God points to Behemoth and Leviathan - the hippopotamus and the crocodile - who are symbols of power and brute strength. They are shown in Plate 15 and fill the orb of the world, just as they dominate creation.

God answers Job with this catalogue of wonders to assure him that He is the Creator, but He does respond to the cry of humanity. Job may not understand the stars above nor the earth beneath his feet, but through meeting God, his life has gained meaning and value. His fortunes are restored, and he ends his days as one of the holy and humble of heart who praise God in the Benedicite. The Three Children of the fiery furnace and Job - they assure us that this world is full of wonders and glory that show the handiwork of God. When we realise that, we will join them in singing hymns of praise and thanksgiving.

World Leprosy Sunday 2020

9th February - Mr Paul Moores from The Leprosy Mission will speak at both 9.30am St Chad's and 11.15am St Bart's



People like Phyo need Hospital Heroes

Phyo is a patient at Mawlamyine Christian Leprosy Hospital in Myanmar and admits that he would have died had it not been for the care he has received there.

His hands and feet have been permanently disabled and he is currently being treated for a severe ulcer on his foot. Dr Saw, one of the team at Mawlamyine, explained to us that without expert ongoing care, Phyo is in danger of having to have his leg amputated.

"In Myanmar, if you have disabilities caused by leprosy, you will lose your job and be cast out of your community. Often people have nowhere to go," he said.

Every day, hospital heroes like Dr Saw (pictured below) go above and beyond to bring hope and healing to people like Phyo. By supporting our World Leprosy Sunday 2020 appeal, you will enable him - and other Leprosy Mission teams around the world - to provide critical care and work towards an end to leprosy.

Your support could fund a doctor, provide specialist **leprosy** training ensure and that our hospitals remain the oasis love and vital care that they've become for so many.





World Day of Prayer

A global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

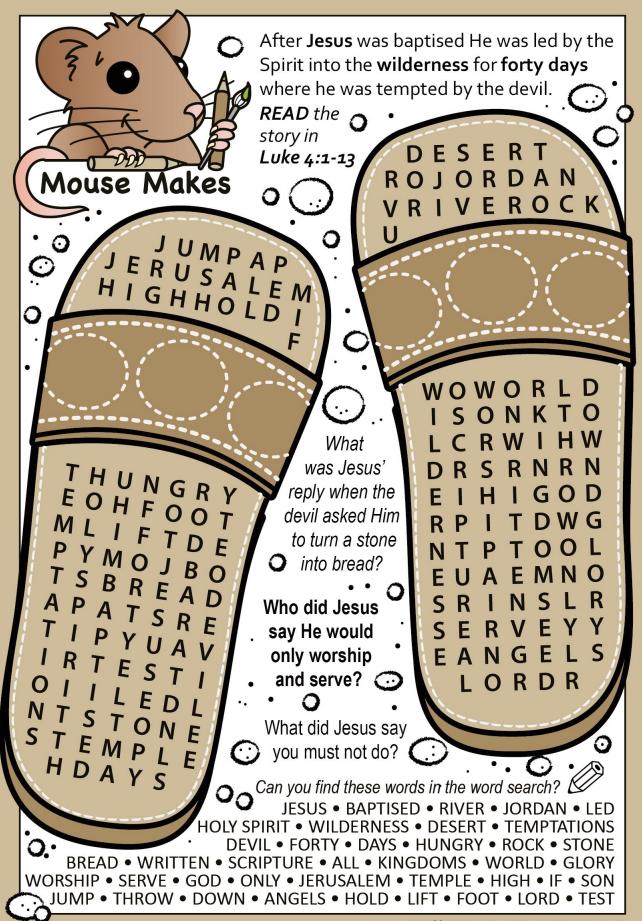
Our next annual day of prayer will take place on **Friday 6th March 2019.** Two services in your local area here on Wirral will take place that day. One at 1.45pm at Heswall Methodist Church, and one at 7.30pm at Emmanuel Church, Pensby.

Rise, take your mat and walk.

Women, men and children of all ages are called to "Rise, take your mat and walk" and join this day of prayer. Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this years' service and they encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future. They encourage us to "Rise, take your mat and walk" with them as they continue their often turbulent journey towards full reconciliation.

World Day of Prayer is an international inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa and finishes in American Samoa more than 38 hours later.

For further information and resources, please see the WDP website: wwdp.org.uk



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Mothers' Non 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 Meeting

8pm February 26th—Ash Wednesday
As a group we will be attending the service at St Chad's for more information see page 5

ALL WELCOME



BREAKFAST

8AM START • 10AM FINISH

Gavin Calver

Saturday 1st February 2020

Gavin says he's from the Christian mafia. His grandfather was one of Tearfund's founders and his father launched Spring Harvest.

"I'm going to have to come up with a good idea!" he jokes. It may have been predictable that he would one day become a church leader but at 14, he found himself banned from church and at 18, he was hospitalised for heavy drinking.



In 2019, Gavin became CEO of Evangelical Alliance which joins together 100s of organisations, 1000s of churches and tens of 1000s of individuals – making sense of Christian faith in 21st Century UK society.

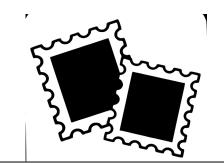
To B



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.



It's all in the spelling

G - God

R - ran

A - alongside

C - carrying

E - everything



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. Bartholo-

mew'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 inSt dividual 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

ook

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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

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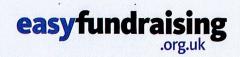
2. Hit the shops

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

3. Earn donations

With every purchase you make you'll raise a donation from the retailer. Your donations are then transferred to **St Bartholomew Thurstaston**

and St Chad Irby























Visit:

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with disabilities and
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SATURDAY 2.30 – 3.30

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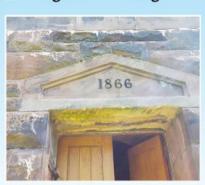




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- Sharing interests and hobbies together
- Visits to friends and family
- Scheduling and attending appointments
- Enjoying shopping trips together
- Getting up and going to bed at a time that suits you
- Waking in the night

80% of Doctors surveyed would recommend being cared for in your home*

*The National Institutes of Health





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Contacts

Churchwarden Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs Elaine Jones 648 1400

Mrs Liz Whitehead 606 9083

Flower Guild (St Chad's)

Reader Mrs Dawn Rudd 648 0209

Mr Alan Jones 648 1400

Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs June Bibby 678 8124

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Revd Ray Dent 792 2022 Bellringers Tower Captain

Dr Peter Robson 648 6691

Revd Margaret Fletcher 648 1025

PCC Secretary

Mr Graham Barley 648 1867 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Junior Church

PCC Treasurer Mrs Julie Deboorder 648 6331

Mr Kevin Marley

pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk Seniors/Youth (11-16)

Mrs Janet Trigg 648 8821

Verger Rainbows/Brownies/Guides

Mr Jon Oliver 648 1754 www.girlguiding.org.uk or

Freephone 0800 1 69 59 01

Organist

Mr Craig Vickers 648 7405

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office 648 8169 CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary Christian Aid Representative

Mrs Jean Heath 648 6015 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

Evening Mothers' Union (EMU)

Mrs Chris Rostock (Secretary) 6481112

Church Services February 2020

Sunday Services

St Bartholomew's St Chad's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) **2nd February** 9.30 am Family Service 11.15am Holy Communion **GIVING SUNDAY**

11.15am Holy Communion GIVING SUNDA (Candlemas)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9th February 9.30 am Holy Communion

11.15am Morning Worship 3rd Sunday Before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) **16th February** 9.30am Baptism

11.15am Holy Communion 2nd Sunday Before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.15 am Holy Communion

23rd February

9.30am Family Holy Communion

Sunday next before Lent

& Junior Church Pancake

party

26th February 10.15 am Holy Communion **ASH Wednesday** 8.00 pm Holy Communion (See Page 5)

Lent 1

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 1st March 9.30am Family Service

Weekday Services

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

Baptisms and Weddings

11.15 am Holy Communion

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

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