

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad  
Thurstaston and Irby  
17th May 2020 – The Sixth Sunday of Easter**



<p><b>Collect</b> Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.</p>	<p><b>Post-Communion Prayer</b> God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.</p>
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**FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**  
**Prayer prompts based on the readings for today:-**  
Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, teach us to recognise your presence in every act of love that expresses your Son's command. May your Spirit of truth so enliven our hearts and minds that the world may see the wholeness of life that is your gift.  
Make us bold in giving an account of the hope within us – never arrogantly nor grudgingly but as those whose hearts are sanctified by Christ.  
Pray for all who doubt God – those alienated by present circumstances, the impoverished, the struggling, and the vexed. For those who constantly fear – under threat of illness, of loss, of hunger, of loneliness, of poverty, and of joblessness.  
Pray for those pondering faith afresh and those who have come to faith anew in recent weeks. May initiatives in worshipping through social media be productive of faithful living.  
Pray for the world's poorest people. Keep aid and care flowing even as wealthier nations struggle, for we all have our origins in the one God. May the requirements of love and righteousness stir us all. As we depend on the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, so make us advocates of the needs of others.  
Pray for all who exist as ones abandoned by hope – the orphaned, the desperately ill, victims of war, hunger, and oppression, the suicidal, and those despairing.  
May faithful good conduct in Christ issue in the love he promises.  
**For the Sick:** Please pray for Samuel Williams (extended family of Linda and Graham Barley), Karen Fox, Anna Drysdale, Lynne Rose, Audrey Fernyhough (Wendy Gerrard's Auntie), Roy Fordham, Sally West (Judith Hodgson's friend's daughter), Chris Ormsby (Lil's oldest grandson) and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.  
**For the Bereaved:** Family and friends Lilian Watson, Stan (friend of Chris and Susan Smale), Fiona Lorimer (Pat Hulme's sister)  
**From the Anglican Prayer Cycle:** Bishop Robert Hirschfeld, New Hampshire. Bishop William Stokes, New Jersey (The Episcopal Church, USA).

**PRAYER FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY CORONAVIRUS**  
**Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**Lectio 365  
Prayer App**  
Need help praying?  
Try this App

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>

## Mark Tanner named as the 41st Bishop of Chester



The Rt Revd Mark Tanner has been named by Downing Street as the next Bishop of Chester, succeeding the Rt Revd Dr Peter Forster who retired in September 2019.

Bishop Mark is currently the Bishop of Berwick in the Diocese of Newcastle, a post he has occupied since 2016.

“It will be hard to say goodbye to the North East,” he says, “however, Lindsay and I are really excited to return to Chester where I was ordained, and both of our children were born.”

Mark says: “It is an honour and a joy to be appointed to the Diocese of Chester at such a key time in the life of our communities, nation, and Church. In Christ, God offers a gift of hope beyond our imagining; there is no greater joy or privilege than enabling others to step into this freedom and life, whether in deeply practical service or beautiful wonder and worship. God is here for all.”

Bishop Mark and his wife, Lindsay, were introduced to the diocese online via a series of live-streamed events.

“Although I cannot physically be with you today, I look forward to getting to know the people and communities of the diocese from the coast to the Pennines, as we refresh and renew our service of every member of society within our diocese.”

Bishop Christine, the Bishop of Newcastle says: “It has been a real joy to work with Mark as a key member of the team here. I have appreciated his friendship and counsel, his kindness and great sense of fun, and most particularly, his focus on those whom we are called to serve as Christ’s church today. He has been instrumental in helping us establish our Resource Church and imagine new possibilities in terms of ministry and mission. I know the Diocese of Chester will be blessed through his ministry there.”

## GOSPEL READING: John 14:15-21

### All: Glory to you, O Lord

<sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

### All: Praise to you, O Christ

### Acts 17:22-31

<sup>22</sup> Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, "for we too are his offspring."

<sup>29</sup> Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

### EASTER FIND

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



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God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.

– ACTS 17:27 NIV





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

**Welcome to** the online resource to help you find support services near you. We are here to support Wirral residents requiring advice, guidance and additional help during this ongoing and difficult coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.

### LOCAL FIRMS DOING HOME DELIVERIES

Lewis Butchers Greasby, Tel: 0151 678 7990, Bank transfer or cash in envelope on doorstep.

Derek Massey butchers, Telegraph Road, Heswall, Tel: 0151 342 5646.

Fine Fruits Pensby Road delivers veg boxes. Tel: 0751 691 4095

**PLUS Billy's Corner (Birkenhead Market)**  
**FREE home delivery of fresh fruit and vegetables**  
**(your choice of fruit and veg in your specified quantities) across the Wirral**  
**Call Keith - 07958 108 221 or email [deliveries@keith-ryan.co.uk](mailto:deliveries@keith-ryan.co.uk)**



### Hearts for Homes

Thank you for your continued gifts of time and materials. We have now distributed 116 pairs! Well done everyone.

If you can knit or sew pairs of hearts in any cheerful colour, that would be wonderful. I have attached a photo some hearts received so far. The finished hearts should be approximately 6.5cm high x 6.5cm wide. They need to be in pairs - one for the resident of the care home and one for the relative - so they feel united in these weeks when they can't physically see each other.

Bags for nurses (12"x15" with drawstring) also still being received if you have any on the go.

Please drop off items in my porch or contact me (07599 186 893) and I will collect.

All finished items can be dropped off into my porch 11 Heathbank Avenue Irby (Julie DeBoorder)

Thank you again

### A Note of thanks and encouragement from the Treasurer:-

During April 2020:-

12 people have set up a new standing order totalling: £681

4 people have increased the amount they give each week/month

Regular weekly (Green) envelopes plus donations in cash or by cheque delivered to the Rectory have totalled £2250

Our total income for April 2020 has totalled £4337

Well Done all. Many Thanks, Kevin



*In April 2019, we had total receipts of £7239. This means our April income is down by £2902. We are making savings elsewhere which helps to balance this a little bit. We obviously have an additional loss of income from Hall Hire and as a result we have temporarily reduced our parish share payments to the diocese.*

**WHILE BUILDINGS REMAIN CLOSED ALL DONATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO:-**

Mr K Marley (Treasurer), c/o The Rectory, 77 Thingwall Rd, Irby, Wirral, CH61 3UB

**OR IF POSSIBLE BY BACS TRANSFER: CAF Bank Ltd, Sort code:40/52/40 Account: 00018674**

In the "Reference Box" – please make sure to include your name – and if space allows the words "regular giving". It would then be helpful if you emailed the Treasurer with the start date, frequency and amount.

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