

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad  
Thurstaston and Irby  
28th June 2020 – Third Sunday after Trinity**



<p><b>Collect</b> God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.</p>	<p><b>Post-Communion Prayer</b> O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.</p>
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**FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**  
**Prayer prompts based on the readings for today:-**  
Jesus said: “whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” (Matthew 10;42) The “little ones” Jesus refers to are not children. The little ones are those who are poor and those who are desperate. A cup of water is simple kindness and refreshment for those who are weary and heavy laden. It becomes an offering to God who is at their side.  
Pray today:

- for those who go thirsty – those who live on parched land and those on journeys so long that they depend on the generosity and hospitality of others.
- for those who have no clean water to drink and those who bear heavy loads of water so that their families can drink.
- for those who are in the hospitality trade and those who keep watering holes as welcoming places.

**For PCC:** Working towards re-opening our buildings - lots of work needed first - from risk assessment to purchase of anti-bac, gloves, cleaning materials etc., to putting up posters and working out how social distancing can work. Please pray for wisdom and please be patient - Safety is our first priority.

**For wedding couples:** Jarrad and Nicki who were due to be married on 20th June (now planning for August 22nd), Lauren and Matt who were due to be married on 27th June (now postponed until next year), and for Rhys and Georgia planning to be married on August 29th.

**For the world:** Please pray for Yemen ([https://www.tearfund.org/en/latest/yemen\\_appeal/](https://www.tearfund.org/en/latest/yemen_appeal/)). Please pray for countries struggling to reduce the number of Coronavirus infections and deaths.

**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, and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

**For the Bereaved:** Please pray for families and friends of Cecil Jones & family and friends of Dan Miller - especially his wife Kate, and his children Thomas (12), Rebecca (10) and Edward (6) - funeral on Thursday

**From the Anglican Prayer Cycle:** Bishop Williams Oluwarotimi Aladekugbe, Oyo (Nigeria).  
Bishop Joseph Maker Atot, Pacong (South Sudan).

Give thanks for the appointment of Bishop Mark to be our next diocesan bishop:  
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 Bishop Mark in his new role as the next Bishop of Chester. Bless guide and strengthen him to answer your call; in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

## GOSPEL READING: Matthew 10:40-42

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

<sup>40</sup> "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

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

### Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

<sup>5</sup> Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; <sup>6</sup> and the prophet Jeremiah said, 'Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfil the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup> But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup> The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup> As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.'

Bobby enjoyed the craft activity  
from the latest parish mailing



"For I know the plans  
I have for you,"  
declares the Lord,  
"plans to *prosper* you  
and not to harm you,  
plans to give you  
*hope* and a *future*."

-Jeremiah 29:11



## An Update from the Treasurer (June 26th 2020):-

Once again - THANK YOU for your continued donations which is helping us to continue to pay essential bills.

In June the newly set-up (in response to Covid-19) D/Ds totalled £ 745  
Regular weekly (Green) envelopes plus donations in cash or by cheque delivered to the Rectory have totalled £1769  
So **income** (which would have come in through church services had we been physically meeting) totalled **£2514**  
*This compares to a total in June 2019 of £3409*

**As we prepare to open our buildings there will be new additional costs.**

**We have just spent £105.79 on initial supplies of anti-bac gel, disposable gloves and face coverings.**

We must also thank those who have long-standing direct debits (which are not included in the figures above for either 2019 or 2020) for your continued support.

*We are making some savings as a result of not physically meeting which helps to balance this a little bit. We obviously have an ongoing 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)

As more local shops  
and businesses re-open

Don't forget to support them and let them  
know that we have missed them.

You may even like to tell them that we  
have been and will be praying for them.



### 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>



**Wirral Coronavirus Helpline 0151 666 5050**  **WIRRAL**

 **STAY AT HOME**

 **PROTECT THE NHS**

 **save lives**

[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.

## Opening Church for services – Initial information

Following Government announcements this week you may well be wondering what we will be doing about re-opening St Bartholomew's and St Chad's for worship.

First of all we need to be clear that all permissions are permissive and there is no expectation that every church will be able to open at this stage, and every expectation that things will not return "to normal" any time soon.

We have not been able to make many definitive decisions at this stage, as the detailed information from government, Church of England and Diocese is not yet available (writing at 6pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June)

However, it is important to share with you the initial thoughts at this stage.

### 1. Revd Jane will be on holiday ("time off at home") from 6-12<sup>th</sup> July inclusive.

This is in line with instructions from Bishop Keith (below) to clergy:-

"We understand that many clergy are feeling tired, even exhausted, with this new way of working and with all that the current pandemic has brought. We need to remember that this is a marathon and not a sprint and we must ensure our own wellbeing is sustained.

"It is really important that we continue to practise our sabbath rest, taking a day off every week. Please also continue to take the two consecutive days off per month. We would also encourage you to take holiday leave as you usually would."

Therefore we do not plan to have our first services back in church on either 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> July.

### 2. No services at St Bartholomew's until at least September

Taking into account that a large proportion of the St Bartholomew's congregations (including sidespeople, servers and sacristans) are in the vulnerable categories, and some in very vulnerable and shielding categories and the restricted space in the aisle (only 1m wide) which will make social distancing very difficult; and a one-way system impossible - **we would encourage any congregation members who do wish to return to services at this point, to come St Chad's.**

This would also leave St Bartholomew's exclusively available for weddings (two booked – 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Aug) and funerals without creating excessive need for professional cleaning which only has to be done if the building cannot be quarantined for 72 hours after use.

### 3. Service at St Chad's at 10.30am on Sundays - when we are ready (hopefully by 19<sup>th</sup> July)

The 10.30am timing is intended to recognise that this is a service for ALL whatever service they normally attend.

In order to be ready the PCC will need to have:-

- a) Risk Assessment in place – this is in progress
- b) Worked out how many people we can safely have in the building – probably still aiming for 2m rule (so far Government info states: "This means people should stay at least 2m (6ft) apart where possible, but otherwise should remain at least 1m apart while taking steps to reduce the risk of transmission, such as wearing face coverings.")
- c) Worked out whether we need a booking system, or risk turning people away if too many turn up
- d) Established that we have enough sidespeople available and trained
  - i) windows and doors should be open, one way system, no service books, cleaning required etc etc
- e) Communicated with any families who wish to bring children to services – the need to be responsible for their children regards social distancing, need to bring own books/toys as there won't be any activity bags available
- f) Purchased sufficient quantities of antibacterial hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and face masks and worked out who will be responsible for ensuring that we don't run out as we go forwards
- g) Installed appropriate signage and reminders of social distancing etc.
- h) The PCC also need to think about how we will be able to manage services alongside maintaining what we are already doing, as those who are shielding will not be given permission to return to church until at least the end of July. And unless C of E advice changes, those over 70 and in vulnerable categories should still be encouraged to stay away.

We know that singing will not be permitted.

We don't yet know if Communion will be permitted.

### 4. No Junior Church until at least September – this will protect our Junior church leaders and give us chance to work out what Junior Church might look like going forwards.

As things ease over the Summer, it may be possible to have some small scale family activities or services, but we need to think this through carefully as things develop.

**Please be assured that we will keep you updated as regularly as we can (via email and on the website) as things continue to develop and change over the coming weeks and months.**