

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
15th November 2020 – Second Sunday before Advent**



Collect

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For our Community:

Please pray the local lockdown measures help control the continuing rise of Coronavirus infections.

Please pray for local businesses as they adapt to second lockdown.

Please pray for the hospital chaplain (Revd Malcolm Cowan) as he unceasingly supports patients who can't have visitors.

Please pray for our schools as they remain open through lock down

For our Church:

Give thanks for each other and pray for those who will find lockdown especially hard

For the world:

Please continue to pray for countries struggling to reduce the number of Coronavirus infections and deaths. Please pray for France and Austria following the terror attacks and for Turkey following the earthquake. Please pray for the security services in our country as the terror threat level is raised to severe. Please pray for the USA following the presidential elections last week.

For the Sick:

Please continue to pray for Molly (aged 2), Karen Fox, Anna Drysdale, Audrey Fernyhough, Roy Fordham, Moira and Peter DeBoorder (Sister and Brother in law of Julie DeBoorder), and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

For the Bereaved:

Please pray for family and friends of Alan Fletcher.

From the Anglican Prayer Cycle: Bishop Dushantha Lakshman Rodrigo, Colombo;
Bishop Keerthisiri Fernando, Kurunegala (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury)

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

⁷ Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests
¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with
lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently[d] on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
“The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”
¹³ Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
The Great Day of the Lord
¹⁴ The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
¹⁷ I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord’s wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the
earth.

Psalm 90 1-12

1 Lord, you have been our refuge ♦
from one generation to another.
2 Before the mountains were brought
forth,
or the earth and the world were
formed, ♦
from everlasting to everlasting you are
God.
3 You turn us back to dust and say: ♦
‘Turn back, O children of earth.’
4 For a thousand years in your sight are
but as yesterday, ♦
which passes like a watch in the night.
5 You sweep them away like a dream; ♦
they fade away suddenly like the grass.
6 In the morning it is green and
flourishes; ♦
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
7 For we consume away in your
displeasure; ♦
we are afraid at your wrathful indignation.
8 You have set our misdeeds before
you ♦
and our secret sins in the light of your
countenance.
9 When you are angry, all our days are
gone; ♦
our years come to an end like a sigh.
10 The days of our life are three score years
and ten,
or if our strength endures, even four
score; ♦
yet the sum of them is but labour and
sorrow,
for they soon pass away and we are
gone.
11 Who regards the power of your wrath ♦
and your indignation like those who fear
you?
12 So teach us to number our days ♦
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

5 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. **2** For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. **3** When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! **4** But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; **5** for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. **6** So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; **7** for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. **8** But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. **9** For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, **10** who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. **11** Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25.14-30

All: Glory to you, O Lord

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; **15** to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. **16** The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. **17** In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. **18** But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. **19** After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. **20** Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' **21** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' **22** And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' **23** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' **24** Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; **25** so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' **26** But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? **27** Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. **28** So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. **29** For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. **30** As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

All: Praise to you, O Christ



WIRRAL FOODBANK

Can you help with donations for Wirral Foodbank? Items can be dropped off at Dawpool Primary School - enter through the pedestrian entrance and place your items in the lime green donations bin. In order to avoid congestion at drop off and pick up times, we suggest that you drop your items between 10.00-11.30am. If you can't get to school, items may also be dropped off to 38 Heathbank Avenue (box in front of the garage)

The following items will be much appreciated so they can be given out during the month of December

- RICE PUDDING
- CEREAL
- TEA
- COFFEE
- SQUASH
- HOT CHOCOLATE
- TINNED SPAGHETTI
- TINNED POTATOES
- TINNED /PACKET SOUP
- TINNED MEAT
- TINNED FISH
- RICE
- INSTANT MASH
- PASTA SAUCE
- TOOTHPASTE/TOOTHBRUSH
- DEODRANT
- SHAMPOO
- CHOCOLATE
- BISCUITS
- SUGAR
- JAM
- SPONGE PUDDINGS
- NAPPIES SIZE 5&6
- TOILET ROLLS



Thank you to everyone who added to our poppy display.

**DURING LOCKDOWN – Church Services are not permitted but
CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR INDIVIDUALS TO COME AND PRAY ON SUNDAYS**

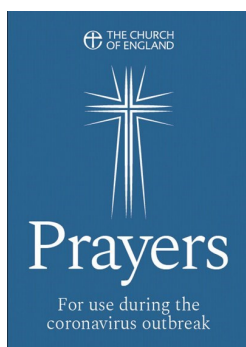
With the help of some very willing volunteers, and following the service pattern already in place, the building will be open:-

				*ZOOM ONLINE
Nov 15 th	St Bartholomew's Open 8-9am	St Chad's Open 10-11am		
Nov 22 nd		St Chad's Open 10-11am	St Bartholomew's Open 11-12noon	6.30pm Evening Prayer
Nov 29 th	St Bartholomew's Open 8-9am	St Chad's Open 10-11am		6.30pm Evening Prayer

You will still need to observe all the same safety rules as for church services (sanitising, face masks, social distancing etc) and you will still need to complete a test and trace form.

When coming to church for individual prayer you may like to simply come for a few minutes and sit in the peace and sanctity of the building. We don't expect people to come and sit in silence for the whole hour - you can arrive and leave at any time during the hour the building is open.

At St Chad's the chairs will be slightly rearranged (still socially distanced) into more of a horse-shoe shape with a coffee table in the middle which have a visual display to help your focus (Thank you to Julie and Margaret for providing these).



Some may like some more structure to help them pray and you could use the morning worship book which you have in your pack if you've already been to a service, or is available in church for you to collect if this will be your first visit since lockdown.

Or you may like to use the booklet which we posted out in April. I still have some of these if you have lost yours or didn't receive one in the first place - let me know if you'd find it helpful to have one now.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

For those who choose to remain at home, we will continue to provide sermon via Facebook and Zoom Services as indicated above. And don't forget the Daily Hope Phone Line is still available.

At this stage we don't believe it will be necessary for you to book a space in church for individual prayer, but if all the seats are taken you will be asked to wait until one becomes available, and if our expectation regarding numbers of people is incorrect, we will implement a booking system.

***To join a ZOOM service, please contact Revd Jane who will give you the details.
You can join a ZOOM service online or by landline telephone.**

Leprosy Boxes



**The Leprosy
Mission**
England and Wales

Due to COVID-19 and my ill health, my request for the annual collection of boxes is well overdue.

There is no way I can collect the boxes, so I would be most grateful if those of you with a box could open them, count the money, and then write a cheque made payable to:-

“THE LEPROSY MISSION”

Please then post that cheque to:-

**Mrs Patricia Hulme
39 Breezehill Rd,
Neston, CH64 9PZ**

One off donations are always gratefully received.
Thankyou for your continued support.

Pat Hulme.



A special thank you to those who continue to remember to collect their used stamps for RDA (Riding for the Disabled) and a reminder, with Christmas not too far off, to save all those Royal Mail stamps.

We now have an Amazon smile account. The Link can be found on the website at www.thurstaston.org.uk, on the first page, scroll down until you see the amazon smile banner. If you click on the banner it will take you directly to amazon, any purchases you then make Amazon will donate money to the church with no cost to you.

Support
The Parochial Church Council
Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of
St Bartholomew, Thurstaston
When you shop at smile.amazon.co.uk,
Amazon Donates

Visit smile.amazon.co.uk

smile.amazon.co.uk

Wirral Coronavirus Helpline 0151 666 5050

WIRRAL

**STAY AT
HOME**

**PROTECT
THE NHS**

**save
lives**

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.