

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
24th January 2021 – Epiphany 3**



Collect

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.
Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ is the light of the world: may your people,
illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For our Community:

Please pray for local businesses - both those that continue to serve our community and those forced to be closed throughout lockdown.

Please continue to pray for ALL key-workers

Please pray for all victims of domestic abuse

For our Church:

Please pray for our worship and mission and we remain in online mode.

Give thanks for the safe arrival of Poppy DeBoorder (parents Tom and Emma) last weekend.

For the world:

Please continue to pray for countries world-wide struggling with the effects of Covid pandemic

For the Bereaved:

Please pray for the family and friends of Lil Ormsby and Fred Halifax.

For the Sick:

Please pray for Molly (aged 2), Audrey Fernyhough, Julie Davies, Sue Maggs (Chris Rostock's friend), and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

Anna Drysdale - now home following treatment in US, please continue to pray for full healing. To follow Anna's story go to <https://www.facebook.com/goteamanna/>



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

A prayer for the discernment process - new bishops

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 humility, love and mercy as we seek your Kingdom.
We pray for those you are calling
to be the next bishops of Stockport and Birkenhead
and for those discerning that call.
Lead and strengthen them to answer your call;
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Genesis 14:17-20

¹⁷ After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).

¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, ¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Creator of heaven and earth.

²⁰ And praise be to God Most High,
who delivered your enemies into your hand.”

Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Psalm 128

- 1 Blessed are all those who fear the Lord, ♦
and walk in his ways.
- 2 You shall eat the fruit of the toil of your hands; ♦
it shall go well with you, and happy shall you be.
- 3 Your wife within your house
shall be like a fruitful vine; ♦
your children round your table,
like fresh olive branches.
- 4 Thus shall the one be blest ♦
who fears the Lord.
- 5 The Lord from out of Zion bless you, ♦
that you may see Jerusalem in prosperity
all the days of your life.
- 6 May you see your children's children, ♦
and may there be peace upon Israel.

Irby Pharmacy is a safe space

How to access a Safe Space

- Walk into any participating pharmacy in the UK.
 - Ask at the healthcare counter to use their Safe Space.
 - A pharmacist will show you to the Safe Space. Which will be the consultancy room.
 - Once inside, you will find displayed specialist domestic abuse support information for you to access, to make that call or access Bright Sky safely.
- Safe Spaces are open and ready for you to use.

Are you experiencing domestic abuse?

You are not alone.

The Freephone 24 hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline
nationaldahelpline.org.uk 0808 2000 247

Refuge

For women and children.
Against domestic violence.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Revelations 19:6-10

⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

“Hallelujah!

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad
and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready.

⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean,
was given her to wear.”

⁹ Then the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”

¹⁰ At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus.”

GOSPEL READING: John 2:1-11

All: Glory to you, O Lord

² On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They have no more wine.”

⁴ “Woman, why do you involve me?” Jesus replied. “My hour has not yet come.”

⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim.

⁸ Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.”

They did so, ⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside ¹⁰ and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.”

¹¹ What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Planned Giving Scheme.

Chris Turnbull is currently preparing the annual gift aid claim for Thurstaston PCC - St Chad's and St Bartholomew's churches. Can you please let him know as soon as possible whether you are no longer eligible to make donations under the gift aid rules if you had previously signed a Thurstaston PCC gift aid declaration form. Also if you believe that you may now be eligible to make a gift aid declaration can you let him know as soon as possible. You are eligible if you pay sufficient UK tax to cover the 25% of their total charitable donations that he claims back from HMRC. e.g. if for example during the year you make £1000 total charitable donations you would need to pay £250 in UK tax at least.

Chris can be contacted by email at turnbullcj@gmail.com, or phone 0151 625 0089 or post to Springfield, Pinetree Drive, Wirral CH48 8AT.

PCC Decision for Church to go digital ONLY for the time being

Following the PCC Meeting 11.01.21 - This formal resolution has been agreed by the Bishop

The Rector and the parochial church council of Thurstaston and Irby acting jointly request that the bishop authorise dispensing with the reading of Morning and Evening Prayer as required by Canon B 11 and the celebration of the Holy Communion as required by Canon B 14 on a regular basis until latest Covid-19 lockdown has ended and the Wirral has returned to a minimum of Tier 3.

The reason for requesting the dispensation is that in the light of the Government's guidance on preventing the spread of Coronavirus, there is no church in the benefice which can safely be used for public worship and there is no reasonable prospect of any church in the benefice being made safe for that purpose until transmission rates are much lower and the vaccination programme has begun to take effect.

We will continue to provide a sermon via facebook, the weekly emails (including notice sheet, sermon, family together at home resource and other bits and bobs), and Evening Prayer via Zoom. We are also introducing a Wednesday morning Zoom - bring your coffee and chat meeting - 10.15-11.00ish for anyone that would be interested in seeing others and chatting.

We would encourage you again to connect with each other and use the phone contact groups from Lock down number 1. If you were not in a phone contact group back then and would like to be in one now, just let Revd Jane know and she'll get you linked up with some other folk.

Revd Jane is always available to you and please don't hesitate to pick up a phone and have a chat - about anything - even if you are just bored and need someone else to speak to.

Stay safe and please pray for the NHS who are under so much pressure in these challenging days.



Heart Bomb your home, street or neighbourhood and let everyone know they are LOVED!

Pin a note on the neighbours door, add hearts to trees, set up a community love board, decorate windows.



SHARE the love, LIKE the love and let's get everyone involved.
Let's spread LOVE around the world.

**Let's do this in Irby and Thurstaston for St Valentine's Day
Sunday 14th February 2021**

**Get thinking about how you could do this in your street,
our village, our church grounds and get creating those hearts now,
so we are ready for the whole parish to be covered with God's love**