

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad  
Thurstaston and Irby  
22nd December - Fourth Sunday of Advent**



**Collect**

Eternal God,  
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory;  
bring us through the birth pangs of this  
present age  
to see, with her, our great salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

**Post-Communion Prayer**

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

**FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**For our Community:**

Please pray for all who serve us in our local community and for local businesses and community groups.  
Please pray for those elected to serve in local and national government.  
Please pray for schools in our parish.

**For our Church:**

Please pray for victims and survivors of abuse and safeguarding teams across the diocese.  
Please pray for Bishops Mark; Julie and Sam, & Archdeacons Mike and Jane  
Please pray for Revd Ailsa Whorton and 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards  
Please pray for Revd Malcolm Cowan and others who serve in the Chaplaincy department of the hospital

**For the world:**

Please pray for all countries of the world where people suffer from war, natural disasters and the effects of climate change

**For the Sick:** Please pray for Amanda Fletcher, Margaret and Roy Fordham, John Reynolds, Isabelle Vickers, Roy Thomas, Meira Jones-Evans, Sally Felix, Muriel McKie, Joan Stanley (friend of Tina Samson), Teddy David Boote (age 4, Great Nephew of Elizabeth Barton and Joyce Kenworthy), June Bibby, Elizabeth Hall and Baby Erin (granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Margaret and Roy Fordham), Leslie Worrall,, Anna Kydd (daughter of Revd Gaynor) and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

**For wedding couples:** James Leyland and Laura Mc Cabe, Lewis Tierney and Laura Gois

**For the bereaved:**

**Forthcoming Services**

**Morning Prayer St Chad's Prayer Room 9.00am MOST Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays**

(check with Revd Jane for cancellations due to other meetings or commitments)

**EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads**

**Sun 22nd December**

**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am Holy Communion at St Chad's with nativity and Junior Church**  
**6.00pm Carol Service at St Bartholomew's**

**Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve**

**4.00pm Crib Service at St Bartholomew's**  
**11.15pm First Communion of Christmas**

**Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day**

**10.00am All-Age Communion at St Chad's**

**Sun 29th December**

**9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**  
**10.30am Holy Communion at St Barts**

**No Mid-week service on Wed 1st January**

Church Office: Mrs K Butler, St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH Tel 648 8169.

Website: [www.thurstaston.org.uk](http://www.thurstaston.org.uk) E-Mail: [office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)

Revd Jane Turner 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday). E-Mail: [rector@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:rector@thurstaston.org.uk)

**THANK YOU**

**To everyone who has helped to clean and decorate  
St Bartholomew's and St Chad's for Christmas.**

**THANK YOU to Church Farm for once again  
providing us with beautiful Christmas Trees.**

**Old Testament Reading: Micah 5:2-5a**

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labour has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

**New Testament Reading: Heb 10:5-10**

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure  
in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these  
are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, 'See, I have come  
to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the  
second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through  
the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:39-45**

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

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill  
country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When  
Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled  
with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the  
mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting,  
the child in my womb leapt for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would  
be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

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

Chester Diocese Mission Team invite you to join with them in prayer during Advent:

“Advent, the season of waiting and preparation, is the perfect time for us all to pray looking out of the window; searching to see where God is already at work, and discerning how we can join in. In everything we do, we want the Father to be directing our path So, ask Him to show us the people we can bless and help encounter the good news of Jesus Christ, and invite the Spirit to equip and encourage us to take those first steps.”

### Advent Window Prayer

As I look out of my window on the world you created today

Give me eyes to see who you want me to see

Open my ears to hear your voice and help me to listen to your Word

Show me where your hands are already at work

Move my feet so that I am in the place where you want me to be

So I can bump into the people you want me to meet

Put on my heart the people on your heart

And help me to think like Jesus.

Fill me with your Holy Spirit today, so that I can play my small part in your great big plan.

Amen

### CHURCH ROTAS

We would love to encourage new people to join the rotas during 2025. If you would like to shadow someone to learn what's involved, please speak to Revd Jane.

Become a sidesperson/welcomer, join the coffee team, do a Bible reading, lead the prayers, become a sacristan (preparing communion table before services), become a server (helping with communion), join the flower team, help at Junior Church.

**Your Church NEEDS YOU**  
and would love to encourage you in stepping out in faith to take on a new role.

### LOVE MATTERS

You are invited to join us  
Wednesdays 7.30-9.00pm  
St Chad's Extension

Let Revd Jane know if you plan to come and she will let you have a copy of the booklet.

Wed 8th January

Think Family

Wed 15th January

Think Loving Relationships

Wed 22nd January

Think Singleness

Wed 29th January

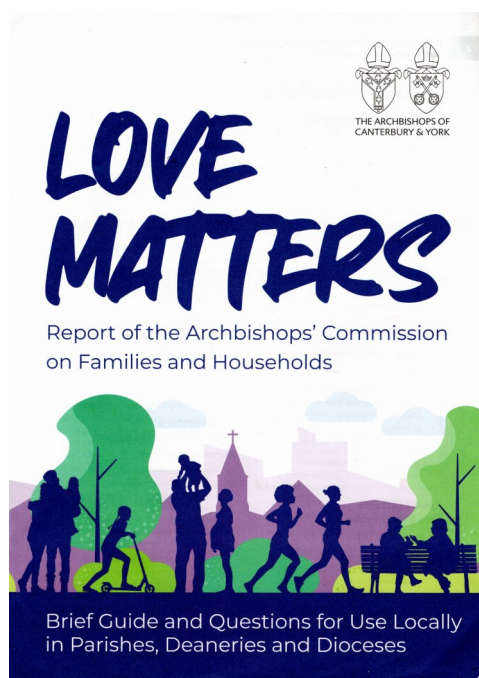
Think Children and Young People

Wed 5th February

Think Forgiveness and Kindness

Wed 12th February

Think Diversity



# A warm welcome at the Warm Hub

Every Tuesday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Open to everyone, so please drop in!

St. Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH  
0151 648 8169

There are a range of activities including,  
Quizzes, games, jigsaws, crosswords etc

The warm hub will be closed on  
December 24th & 31st

The first session of 2025 will be  
on  
Tuesday 7th January



The Warm Hub  
belongs to a  
growing na-  
tional network  
of



PARISH GIVING SCHEME

This QR code can be used with mobile phones to make donations to Church using a debit or credit card.

It is becoming increasingly important that

- we reduce the amount of cash and cheques that we handle
- and increase the number of donations made through PGS, standing orders, or using electronic payment devices, etc.

The reason being that the PCC is being charged to bank cash and cheques over a certain limit each month, and we have reached that limit a few times in the last year.

Thank you for taking time to prayerfully consider your donations to church and for all financial support that is received.

Your donations enable us to work towards our vision of serving Christ in Thurstaston and Irby.

**Donations of Flowers for Church:** You can make a donation "in memory of", "in celebration of" or just because! Please sign up at the back of church. You do not have to arrange the flowers - the flower team can do that for you.

Money for your donation (with your contact details and the date for your flowers) should be given to the parish office in a clearly marked envelope, or by BACS indicating that it is Flower Fund, followed by email to the office.



Please continue to collect and **R N I B** bring your used stamps to \_\_\_\_\_ Church.

See differently

RNIB request that, if possible, you leave 1cm of envelope around the stamp. Thank you for your continued support. Jean Heath



Wirral Foodbank are running short of the items on the Shopping list. Please bring any donations to St Chad's Office and Kate will deliver them to the Foodbank.

#### SHOPPING LIST

- TINNED MEAT
- TINNED FISH
- TINNED VEGETABLES (PEAS, CARROTS, SWEETCORN)
- TINNED CUSTARD
- TINNED FRUIT
- JAM
- SHAMPOO
- FEMALE HYGIENE
- TOOTHBRUSHES/PASTE
- DEODORANT



### Are you Experiencing Domestic Abuse?

Freephone  
24 hr Helpline  
0808 2000 247  
Irby Pharmacy is a safe space

St Bartholomew and St Chad takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at [www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding)



**Safeguarding is  
Everyone's  
Responsibility**