

Crosstalk 60p

The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad
www.thurstaston.org.uk



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

November 2025





"Goodness! is it time for Christmas Fair organising, carol service planning and nativity play rehearsals already?!"

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

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**

* "Your magazine needs you" *
* Please send your contributions *
* (eg. Poems. Prayers, interesting *
* articles etc.,) *
* to office@thurstaston.org.uk *

The views and opinions expressed in the articles in this magazine are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the editor, the Rector or the PCC.

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Baptisms

26th October:
Elijah and Evelyn Kennedy

Weddings

Funerals



*The boiler only worked if the
Verger switched it on*

From Your Rector

They dress the wound of My people as though it were not serious. "Peace, peace," they say, when there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14)

I wonder what peace felt like in 1945, after 9th May or 16th August? These, of course, were the days after Victory in Europe Day and then Victory in Japan Day. Once the parties and hangovers were cleared up, life would go on as before, for many months to come: with shortages, rationing, men overseas, houses bombed and people on the move. On the continent and in the Far East it was much worse.

What does it feel like now? Yes, we have had 'peace' of sorts in most of Europe between the major continental powers for decades, which is an achievement, but there is no peace in Ukraine, the Middle East or Sudan. If anything, the world is now looking to be a more dangerous place.

This verse from the prophet Jeremiah was the theme of a sermon recently. The preacher talked about peace making, peace keeping and a lasting peace, which are not the same and require different skills. In and after the Second World War *peace making* meant winning the war and defeating evil. *Peace keeping* was occupying the defeated lands until they could establish communities built on democracy and justice. (The preacher was born exactly nine months after either VE or VJ Day, so he was a 'child of peace'!)

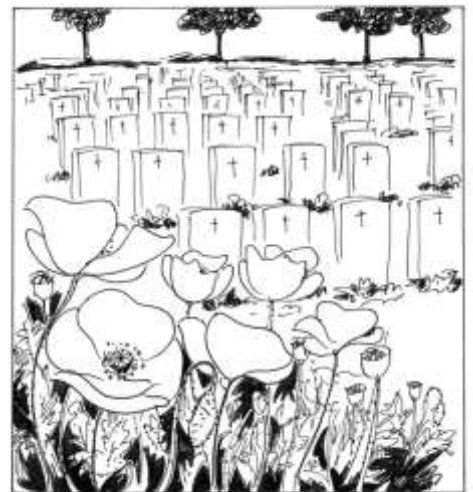
What about a *lasting peace*? Many world leaders say, "Peace, Peace" but they mean only *peace on their terms* and do not care about anything else.

As Christians we should:

Pray for the *peace makers*: the women and men in the forces

Pray for *peace keepers*: the experts helping to build new societies

Pray for *lasting peace*: the willingness of world leaders and politicians to act for the greater good.



Rev'd Jane



A message from Ailsa



**From the Chaplain's Desk:
Life at the Army Foundation College!**

Dear friends,

As I write to you from the chaplaincy at the Army Foundation College, I'm reflecting on the remarkable journey of the Junior Soldiers who have just completed their first six weeks of training. It's hard to believe that I've now been serving here for eight weeks myself—time has flown, and much has happened.

The first six weeks of training are known as the “foundation phase,” and they are, without exaggeration, some of the most challenging weeks these young people will face. Many arrive straight from school, some just 16 years old, and are suddenly immersed in a world of discipline, physical exertion, and emotional resilience. It's a steep learning curve, and for many, it's their first time away from home.

During this phase, they learn the basics of military life—how to march, how to care for their kit, how to work as a team, and how to push through when things get tough. They are tested physically, mentally, and emotionally. There are moments of homesickness, frustration, and exhaustion. But there are also moments of pride, laughter, and deep camaraderie.

Last week, they “passed in” to the College—a significant milestone that marks the end of their initial training and the beginning of their journey as Junior Soldiers. It was a moving occasion, with proud families watching as their sons and daughters stood tall in their uniforms, having earned their place in the College. For many, it was the first time they truly saw themselves as part of something bigger—a community, a calling, a future.

After a well-earned half-term break, they return with a new sense of purpose. Life will look very different now. The pace quickens, the expectations rise, and the training becomes more specialised. But they return with the confidence that comes from having overcome the first hurdles. They are no longer just recruits—they are Junior Soldiers, and they know they belong.

As chaplain, I have the privilege of walking alongside them in this journey. I listen to their stories, offer encouragement, and sometimes just sit with them in silence when words are too much. I see their vulnerability and their strength, and I am constantly reminded of the resilience of the human spirit.

Please keep these young people in your prayers. They are learning not just how to be soldiers, but how to be adults—responsible, compassionate, and courageous. And pray too for the staff who train and support them, and for all of us in the chaplaincy team, that we may continue to offer a listening ear and a steady presence.

With every blessing,

Rev. Ailsa Whorton

Chaplain (Maj), Army Foundation College

Parish Safeguarding Team

We are writing to introduce ourselves as your newly appointed Parish Safeguarding Team:-



Centre: Peter Robson
(Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Left: Janet Trigg
(Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Right: Karen Robson
(Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Our Parish is committed to being a safe and caring place for all.

This means that we must promote a safe environment and culture, safely recruit and support all staff and volunteers, respond promptly to safeguarding concerns or allegations and care pastorally for affected persons.

The Diocese of Chester takes its safeguarding responsibilities very seriously and follows the House of Bishops' Policy and Practice Guidance. The Diocese of Chester is committed to promoting and delivering high-quality safeguarding training for all clergy, those in training, employees and volunteers within the Diocese and Parishes. This training is excellent for opening our eyes to the needs of others and for giving us awareness of why safeguarding is so important and why we need to speak out and stay safe.



Whilst DBS checks and safeguarding training (renewed every 3 years) are vital for those in certain roles within our church, safeguarding is not a tick box exercise that takes place on one day.



**Safeguarding is about all of us
being aware of what is happening
around us, every day.**

Safeguarding is about us preventing harm, responding to concerns, and promoting the wellbeing of everyone that we meet during church services, activities, and events.

In a church, safeguarding is a proactive and comprehensive approach to protect everyone, especially children and vulnerable adults, from harm, abuse, or neglect.

If you have a safeguarding concern, it is extremely important to talk to someone about it. You should report a safeguarding concern, even if you are unsure.

If someone is in immediate danger, please remove yourself from any danger, then immediately call the police on 999.

If there is no immediate danger, **contact one of the Parish Safeguarding Team.**

Email to **safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk** is the best way to contact us.

Archbishop Designate: Sarah Mullally - Quote from her Address 03/10/2025.

The Christian faith is unwavering in its teaching that we are all made in the image of God. Each one of us deserves to be treated with dignity, compassion, and respect. Christ commands us to love God, and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

In living in the service of others, we must also confront the dynamics of power— an issue brought into sharp focus by the recent safeguarding reviews and reports. As a Church, we have too often failed to recognise or take seriously the misuse of power in all its forms.

As Archbishop, my commitment will be to ensure that we continue to listen to survivors, care for the vulnerable, and foster a culture of safety and well-being for all.

This will not be easy. Our history of safeguarding failures has left a legacy of deep harm and mistrust, and we must all be willing to have light shone on our actions, regardless of our role in the Church.

Since my ordination, I have witnessed a significant professional and cultural shift in safeguarding. I know the National Safeguarding Team continues to work tirelessly alongside diocesan professionals and countless parish volunteers, to ensure that we are a Church that not only prevents abuse but responds well when it is reported.

Safeguarding is everyone's business.

Further Information:

Our parish website has more information and helpline phone numbers.

National policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding.

Diocesan information at www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted at safeguarding@chester.anglican.org or on 01928 718834 (option 4)

Out of Hours Support

<https://thirtyoneeight.org/help-and-resources/help-guides/safeguarding-adults>

You can access their Safeguarding Helpline if the Parish or Diocesan Safeguarding Team is unavailable on 0303 003 1111.

Emergency: If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police on 999 and/or your local authority Children or Adults Service.

Mr Peter Robson, Mrs Karen Robson and Mrs Janet Trigg

Email: safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk
(Telephone – Peter Robson 0151 648 6691)

Once upon a time

As a very young child, I was never read a story when I was put to bed. There was a good reason for this. We had no electricity in those early days! We had gas lighting down stairs but no lighting upstairs! We used to go to bed in the light of a candle, which was far too dim to allow someone to read by. Instead, my father used to sing me to sleep! The song I remember most was, *Little man you've had a busy day*. Unlike me, Dad had a lovely, tenor voice and would spend his few non-working days singing Mario Lanza songs around the house.

At primary school, we had a fierce teacher called Miss Roberts who was prone to punching miscreant children in the back! Fortunately, for us, her attempts at making a fist were quite feeble! However, at the end of the day, she would read stories like an angel. Our favourite was Enid Blyton's, *The Faraway Tree*, which entranced us all.

As a young teacher, my favourite part of the school day was the last half hour, when I would read a story to the class huddled around my chair. When I became a headteacher, I used to lead many assemblies on my own, giving the staff extra time to prepare their classrooms and lessons. As part of these assemblies, I would always tell the children a story. At Dawpool, I would often read these stories but, at Rock Ferry, I would tell the stories, so I could maintain eye contact with the hundreds present! Many of the former pupils I meet from both schools tell me how much they enjoyed that part of the school day.

Given the luxury of electric lighting, I was able to tell both my children and grandchildren bedtime stories. These often included, *Tales of Teddy Turner and me!* Stories, both fictional and non fictional, of the escapades Teddy Turner, who lived in our street, and I got up to. Recently, whilst reading to a wide awake Percy, I ran out of this genre and, off the cuff, made up a rhyming story entitled, *We have an idea!* - which I, later, had published!

Jesus clearly knew the power of storytelling as his many parables clearly indicate. He knew that teaching in story form, with a beginning, middle and end, rather than in sermon or lecture form, would have a greater impact upon his listeners. They would recall and dwell on what he said much more readily and be enthused to retell his stories to others. This would have been further heightened by the nature of Jesus' parables with their unexpected endings and often shocking outcomes. Who on earth would have expected the hero of a parable to be a hated Samaritan?

Jesus was not alone in using the Parabolic Form, Jewish Rabbis also employed this method of teaching, but not one single Rabbinic parable they told has come down to us from that period before Jesus. The Christian Theologian, Joachim Jeremias, wrote, *We are standing right before Jesus when reading his parables*. Despite their diverse storylines and characters, the theme of all Jesus' parables was always the same, *The time is fulfilled and the Kingdom of God has come. Repent and believe the Gospel*. C.H. Dodd, *The Parables of the Kingdom*, 1969.

Alan Jones



Ruths Reflections

Hello again, It is a while since I last wrote anything. Last time when I should have written I was away staying with my sister. Life has been fairly quiet lately, slowing down after the summer. I must admit I have been quite lazy , enjoying staying in and doing a lot of reading!

I have continued to go out with the W.I. We try to go out about once a month to somewhere interesting but fairly local. Our most recent outing was to Chester Cathedral, where after a very nice lunch in the Cathedral Refectory we had a guided tour round the Cathedral. This was taken by a volunteer, Ken, who was so knowledgeable that the 2 hours flew by. It was very interesting and he pointed out so many things that you would miss just walking round on your own. I have also continued to go to the monthly meetings and to our Craft group which follows our weekly Chair Pilates Session, which is more energetic than it sounds! In the craft Group we continue to make various things including the scarecrow which was displayed at the end of the Village Hall drive, for the Scarecrow Festival.

I haven't done much photography this summer, I have had quite severe sciatica recently and walking round with a camera was just not possible. I have taken a few photos with my phone when I have been out.

I mentioned at the beginning that I had been down to stay with my sister. I travelled down by train instead of driving down. My sister insisted I was too old to drive that far, it's only 200 miles! I only gave in due to my sciatica! I had a lovely time , we didn't do a lot, it was just nice being together and meeting up with some old friends.

Thoughts are now turning to Christmas, it seems to have come round really quickly. Time seems to fly by these days! I will stop now and will write again in the new year. I hope you all have a lovely , peaceful Christmas and the winter weather is not too bad.



Take care and stay safe, everyone.

Make someone's Christmas a happy one

Reverse Advent Calendar 2025



HOW TO USE THIS CALENDAR

Find a sturdy container large enough to hold the 30 items as listed below.

Each day of November, check the date square on the calendar and place the named item into your box.

Drop your filled container off at our warehouse (address below) before 4 December. We are open **Mon – Thur from 10am to 1.30pm.**

We close for Christmas at **12pm** on Tuesday 23 December.

You can also donate money if you wish by visiting our Give As You Live Page (see link bottom right of sheet)



13 Coffee	23 Sugar	24 Custard	9 Toothpaste/ Toothbrush
25 Pasta Sauce	12 Jam	20 Washing Up Liquid	7 Tinned Meat
4 Tinned Fish	21 Deodorant	2 Tinned Vegetables	18 Washing Powder Tablets
10 Nappies Sizes 5 - 7	26 Biscuits	22 Shampoo	17 Tinned Spaghetti
14 Toilet Rolls	19 Tinned Soup	11 Rice	27 Soap
6 Chocolate Bars	30 Tinned Potatoes	3 Tinned Tomatoes	8 Shower Gel
16 Packet Soup	5 Cereal	29 Squash	1 Rice Pudding
		15 Tinned Fruit	28 UHT Milk

Warehouse Address

Unit 14, Wirral Business Centre, Dock Road, Birkenhead CH41 1JW

Reverse Advent Calendar 2025

The Nicene Creed : The Church and the Future

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

‘We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church’: The Creed affirms the four marks of the church, defining a truly orthodox Christian community:

one: despite the many different churches and traditions, there is only one Church to which we all belong. *‘There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.’* (Galatians 3:28).

holy: the church is a holy community set apart for God (*ekklesia*, lit ‘called out’), whose mission is to reflect God’s holiness in worship and live out His love in the world.

catholic: this doesn’t refer to the Roman Catholic church, as the word means ‘*universal*’, reminding us of the unity of the church across the whole world and all denominations.

The church aims to apply the same gospel in whatever situation, context or culture it finds itself.

Apostolic: The apostolic ministry of the church (*‘apostolos’*) is one of being sent to communicate the good news of the gospel: *‘Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.’* (Matt 28.19).

‘We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins’: As baptism is as sign of belonging to the church, it can only happen once. The issue addressed in the Creed is that of Christians who left during persecution, but wanted to be accepted back by rebaptism. It affirms the principle *‘one Lord, one faith, one baptism’* (Ephesians 4:5). Today, those baptised as children, theologically can’t be re-baptised to demonstrate an adult commitment. However, they can be confirmed or reaffirm their baptism vows.

‘We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come’: The Creed ends with a statement of hope, that we will share in Jesus’ resurrection life after death.

It is not simply about the immortality of our soul, but the resurrection of our bodies. They will be transformed to fit us for life of heaven for eternity: *‘The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable...it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.’* (1 Corinthians 15:42-44).

What's the Big Idea?

An Introduction to the Books of the New Testament : Ephesians

Paul wrote the letter of Ephesians around AD 60, while in prison at Rome. It was probably a circular letter to be read in the house churches of Ephesus and the local area. Paul founded the church over a period of three years (Acts 19:1-20:1) between 52-55 AD. Ephesus was the leading city and commercial centre in the region, famous for its temple to the goddess Artemis (Diana).

Paul's aim in writing his letter was to help his readers understand the dimensions of God's purpose and grace for them and His eternal plan for the church. The believers needed to understand their status '*in Christ*' and the call to live a life worthy of Christ. Ephesians is divided into two halves: chapters 1-3 concern theological issues, while chapters 4-6 deal with the practical outworking of faith.

Having shown God's purpose for the church, Paul shows how God has reconciled individuals to Himself by grace (2:1-10). He has reconciled people to each other by breaking down the barriers through Christ's death (2:11-22). This is the '*mystery*' revealed by Paul (3:1-13) and he shows how Christ's gifts promote unity and maturity (4:1-16). The believer's new life stands in contrast to the old way of life without Christ (4:17-6:20).

The great overarching theme of the letter is that we are rescued by God not just for our personal benefit, but to bring praise and glory to Him in our lives: '*He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.*' (1:9,10).



Reflecting Faith: : : Do we hear God's Word today?

For the last few months, we've been looking at the way that church services are put together. After the Gloria each week, this we hear 'God's Word' as written in the Bible. This is usually three passages: one from the Old Testament, one from the epistles, and one from the gospels.

But *how much* do we hear of God's Word? Though we say we want to 'hear God's word', actually the amount we hear week on week is quite minimal.

In bygone days, when the 1662 Book of Common Prayer was universally used in churches, it brought with it a two year lectionary: (unlike today's three year lectionary: lectionary being the recommended or obligatory Bible readings for each day).

This gave congregations, if they came to daily services both morning and evening (which in those times they most likely did) during the course of a year, an opportunity to hear read *the whole Old Testament once, the New Testament twice and all the Psalms twelve times*.

What a contrast to today! In most UK churches, attendance is now at only one service each week, mostly on Sunday. During that service, perhaps 15 or 20 Bible verses might be read.

Now, there are around 31,100 verses in the Bible, which means that at a generous 30 verses a week the congregation will hear around 1,560 verses in a year – that's around 5% each year. So even on a three-year cycle, with a few extra readings for good measure, we hear no more than 20% of the Bible.

I suspect there are two key reasons for this diminution of Bible verses being read. Firstly, church services have got shorter and take up far less time. Secondly, congregations have become more literate, and so it is thought that they do not need it all read out to them.

It would be interesting to know how much of the read-aloud-Bible people heard and listened to and absorbed, in relation to how much do that today, with the shorter verses being read to them coupled with much shortened sermons.

This month

Next time you go to a Sunday church service listen to the Bible reading with keen ears. How much do you recall a few days later? How much of the Bible that you have not heard recently in church have you read for yourself?



Advent Angels



An invitation to come and relax together in the busyness of Advent.
7.30pm – 9.00pm St Chad's Extension
EVERYONE WELCOME

We will start with a cup of tea/coffee and an invitation to make a simple angel,
we will spend some time together looking at what the Bible teaches about angels,
and we will finish each evening with an invitation to share prayer requests.

Wednesday 3 rd December:	Angels in the Bible
Wednesday 10 th December:	Angels among us
Wednesday 17 th December:	Mary and Joseph encounters with Angels

O Come Emmanuel - Reflections for Advent

Revd Jane has two copies of this Book at the reduced price of £7.50.
Let Revd Jane know if you would like to purchase one from her.

Christmas

Bazaar

Sat 15th Nov

1 – 3.30pm

Trade and charities

Christmas gifts galore

Santa's Grotto

St Chad's Roslin Road CH61 3UH

If you are able to help with the Christmas Bazaar on stalls , set up/put away, baking cakes, donations of raffle prizes, second hand children's toys and hand crafted items (no books or bric-a-brac please) can you please contact Julie DeBoorder email: jules2121jule@gmail.com Mobile: 07599186893

God in the Sciences : **Wonder and Worship**

"I was travelling, and out early in the morning: at first there was a vast fog; but, by the time that I was seven or eight miles from home towards the coast, the sun broke out into a delicate warm day. We were then on a large heath or common, and I could discern, as the mist began to break away, great numbers of swallows (*hirundines rusticae*) clustering on the stunted shrubs and bushes, as if they had roosted there all night. As soon as the air became clear and pleasant they all were on the wing at once; and, by a placid and easy flight, proceeded on southward towards the sea".

How many church leaders today have time to enjoy their surroundings? Gilbert White was a vicar who became famous for his observations about the flora and fauna of his parish. His letters about the local wildlife through the seasons were so beautifully written that they are still in print today, more than 200 years after they were first published as *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selbourne*.

White is a great example of someone who saw science and faith in harmony. He writes that he hopes his readers will be inspired to "pay a more ready attention to the wonders of the Creation". His stories are often so vivid that he gets away with packing in quite a bit of scientific detail, painting a more accurate picture of the wonderful events he observed as he travelled around the countryside. White's book is one of the classics of nature writing, and there's even an apocryphal story online that this is one of the most printed books in the country, after the Bible and Shakespeare.

White may have been one of those people with a capacity for endless activity, or perhaps he took rather more care over natural history than his vocation. Either way, I do think that anyone - from the parish priest to the youngest member of the congregation - could learn from his appreciation of creation. It is well worth spending ten minutes every now and again staring into a bush, pond or tree - especially in winter when it's easy to hurry indoors and put the kettle on. Experiencing wildlife first-hand is wonderful fuel for our worship of God and care for His creation. As Psalm 111 says, "Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them" (NIV).

*(White's book can be downloaded for free at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1408>)



God in the Arts : : Zubaran's 'Jacob and his twelve sons'

In the Old Testament the story of Jacob is a vivid saga of struggle and conflict: Jacob vies with his brother Esau, he has a difficult time with Laban, there are tensions in his family, and finally he wrestles with a divine stranger. And yet in the book of Genesis his days end with promises from God: he will be blessed with descendants, a land, fruitfulness and the assurance of God's presence with him. He is given a new name and a new destiny as 'Israel.' We sense all this struggle and blessing in a remarkable series of thirteen paintings, 'Jacob and his twelve sons' by the Spanish artist, Francisco Zubarán.

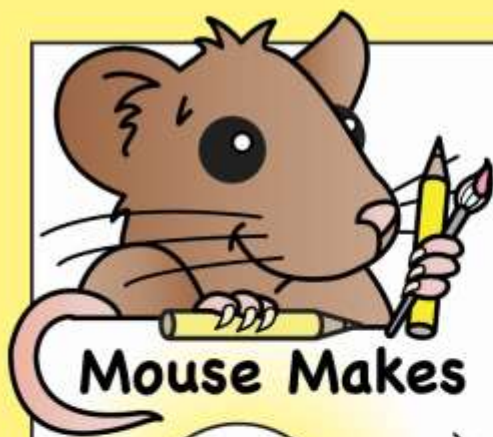


They hang in the dining room of Auckland Castle at Bishop Auckland. Bishop Auckland grew as a thriving market town and then in the industrial age became the centre of the Durham coal industry. It was also the site for the prince bishop of Durham's palace. In the medieval period the bishop was as powerful as the monarch of the land, with an army that rivalled the king's own forces. Auckland Castle became the country seat for the prince bishops, and in the 18th century Bishop Richard Trevor made the palace more Gothic and imposing than ever before. To mark the 1753 Act that allowed Jews to be naturalised in England, he purchased the portraits of Jacob and his sons by Zubarán for £124.

Zubarán normally painted monks and saints, and this particular series was meant for the colonies. But they were seized by pirates and then sold to a London merchant. The one depicting Benjamin was bought by Lord Ancaster, and so Bishop Trevor was only able to buy twelve. He commissioned Arthur Pond, a jobbing painter, to make an exact copy of Benjamin to complete his set. The series of canvases, each eight feet tall, was in the news recently when there was a possibility they might be sold. They were saved by a Trust, now dedicated to developing the site of the Castle, which includes not just the dining room, where the paintings hang, but a very fine chapel of St Peter, a throne room, and beautiful gardens.

Jacob and his sons are each painted against the daylight sky, and each has its individual characteristics. Judah for instance is clad in a brown and gold garment with a gold circlet crowning his head as the ancestor of King David and Joseph, the husband of Mary. Gad is a strong soldier. Jacob, the father of these twelve sons, is a bearded old man, bowed down with the weight, not just of his years of struggle, but perhaps also the burden of destiny laid on his shoulders as both a blessing and a responsibility. For in the Old Testament, we learn that God often chooses the ones overlooked by the world: the young boy David above his more likely brothers, Isaac above Ishmael, and in the saga behind these impressive paintings of Zubarán, Jacob, the second born son, but here blessed as the father of God's people.





LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November. ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



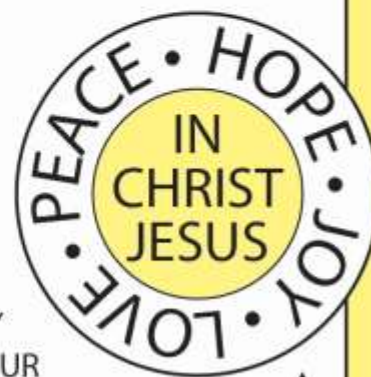
Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

L G L O R Y E M P R O M I S E
S O K J Y A A R R I V A L W F
A D V E N T G O O D N E W S O
V P L S V L I R P S V P C A R
I E I U I O F C H R I S T H T
O A G S U V T M E S S A G E O
U C H O P E O P C A N D L E L
R E T U R N J O Y T W D B E D

ADVENT • ARRIVAL • HOPE • JOY • LOVE • PEACE • GOD • GLORY
MESSAGE • PROMISE • PROPHECY • FORETOLD • JESUS • SAVIOUR
CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT



Wordsearch on St Andrew (Feast Day 30th November)

St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8th century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St Andrews.

Andrew was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and the very first to bring someone else to Christ - his own brother. Like many fervent Jews at the time Andrew and an unnamed companion had been drawn to the prophet John the Baptist. When one day John pointed out Jesus to Andrew and his friend, and described him as the 'Lamb of God', the two young men assumed that the next stage of their spiritual search was about to unfold. So as Jesus made off, they followed him.

When Jesus turned and asked them what they were ‘seeking’, all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about his current place of residence: ‘where are you staying?’

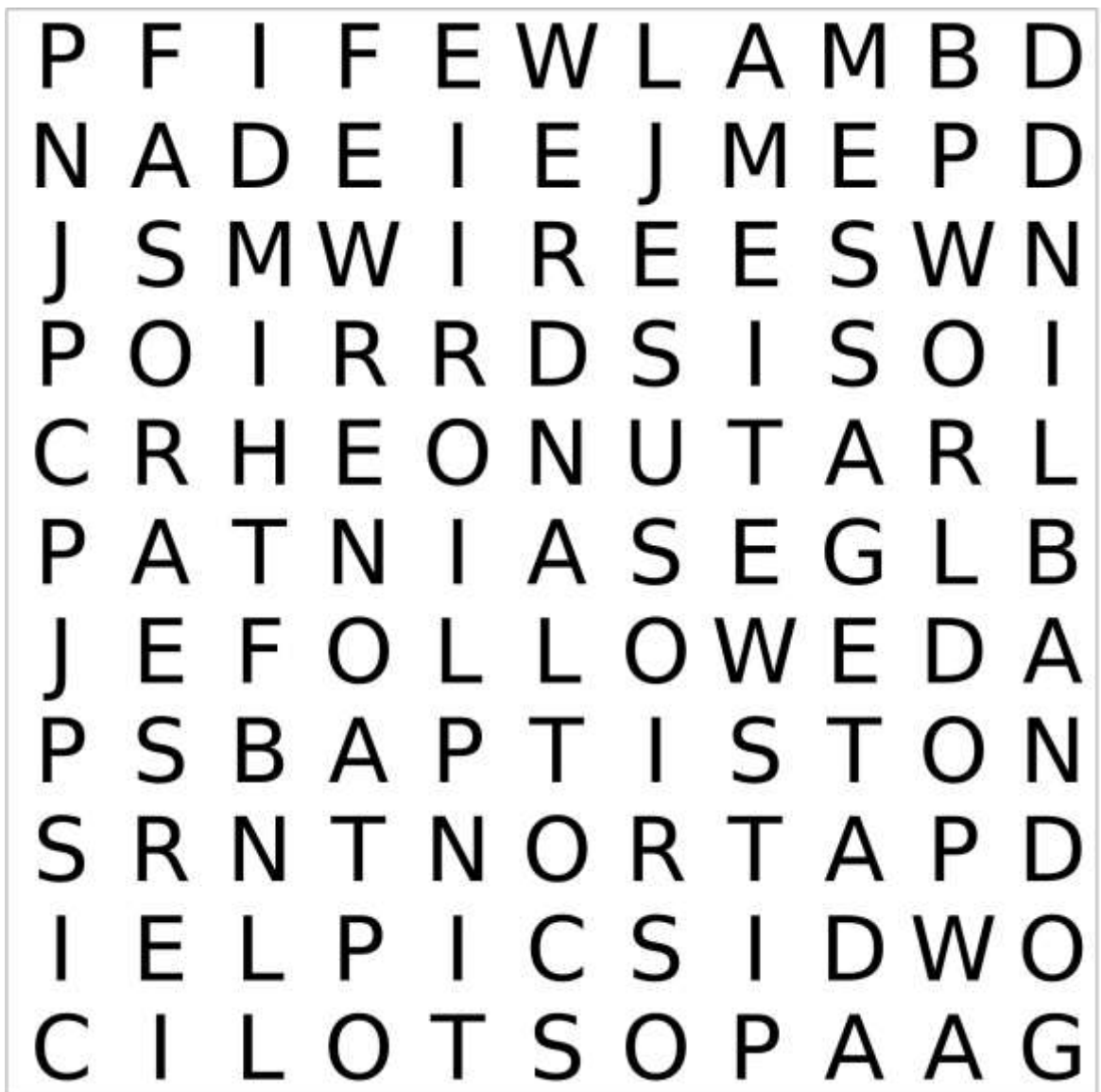
The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: 'Come and see'. So they did, and the results of their response were life changing. For Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus, and soon the little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was formed. And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.

Andrew
Patron
Saint
Scotland
Fife

First
Disciple
John
Baptist
Lamb

God
followed
Jesus
Come
See

Peter
Apostolic
Band
Message
world



Donations of Flowers for Church

You can make a donation
“in memory of”, “in celebration of”
or just because you like seeing flowers in church!



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.

St. Chad's Tots and Tinies

St Chad's Church (Roslin Road, Irby)

Every Thursday 9.30-11.30am
(Term Time Only)



£1.50 for one Adult and one child - All Welcome

Additional children £1.00
Additional Adults £0.50



Parents/Carers will be
responsible for their child(ren)
during the sessions

For further information
please contact **Allison**
via the Parish Office 648 8169

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***

***Guest Speaker
25th November
Laurence Kingsbury***

"Interesting Islands"



**The Warm Hub
belongs to a
growing national
network of
Places of Welcome**



Jigsaw Library

Over the time that Warm Hub has been operating, we have been gifted many jigsaws. While we always have a jigsaw in progress at Warm Hub, there are many waiting for us to use in the future. Rather than these jigsaws just piling up, with the winter nights ahead we would like to make these jigsaws available for individuals to borrow and then return to us. We can't vouch that all the jigsaws are complete as they are donated to us but if you would like to borrow one then we can make them available on a Tuesday morning when the Warm Hub is open – 9.30 to 12.30 at St Chad's

Susan Smale



You can make donations to Foodbank by placing items (non perishable food and toiletries) in the box by the office door at St Chad's.

Need a Meeting Room?

At St Chad's we have a large hall
and some smaller rooms.

Booking Enquiries should be made by emailing
hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk

For more information and prices please go to the website
<https://www.thurstaston.org.uk/hall-and-room-hire/>



St Bartholomew's and St Chad's
on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stchadsstbarts/>

If you are already on Facebook it is easy to find and "like" the page. Just search for "stchadsstbarts" or "St. Bartholomew's Thurstaston, with St. Chad's, Irby" and you will find us.

If you "like" the page you will receive notifications when we add events and other informative posts.

From our page you can also share individual posts and events with others you may think would like to hear about us and our events.

Please do share this page with your friends.

You do not have to be on Facebook to view our posts.

We also have a Twitter Feed:-

@StBartsStChads



Did you know.....

.....back in the year 1976, a committee based at St Chad's Church was trying to raise funds for the RNLI.

They decided to hold an exhibition of paintings by local Irby residents. The exhibition was so successful that the artists decided to join together to form an "Irby Artists Association".

....and the rest, as they say, is history!

The Irby Artists are proud to have had such a long association with St Chad's.

We welcome new members and actively provide support to those wishing to try their hand at painting & drawing, with weekly Monday afternoon sessions, indoors during the winter, and outdoors in the summer months, and two exhibitions of members works per year.

For more information, contact the Chair:

Alan McMahon, Text:07889 404917

Or Email: almac48@virginmedia.com

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www.easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby and follow the simple steps to sign up.

2. Hit the shops

When you shop online, visit easyfundraising first, click through to the retailer and shop as normal. Everything costs exactly the same

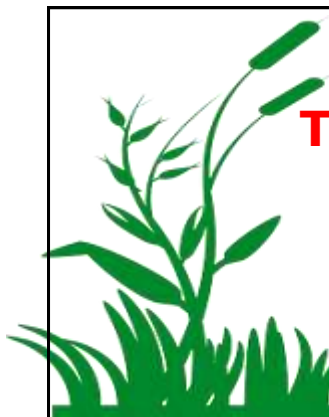
3. Earn donations

With every purchase you make you'll raise a donation from the retailer. Your donations are then transferred to **St Bartholomew Thurstaston and St Chad Irby**

easyfundraising
.org.uk



Visit: easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby



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**If you would like to purchase advertising space
 in this magazine please telephone**

**St Chad's Church Office on 0151 648 8169 or
 E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk**

Advertising space is sold in good faith.

**The Parochial Church Council and/or Editor can take no responsibility for the quality
 of goods or services offered.**

Contacts

RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner PLEASE NOTE: Rector's Rest Day - Tuesday
 The Rectory, 77 Thingwall Road, Irby, Wirral, CH61 3UB
 Telephone: 0151 648 1816 (*Day off Tuesday*) E-mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk

CHURCH OFFICE: Mrs K Butler St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH
 Telephone: 0151 648 8169. E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk
 OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm (term time)

PARISH WEBSITE: www.thurstaston.org.uk

Churchwardens

Vacant

churchwarden@thurstaston.org.uk

Curate

Revd Gaynor Kydd

revdgaynor@thurstaston.org.uk

Associate Minister

Revd Ailsa Whorton CF
 (Chaplain to the Forces, Army).

revdailsa@thurstaston.org.uk

Ailsa works full time and will reply to emails when she is able around her work commitments

678 4733 (Evenings only and messages will be passed on to Ailsa via her husband Derek)

Reader Emeritus

Mr Alan Jones

648 1400

PCC Secretary

Cheryl Goddard

pcc-secretary@thurstaston.org.uk

PCC Treasurer

Vacant

pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Team

Peter & Karen Robson and Janet Trigg

safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk

648 6691

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office

648 8169

St Chad's Hall Booking

hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk

Verger

Mr Jon Oliver

648 1754

Organist

Mr Craig Vickers

648 7405

Bellringing - Tower Captain

Dr Peter Robson

648 6691

Flowers for both Churches

Team Co-ordinator Dawn Rudd

648 0209

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Junior Church (3-10) and Seniors (11-16)

Mrs Julie Deboorder

07599286893

Rainbows/Brownies/Guides

www.girlguiding.org.uk or

Freephone

0800 1 69 59 01

CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Christian Aid Representative

Vacant

Children's Society Representative

Mrs Jean Heath

648 6015

Leprosy Mission Representative

Julie DeBoorder

648 6331

Adoption Society Representative

Mrs Chris Rostock

648 1112

Baptisms and Weddings

To arrange a baptism or wedding, please telephone the Rector,
 Revd Jane Turner on 0151 648 1816
 or the Church office on 0151 648 8169.

November 2025 Services

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads

Sun 2nd November 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Communion at St Bartholomew's
6.30pm Service of Remembrance and Thansgiving at St Chad's

Sun 9th November 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
Remembrance Sun. 10.15am Traditional Service at St Barts
10.55am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial
11.05am All-Age Service at St Barts (primarily for
uniformed organisations - others welcome if there is
space in the building!)

These three acts of worship all stand alone and follow on directly from one another. You are welcome to come to any one part or any combination of them.

Sun 16th November 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
Safeguarding Sunday 10.30am All Age at St Chads

Sun 23rd November 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Chad's
with Junior Church

Sun 30th November 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Communion at St Bartholomew's

Sun 7th December 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Communion at St Bartholomew's

Prayer for November 2025

Heavenly Father,
Here we are in November – the month of short, dark days. A dreary, difficult month, unless you have a birthday! Lord, it seems as if the world is permanently in November at the moment. So much is so difficult for so many people, through no fault of their own. And it seems to go on and on.

Lord, would You bring your healing light into the world's darkness. Bring transformation, compassion and a softening into the hearts of those with responsibility for the conflict and the suffering, that they might work for peace for all people. We know that nothing is impossible for you, Lord, so we pray in faith – and in the name of Jesus.

Amen.