

Crosstalk

60p



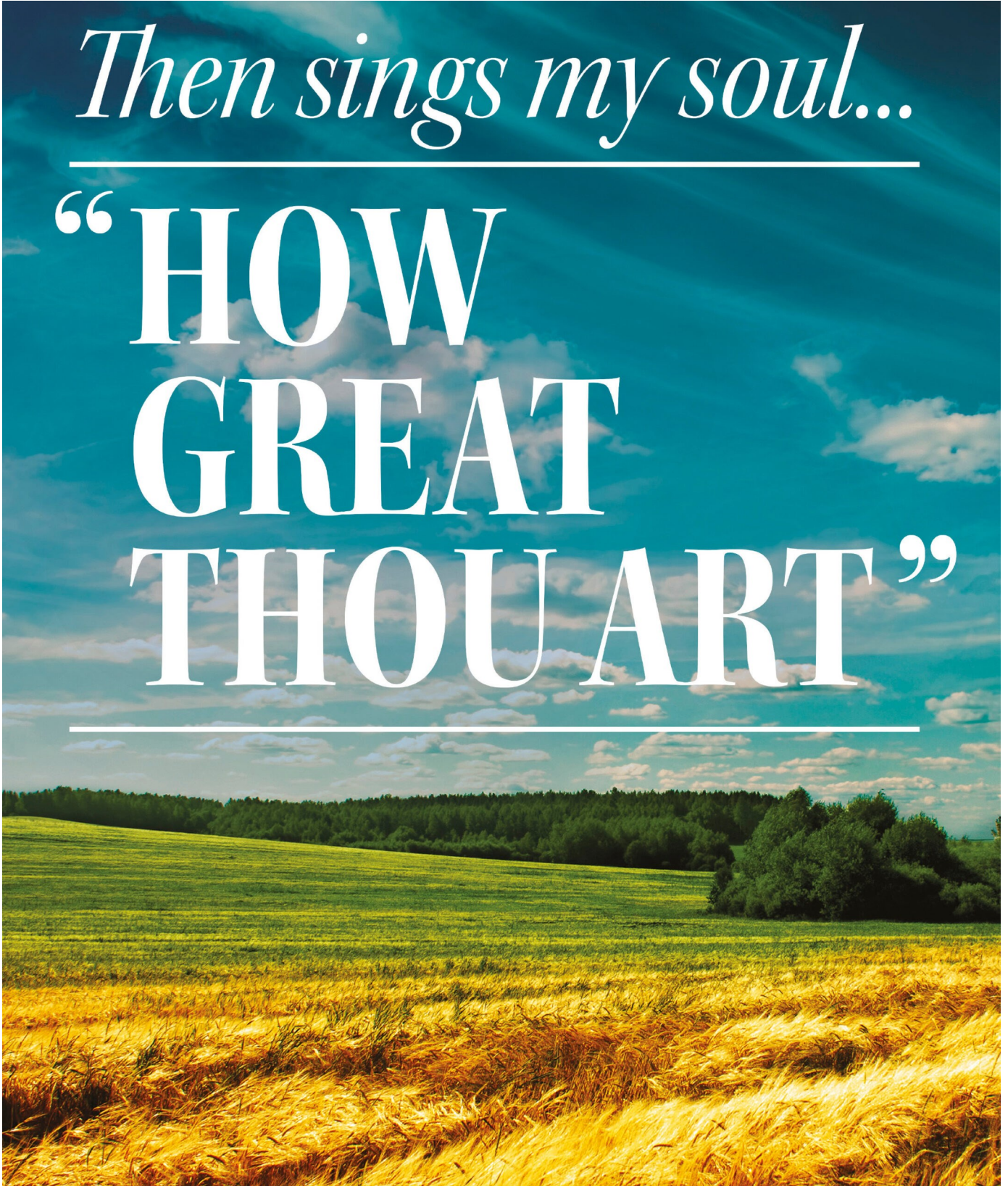
The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad
www.thurstaston.org.uk

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

September 2021

Then sings my soul...

“HOW
GREAT
THOU ART”



* * * * *
* **"Your magazine needs you"** *
* Please send your contributions *
* (eg. Poems. Prayers, interesting *
* articles etc.,) *
* to office@thurstaston.org.uk *
* no later than 17th August *
* * * * *

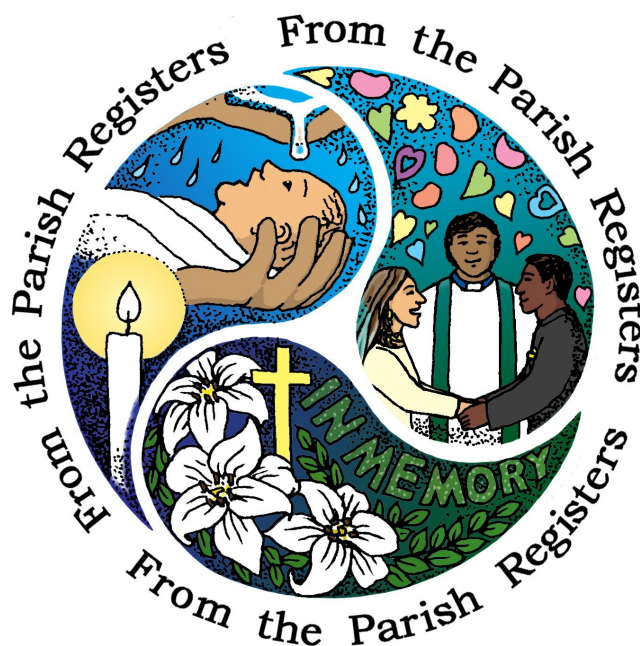
.....
The views and opinions expressed
in the articles in this magazine are
those of the author(s) and do not
necessarily reflect the views or
opinions of the editor, the Rector
or the PCC.
.....

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Diary Dates

**Please see the back page for
Church Service dates and times**



Baptisms

4th July - Kaidee Cross
25th July - Poppy DeBoorder
22nd August - Luke Geary

Funerals

6th August - Vivienne Pennell
11th August - Jean Peters
26th August - Roy Helsdown

Weddings

3rd July
Matthew Upshall and Lauren Davies

6th August
Chris Tracey and Laura Morgan

From Your Rector

Sunday 5th September is being designated Climate Sunday, ahead of the UN's climate change conference, COP26, in Glasgow during November. How should we approach the challenge of climate change?

We have damaged God's creation: God delights in His creation: 'God saw all that He had made, and it was very good.' (Genesis 1:31). However, we have damaged this world and impacted people, created in His image. The burning of oil or gas and cutting down forests is increasing the concentration of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide that trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere. The global average temperature could increase by 1.5°C in 2030, resulting in significant damage to our planet. Already, increasing temperatures are melting ice caps, raising sea-levels, changing rainfall patterns and creating extreme climate events. It's the 70% of the world's poorest population who are being impacted most!

Hope is found in Jesus: He has an intimate knowledge of the workings of creation. 'For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.' (Colossians 1:16,17). Our hope for the future lies in what Jesus has done and continues to do in the world. He is the one who sustains creation and will bring everything to completion.

An invitation to respond: Simple everyday actions can help to sustain our planet, including recycling of waste, energy saving and changes in our lifestyle and diet to help the planet. We can fix our eyes on Jesus, as we pray for our world for our world leaders, gathering in Glasgow, asking that they may reach a good agreement for the future of our world.

Revd Jane





May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope.

— Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, 244

Prayer for Climate Change

You spoke into the silence
Light suffusing darkness.
You spoke into the silence
Blowing clean life giving air into the space
You spoke into the silence
Warmth and cold infusing the air
You spoke into the silence
Solid ground formed out of gushing water.
You spoke voice carrying over the sound
People, plants and animals came to life.
You spoke each creation balanced against the next so life would be abundant and sustainable.
You saw everything you had made and declared it to be very good.
You spoke choosing to give us humans stewardship over all that You had made.
We speak and act
Darkness of pollution limits light levels and damages the air we breathe.
We speak and act
Ground poisoned, burnt, stripped bare.
We speak and act
Spoiling, limiting, destroying quality of life and life itself.
We speak and act
Without hearing Your call over the noise of the world to be good stewards.
You speak. You create. You want us to be stewards of Your creation.
We come to You to re-learn how to care for the earth and people you have made.

Katrina Rowland, April 2017

St. Chad's Tots and Tinies

St Chad's Church (Roslin Road, Irby)
Relaunching (post pandemic) on 9th September

Every Thursday 9.30-11.30am
(Term Time Only)

£1.50 per child – All Welcome

Parents/Carers will be responsible for their child(ren) during the sessions
For further information please contact **Allison**
via the Parish Office 648 8169

General Timetable for the morning

9.30am Session starts - General Play and Craft activity out
10.45am Snack Time (drinks provided, please bring your own snack)
11.00am Tidy up Time
11.10am Story and Song Time
11.30am Session Ends



Arrowe Park Neonatal Intensive Care Unit need your help...

We are desperately in need of covers for our incubators for our tiny babies. These incubator covers aid development and help our babies grow. If anyone can help, they need to be approximately 82cm wide, by 100cm long, as shown below...



They can be of any design. The one on the left was made by Chris Rostock.

Parents like them to be either colourful or blue or pink.

They must be material sewn covers - knitted or crocheted let too much light in which can be quite painful.

If you can help, they can be dropped off at church or the Rectory and they will then be given to the deputy ward sister who lives in Irby.

Ruth's Reflections

Well, "Freedom " day has come and gone. I have found that the majority of people still wear a mask and most venues ask you to wear a mask when in their premises.

My life is about to change. I have decided to downsize. I need a much smaller garden. This one is getting to much for me, even with the help of a gardener and it will only get worse as I get older! So watch this space, I will keep you updated.

I am not leaving the area, so my life won't change, just the base from which I live it will. And as I will have more free time I intend to enjoy myself! Making up my mind has resulted in many conversations with God.

Otherwise life goes on, we are back ringing , normally, which is good and we are also continuing with our attempts at hand-bell ringing.. I have also been out with my camera, last time with the Photographic Society to Liverpool. It was lovely to actually look at the architecture rather than rushing past to the shops.

Returning to Church has been good, I only hope the numbers attending increase as fears of the pandemic recede, we are going to have to learn to live with it, it cant rule our lives forever!

Take care everyone and stay safe.

Ruth.



Thank you for this blessing,
the morning sun upon my face.
Birds singing all around me,
the grass cushioning my feet.
Bees buzzing in the background,
the wind running through the trees.



A rainbow of flowers to delight,
six strawberries, just picked, in my lap.
And thanks for listening to my troubles,
sending me solutions and making things better.
I don't know what I'd do without you
and our little morning natter.

Julie DeBoorder



Cartoon
submitted by
Liz Whitehead

GOD IN THE SCIENCES: Faithful to Scripture, Faithful to Science: Alister McGrath on science and Christian faith

Alister McGrath is well-known as a theologian, but he started out as a scientist. After becoming a Christian as a student, he wanted to learn about his new faith so he studied theology at the same time as completing his PhD in molecular biophysics. He has not lost touch with science, but has continued to write and speak about how science and Christian faith work together. In this extract from a recently released interview, he shares his experience of being a scientist and a Christian.



“I think my most vivid experience of wonder took place in the 1970's when I was on vacation in Iran. We were travelling on a bus in the middle of the night because it wasn't hot then, and the bus broke down. We found ourselves in the middle of this solemn black desert, and the night sky shone with a brilliance like I had never seen before. That just overwhelmed me, it made me think there is something really wonderful here.

“Now, I was a Christian by that time and I knew how Christianity could answer that but it just struck me, that sense of wonder has two possible outcomes. One is science - this universe is wonderful, what's it all about? But of course, it is also about religion, the deeper levels of things that science can't really engage. I think one of the things I have discovered over time is that maybe this sense of wonder both opens the gateway to science and to faith, and that those two together are able to answer questions which on their own they simply couldn't.

“I think science is wonderful at asking questions. Some of those questions can be answered, but very often when you do answer them, they simply open up yet more questions. But of course, there are some more fundamental questions I think science simply cannot answer - they transcend its capacities to answer, and you might think of non-empirical questions like, ‘Why am I here? What is the meaning of life? What is good and how do I live a good life?’

“These are real questions and they're good questions but they're not scientific questions. And the psychologists tell us that we really need answers to those questions if we are to lead a fulfilled human existence. You find some scientists who say, ‘Well because science can't answer them there are no answers to be given’, but actually most realise that there are answers waiting to be discovered - it's just that science can't deliver them.

“Science fills in part of a big picture but there are parts of the picture you have to fill in from somewhere else. Science is part of the answer but only part, and faith supplements it, giving us a vision of life that is exciting and reliable, and also something that we can inhabit meaningfully.”

Find more on wondersofthelivingworld.org

GOD IN THE ARTS : 'How wonderful creation is'

There is a story that someone asked a Father of the early church, Tertullian, to prove the existence of God.

He replied by showing the person a rose. But Tertullian took a risk, for while many appreciate the beauty and wonder of a rose, it is not everyone who sees that beauty pointing to God as its creator.

In one of his hymns, Fr Faber wrote: 'How wonderful creation is, The work which thou didst bless, And O! what then must Thou be like – Eternal loveliness.' A rose can speak of beauty and speak of God to some; to others a rose is just another flower in the garden.

William Blake wrote, 'The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing which stands in the way.' We know that only too well when forests are cut down in the name of progress, and trees that have stood for centuries are hewn down in a moment.

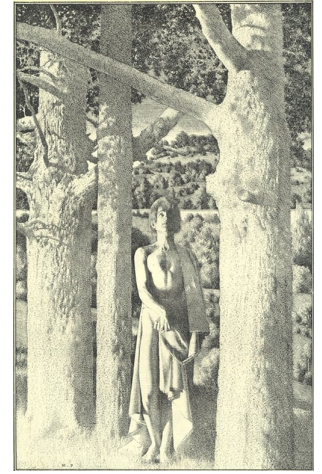
This month's work of art is 'A Hill Prayer' by Maxfield Parrish: it shows a man standing in a forest of venerable and imposing trees, and the hills stretching out behind him. Maxfield Parrish was an American artist, who created paintings of brilliant colour and luminosity. The particular cobalt he used was known as 'Parrish blue.' Much of his work was for illustrations in books and magazines and in advertising. But here is an early drawing of 1897, based in a New England forest, that has a haunting quality about it. He drew it to accompany a poem of Marian Warner Wildman where the writer goes into the forest to escape the doubts and worries of the world and to find release and peace. It ends with the lines:

'I love thee with a beauty-broken heart
And worship thee, be whatever thou art.'

The drawing may evoke for us memories of forests and countryside we have explored, with trees towering above us, reaching to the sky, their leaves rustling in the wind and letting shafts of sunlight through. Like the artist, we may have wondered at their age and beauty and pondered the mystery of creation around us. In their beauty we can glimpse their Creator; in the miracle of their life, we can see the bringer of life and eternal life. For scripture begins with trees: the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil with the story of how human pride exchanges paradise for hard work and toil.

But the final pages of the Bible describe that tree of life once again: this time arching over the river that runs through the heavenly city with leaves that bring healing and restoration. And bridging that tree of Genesis and the tree of Revelation is the wood of the cross: 'None in foliage, none in blossom, none in fruit thy peer may be.' In that tree we can truly glory.

Autumn will soon be with us, and the magnificence of the trees around will fade as their leaves fall and are swept away. After the death of winter, spring will come and bring the miracle of new life to their roots and branches, and once again we can behold their glory, like the traveller in the forest of Maxfield Parrish's drawing – trees that remind us of 'the one and only noble tree': the Cross that is the sign of salvation for all seasons and all lives.



Reflected Faith Series: the Bread we eat

The Revd Dr Jo White considers Holy Communion

The majority of Sunday morning service in churches throughout the world are based on the Last Supper of Jesus.

At the Passover meal, on the night before His death, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, "*This is My body given for you;*" (Luke 22:19a). He also took wine and passed it to each of them and said, "*This is My blood, given for you.*"

These two elements, the bread and the wine, continue to be the central focus for Christians: doing what Jesus asked us to do, '*Do this in remembrance of me*'. (Luke 22:19b)

What we call this service varies between denominations and even between churches within the same denomination.

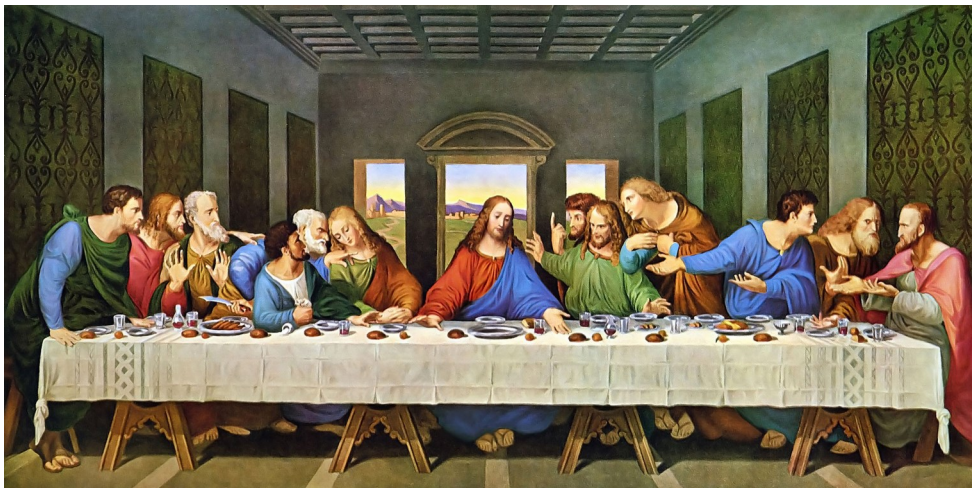
It is a way of giving 'thanks' as Jesus did (the word '*Eucharist*' comes from the Greek by way of Latin, and it means 'thanksgiving'), reminding us not only of the tremendous sacrifice that Christ had made on our behalf, but also recalling the love and joy that Jesus brings to the community.

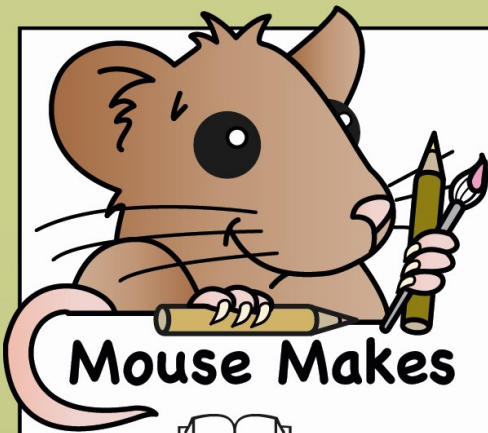
The word '*Communion*' comes from something done with others – the community. It's done with Christ. It's done with other worshippers. In sharing the meal, 'I' becomes 'us'.

The word '*Mass*' comes from the conclusion to the traditional service – which was in Latin: '*Ite, missa est.*' 'Go. You are being sent.' Today we use similar words, 'Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.'

At the moment many churches, especially the Church of England, are only giving bread to the congregation with the priest alone consuming the wine. So the meaning underlying the taking / the giving of bread is more crucial than ever. In some denominations the bread is literally the 'daily bread', whilst in others it is a 'wafer' or yeast free bread – as was used at the original Passover.

This month: Have a look at the bread that is placed into your hands the next time you 'receive'. How does it reflect receiving Christ into your life?





Mouse Makes



The bowl of flour and the jar of oil

It had not rained for months and months, there was a drought in the land. God sent His prophet **Elijah** to the town of Zarephath. At the town gate he saw a widow gathering firewood.

"Please bring me a drink of water and some bread." he asked her.



She answered *"All I have is a handful of flour and a drop of oil in a jar, it is our last meal."*

"Do not worry." Elijah said, *"Make the meal and make a small loaf for me."*

The woman did what Elijah had asked and God blessed her ...

... The bowl never ran out of flour and the jar never ran out of oil until it rained again!



Find these words from the story in the word search:

WORD • LORD • GOD • ELIJAH • SENT • ZAREPHATH • GATE • CITY • WIDOW
STICKS • WATER • DRINK • BREAD • FEED • HANDFUL • FLOUR • LITTLE
OIL • SON • EAT • DIE • FULL • WENT • MAKE • BAKED • ATE • JAR • JUG • MANY
DAYS • LIVE • NEVER • EMPTY

64 years Before the Blackboard



Grateful thanks to all of those parishioners who purchased or sold copies of my booklet, **64 Years Before the Blackboard**, in aid of the Charity, **Sense** - which supports children and adults with varying degrees of *both* a hearing and sight loss.

I funded the cost of the printing of 200 copies, of the booklet, with a view to generating £200 for the charity - as well as raising its profile - both locally and nationally. I am thrilled to let you know that the total amount raised, thanks to your, and other friends' and neighbours' generosity, was £770! .

Many thanks

Alan Jones

Lay Reader

SMILE LINES

How different churches cope with adversity

- When a Methodist minister falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "That was an experience, how do I learn from it?"
- When a Catholic priest falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "I must have done something really bad to deserve that."
- When a Presbyterian minister falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "That was inevitable, I'm glad it's over."
- When a Baptist minister falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "Which one of my deacons pushed me?"
- When a vicar falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "Will I need a faculty to get the staircase repaired?"



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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.

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We also have a Twitter Feed:-

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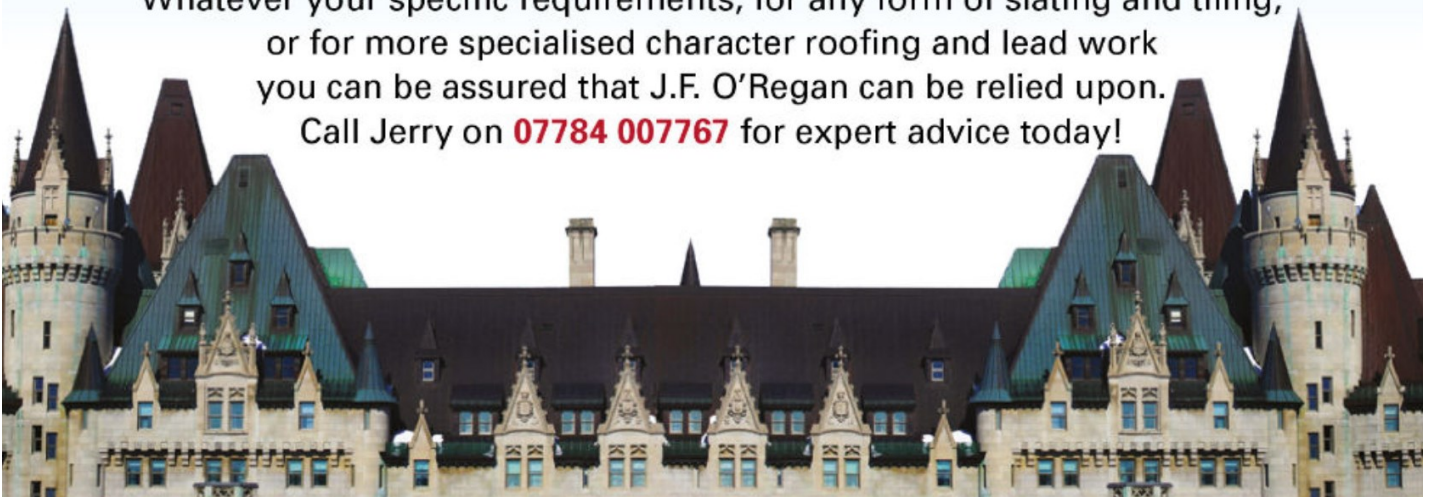
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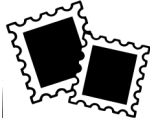
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E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk

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Contacts

Churchwarden

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Reader Emeritus

Mr Alan Jones **648 1400**

Retired Clergy

Revd David Trollope **342 2648**

Revd Ray Dent **792 2022**

Revd Margaret Fletcher **648 1025**

PCC Secretary

Mr Graham Barley **648 1867**

PCC Treasurer

Mr Kevin Marley
pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk

Verger

Mr Jon Oliver **648 1754**

Organist

Mr Craig Vickers **648 7405**

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office **648 8169**

St Chad's Hall Booking

hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk

Evening Mothers' Union (EMU)

Mrs Chris Rostock (Secretary) **6481112**

Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs Elaine Jones **648 1400**

Flower Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs Dawn Rudd **648 0209**

Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Cleaning Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs Leslie Worrall **648 5590**

Bellringers Tower Captain

Dr Peter Robson **648 6691**

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

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

Mrs Julie Deboorder **648 6331**

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Mrs Jean Heath **648 6015**

Leprosy Mission Representative

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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.

RECTOR: [Revd Jane Turner](#)

PLEASE NOTE: Rector's day off - **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

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PARISH WEBSITE: www.thurstaston.org.uk

SEPTEMBER 2021

From September

The new pattern of services will be:-

- 9.00am BCP HC at St Bartholomew's – every week
- 10.30am service every week:-
 - 1st Sunday – HC at St Barts
 - 2nd Sunday – All age at St Chads
 - 3rd Sunday – MW at St Barts
 - 4th Sunday – HC at St Chads
 - 5th Sunday – Baptism at St Barts – or HC if no baptism booked
- Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chad's – every week

This pattern will be reviewed by the PCC in 6 months time and may change to fit around major festivals.

The PCC would encourage people to choose whatever services are going to work for them, so some people will choose to go to 10.30am whichever building it is in, others may choose to attend the earlier service or midweek service some weeks.

Having fewer services will mean that we have enough volunteers to make them possible. It will give us opportunities to get to know people from other congregations and increase fellowship. It should mean that there are more people present at each service which will be an encouragement for everyone.

SERVICES IN CHURCH:-

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads

Sun 5th September	9.00am BCP HC at St Barts 10.30am HC at St Bart's
Sun 12th September	9.00am BCP HC at St Barts 10.30am All Age at St Chad's
Sun 19th September	9.00am BCP HC at St Bart's 10.30am MW at St Bart's
Sun 26th September	9.00am BCP HC at St Bart's 10.30am HC at St Chad's
Sun 3rd October Harvest	9.00am BCP HC at St Barts 10.30am HC at St Bart's