

The Churches of St Bartholomew & St Chad Thurstaston and Irby



Welcome to Church today, we hope that you enjoy the service,
and gain a sense of God's presence with us.

Sunday 20th March 2011 - Lent 2

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Bart's
9.30am	Morning Worship	St Chad's
11.15pm	Holy Communion	St Bart's
6.30pm	Evening Worship	St Bart's

Next Weeks Services

Mid-week Service

10.15am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
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27th March - Lent 3

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Bart's
9.30am	Family Communion	St Chad's
11.15pm	Baptism	St Bart's
6.00pm	APCM	St Chad's

Sunday School at St Chad's
Children from age 2½ can attend.
There are activity bags available
for children under the age of 2½.
In case you feel the need to remove
your child from the service, please
note that there is also a box of toys
and cushions in the foyer

Notices and announcements!!!

The Children's Society collection will take place between 26th March & 9th April. Please contact Jean Heath, 648 6015, Elaine Kavanagh, 648 1721 or Barbara Kozzer, 648 3523 if you are able to help delivering and/or collecting env.

Wednesday 23rd March Evening Mother's Union (EMU) 'Card Making' by Chris Carlson, 8.00pm at St Chad's.

Saturday 26th March Men's Breakfast at Maluca Café Irby Village 9.00 - 10.00am.

Saturday 26th March Volunteers needed to help collect hedge cuttings at St Bartholomew's at 10.00am. Please wear gloves. Contact Sally Lang on 625 3296 if you can help. (Could be a good way of working off the Men's Breakfast!)

Sunday 27th March: DON't forget to put your clocks forward or you'll be late for church!

APCM Sunday 27th March 6.00pm at St Chad's: Please make this meeting a priority and come along.

- List for Nominations for Church Wardens, PCC Members and Deanery Synod Members are in the porch. Please use them!
- Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts are available on the parish website (PCC link). Paper copies at the back of church for those without internet access.

Sunday 27th March Renaissance Music Group, Liverpool Cathedral at 8pm. Tickets £8, concessions £5 from Cathedral Shop (702 7255, www.cathedralshop.com) and at the door.

St Bartholomew's garden Cash donations are needed for compost etc. Please add your name to form at the back of church if you can help.

Diocesan Lay Conference 20-22 May 2011 Join with over 200 lay people at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire. The title of the weekend is "The Greatest Story - Never Read?" There will be key speakers, a choice of workshops (around the theme of the Bible in practical use), as well as opportunities for worship, fellowship and some fun and relaxation. Each parish is encouraged to send 4 delegates. If you are interested in being one of our representatives then please speak to Revd Jane who has the booking forms. The cost is £140 (if that is prohibitive then the PCC will consider supporting you).

Church Office: Mrs C Rostock, St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH
Church Office open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9.30am-12.30pm (term time) Tel 648 8169
Website: www.thurstaston.org.uk E-Mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk
REVD JANE TURNER 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday) E-Mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk

Gospel Reading: (John 3:1-17)

All : Glory to you, O Lord

1. There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' 3. Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' 4. Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' 5. Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." 8. The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' 9. Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' 10. Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11. 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13. No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15. that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help
ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and
hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Readings for Today

Gen 12:1-4a
Rom 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Readings for 27th March

Ex 17:1-7
Rom 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For the World: Please pray for the people of Japan.

For the parish: Please pray for Aimee Edmondson to be baptised at St Bart's next week.

For the sick: We continue to pray for Les Howard, Finlay Joyce, Andy Kemp, Lucy Bailey, Anita Fath, Diana Martyn, Bethan Shone, and Dorothy Mansbridge.

From the Anglican Prayer Cycle:

Mombasa - (Kenya)

The Rt Revd Julius Robert Katio Kalu; The Rt Revd Lawrence Dena (Mombasa).

From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle:

Latchford Saint James and Saint Hilda's Mission Church

Tom McNaughtan-Owen; Frances Ireland (Reader); Victoria Palfreyman (Pastoral Worker).
Pray for church growth through new projects of outreach with our school community.

Statement from the Archbishop of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan) [The Most Revd Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu](#)

14 March, 2011

On the 11th of March at 2:46pm, the biggest earthquake ever to hit Japan struck just off the coast of the Tohoku region. This caused a tsunami and fires that brought massive devastation to a very wide area. This unimaginably strong earthquake triggered an explosion at the Fukushima No.1 nuclear reactor. The people living in the area around that and the No. 2 reactor have been evacuated. The stories and images constantly broadcast by the media have left people lost for words, unable to describe the sheer scale of the unbelievable devastation caused by the earthquake, tsunami and fires.

We see homes devastated, whole towns that were swallowed by the tsunami, and houses that continue to burn because fire fighters are unable to reach both the properties and the people who were the victims of this catastrophe. With hearts filled with grief and helplessness we see people who are mourning their lost loved ones and others who search tirelessly for missing family members. There are so many who have lost their homes and possessions. Towns and villages were obliterated by the tsunami, everything was gone in a second.

Since the earthquake the Provincial office has worked very hard to find out about the people and the churches in Tohoku diocese. However, we could neither contact them by phone nor email. Only yesterday were we able to start to see a picture of the devastation in the affected areas. I had been most concerned that I could not contact the Bishop of Tohoku diocese [The Rt Revd John Hiromichi Kato], but on Saturday he rang me and I was able to find out more about what had happened to the churches in Sendai City.

Bp Kato explained that he himself had not been able to find out much about the other churches in the diocese of Tohoku. This was largely due to the fact that neither power supplies nor telephone lines had been restored in areas most badly hit by the tsunami. There is particular concern for two churches: Isoyama St Peter's Church in Fukushima Prefecture and Kamaishi Shinai Church and the kindergarten in Iwate that were close to the sea. Priests have been frantically trying to confirm that their parishioners are safe. We also know that it is not only Tohoku diocese that has been affected, some churches in Kita Kanto diocese have been reported to have been damaged also.

Sendai Christchurch (the Cathedral church) is badly damaged and yesterday, while there were still so many aftershocks, the church carried out their first Sunday after Lent service in the diocesan office. In many affected areas there are roadblocks but as for Tohoku diocese the church is planning to establish an emergency relief centre within the diocesan building. Bishop Kato will lead the efforts to respond to the crisis.

At a Provincial level I am working to establish a structure for responding to this unprecedented natural disaster as soon as possible. This will include providing relief and sourcing volunteers and funding to help with the restoration of the affected areas. I am also trying to find more accurate information about our church family and the relief efforts, and to communicate that information as quickly as possible.

What we can do right now, however, is pray. Prayer has power. I hope and request that you pray for the people who are affected, for those who have died and for their families. Pray for the people involved with the rescue efforts, and in particular pray for Tohoku and Kita Kanto dioceses and their priests and parishioners during this time of Lent.

I am grateful for all the many prayers and messages of support from throughout the world; from the Archbishop of Canterbury and other Churches.

PTO for next installment.

From Shinya Samuel Yawata - Secretary, PIM NSKK, based upon reports from the dioceses of Tohoku, Kita Kanto, Yokohama and Tokyo

15 March, 2011

The earthquake/tsunami affected areas include the dioceses of Tohoku and Kita Kanto, and a very small area of the Diocese of Yokohama in Chiba prefecture.

The Diocese of Tohoku covers the prefectures of Aomori, Akita, Miyagi, Yamagata, and Fukushima, and the last three have been hit hard, particularly Miyagi prefecture. Membership of diocese of Tohoku is about 1,500 people and there are 29 churches, chapels and missionary stations. Its Cathedral is in Sendai, Miyagi prefecture.

The Diocese of Kita Kanto covers prefectures of Ibaragi, Tochigi, Gunma, and Saitama. The membership of the diocese is about 2,100 people and there are 31 churches, chapels, and missionary stations. Its Cathedral is located in Maebashi-shi, Gunma prefecture.

It was the biggest earthquake in recent history, followed by a big tsunami, and fires. Now the nuclear reactor is in danger. The death toll continues to rise and as I write this there are 3,100 or more deaths and 550,000 people are living in temporary shelters (according to [Japanese newspaper] Asahi Shimbun).

This update includes the latest information about the situation in Kita Kanto. I am still awaiting for official information from the diocese of Tohoku. There are no casualties among clergy.

Stephen's Church in Mito-city, Ibaragi prefecture has lost its bell tower although not completely destroyed with a big crack in the tower, and the church building and rectory suffered substantial damage, cracked and fallen walls and ceiling. Shimodate Anglican Church in Ibaragi prefecture also has sustained significant damage with walls and ceilings damaged. Other churches sustained cracked walls, ceilings and damage to shelves, but it is limited to minor damage.

In other areas within diocese of Tokyo and Yokohama there is no substantial damage to church buildings except broken or cracked window glass, cracks in walls and fallen shelves.