#### -S<sup>ung Ch</sup>ri S<sup>ung –</sup> Crosstalk 'a note The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad www.thurstaston.org.uk **Contents** 3 **Diary Dates/Notices** September 4/5 From the Rector 2011 6 Mothers' Union Who Let The Dads Out? 7 Sad saints 8 Thank You 9 10/11 Taize/ World's Biggest Coffee Morning 12 September Recipe 13 St Beartholomew's Day 14 The Way I see it: After the Riots 15 Wellspring/ Men's Breakfast Harvest Festival 16 17 The LeprosyMission/ The Children's Society 18/19 Enjoying God's Presence 20 Children's Page 20 LOL! 22 Child Sponsorship 23/26Advertisers Contacts List: Who's Who 27 **Church Services** 28 THE CHURCH ✓ OF ENGLAND Diocese of Chester

## **Diary Dates**

Thursday 15th September Wellspring 8.00pm at The Rectory Sunday 18th September Taize Style Service 6.30pm at St Chad's Saturday 24th September Men's Breakfast 9.00-10.00am at Maluca Café, Irby Saturday 24th September M.U. Coffee Morning at St. Chads 10.00am. Saturday 1st October Harvest Workshops at St Chad's Saturday 1st October Harvest Supper (provisional date) 7.00-9.30pm at St Chad's Thursday 6th October M.U. Sheila Melton at St. Chads 2.15pm Saturday 22nd October The Children's Society 'Thank You' Coffee Morning and 'Bring & Buy' 10.00-11.30am at St Chad's

## Notices



## St Chad's Sanctuary Cleaning

As from the end of October I will be retiring from cleaning the sanctuary. I would like to thank all the ladies and gentlemen who have been and still are willing volunteers over the years. New cleaners are sought.

## From the Registers

## Baptisms

We welcome into the Lord's family 17th July Sophia Pamela Crocker 28th August Mason Benjamin

West

**Weddings** We ask for God's blessing upon the marriage of

5th August

- Edward Dalton &
- Sarah Roberts

27th August

Michael Lally & Sarah Andrews

## Funerals

We commend to God's eternal care

15th August

Amy Jones <sup>2nd September</sup> Robert (Tim) Birch

## From your rector

Dear Friends,

Serving Chris Last week I received an e-mail entitled "Centre of the Bible - fascinating information" **Up** It was beautifully presented with wonderful pictures and music, and will lose something in becoming a magazine article, but I think is still worth sharing.

It began with three questions and answers:-What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

Which chapter is in the centre of the Bible?

The answers are Psalm 117, Psalm 119 and Psalm 118.

It went on to say that there are 594 chapters before Psalm 118 and 594 chapters after Psalm 118. (I have not checked this!)

Then it asked, What is the Centre verse of the Bible? Answer: Psalm 118v8

It carried on:-

"Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives?

Next time someone says they would like to find God's perfect will for their lives and that they want to be in the centre of His will, just send them to the centre of His Word!"

Psalm 118:8 (NJKV)

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

"Now isn't that odd how this worked out ..... or was God in the centre of it?

> When things get tough, always remember ..... Faith doesn't get you around trouble, It gets you through it!

When you relinquish the desire to control your future, you obtain happiness."

May God Bless You,

Revd Jane



## **Mothers' Union**

In July we enjoyed a Strawberry Tea and afternoon of friendship with friends, having a good chat, catching - up with news and just being together. Sometimes we forget the value of relaxing and taking time to sit and talk with each other and to have a delicious tea !

I do trust everyone has had a good summer and are now ready to begin our Autumn activities.

After the meeting and Quiet Afternoon we have our Coffee Morning on Saturday 24th September at St. Chads. Offers of cakes, groceries and preserves, plants and fancy goods will be much appreciated, as we would like to be able to send a good donation to MU Overseas' Funds.

> Friendship Heavenly Father, thank-you for our friends. Help us to value them and to regard each one as a gift and token of your love. And make us ready to extend friendship to others around, and to remember the lonely, the housebound and those who need a friend's helping hand; for Jesus Christ's sake.

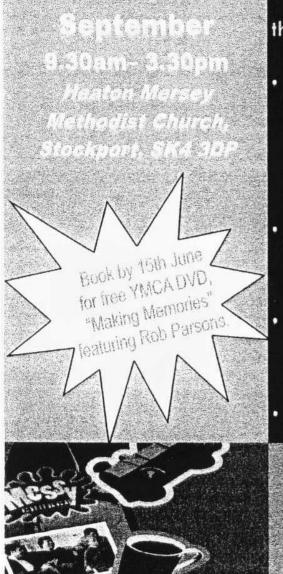
Amen

Diary Dates:

Sept.1st. Thursday, St. Chads 2.15pm Canon Bob Evans Sept.2nd. Friday, St. Michaels, Newton. 2 15pm Quiet Afternoon with Penny and Alan Vernon Sept.24th. Saturday, St. Chads 10am. Coffee Morning Oct.6th. Thursday, St. Chads 2.15pm Sheila Melton

God Bless Sue Burns

# **2011 Conference** "Reaching out to fathers & father figures"



Salundavenah

## Who Let The Dads Out? warmly invite you to

## their third annual conference, including:

Keynote speech and workshop from Lucy Moore, founder of the highly successful Messy Church, which is now running at over 700 churches worldwide.

Mark Chester speaking about his new books on WLTDO & SODA.

Presentations from churches running both Messy Church & WLTDO.

Hearing from the 40+ national WLTDO groups.

# Cost: £15 first person, £10 for each subsequent person (includes lunch).

Please post your cheque along with your booking form to us at the address below

Who Let the Dads Out? Hoole Lighthouse Centre, Westminster Road, Chester CH2 3AU. 01244 342955. Email: wholetthedadsout@hbc.org.uk www.wholetthedadsout.org

## Sad saints: following Jesus, feeling blue

Depression, dubbed "the common cold of mental health" affects at least one in five people worldwide. The charity Mind estimates that 10% of British people are depressed at any one time. And, according to the Office for National Statistics, that percentage appears to be on the rise. With symptoms ranging from decreased energy, disrupted sleep patterns, difficulty concentrating and suicidal tendencies, it can be a debilitating disorder, wreaking havoc on all areas of life, from relationships to work to physical health to spirituality.

The statistics on depression hold true even for those with deeply held religious convictions; Christians are not immune. We live in the same broken world, we have the same delicately balanced brain chemistry, and our faith in God does not exempt us from suffering. This may seem like a statement of the obvious, but there are people who feel strongly that if we trusted Jesus, we'd be joyful - end of story. Sadly, it is not that simple.

Depressed Christians may feel stigmatised and ashamed, but they are in extremely good company. The prophet Elijah, miracle maker and mouthpiece of God, reached such depths of discouragement that he wanted to die (1 Kings 19 v.4). Jeremiah cursed the day he had been born (Jeremiah 20 v.14). Many of David's psalms come from a place of deep emotional darkness. More recently, the great preachers Luther, Spurgeon and Wesley all had well documented episodes of depression. Depression can coexist with a profound relationship with God and a fruitful ministry-as paradoxical as that may seem.

While no one would choose to suffer from depression, the testimony of those who have is often that they have discovered "treasures of darkness"- beauty and strength and grace that have emerged against all the odds. Depression strips a person of any illusion of self-sufficiency, and some find that in their vulnerability they cry out to God with more intensity than they would ever have imagined.

Depression can give people an insight into suffering that can be transformed into compassion for others. Depression is a reminder of the essential fragility of the human condition, and our need to rely on God's strength and not our own. Christians get depressed. But for a Christian, nothing is wasted-God will weave gold from our straw if we just let him get his hands on it.

Jo Swinney is a writer married to a clergyman. If you found this article helpful you might like to read her book- **Through the Dark Woods**, a personal account of dealing with depression as a Christian. Visit her at: www.joswinney.com

# Thank You Lil



Following a recent illness, Lil has decided to take a break from her duties as a Server. Her 10 years of faithful and dedicated service were marked with a presentation following the Wednesday Communion on 13<sup>th</sup> July.



**Prince's Trust** 

Jan Trigg would like to thank everyone who sponsored her when she ran the Edinburgh Marathon in May.

She raised the magnificent sum of £811.00

# Taizé

Taizé is an interdenominational religious community in the Burgundy region of France which was started by Brother Roger when he bought a small church in the village, since when it has developed in size considerably. Each year Taizé is visited by tens of thousands of people from all over the world, who come to stand back from their everyday life and search for God's will in their lives. There are over 100 brothers, some in the community in France, and others in areas of extreme poverty all over the world. The lifestyle of the Brothers is very simple and visitors to Taizé fit in with the community which carries on regardless of whether there are 5 or 5000 pilgrims. There are 3 services a day for all pilgrims. These are of a simple style involving simple chants, silence and a reading, with translations so that pilgrims of all nationalities can worship together.

At the beginning of August, I went on a pilgrimage by coach with about 40 other young people from the dioceses of Durham and York to Taizé and had the most spiritually fantastic and phenomenal week. The coach journey was about 20 hours long but well worth it. Singing in church with over 3500 people of all different nationalities is a truly amazing and incomparable experience. It was also very exciting being able to talk to people from all over the world about my faith, and to learn about their faith, lives and cultures.

A week at Taizé is based on Holy Week, building up to prayers at the cross on Friday, a festival of light on Saturday evening with candles being lit and held by everyone in church, and on Sunday morning a Eucharist service.

# I would very much like to welcome you to experience a taste of Taizé at a Taizé style service at 6.30pm on Sunday 18 September at St Chad's.



# A Taste of Taizé

6.30pm Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. at St. Chad's

Please come and join us.

#### Join the World's Biggest Coffee Morning – and help Macmillan nurses!

Today more people than ever are living with cancer. So, this year Macmillan nurses need to raise even more money to pay for their vital cancer support services. And so Macmillan is asking everyone who can, to join in and hold their own event for World's Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday 30 September. Together we can make it the biggest ever!

Get together with friends, family and colleagues on **Friday 30 September** and raise some money for people affected by cancer. Hold a coffee morning with your friends, a garden party with your neighbours or a pub quiz with your colleagues – let's make it the biggest ever! Register now. Call **0845 602 1246** or register online at <u>www.macmillan.org.uk</u>

For your FREE fundraising pack visit coffee.macmillan.org.uk or call 0845 602 1246.



## <u>September Recipe - Easy Chocolate Cupcakes</u>

## INGREDIENTS

(For the Cupcakes) 150g (5oz) unsalted butter or I use Flora Original Margarine 150g (5oz) sugar 3 medium eggs, at room temperature 1sp vanilla extract 175g (6oz) self raising flour 25g (1oz) cocoa powder (<u>The Buttercream</u>) 150g (5oz) unsalted butter at room temperature 300g (11oz) icing sugar sifted 2tbls milk

## <u>Method</u>

Preheat oven to 180C/160Cfan/Mark 4.

Line a 12 hole bun tin with cupcake cases.

To make the cakes, put butter and sugar into a large bowl, crack in the eggs and add the vanilla extract. Sift over the flour, cocoa powder and a pinch of salt. Beat the ingredients together using an electric hand whisk or processor and then divide mixture among the cases. Bake for 15mins. until firm and a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack. To make the buttercream, put the butter, icing sugar and milk into a large bowl and beat until creamy, using the hand whisk. Spread over the cooled cakes and serve.

These cakes are ideal if you are having the annual coffee morning in aid of the cancer fund, or for a children's party. I also add half a glazed cherry on top.

Betty Rimmer





## Great Fun was had by all!



## The Way I See It: After the Riots

'The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land, or ruin and destruction within your borders.' So promised the prophet Isaiah 2,500 years ago. At least his words prove that violence, ruin and destruction have always been part of human experience.

Nowadays we usually encounter them only through the television screen, but in August we were sharply reminded, in the street riots in many English cities, that they are still part of modern life in what we like to think of as a civilised and liberal democracy. The sight of youths smashing shop windows, torching cars and attacking the police with stones and bottles was bad enough.

Even worse, though, was the footage of many of them, accompanied often by adults, men and women, openly looting shops and department stores. 'Free stuff!' was the message on Facebook, though of course it isn't 'free'. Someone has paid for it, but not the people who were doing the looting.

For a week or so the thin veneer of civilisation which disguises the potential evil of the human heart was stripped away. Normal standards of behaviour seemed to have been suspended and there were public calls for the Government to send in the Army, use water cannon, tear gas and rubber bullets - anything, to restore law and order to our streets. Happily, they weren't necessary. The restraint and wisdom of Asian community leaders in Birmingham - Muslim and Sikh standing side by side - after the killing of three young men from their community, sent out the message that violence is not defeated by violence.

Streets were cleaned up, but it will take a long while to heal the fear in many hearts, or repair the damage to homes, shops and businesses. What can we do? We can pray, of course - pray that Isaiah's vision may be fulfilled. But prayer must be accompanied by action. We have stood by too long while an under-educated, unemployed and largely unemployable under-class has grown up in our big cities.

There have been warning signs - the Brixton riots thirty years ago, Broadwater Farm 25 years ago, gun crimes in Birmingham, knife attacks and gang warfare in London during recent years. Envy mingled with resentment is a dangerous cocktail. Church and community leaders can do much, but they need the support of the whole of society, because a price will have to be paid and in the end we shall all have to help to foot the bill.

David Winter (former head of religious broadcasting at the BBC)



Third Thursday of each month 15th September and 20th October

8.00pm Meeting at the Rectory

## An opportunity to Listen to God and to Pray.

All are Welcome





Saturday 1st October HARVEST WORKSHOPS More details later



(Provisionally) Saturday 1st Oct 7.00-9.30pm HARVEST SUPPER (2 course meal) Admission by Ticket Only:-

Adults £7.50, Child £4, Concessions £5, Family £20 Includes Enteratinment

Please bring your own glasses and drink

## Sunday 2nd October

8.00am BCP HC at St Bartholomew's

9.30am at St Chad's Family Worship with Church Parade

11.30am Harvest Communion at St Bartholomew's

6.30pm at St Bartholomew's Harvest Evening Worship





Once again it's the time of year when I ask those members of the congregations of St.Chads and St.Bartholomews who have Leprosy Mission collection boxes to bring them to either church, and leave them with the sidesperson on duty. I will collect, empty the box, and return them to the appropriate church. If you are unable to get to church, I'm only too happy to collect from your home. My number is 648 1827.

There are approximately three million people in the world today living with Leprosy-related disability. The big challenge for the Leprosy Mission lies in supporting individuals after the cure has been given, and helping them to live full lives, alongside the lifelong complication of permanent nerve damage.

Thank you for your continued support for the Leprosy Mission. If you don't have a box, and wish to support the Mission, please contact me, and I will be delighted to deliver a box to your home. Remember, leprosy is a dreadful but curable disease.

Pat Hulme



The Children's Society 'Thank You' Coffee Morning and 'Bring & Buy' will take place on Saturday 22nd October, 10-11.30am at St Chad's. All Welcome.

Please bring your boxes for emptying then or to church from September onwards.

Contacts: Jean Heath 648 6015 Elaine Kavanagh 648 1721 Barbara Kozer 648 3523



## **Enjoying God's Presence**

led by a team from the Northumbrian Centre of Prayer for Christian Healing

## St. Peter's Centre

## Friday, 16 - Sunday, 18 September 2011

A weekend of spiritual refreshment, encouragement and worship for everyone. The team are coming to teach us from God's word and to help us learn how to enjoy more of God's wonderful presence for ourselves.

> They have many stories to tell of how they have seen God at work in their own lives and through them in the lives of others.

While the team have seen God blessing and healing people in wonderful ways, they feel they are just ordinary people being used by God. Like many of us, they wrestle with questions and disappointments and yet they have much to share with us about enjoying more of God's presence. We are truly privileged to have them come and lead our weekend.

This is going to be a significant time for our church and for many individuals as we experience God's presence in new and deeper ways - so do come and join us.

PARISH of HESWALL St. Peter's and the Good Shepherd

## Programme of Events ...

Friday, 16 September 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm **'Taste and see that the Lord is good!'- Psalm 34:8** Worship, teaching and prayer; followed by refreshments.

God is good - he is our loving heavenly Father and we can learn to 'taste and see' his goodness and love.

Saturday, 17 September 10.00 am - 12.30 pm/Workshops:

#### Growing an effective healing ministry

This session is for all who are interested in finding out about the Christian Healing Ministry, both beginners and those who already pray for others but want to become more effective.

2.00 pm - 4.30 pm/Workshops:

#### Experiencing God through our senses

A time to encounter God through the varied gifts of God's creation: science, art, nature, music etc.

7.30 pm - 9.30 pm Main Session:

**'Receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you' - Acts 1:8** Worship, teaching and prayer in church; followed by refreshments.

#### Sunday Services / St. Peter's & Good Shepherd

**'Draw water from the wells of salvation' - Isaiah 12:3** The team will share and preach bringing this weekend of spiritual renewal to a fitting climax.

Further details and to book a place, please contact the Parish Office: 0151 342 3471/equire@heswallparish.co.uk





### **Church service**

A pastor, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message. The man returned just before the conclusion of the service. Afterwards the pastor asked the man where he had gone. "I went to get a haircut," was the reply.

"But," said the pastor, "why didn't you do that before the service?"

"Because," the gentleman said, "I didn't need one then."

\*\*

#### Door-to-door

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, two young church members were going door to door to invite people to visit their services. When they knocked on one door, it was immediately clear the woman who answered was not happy to see them. She told them in no uncertain terms that she did not want to hear their message, and slammed the door in their faces.

To her surprise, however, the door did not close; in fact, it bounced back open. She tried again, really putting her back into it, and slammed it again with the same result - the door bounced back open. Convinced these rude young people were sticking their foot in her door, she reared back to give it a slam that would teach them a lesson. Just then, one of them said quietly: "Ma'am, before you do that again, you really need to move your cat."

\*\*

#### Your choice

One beautiful Sunday morning, a priest announced to his congregation: "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a £100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a £50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a £10 sermon that lasts a full hour. "Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver."

\*\*

## The other side of child sponsorship – the benefits for YOU!

First and foremost, of course, child development charities exist for the benefit of the children they help who live in extreme poverty. But what about the benefit to the sponsors?

For some reason, most of us feel that we shouldn't shout about these. We feel that our giving should be purely sacrificial; if we gain anything in return then something isn't right.

Never mind that this is not what the Bible says! After all, Jesus teaches us to expect 'a good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over'. (Luke 6:37)

So in this year's build up to Compassion Sunday on 18 September, when hundreds of UK churches will be raising awareness about child poverty, Compassion UK wants to celebrate not only the good its programmes do for children, **but also the positive impact on sponsors and their churches.** 

Compassion enables an individual sponsor to support a child in any of the 26 countries it works in – financially and through letters, prayer and even visits. Alternatively, a congregation can form a church-to-church link in just one area; a parish in Bradford might commit to children in a single slum in Brazil, working all the time through the local church.

Evidence suggests that the result is transformative for both churches. Firstly, everyone in the UK church is given the chance to participate in mission and to have ministry to the poor. Secondly, if there are a number of sponsors in a church, the resulting sense of unity can be radical; a church can then truly experience what the Bible says is like 'precious oil poured on the head' (Psalm 133:2). And for those leaders concerned that their congregation would put less in the offering basket as a result, Compassion can tell many stories of how tithing actually goes up!

Finally, there's the benefit of what UK churches stand to learn. God can teach us wonderful things through children; the Bible calls us not to look down on the young but learn from their example `in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity' (1 Tim 4:12). And it's even better when there's a church-to-church link. Through mutually respectful and beneficial relationships, UK churches are receiving at the same time as giving.

As one church pastor remarked after a recent visit to his partner church in El Salvador, "They are the experts—they know way more than we do—about reaching their community with limited resources and in tough circumstances. They're already grappling with the same questions that we'll have to address in the near future: How do you reach the community when you're not at the centre of your culture?"

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Contacts				
<b>Churchwardens</b> Mr J Roberts 23 Riverbank Road Lower Heswall (		Flower Guild (St Chad's) Mrs J Ratcliffe	648 6171	
Mr R Jackson 13 Norton Drive Irby CH61 4XP	648 0365	Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew' Mrs J Bibby	s) 678 8124	
<b>Reader</b> Mr Alan Jones 8 Edgemore Drive Irby CH61 4XT	648 1400	Cleaning Guild (St Chad's) Mrs M Reid Bellringers Tower Captain	648 1766	
Retired Clergy Rev'd J Edwardson 38 Hazel Grove Irby CH61 4UZ	648 2661	Mr R Turner	648 1742 OPLE	
Rev'd S Beckley 162 Heathbank Irby CH61 4YG	648 7767	Junior Church Mrs J Deboorder	648 6331	
Rev'd I Morris 43 Abbotts Way West Kirby CH48 6		<b>St Chad' s Seniors (11-14) &amp; You</b> Mrs K Robson	th Group 648 6691	
<b>PCC Secretary</b> Mr G Barley 5 Sherwood Avenue Irby CH61 4XB		<b>St Chad's Playgroup</b> Mrs Ceri James Mrs S Newton	648 3355	
<b>PCC Treasurer</b> Mr C Eden 8a Woodlands Road, Irby, CH61 2X		( <i>during playgroup hours</i> ) <b>078</b> <b>Rainbows</b> Karen Fearns	648 9833	
<b>Verger</b> Mrs J Ratcliffe 135 Thingwall Road Irby CH61 3UD			860239422	
Organist Mr C Vickers	648 7405	Guides Revd J Turner	648 1816	
34 Townsend Avenue Irby CH61 2X	.VV	CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES		
Electoral Roll c/o Church Office	648 8169	Christian Aid Representative Mrs W Wolstencroft	929 5778	
St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary Mrs J Heath		<b>Children's Society Representativ</b> Mrs J Heath	e 648 6015	
Mothers' Union, Branch Leader Mrs S Burns	648 1022	Leprosy Mission Representative Mrs P Hulme	648 1827	
<b>Evening Mothers' Union (EMU)</b> Mrs C Rostock (Secretary)	6481112	Adoption Society Representative Mrs C Rostock	648 1112	
Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's) Mrs E Jones	648 1400			

Church Services Sunday Services				
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evening Worship	4th September Trinity 11	9.30am Family Service		
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Morning Worship 6.30pm Holy Communion	<b>11th September</b> Trinity 12	9.30am Family Communior		
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Holy Communion	<b>18th September</b> Trinity 13	9.30am Morning Worship 6.30pm Taize Service (p10)		
Evening Service at St Chads				
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Baptism 6.30pm Holy Communion	<b>25th September</b> Trinity 14	9.30am Family Communior		
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evening Worship	<b>2nd October</b> Trinity 15 Harvest	9.30am Family Service		

#### Holy Communion celebrated at St Chad's each Wed 10.15am ALL WELCOME

**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. NOTE: Rector's day off - **Tuesday** 

PLEASE NOTE: Rector's day off - Tuesday

**RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner** 

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 C Rostock 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