

Crosstalk

The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad

www.thurstaston.org.uk

Serving Christ in
Thurstaston & Irby

40p

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Diary Dates

Saturday 2nd June

Men's' Breakfast

8.45-9.45am

at Aroma Café, Irby Village

Thursday 7th June

M.U. Members Afternoon

2.15pm at St. Chad's

Thursday 21st June

'Wellspring'

8pm at The Rectory

Sunday 1st July

'Celebrate our Church Community'

10.30am Morning Celebration at

St Chad's followed by

Bring & Share lunch at 12noon

6.30pm Evening Celebration at

St Bartholomew's

Thursday 5th July

M.U. Garden Party

2.15pm at Joyce's garden,

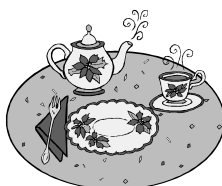
135 Thingwall Road

Notices

Afternoon Tea and Entertainment Event

St Chad's, Thursday 14th June 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Tickets £3.00.

Further details, if required, from Alan Jones 648 1400. Transport can be arranged for anyone who might have difficulty getting to St Chad's.



From the Registers

Baptisms

*We welcome into the
Lord's family*

27th May

Joel & Eleni

Heseltine

Weddings

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

27th April

Paul Evans &

Rebecca Ledsom

5th May

Steve Ladell &

Debbie Huxley

19th May

David Forrester &

Sarah Buckley

Funerals

*We commend to God's
eternal care*

3rd May

Joan Taylor

From your rector

Dear Friends,

Being in the spotlight



The old saying about London buses is that you wait half an hour for one and then two come at once. Well, this summer in Britain is a bit like that. No major national celebrations for ten years, and then, bang - a royal Jubilee and the Olympic Games come round the corner. All of a sudden, our little off-shore island will be in the world's most glaring spotlight.



One can only guess at the potential TV audiences for these two events, but they will certainly run into billions. In African villages, the vast urban sprawls of modern India and China, the chilly wastes of Greenland and Alaska and indeed wherever television and the internet have spread their ever-lengthening fingers, we shall be on the screens. As never before (it's safe to say), those billions will see our ancient Abbey shrine and our historic Christian rituals as well as our super-modern Olympic stadium and all the other splendid sites prepared for the Games. It's enough to make us shy.

But it's also enough to make us ask, what will the world think of us? A bit like the bride's mother at a wedding, we know we (that is, our island and its people) will be in all the pictures, but how will we come across? We certainly hope those pictures won't include shots of rioting young men and women, or of angry demos or billboards about crime, drugs and violence. More positively, we may hope that across the world the images will be of smiling faces, of a welcoming, hospitable land, of a people who have learnt over the long years the lessons of tolerance and respect.

I hope they will also reflect the Christian faith which - in a modest and often understated way - still underpins so much of our national character. The jubilee services will display this, of course, with pomp and ceremony, but more persuasive, perhaps, will be the sense of a nation that still 'fears' God - respects him and his laws, loves the neighbour and cares for the poor, the lonely and the destitute. Personally I'd swap that for any number of gold medals.

Rev'd Jane Turner



No I do NOT believe you are the UK Olympic Synchronised Swimming Team, with nowhere to train!! Out of my baptistry NOW!!

The PCC has decided to have a day to
"Celebrate our Church Community"
on Sunday 1st July 2012.

Everyone is invited to join in with this celebration to give thanks for our Church Community and all that it has to offer:-

10.30am Morning Celebration at St Chad's

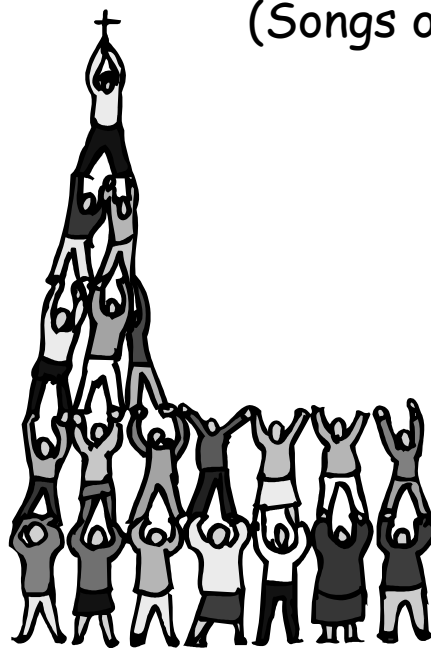
Opening Hymn and Prayer

Congregation invited to walk around displays

Prayers and Closing Hymn

12noon Bring and Share Lunch at St Chad's

6.30pm Evening Celebration at St Bartholomew's
(Songs of Praise Style)



There will also be the usual
8.00am Service of Holy Communion.

Mothers' Union



In May we welcomed Rev. Margaret Fletcher to our meeting. Margaret came to tell us about her trip to Buckingham Palace last year when she received her M.B.E. She began her talk with tales of the preparations for the trip which were very amusing. And she explained the hours spent at the Palace before seeing the Queen. What to say and do and what not to

say and do, how to curtsy etc. was gone into in great detail by the equerries! Finally Margaret received her M.B.E. from the Queen, and she did enjoy meeting and talking for a few minutes with her.

It was a great experience for Margaret, and also for Tony, Andrew and Jonathon, to have been at the Palace, and also to have been able to spend some time together in London.

The Diocesan Festival in Chester Cathedral was a lovely service, blessed as well as being bright and colourful with all the banners - as well as the bright sunshine to lift our spirits. Rt. Rev. Robert Atwell, Bishop of Stockport, led the service and Mrs. Margaret Sentamu gave an amusing and thoughtful talk on the M.U.2012 theme - 'Your Gift ? Discover and Celebrate'

June is our Members Afternoon so please do bring something to share with us all. Jeanette will also be coming to talk about the future of the Branch and the way ahead.

Prayer

Holy Spirit give us faith,
Holy Spirit give us hope,
Holy Spirit give us love,
Revive your work in this land,
beginning with me.

Amen

M.U. Uganda

Diary Dates:

June 7th. St. Chads 2.15 pm. 'Members Afternoon'.

July 5th. Garden Party 2.15 pm Joyce's Garden, 135 Thingwall Road

God Bless

Sue Burns



What's our potential?

An elderly woman died and left her son an unusual inheritance: a budgie. He stared through the bars of the cage in some trepidation, and the budgie stared cautiously back. Now what? The son realised he simply did not know what to do with it!

So the son studied some bird books and discovered that budgies needed a lot of seed and water. They also yearned for human company. They liked to sit on a hand or shoulder, to be talked to, to mimic our language, and, of course, to fly about. This budgie didn't do any of them!

The bird had been lovingly cared for, but not handled or taken outside of its cage. Flying was not part of its experience. Neither did it talk. So the son, very patiently, helped the bird to overcome his fears.

After much time and patience the budgie willingly came out of his cage by himself, sought the son's company and sat on his hand. He enjoyed flying around and for some reason loved to sit on mobile phones and TV remotes, fascinated with the buttons! The budgie also learnt to say numerous words, and regigged phrases and sentences, much to the son's amusement.

From this small member of God's creation we can learn a few simple spiritual lessons. In a similar way that the man established a relationship with the bird, God wants a relationship with us. In both instances, it has to be worked at!

At first, the budgie was limited in what he could do. He was fearful of life outside the cage and didn't appreciate that he was meant to enjoy the freedom of flight. Similarly, God looks at us and sees our potential. He made us, cares for us and knows what we can do. He doesn't want us imprisoned by life's fears, anxieties and problems. He wants us to be free and to soar on the wings of the Spirit.

That little budgie gave the son a lot of pleasure. Surely, God delights in us too!

1st Thurstaston Guides and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Tour



GirlGuiding Wirral Ambassador, Merseyside Lord Lieutenant Dame Lorna Muirhead, invited Wirral County to provide 20-30 uniformed girls to line the route in Liverpool city centre waterfront / Salthouse and Albert docks for the Queen's visit on 17th May. 1st Thurstaston Guides were delighted to be chosen to be a part of this historic event. We travelled by bus, train and ferry and had a great day out.



This is my commandment that you love one another

A Reflection on John 15:9-17

Jackie Robinson was the first black man to play major league baseball. In his first season with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Robinson faced adversity everywhere he travelled. Pitchers threw fast-balls at his head, runners spiked him, brutal cards containing insults were held up and he was verbally abused.

During one game, racial taunts and insults, from both sets of fans, seemed to reach a peak. To make matters worse, Jackie committed an error and stood humiliated while fans poured insults on him. Another dodger, a southern white called Pee Wee Reese called timeout. He walked from his base towards Robinson and put his arm round him. The stadium went quiet. Robinson later said that arm around his shoulder saved his career.

The reading from John's Gospel uses the word love 9 times. Of course, the problem we have in our language is trying to define what love means. We talk about loving chocolate, loving particular T.V. programmes, loving walks in the country or loving our children or our partners - all different kinds of love but all using the same word.

The Ancient Greeks recognised this problem and so used 4 words to represent different kinds of love. They used *Storge* for affection, *Philia* for friendship (as in Philadelphia, the city of brotherly love), *Eros* for the love between a man and a woman, from which we get the word erotic and finally *agape* for the kind of selfless love that Jesus refers to and Paul writes about so vividly in 1 Corinthians 13.

Anders Nygran wrote:

Agape is neither kindled by attractiveness nor quenched by the unattractiveness of its object. This is seen in God's love for sinners who are loved in spite of their sin. God's love is not determined by the worthiness or unworthiness of those who God loves but by God's own nature of love.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer put it more succinctly:

The New Testament answers the question, What is love? quite unambiguously, by pointing solely and entirely to Christ.

It might seem strange that Jesus felt he had to instruct his disciples to love one another. After all, they had been companions for at least three years and a number were brothers. Yet we read in the gospels of how they argued about which of them was the greatest – hardly the actions of people who truly loved one another – and one, of course, went on to betray him.

Like hatred and prejudice, love can be learned. Psychologists placed some baby monkeys in a cage containing two artificial surrogate mothers. One was made of cold wire and carried a bottle and one was made of soft terry cloth – good to cuddle but it carried no food. They observed that the baby monkeys spent more time with the soft monkey, the warmth of which triggered something in their minds. The few babies that preferred the wire mother, took the food and moved on. When they were older they became detached parents who did not nurture their young. We all need the warmth of love to grow in love ourselves.

Jesus identifies the greatest expression of love as being that when someone lays down his or her life for another, as he was to do. We can only look, in humility and awe, upon people who have sacrificed their lives for the sake of others – the soldier who throws him or her self on a grenade, the pilot who remains with his or her doomed plane to steer it away from a populated area.

A young girl with Leukaemia needed a blood transfusion as close as possible to her own blood type to help her treatment. Her even younger brother was asked to help. The boy thought long and hard. His parents were surprised at the length of time he was taking but did not put any pressure on him. Finally, he agreed. The two were placed in adjacent beds in the hospital and the boy watched as blood from his arm flowed into that of his sister. Finally, he turned to his parents standing at their bedsides and asked, *'when do I die?'*

Sacrificing your life for others, in a loving way, does not always involve death. Precious, a 16 year old African girl was orphaned along with her younger brother and sister when their parents both died from aids. Precious gets up at 3.00 a.m. each morning and walks two and a half hours to work where she is treated no better than slave by her employer. At the end of the day she walks for two and a half hours back to her home. She earns 60 dollars a year with which she provides two meals of corn a day and pays for them to go to school. She hopes one day her brother and sister will become teachers.

Before the advent of nursing homes, elderly parents were often looked after by their children. I can recall a lady who lived in my street, devoting the whole of her life to her elderly mother who lived to a great age.

I was talking recently to a senior member of our congregation. We were talking about our parents and she said her mother spent the last three years of her life bedridden. In order to look after her mother, this lady had to move into her mother's home. This she did without question and nor did her husband raise any objection - even though he was left largely on his own for the three years. Their love for the mother and for each other overcame the sacrifices they had to make.

I am sure you can match these stories from people you have come across in your lives - people who respond to Jesus' call for us to love one another in a totally selfless way.

Having planted the seed of love in them and demonstrated how it should be nurtured, Jesus reminded his disciples that they should bear fruit. In this respect, he was probably referring to the missionary endeavours they would be required to undertake.

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Through the gospel, that same teaching and message is handed down to us. As Christians, we are unified together as children of God within his love. Our connection with that love and our sharing of that love with, and to, others serves as our Christian I.D., our identifying mark as Christians. It is the mark of Christ.

Our love should be joyful as Jesus stresses in the passage from John's Gospel:

I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that joy may be complete.

But it should also be also sacrificial. We sacrifice old ways to make room for new blessings from God and we make sacrifices of ourselves to help others.

In this way, like the disciples, we have the ability to bear fruit – to bring help to those in need and to spread the gospel of Good News by our words but, above all, by our selfless, loving actions.

A final word from Mother Theresa:

Being a Christian is about being a carrier of God's love. May God grant that, we might be carriers of God's love, that we might love one another as God in Christ loved us.

Dear All

Christian Aid Week

The Afternoon Tea was a great success both for Christian Aid and as a community. The event raised a grand total of £823.56

Christian Aid £743.81

The Beacon Coffee Shop Fairtrade £79.75

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported the afternoon in any way. I know the feedback was very positive and it was nice to hear people chatting together, catching up with each other again and all of this being done whilst supporting a very worthy cause. The warm feeling of fellowship was better than the central heating!

The Lord was certainly supporting Irby to make a difference to those who need our Christian Aid donations. I have no idea what we will do next year but we do need to think about sooner rather than later. If anyone feels they could help in any way please let your Church leaders know as soon as possible. This year was organised over 2 weeks only and lots of phone calls and we did do very well. I appreciate that House to House collections now could be very difficult however in Heswall they used one of the shops as a collection point after the envelopes were dropped off so this may be a better option and worth looking into.

Once again thank you for all your invaluable support for Christian Aid.

Linda Archer

Irby Methodist Church

Diamond Jubilee: Elizabeth - pt 5. The New Queen and the New World

The reign of Elizabeth II began in the last shadows of post-War austerity - food rationing finally ended in 1954. But it quickly moved into a new world, largely born out of the traumas of the previous decades. The Commonwealth, of which she became Head, numbered among its 54 members many nations that now felt ready for independence from the old colonial relationship. The fifties and sixties were a major era of change everywhere in the so-called 'developing' world. Indeed, things 'developed' very fast - too fast, it sometimes seemed, for the Foreign and Colonial Office to keep up with them.

Queen Elizabeth stood, for the most part, carefully distanced from the more controversial developments. Her role, as she presently saw it, was to provide mortar to hold things together, not semtex to blow them apart. She and Prince Philip set out with youthful energy to visit many parts of the Commonwealth, as well as the United States and other friendly countries, seeing themselves as ambassadors of a renewed and forward looking United Kingdom. The 'wind of change' was blowing through Africa, as Prime Minister Harold Macmillan memorably put it, and the Queen was at pains to present herself not as the bastion of the old order but as a symbol of the new one.

At home, the nation became accustomed to its new Head of State. She followed her father's practice of broadcasting to the nation on Christmas Day, a task which she approached with some trepidation - her nervousness was palpable - but quickly mastered. In those distant days many a family Christmas lunch was put on hold to listen to 'the Queen's speech' - my father ordered silence during it! Truthfully, the speeches usually said very little of consequence, and at that time the Queen's accent was almost painfully 'royal', but it was an annual opportunity for the people to see and hear her, and for the Queen herself to speak to her people not only in Britain but across the world.

The actual broadcasts were, of course, 'live' in those days, which placed a considerable responsibility on the speaker - and on the engineers, whose task it was to ensure that the royal words were not interrupted by technical problems. I once read with astonishment the lengthy brief given to them and the details of the back-up required in those days to ensure a trouble-free broadcast.

Slowly the aura of seclusion which had for centuries surrounded the monarch began to give way to a new accessibility. The British people felt comfortable with their Queen and her ever-attentive consort. As her children were born, there were informal family photographs - a million miles from the carefully posed portraits of earlier years. As Britain entered the Swinging Sixties the monarchy may not have been rocking and rolling, but it was dipping the royal toes into the waters of the incoming tide of change.

You got to have the recipe

A teenage girl was complaining to her grandmother how everything was going wrong for her: she hated school, she was fighting with her sister, her mum was driving her crazy, and a friend at school had let her down.

Meanwhile, her granny was baking a cake. She asked her granddaughter if she would like a snack, which of course she did. "Here, have some cooking oil." "Yeuch" says the girl, horrified. "How about a couple of raw eggs?" "Grannie, that is disgusting!" "Would you like some flour then? Or maybe baking soda?" "Grannie, they're horrible!" To which her grandmother replied: "Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, and allowed to change in the oven, they make a wonderfully delicious cake!" She continued, "God works the same way in our lives. Problems can bring you blessings of growth in your life. But you need to let him change you on the inside."



Sixty Years our Queen



A dozen tenants of Number Ten
And twelve the White House has
seen

Since fifty-two, for that was when
Began the reign of our Queen.

And so they come, and so they go
The Dame, or titled Knight,
Some shone, it seems, an age ago
Short as a mayfly's flight.

Some were good, and some were poor
It seems she's met all sorts!
The Queen smiles on, but to be sure –
You'll never guess her thoughts!

"My Government shall this enact",
The Queen's Speech – sixty times!
At Christmas, too, she's never lacked
Encouraging seasonal lines.

Through times of peace and times of strife
She's stood there at the helm,
For she has lived her whole long life
For the peoples of her realm.

Of this one fact we may depend
That few would be the tears
If God should choose her life to extend
To reign for lots more years!

Well, you can't but admire her. God save the Queen!
By Nigel Beeton

Third Thursday of each month

this month: June 21st

8.00pm at the Rectory

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

All are Welcome

Together we will seek God's Vision for our church communities.

A huge thank you

to all those involved in the
delivery and collection of envelopes for
The Children's Society and of course to all those who do-
nated in the parish, to the magnificent sum of £1175.00.



Men's Breakfast



Saturday 2nd June 2012

8.45 – 9.45am

Aroma Cafe, Irby Village

Eat, chat and share in fellowship.

Contact Matthew James on 07817625122 or
mjames@doctors.org.uk for further details.

Dates for your diary: Where possible Men's Breakfasts will take place on
the first Saturday of alternate months. Future dates for 2011 are:

Saturday 4th August

Saturday 6th October

Saturday 1st December

June Recipe - Apricot Stuffed Lamb

Boning and stuffing a shoulder of lamb makes the joint go much further and makes carving so simple. Most butchers will remove the bones for you. This recipe serves 8 people and is ideal if you are having friends and family for a Jubilee celebration.

INGREDIENTS

1.5kg(3½lb) shoulder of lamb boned

Stuffing

25g (1oz) butter

1 onion chopped or 3 spring onions,
white part only

100g(4oz) fresh brown breadcrumbs

1tbls chopped fresh mint (optional)

50g (2oz) raisins or sultanas

1 cooking apple peeled, chopped into
small dice

213g (7½oz) can of apricots, you will
not need the whole tin

1 egg, beaten

Method

Heat the oven to 375F/190C/Gas Mk 5.

Open the meat out and season with salt and pepper.

To make the stuffing, melt butter in a non-stick pan, add the onion and cook gently for about 10 min. until the onion is soft but not brown.

Remove from the heat, add breadcrumbs, mint, dried fruit and apple.

Drain the fruit and chop quite small, add to stuffing with the egg, mix well, season with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

Stuff the cavity in the lamb, close with skewers to hold in place and if necessary tie with string.

Place lamb in roasting tin and roast for about 1 hour 45 mins(30mins to the lb/450g).

Remove from the oven and place on a warm serving dish.

This recipe seems quite complicated but it is soon prepared and tastes really delicious.

Don't forget, if you need a smaller amount, just halve everything!

I do hope you enjoy yourself.

Betty Rimmer



The Chester Mystery Plays
www.chestermysteryplays.com

Revd Jane attended this event in 2008 and she highly recommends it.
She will be booking tickets for Monday 1st July 2013

If you would like to go,
you will need to give Revd Jane your money
by Sunday 1st July 2012

Ticket Prices: **Adults** **£25.00**
 Concessions **£20.00**
 (Children, students, unwaged, over 60's, disabled and their carer)
 Family **£80.00** (2 adults and 2 children)

The Chester Mystery Plays form a spectacular festival presented mainly by members of the local community under professional direction. This rare Chester production has become a much anticipated highlight in the British arts calendar, attracting people from all over the world. One of the largest community events in the UK, hundreds of enthusiasts of all ages from throughout the area make up the cast, crew and the support teams working in administration/marketing and front of house.

The Chester Mystery Plays are performed in Chester every five years, with the most recent production being in 2008 in the grounds of Chester Cathedral and the next full production being planned for 2013, to be held in the Cathedral nave.

A Brief History

Mystery Plays were created all across Europe from the 13th century as a means of celebrating the stories of the Old and New Testaments for the Feast of Corpus Christi. Other famous Mystery Play "Cycles" in England were written in Coventry, York and Wakefield. The scripts, as in the case of the Chester Cycle, were often written by medieval monks. Originally performed inside the churches (as planned for Chester in 2013), from the 14th century they were produced by Crafts Guilds and performed in the open streets and market places on pageant carts ("waggons"). Performed by local people, both scripts and performances changed each year to remain current and have popular appeal.

The production of the Plays, so important to the local community, was suppressed in, and following, the Reformation and the last recorded performance prior to the 20th century revival was in 1575.

Get Involved

See the website for details of how to get involved from PR to performances (front and back stage)!

How many friends do you really have these days?

These days most of us have more acquaintances – but fewer close friends. We are more lonely, with less contact with the people around us.

In 1982 nearly half of us said that we knew by name at least 11 of our neighbours, and a quarter of us knew 20 of our neighbours by name. These days, even the most neighbourly among us (those in Scotland) know, on average, only 8.4 neighbours. In 1982, 76 per cent of us said that we never felt lonely. By 2010, 68 percent of said we DID feel lonely. Two years on, are we even more lonely?

The study, done by Co-operatives UK, examined how neighbourly and friendly the British are. It concluded: "People seem to have a wider circle of acquaintances, but shallow friendships, particularly online. Different patterns of family life and work have all contributed."

The Bible has a lot to say about neighbours. "Do not plot harm against your neighbour, who lives trustfully near you," (Pr 3.29); "a generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed" (Pr 11.25) And of course there is the famous: "Love your neighbour as yourself." (Lk 10:27). So next time someone wants to borrow a cup of sugar, or needs a lift into town...!

**



How to be a good neighbour

As the nation gathers to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee this month, the idea of good neighbourliness is on the agenda. What does it take to be a good neighbour? Here are some ideas for how you can meet up with local people and develop friendships.

1. Open your front door, and simply get out and walk more! That's the best way to meet people in your neighbourhood. Just ask any dog owner...
2. Invite two or three of your neighbours around for coffee to get to know each other. Keep it simple, so that they feel comfortable to return the invitation.
3. Think about offering a neighbour a lift into town for a shopping trip – you can agree a time to meet up for the trip home.
4. Compile a neighbourhood directory with useful addresses and telephone numbers to give to people moving into the area. Ask at the town hall for ideas of what you might include.
5. Do you know of a lonely, perhaps elderly person on their own? Consider taking them with you to a local event.
6. Offer to feed your neighbour's cat or water their plants when they go on holiday.
7. If your neighbours are students, why not send them a card for when they return to college, wishing them well for their new term?
8. Take a simple meal around to new parents, to people just back from hospital, or even a family recently bereaved. Offer it on disposable plates, so that they don't have to wash up.
9. Keep an eye out for parcels left on your neighbour's doorstep and take them in until they return.
10. Accept occasional help from your neighbours as well as offering it – everyone needs to be needed!

Modern life tends to isolate us. According to a recent study, community spirit seems to be dying out in the UK. More than 40% say we have never even spoken to people whose front doors are less than 10 feet away from our own. But we CAN make opportunities to be friendly with the people near to us.

RIDING LIGHTS
THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS

MONSIEUR DE COUBERTIN'S MAGNIFICENT OPYMLIC[®] FEAT!

Sprinting
backwards
to the start of
the Games!

Written by
Bridget Foreman
& Paul Burbridge
Directed by Paul Burbridge
Designed by Sean Cavanagh

Friday 1st June 7.30pm

BEBINGTON HIGH SPORTS COLLEGE

Higher Bebington Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 2PS

Tickets: £5

Box Office: 07540 833714



**RIDING
THEATRE
COMPANY
LIGHTS**

Virtual Holiday Brings Olympic London to You

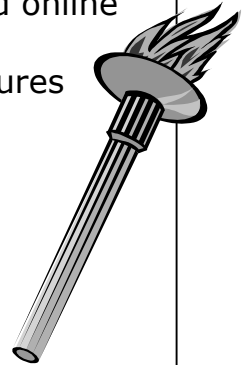


This summer all eyes are focused on London and the Olympics, with visitors from around the world heading to the capital. But many people with disability or illness cannot even think of going there. So now Holidays From Home has created a virtual holiday to London, so that those not physically able to visit can still enjoy the experience.

The holiday to London will allow virtual travellers to experience the fast paced city, without ever leaving the comfort of home. The virtual holiday is accessed online and downloaded from the Holidays From Home website.

www.holidaysfromhome.co.uk It combines audio, photos and online features to create a fun, immersive experience.

Claire Wade, from Norwich, founder of Holidays From Home, explains: "I came up with the idea of virtual travel because I was bed-bound for six years with severe ME. Some of my family were going to Menorca and Mum and I were stuck at home. It was heartbreaking, seeing them get ready and knowing I couldn't go too."



"I wanted to have something fun to do while they were away, and decided to try and bring a holiday to me, a sort of virtual holiday. I decided on Greece, and Mum put pictures up around the room, we ate feta and olives and I even paddled my feet in a foot spa and pretended it was the sea. It was a little surreal at times; but it was also a lot of fun."

Claire went on to set up Holidays From Home to provide virtual holidays for others that, like her, can't travel. "The virtual holidays provide escapism and relaxation, who couldn't use a bit of that? "We're going to be 'visiting' the sites, having virtual afternoon tea at a luxury hotel, 'seeing' a show in the West End and doing lots of London themed activities including guided virtual experiences. It's going to be a great chance to explore London and have some fun." More info at www.holidaysfromhome.co.uk/London

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Why women disappear at 10.13am

Early each midweek morning, your average woman spends 38 minutes in taking a shower, coiffing her hair, perfecting her make-up and carefully dressing..... only to feel dishevelled just two hours and 23 minutes later. At 10.13am, research has found, she will feel the need to repair to the Ladies' Room, to try and revive her hair and freshen her make-up.



The Imperial Leather Skin-Kind study found that a stressful commute to work followed by a hectic office routine can make women feel they are deteriorating. 40 percent admit to feeling bedraggled by lunch time. But 36 per cent say that by mid-afternoon, they are so tired that they are beyond caring what they look like.

ST ANDREW'S BEBINGTON

Real Lives

SUNDAY 17TH JUNE @ 6.30PM

Dr REDA ESKANDAR

Dr Reda is an Egyptian dentist who has devoted his life to serving God. He has founded numerous churches in deprived areas in Egypt, supporting and teaching leaders and ministers. He will talk about the amazing power of God being experienced on a daily basis. Rather than focussing on their experience of persecution, many in Egypt speak of a wave of God's presence and the anticipation of revival. Come and listen to be inspired and encouraged in your own faith.

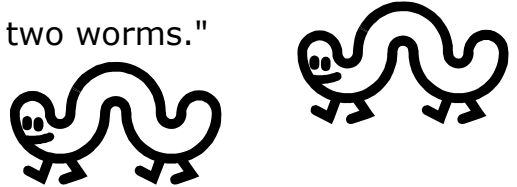
*Christian people
with a story to tell*

Did Noah fish?

The Sunday school teacher asked: "James, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?"

"No," replied James. "How could he? He only had two worms."

**



The Lord is my shepherd

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to memorise the short Psalm. Little Richard was excited about the task - but he just couldn't memorise things very well. On the day that the children were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Richard was very nervous. When it was his finally his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

**

Don't forget the other half

When my daughter said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). Then one night, after we had finished the nightly prayer, she added: "And all girls." This soon became part of her nightly routine. Finally my curiosity got the best of me and I asked her why she had begun adding the part about all girls. Her response? "Because at church the minister only ever says 'all men!'"

**

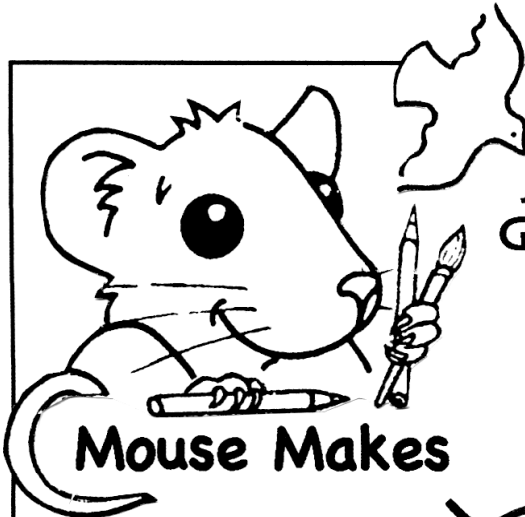
No need for prayer



Little Sam and his family were about to have Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Sam received his plate, he started eating right away. "Sam! Please wait until we pray over the food," said his mother. "Like we do at home."

"But we don't need to pray here," Sam objected. "This is Grandma's house, and she knows how to cook."





Mouse Makes

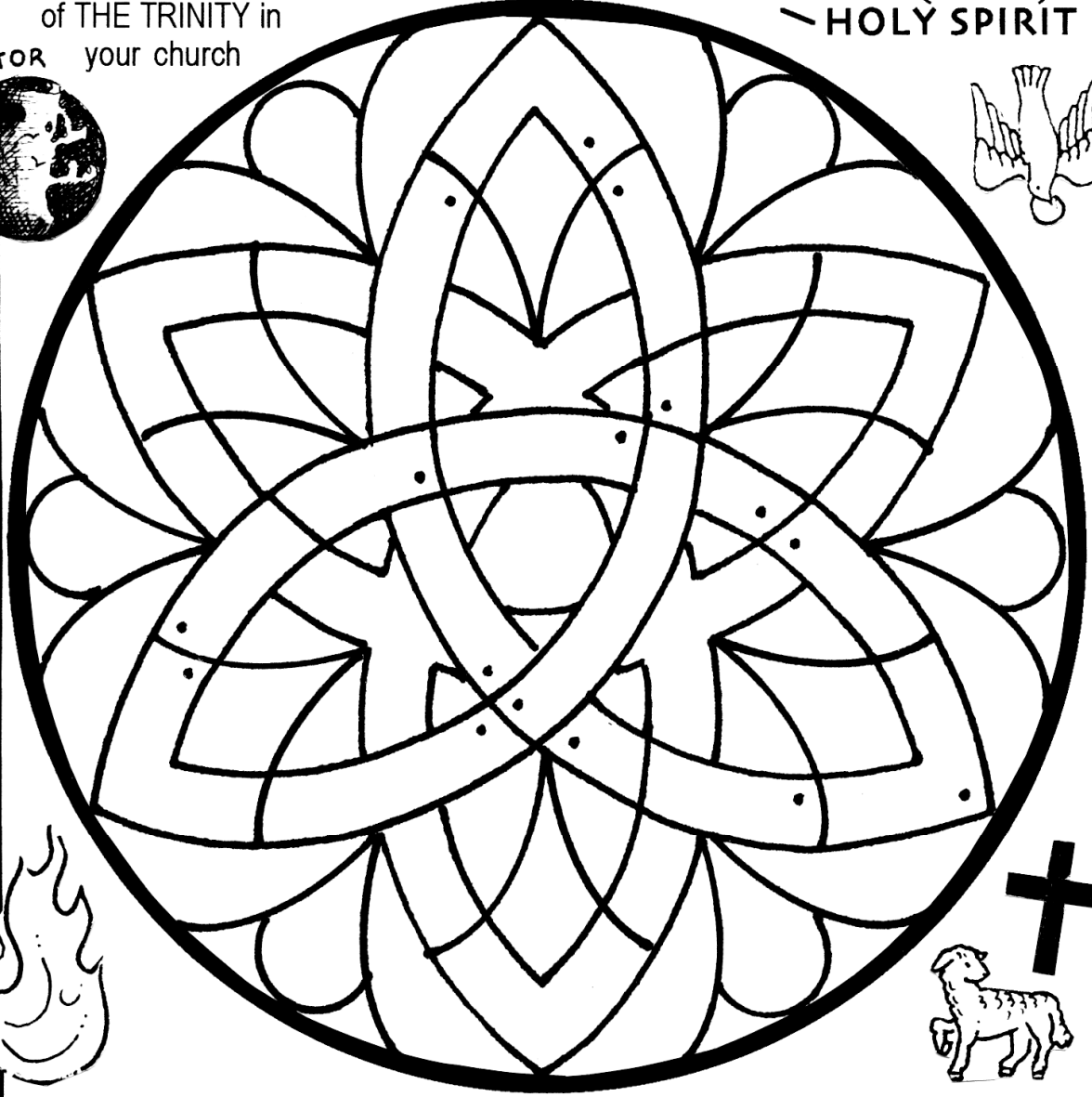
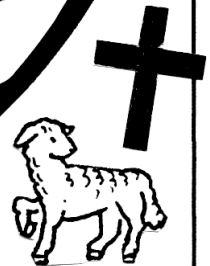
"May the *grace* of the Lord
JESUS Christ and the *love* of
GOD and the *fellowship* of the
HOLY SPIRIT be with you"


2 Corinthians 13 verse 13

The Bible teaches us that GOD is
three persons in one:

GOD — **FATHER**
 — **SON (JESUS)**
 — **HOLY SPIRIT**

Look out for symbols
of **THE TRINITY** in
your church



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Find out what it is by colouring in **BLACK** all the shapes with a dot  in them.
Then colour all the other shapes with bright colours like a stained glass window.

Jun12

THE



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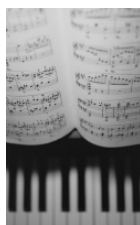
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Contacts

Churchwardens

Mr J Roberts **342 2149**
23 Riverbank Road Lower Heswall CH60 4SQ

Mr R Jackson **648 0365**
13 Norton Drive Irby CH61 4XP

Reader

Mr Alan Jones **648 1400**
8 Edgemore Drive Irby CH61 4XT

Retired Clergy

Rev'd J Edwardson **648 2661**
38 Hazel Grove Irby CH61 4UZ

Rev'd S Beckley **648 7767**
162 Heathbank Irby CH61 4YG

Rev'd I Morris **625 8474**
43 Abbotts Way West Kirby CH48 6EH

PCC Secretary

Mr G Barley **648 1867**
5 Sherwood Avenue Irby CH61 4XB

PCC Treasurer

Mr C Eden **648 9517**
8a Woodlands Road, Irby, CH61 2XD

Verger

Mrs J Ratcliffe **648 6171**
135 Thingwall Road Irby CH61 3UD

Organist

Mr C Vickers **648 7405**
34 Townsend Avenue Irby CH61 2XW

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office **648 8169**

St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary

Mrs J Heath **648 6015**

Mothers' Union, Branch Leader

Mrs S Burns **648 1022**

Evening Mothers' Union (EMU)

Mrs C Rostock (Secretary) **6481112**

Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs E Jones **648 1400**

Flower Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs J Ratcliffe **648 6171**

Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs J Bibby **678 8124**

Cleaning Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs L Worrall **648 5590**

Bellringers Tower Captain

Mr R Turner **648 1742**

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Junior Church

Mrs J Deboorder **648 6331**

St Chad's Seniors (11-14) & Youth Group

Mrs K Robson **648 6691**

St Chad's Playgroup

Church Office **648 8169**
(during playgroup hours) **0783 5096171**

Rainbows

Karen Fearn **648 9833**

Guides

Revd J Turner **648 1816**

CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Christian Aid Representative

Vacant

Children's Society Representative

Mrs J Heath **648 6015**

Leprosy Mission Representative

Mrs P Hulme **648 1827**

Adoption Society Representative

Mrs C Rostock **648 1112**

Church Services

Sunday Services

St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Holy Communion

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Holy Communion

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
3.00pm Baptism
6.30pm Deanery Songs of Praise at St John's Meols

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
6.30pm **Celebrating our Church Community**

3rd June
Trinity

10th June
Trinity 1

17th June
Trinity 2

24th June
Trinity 3

1st July
Trinity 4

St Chad's

9.30am Family Service

9.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Communion

10.30am Family Service
Celebrating our Church Community

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.

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
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