Crosstalk 40p

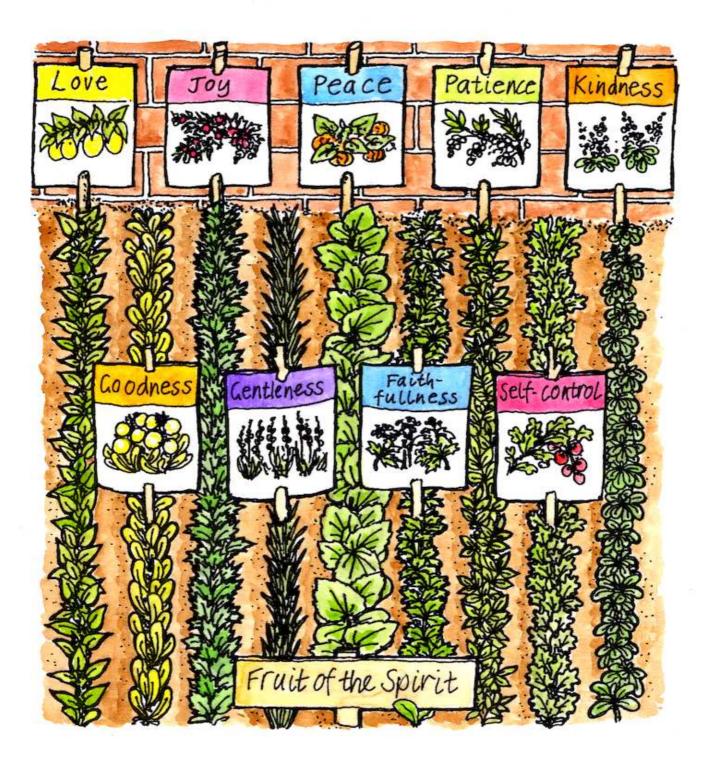
40p Serving Christer in The House Ho

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

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



April 2013





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Diary Dates

Saturday 6th April

Men's Breakfast 8.45-9.45 At Aroma Café Irby

Thursday 18th April
'Wellspring'
8pm at The Rectory

Wednesday 24th April EMU

Cupcakes! Demonstration by Rachel Drinkwater with an opportunity to 'Have a Go' 8pm at St Chad's

From the Registers

Baptisms Ve welcame inta

We welcome into the Lord's family

24th March William Thomas Parsonage

From your rector

Dear Friends,

Make no mistake

Have you ever spoken to someone thinking you know them, only to discover they were someone else? It can be most embarrassing! Many years ago, there was a man who had a strong facial resemblance to the flamboyant entertainer Sammy Davis Jnr. (1925-1990) This black American singer and dancer was particularly famous in the 1960s and starred in some films with Frank Sinatra.

The man went abroad on a trip, and several times found he was being mistaken for Sammy Davis Jnr. People approached him, very excited to think they were meeting such a well-known figure. The innocent lookalike tried to explain that he was NOT Sammy Davis Jnr, but still people went their way convinced they had met the popular singer.

At Easter, we recall the resurrection appearances of Jesus and two of these accounts describe mistaken identities. On that first Easter morning, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb of Jesus and discovered an empty grave. She became distraught and unaware that Jesus was drawing near. When Jesus spoke to her she thought he was the gardener.

Later that same day, while two men were walking to Emmaus, Jesus joined them. As they talked together, they thought this stranger was just another traveller – but with a good knowledge of the Old Testament!

Those who knew Jesus were in shock and distraught. Suddenly, all their hopes for a glorious future had been dashed. The man they believed to be their Messiah was dead.

In their grief the disciples had forgotten that Jesus had said he would die but three days later he would rise again! Jesus said: 'I have come to give life in all its fullness'; and 'I am the way, the truth and the life'.

In this world there are many religious voices clamouring for our attention but only one guarantees forgiveness of our sins. Make no mistake, Jesus has paid the price for our redemption and through him we are assured of Life beyond the grave.

Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life... whoever lives and believes in me will never die. (John 11:25)

Revd Jane Turner

We hope that you like our new colour magazine! We have renewed our photocopier contract and the machine is able to do much more than the old one. If you would like to use the photocopier for personal use then please call in at the office during opening hours (Tues, Wed, Thurs 9.30am-12noon). You will be charged at very competitive prices!

Please be reassured that this new machine is actually SAVING US MONEY! The contract is cheaper than for the old machine! We also save money by not needing to purchase coloured paper.

Thurstaston Parish Photograph competition Entry form

Address				
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Telephone nur				
	of 30/8/13) please			
	Under 11	11-17	over 18	
_	-	ocation) circle colour		•••
	Colour		Mixture	••••
I enclose my e	entry Fee of 50 pend	ce per entry		
		The small print		
Photographs must Maximum two ent Three age categor One winner in eac dar Nine other runners Photographs shoul Photographs must	ies: under 11, 11-17 and the category will be award as up will also be chosen the description of the first and minimulate be in landscape (not portries to the Parish Office.	over 18 (as of 30/8/13) led a small prize and their photo for the Calendar am 300dpi trait)	will be included in 2014 Parish Cale vith completed entry form and entry	n-
•	0 0	oup on the back of the photo stacted to supply a digital copy		



If your photo has people in it you must have their permission to include it in the calendar

anotograph Competition 2013



Winners to be included in a 2014 Calendar

Photos must be taken within the Parish Boundary

Closing date Friday 30th August 2013

Three age categories: under 11 11-17 over 18

Submit your photograph (7x5cm landscape minimum 300dpi) to the Parish Office, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH

Tel: 648 8169 e-mail: office@thursaston.org.uk

Entry forms available from parish office or www.thurstaston.org.uk





Third Thursday of each month

this month: April 18th

8.00pm Meeting 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.

Give ears and come to me; listen, so that you might live.



Men's Breakfast



6th April 2013

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.

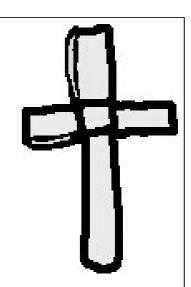
Dates for your diary: Where possible Men's Breakfasts will take place on the first Saturday of alternate months. Future dates for 2013 are:

1st June, 3rd August, 5th October and 7th December

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday 24th March

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's
- 9.30am Family Communion at St Chad's
- 11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's
- 6.30pm Evening Worship at St Bartholomew's



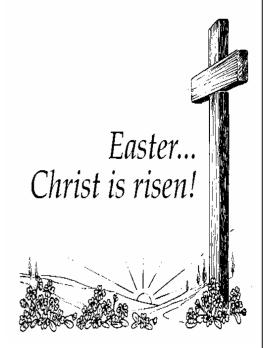
Maundy Thursday 28th March

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

There is also a service at 11.00am at Chester Cathedral

Good Friday 29th March

10.00am Family Service
followed by Hot Cross Buns.
Start and Finish at St Chad's
2.00pm "Hour at the Cross"
Meditative Service at



Easter Day 31st March

St Barthomew's

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion at
- St Bartholomew's
- 9.30am Family Communion at St Chad's
- 11.15am Holy Communion with Baptism at St Bartholomew's
- 6.30pm Evening Worship at St Bartholomew's

The many names of CHRIST

To the ARTIST he is the One Altogether Lovely.

To the ARCHITECT he is the Chief Corner Stone.

To the BAKER he is the Living Bread.

To the BANKER he is the Hidden Treasure.

To the BIOLOGIST he is the Life.

To the BUILDER he is the Sure Foundation.

To the CARPENTER he is the Door.

To the DOCTOR he is the Great Physician.

To the EDUCATOR he is the Great Teacher.

To the ENGINEER he is the New and Living Way.

To the FLORIST he is the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley.

To the FARMER he is the Good Shepherd.

To the FRIGHTENED and HELPLESS he is a very present Help in Trouble.

To the GEOLOGIST he is the Rock of Ages.

To the HORTICULTURIST he is the True Vine.

To the JUDGE he is the Righteous Judge, Judge of All Men.

To the JEWELER he is the Pearl of Great Price.

To the LAWYER he is the Counselor, the Lawgiver, the Advocate.

To the NEWSPAPER he is the Good Tidings of Great Joy.

To the OPTICIAN he is the Light of the Eyes.

To the PHILANTHROPIST he is the Unspeakable Gift.

To the PHILOSOPHER he is the Wisdom of God.

To the PREACHER he is the Word of God.

To the SCULPTOR he is the Living Stone.

To the SERVANT he is the Good Master.

To the STATESMAN he is the Desire of All Nations.

To the STUDENT he is the Incarnate Truth.

To the THEOLOGIAN he is the Author and Finisher of our Faith.

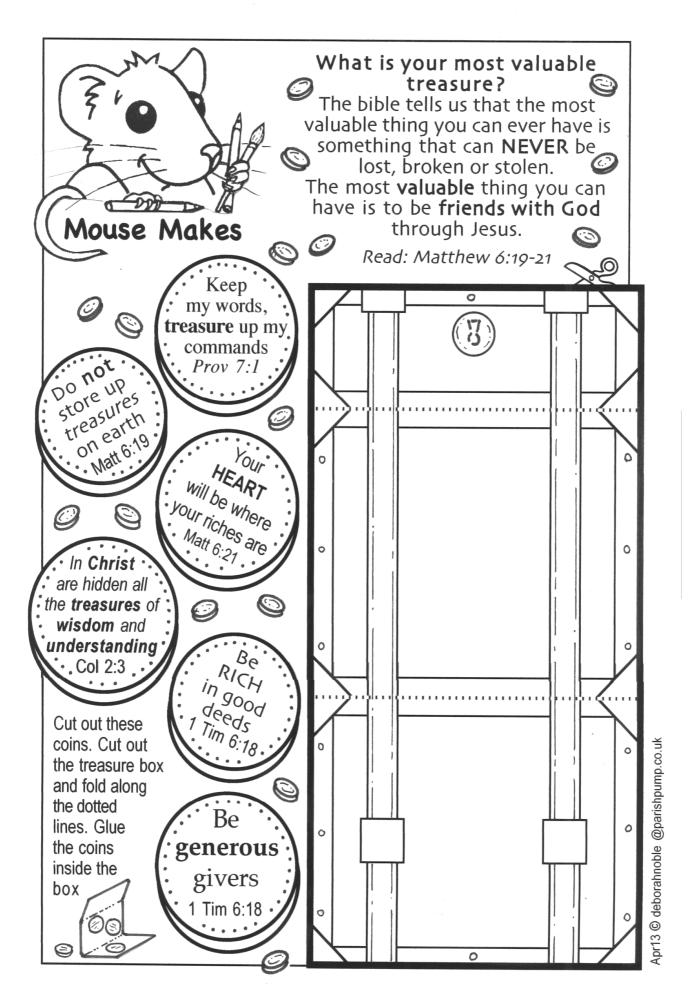
To the TOILER he is the Giver of Rest.

To the SINNER he is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the World.

To the CHRISTIAN he is the Son of the Living God, the Saviour, the Redeemer and the Lord.

To me...he is all of this. He is my everything, my Saviour, my King, my God.

What is he to you?



Looking at You

TEEN meets GOD: Laura's story

I was baptised as a baby, and as I grew up, I went to church with my dad. I went to Sunday school, and I would say and do the right thing. It didn't mean anything though, because I didn't have that intimate relationship with God that other people seemed to have.

In my early teens, I was dragged along to a Christian event. It was a whole week long and I knew it was going to be such a bore. But I wanted my dad and church friends to be happy with me, so I said yes.

I stood at the back in the first meeting, feeling incredibly uncomfortable and out of place. The music started, and everyone started raising their hands in worship. I'd seen this before, but this time was different. I looked around at the faces of all these incredible young people passionate about Jesus, and I realised that I'd been living a religion instead of a relationship. A leader stopped the band mid-song and began to speak – saying that someone needed to know that God loved them so much, and wanted to come into a relationship with them tonight. I knew that was me!

Now I began to worship. I can't describe what I felt in that moment, but I was in the presence of God. I got down on my knees – I must have been there for about half an hour. With my face bowed to the floor, I began to pour out my heart to God. I asked him to forgive my sins and said I wanted to enter into a real relationship with him. As I left that meeting, I knew that Jesus had changed everything. I knew there was a God who loved me who I could pray to; that I could be honest with. From that moment onwards, I can honestly say I have never been the same. Just one touch of God's presence changed my life.

Laura is 18 and lives in Bradford. She is one of the contributors to a new book of stories, 'Jesus is Changing my Life', published by LIFE Church UK. To find out more about the Christian faith, visit http://www.lookingforgod.com

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David Winter considers the success of mobile phones – which are 40 years old this month!

Happy 40th Birthday, mobile phones!

Forty years ago this month an American inventor, Martin Cooper, made the world's first call on a mobile phone. They took a little while to catch on in Britain, but when they did it was like a pandemic. Nowadays you can't get on a train or a bus or walk down the street without seeing them in use - people apparently talking to themselves, but actually conversing with an invisible friend or colleague. Virtually everybody's got one, and of course Cooper's invention has sprouted many new varieties: iPhones, Tablets, Smartphones and so on.

The secret of their success, I reckon, is that they tap into an absolutely fundamental human need: to talk. The toddler can't wait to talk, and parents can't wait for those amazing first words. Trying to stop people talking is like trying to dam a mountain stream. A survey last year asked people to say what was the last thing they would give up in a recession, and the top answer was 'my mobile phone'. Texting, networking, keeping up with friends or just totally meaningless chatter ('Hello, I'm on the train'), we just can't stop talking.

Far from being an odd thing, this is actually entirely natural. Like the Creator in whose image we are made, we are communicating beings. The first specific activity of God in the Bible was to speak: 'God said, "Let there be light'.' Jesus is called 'the Word'. Every moment of the human story is illuminated by speech.

When we ask 'What's in a word?', the answer is, everything. We remember words long after they were spoken, for good or ill. Physical wounds heal, but the memory of an unkind or bitter word lingers for a life-time. At the same time, a few words of love or comfort or understanding will never be forgotten: 'I love you', 'Forgive me', 'I'm home!', 'Don't cry, mummy's here'.

It can even be a single word, which simply changes everything: 'Sorry'. If that's what one word can do, then in the midst of all our chattering on Mr Cooper's invention perhaps we need to remember that words are precious jewels, to be enjoyed, but never to be carelessly or irresponsibly spoken.

Looking at your Community

Philip Barron considers the rising number of Food Banks.

Food Banks – a sign of the times?

The rising cost of food and fuel, combined with static income, unemployment and changes in benefits have seen increasing numbers of people turn to food banks in the UK recently. Recognising the value of these banks, retired archbishop Rowan Williams has become patron of one in his new home town, Cambridge.

The Trussell Trust, a Christian charity, now oversees over 250 local food banks on a franchise basis. Banks typically provide boxes of three days' emergency food to tide people over whilst putting them in touch with other agencies which might be able to help in the longer term.

Many of the banks are located in or around church premises. Thousands of people are giving time and money to find premises, gather supplies of food and make it available to those in great need. It's good for the helpers, too – many are rubbing shoulders with, and hearing stories from, people they've never come across before.

The trust that has had a leading role in the food bank movement was founded in 1997 by Carol and Paddy Henderson and was based on a legacy left by Carol's mother, Betty Trussell. The work had begun when Carol and Paddy were working for a UN feeding programme in Bulgaria and rescued a street baby, Boris. Paddy and Carol vowed to keep him alive and eventually he was taken into an orphanage.

The work started in Bulgaria soon spread to Britain. The Trust's network fed over 128,000 people in a recent 12-month period, distributing 1,225 tonnes of food donated by the public, schools and businesses.

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Traffic go-slow

Here is a gloomy thought: only three European countries have worse rush-hour traffic congestion than Britain, according to recent figures. You certainly don't want to be in London between 4pm and 5pm, when it can take up to a third longer to complete your journey.

London, Manchester and Liverpool are among the most congested cities in Europe in 2011, according to INRIX statistics. (INRIX is a traffic information company.) Only drivers in Belgium, Italy and Holland fare worse.

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MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Church Meetings will be held on Sunday 14 April 2013 at 6:00 pm in St Chad's. It is an opportunity for all parishioners to contribute to and be involved in the affairs of the Parish. Please come and give your support. The meeting will be followed by a short service for those who wish to stay.

We shall receive reports on the matters discussed by the Parochial Church Council, the financial affairs of the Church, the Deanery Synod and the associated Organisations. We shall also:

- discuss the independently inspected accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2011
- elect Church Wardens, who must be nominated and seconded in writing before the meeting (Churchwarden's Measure 2001)
- elect members of the Parochial Church Council
- appoint Sidespersons for the year
- receive a report on the Electoral Roll
- discuss any topics raised by parishioners.

Sidespersons' names are displayed in the churches on the duty rotas. If you wish to bring any topics forward for discussion, please notify the Rector or Secretary in advance of the meeting.

The Parochial Church Council currently comprises the Rector (Revd J Turner), the Churchwardens (Mr R Jackson and Mr J Roberts), the representatives to the Deanery Synod (Mr M Studholme, Mrs H Boothman and Mr C Smale, with one vacancy), all as *ex- officio* members, Mrs J Abbott, co-opted in 2012, and the following elected representatives of the congregation:

- Mrs K Robson, Dr M James, Mrs S Lang, Mrs E Jones and Mr C Eden, elected until 2013.
- Mr A Whelen, Mr E Jones, Mr G Barley, Mrs B Appleyard and Mr C Vickers, elected until 2014.

 Mr J Oliver, Mrs J DeBoorder and Dr E Norton-Jones, elected until 2015

Mrs K Robson, Dr M James, Mrs S Lang, Mrs E Jones and Mr C Eden retire from office this year but may be re-elected for a further three years. Mr Whelen has resigned creating a further vacancy until 2014. There are two further vacancies for election until 2015.

This means that there are eight vacancies for elected members of the PCC, with five currently elected members available for re-election (although Mr Eden has already indicated that he does not wish to stand) and one vacancy for a Deanery Synod representative until 2014, who will be ex-officio a member of the PCC. Mrs Abbott, who is currently a co-opted member of the PCC, may be elected to any of those vacancies.

Nominations for churchwardens must be received in writing in the proper form by the Rector before the meeting and may not be made after the meeting has begun.

Lists for nominations of Wardens, Sidespersons and members of the Council will be posted at the two churches. Please enter the names of nominees and sponsors. Any other members wishing to retire are asked to inform the Secretary well before the meeting.

G.J. Barley (Hon. Secretary)





St Bartholomew's, Thurstaston and St Chad's, Irby Annual Meetings 2012

22nd April 2012 at 6.00 pm

Welcome

The Rector welcomed the 27 people present, thanked them for coming and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Graham Barley, Jean Bentham, June Bibby, Patsy Brady, Geoff & Sue Burns, Julie DeBoorder, Roy Hazelby, Chris Smale, Ruth Such and Betty Withy

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mrs M McKie, seconded by Mrs J Dean, proposed acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting on 27^{th} March 2011 and published in the April edition of the Church magazine. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Election of Churchwardens

Mr R Jackson (first elected 26th April 2009) and Mr J Roberts (first elected 18th April 2010) had been nominated and seconded by Mr A Wallis & Mrs B Appleyard and Mr A Wallis & Mrs P Hulme respectively. They had signed to say they agreed to the nomination and were not disqualified. As no further nominations had been received prior to the meeting, Mr Jackson and Mr Roberts were declared elected.

The Meeting of Parishioners closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mrs J Ratcliffe seconded by Mrs L Ormsby proposed acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting on 27^{th} March 2011 and published in the April edition of the Church magazine. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Approval of Reports

The Rector referred to formal reports published in the Annual Report and, for each one in turn, asked if there were any questions. Mr J Oliver, seconded by Mrs M McKie, proposed acceptance of the following reports published in the Annual Report:

- 1. The Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of St Bartholomew's
- 2. The Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of St Chad's
- 3. The Business of the Church Council during 2011
- 4. The Electoral Roll
- 5. The Junior Church
- 6. The St Chad's Seniors

The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Approval of Reports on Parish Organisations

Dr P Robson, seconded by Mrs J Oliver, proposed acceptance of the reports from the Mothers' Union, the Evening Mothers' Union and other parish organisations, all published in the Annual Report.

The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Approval of the Deanery Synod Report

Mr M Studholme, seconded by Mrs L Ormsby, proposed acceptance of the Deanery Synod report. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Report on the Financial Affairs of the Church

Mr C Eden, the Honorary Treasurer, presented and amplified on the report and accounts published in the Annual Report. We had been unable to pay full Parish Share in 2011 and £10,422 had been withheld. That amount would still need to be paid in the future. He had set a budget for 2012 which included full payment of Parish Share, including the deficit from 2011.

Mrs L Worrall asked what would happen if we did not pay the Parish Share. Mr Eden said that the Parish Share is a donation to the Diocese, set by the Diocese, which will have to be paid at some time, but there is no immediate pressure to do so. However a parish in Cheshire who were having difficulty paying theirs had been told that their parish would be merged with its neighbour if they were unable to pay.

A parishioner asked if the new VAT rate affecting churches would be a problem for the Open Door project. Mr Eden said that as it is a new build which will be self-contained (so events can take place separately), the VAT would be zero rated. He added that the quinquennial repairs had to be completed and paid for by September to enable him to recover the VAT.

Dr C Turnbull asked if we were building a deficit in the accounts year on year and Dr P Robson asked for clarification of the unrestricted funds. Mr Eden said that he hoped there would not be a deficit in 2012, as the overall deficit for 2011 is only £3,000, which is manageable. Also, if we had not shown the unpaid Parish share in the accounts we would not have had a deficit. The Rector pointed out that we had not had a deficit in previous years.

Mr C Eden said that we had been left a legacy by Eva Powell of £8,000. The PCC had pledged £4,000 for the Open Door fund which will mean we have enough in 2012 to receive matched funding. Some of the legacy will be used to purchase a new notice board outside St Bartholomew's.

Mr Eden said that it made a big difference if people paid their planned giving by standing order. It meant that giving is regular rather than sporadic and people did not forget to pay if they did not attend church every week.

Mr M Studholme asked if the contents of the building are covered by the building insurance as the organ in St Bartholomew's was in need of some repairs and had been for some time, but no one had made the PCC aware of this.

Mr Eden said that whatever forms the fabric of the building is covered by the buildings insurance, which is supplied by Ecclesiastical Insurance, who incidentally offer discount for church members.

Mr Eden summarised his report as follows:-

Issues from the Annual Report

- ♦ General Fund now shows a deficit of £3,060
- We withheld £10,422 of Parish Share, partly due to cash flow problems, but also because we have to spend £6,000 on church repairs
- We hope we have reduced water/sewerage costs for St Chad's. Volunteer input for grounds maintenance has reduced outgoings

Where are we now?

- ♦ In the first 3 months of 2012 we had a deficit of £3,200 which is covered by the Budget
- ♦ We expect a year-end deficit of just under £3,000
- We should be able to pay all our Parish Share in 2012
- We have this year received a legacy of £8,000 from the Estate of Eveline Powell. Most of this is already earmarked so is excluded from my figures

What's Next?

- Sometime in the future we will have to pay the Parish Share arrears of £10,422
- ♦ The Archdeacon Mike will talk to us later this year about Parish Share and Planned Giving
- ♦ If we can encourage those who give less than five pounds a week to give a little more and to give on a regular basis by Standing Order we would be well on the way to be ing a viable and financially secure parish.

Approval of the Independently Inspected Annual Accounts for 2011

Mrs E Jones, seconded by Mrs E Jones and Mr J Oliver, proposed approval and acceptance of the independently inspected Church accounts for 2011 and the proposal was agreed unanimously.

Appointment of an Independent Examiner of the Accounts for 2012

Mrs E Jones seconded by Mr M Studholme, proposed inviting Mr R Turner to examine the accounts for 2012. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Election of One Deanery Synod Representatives to serve until 2014

After clarification as to what is involved Dr C Turnbull put his name forward. Dr M James seconded by Dr P Robson proposed and Dr C Turnbull was duly elected.

Election of Members of the Parochial Church Council

Three members had come to the ends of their terms of office and two were unfilled last year creating five vacancies until 2015. The three members of the congregations listed below were elected. They had all previously confirmed their willingness to stand:

- 1. Mr J Oliver, sponsored by Mr C Smale and Mrs L Worrall
- 2. Mrs J DeBoorder sponsored by Mr C Smale and Mrs L Worrall
- 3. Dr E Norton-Jones sponsored by Mr C Smale and Mrs L Worrall

Two casual vacancies were unfilled.

Appointment of Sidespersons

Proposed by Dr P Robson and seconded by Mr R Jackson and by unanimous agreement, three of the currently serving sidespersons, Mrs J Hazeldine, Mrs D Robinson and Mr A Tempest were removed with the rest being reappointed and Mr M Rostock, Mr C Williams and Mr R Wiseman were added.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Rector's Closing Remarks

The Rector said that it was the fourth anniversary of her induction, so a special day for her personally. She hoped that people would stay for the short service of Compline following the meeting and indulge her in both the reading and a hymn from her induction service. She had brought cakes that people could take home as tokens of thanks for their support.

Anniversaries and Annual Meetings were times when we look back with thanksgiving and forward with hope. In the last year, she had tried to make prayer a priority in the life of our church. Well-spring had started in May 2011 and included people from all the congregations, so it felt like the whole church praying together. She hoped that others would attend. They spent time praying in silence, so it did not matter if people preferred not to speak out their prayers.

There were some vacancies on the PCC. She encouraged everyone to talk to people about the work of the PCC and perhaps to use the annual report to explain how the church functions and the need for more people to be involved. She thanked Geoff Burns, who could not be present, but had asked her to say that after 11 years as a server, he would like to retire. This left a gap in our Sunday service team at St Bartholomew's that will need to be filled. A Mums and Tots style group would be starting soon thanks to Carol Marwing and Allison Youds who had offered to run it for us.

Keeping the church community alive and active involved many people, and she was grateful to everyone who helped in any way. However, special thanks must go to Roger and John for all that they do as Church Wardens and the many tasks that they undertake above and beyond the call of duty, also to Chris for his work with our finances and to Graham who quietly carried out his duties with such efficiency that most people don't notice how much work he does. She also thanked Alan and all of the retired clergy who help to keep all of our various services running.

Mrs L Worrall thanked the Rector on behalf of everyone for all she does.

Closing Remarks by Mr J Roberts

Mr Roberts thanked everyone for coming. He said that it had been a difficult year financially, but through Mr C Eden's hard work we were weathering the storm and the future looked bright. He was pleased that he had seen new names appear on the Electoral Roll for both St Bartholomew's and St Chad's. He said we are all evangelists doing God's work and it is up to all of us to encourage others.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm and was followed by a service of Compline.

The Big Bible Event Join us on a good news journey!

Saturday 20 April 2013 Chester Cathedral

Eight interactive zones will let you explore the Gospel using: storytelling, drama, makes, costumed characters, games, puppets, music and much, much more.

There is no age limit, but activities will be great for children aged 5-11 with lots for the rest of the family to join in too.

Activity zones open 9.45am - 2.30pm Worship and Celebration 12 noon

Tickets £2 per child (aged 5 and over)
Adults need to book a FREE ticket

A booking fee of £0.75 per booking will also be payable. Places limited



Bookings (open 1 February) through the Chester Cathedral box office

or: 01244 50099

Full information about the day and tickets will be emailed to groups and families after booking through Chester Cathedral box office

Postcard fliers are available please contact Sandra James at Church House 01244-681973 Ex 223 to say how many you would like. Also contact Sandra for any general enquiries.

A Chester Cathedral Education Event – in cooperation with the Diocesan Children's Committee. Zone leaders from parishes across Chester Diocese, Bible Encounter and Scripture Union.

The best position for prayer

Three theologians at a conference centre sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one, and backed up his claim by quoting a number of texts on humility in Greek.

"No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." He quoted a few texts on praise in Latin.

"You're both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, face down on the floor." He quoted a few texts on penitence in Hebrew.

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted, "the best prayin' I ever did was in English, hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

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Jesus' granny

The little boy came home from his first day at Sunday School and casually told his mother that the Sunday school teacher was Jesus' granny. Astonished, his mother asked: "Whatever makes you think that?"

"Well, it's pretty obvious," said her son. "She never stopped talking about him all morning. She told us Jesus is smarter and stronger and better-behaved than anyone else she knows. She even showed us a picture of him."

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The following sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

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The Factine	7 & Draver	Conference includes meals.	
THE LASUIT	4 COLLAND	Connenence includes inleais.	

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7pm .. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

April Recipes Seared Honey Soy Salmon

Beryl Cartwright has given me this recipe and it tastes very good.

I served it with new potatoes and peas

INGREDIENTS

1 tablespoon Soy Sauce

1 tablespoon oil, I used Flora 2 Salmon fillets

Sunflower oil. ½ tablespoon wholegrain mustard

3 or 4 spring onions, sliced very finely 1 teaspoon clear honey

METHOD

Mix together mustard, honey and soy.

Heat oil and add salmon and cook for approx. 4 mins.

and then turn and cook the other side for approx. 3

mins.

Add soy mixture and mix with the pan juices.

Sprinkle over chopped spring onions.

Let all bubble for approx. 5 mins. more ensuring salmon is cooked through and serve.

Serves 2

Chunky Apple Bake

This filling economical family pudding is a good way to use up slightly stale bread.

INGREDIENTS

3-4 tbls brown sugar

1 lb-1½ lb apples, peeled, cored and

7-8 fl oz skimmed milk

cut into pieces

3-4oz wholemeal bread

METHOD

Preheat oven to 200C/Gas 7

- Peel apples, core and cut into pieces even in size 1.
- 2. Chop up bread into similar sized pieces
- Mix together with the sugar
- Place into a wide ovenproof dish and stir in the milk 4. (amount of milk may need to be adjusted depending on the freshness of the bread-if stale, more milk will be absorbed
- Bake for 30-35 mins. or until golden brown and bubbling Serve this recipe hot

Red Nose Day 2013 What 1st Thurstaston Guides got up to and How they became Record Breakers on the same night!

1st Thurstaston guides had a fabulous evening celebrating red nose day! The guides managed to have an evening of fun filled activities and watch some of the red nose commentary on TV too! Our theme for the night was to "do something funny" so we had a range of wonderful hair-styles, face paints, whacky glasses along with red themed clothing!

They had a great time making red origami dinosaurs or rather dinoseaurs, icing biscuits with sweets and coloured icing sugar making for all sorts of wonderful creations! The guides also did work towards their world issues badge with 15 guides having completed their badge at the end of the evening! The guides also managed to raise £30 for red nose causes too! A great night was had by all!

So what about being Record Breakers?

Well, it was a huge well done to all of the guides in 1st Thurstaston unit on Red nose night as "Blue Peter" announces that night Helen Skelton with help of guiding units around the UK managed to create the longest ever line of bunting with 517 flags!! You may be able to see the guides flags on the BBC iplayer! (or check out it at http://www.rednoseday.com/whats-going-on/news/helen-sets-new-world-record)

The guides in 1st Thurstaston had great fun making the bunting using old duvet covers and attaching a union flag and doing a unit flag with all of their names on! What a great achievement for them all!

Making Pilgrimage a Reality

More and more people are wanting to experience a pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is a journey with a meaning involving preparation, the journey itself and the reflection on your experience. It often involves 'thin places' – where the gap between earth and heaven is so very close.

Here are a few examples of those kinds of journeys open to all:

LINDISFARNE AND THE NORTH EAST

Celtic Summer Pilgrimage "A journey of Faith and an Insight into the Celtic tradition"

Monday 8th July – Monday 15th July 2013 (from £495)

Rob Marshall is the Team Rector of East Ham and has been leading pilgrimages to the North East for over a decade. He is also regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's *Thought for the Day*.

Visit: Whitby, Lastingham, Durham Cathedral, Holy Island & Bamburgh, Bede's World. The Northern Saints associated with the north east of England continue to inspire and encourage Christians into the 21st century. The writings of the Venerable Bede, who tells of the lives of Aidan, Cuthbert, Hilda and Cedd - and all of their contemporaries - forms the backdrop to a remarkable week of journey and discovery.

Included: 7 nights at St Chad's College, Durham, single rooms available at no extra charge, lectures and visits.

T: 01992 579697 E: info@livingthegospel.co.uk Website: www.livingthegospel.co.uk

IONA

Pilgrimage Retreat to Iona with The Ven Bob Fitzharris Monday 30th September – Friday 4th October 2013 (from £493) single rooms available

Bob Fitzharris an experienced pilgrimage leader who has led Celtic pilgrimages to the north east and Scotland on many occasions. He is the former Archdeacon of Doncaster. This is a chance to experience a pilgrimage in a special break to the island of St Columba. It offers space for reflection, time for prayer and discovering the meaning of pilgrimage. Included: 1 night in a Glasgow Hotel, 3 nights stay in an Iona retreat house, Half Board (breakfast & dinner) on three nights, return travel (by coach, train and ferry) between Glasgow and Iona, all talks and visits.

T: 01992 579697 E: info@livingthegospel.co.uk Website: www.livingthegospel.co.uk

HOLY LAND

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land "Following in the footsteps of Jesus" Led by The Rt Revd Richard Frith – Bishop of Hull Monday 17 February – Monday 24 February 2014 (£1495)

The pilgrimage is designed to introduce people both to the places associated with the life, teaching, death and resurrection of Jesus, and also to meet members of the various Christian communities in Palestine and Israel today.

Included: Return flights from Manchester Airport to Tel Aviv, all accommodation on a half board basis, all entrance fees and local government taxes, qualified English speaking guide throughout the tour, all touring in modern air-conditioned coaches.

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c/o Church Office 648 8169 Adoption Society Representative

Mrs C Rostock 648 1112

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Mrs J Heath 648 6015

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

Church Services - March **Sunday Services** St Bartholomew's St Chad's 24th March 9.30am Family Communion 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Holy Communion **Palm Sunday** 3.00pm Baptism 6.30pm Evening Worship 28th March 7.30pm Holy Communion **Maundy Thursday** 2.00pm **Meditative Service** 10.00am Family Service 29th March **Good Friday** 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 31st March 9.30am Holy Communion 11.15am Holy Communion & Baptism Easter Day 6.30pm Evening Worship 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 7th April 9.30am Morning Worship 11.15am Holy Communion Easter 2 6.30pm Holy Communion 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 14th April 9.30am Holy Communion 11.15am Morning Worship Easter 3 NO SERVICE 6.00pm APCM 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 21st April 9.30am Morning Worship 11.15am Holy Communion Easter 4 6.30pm Holy Communion 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Family Communion 28th April 11.15am Holy Communion Easter 5 6.30pm Evening Worship

Weekday Services

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
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