

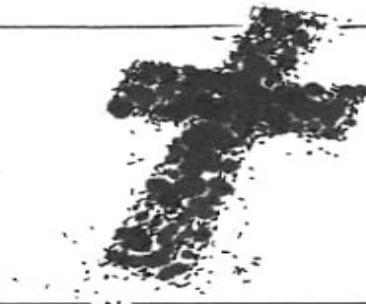
Crosstalk 40p

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

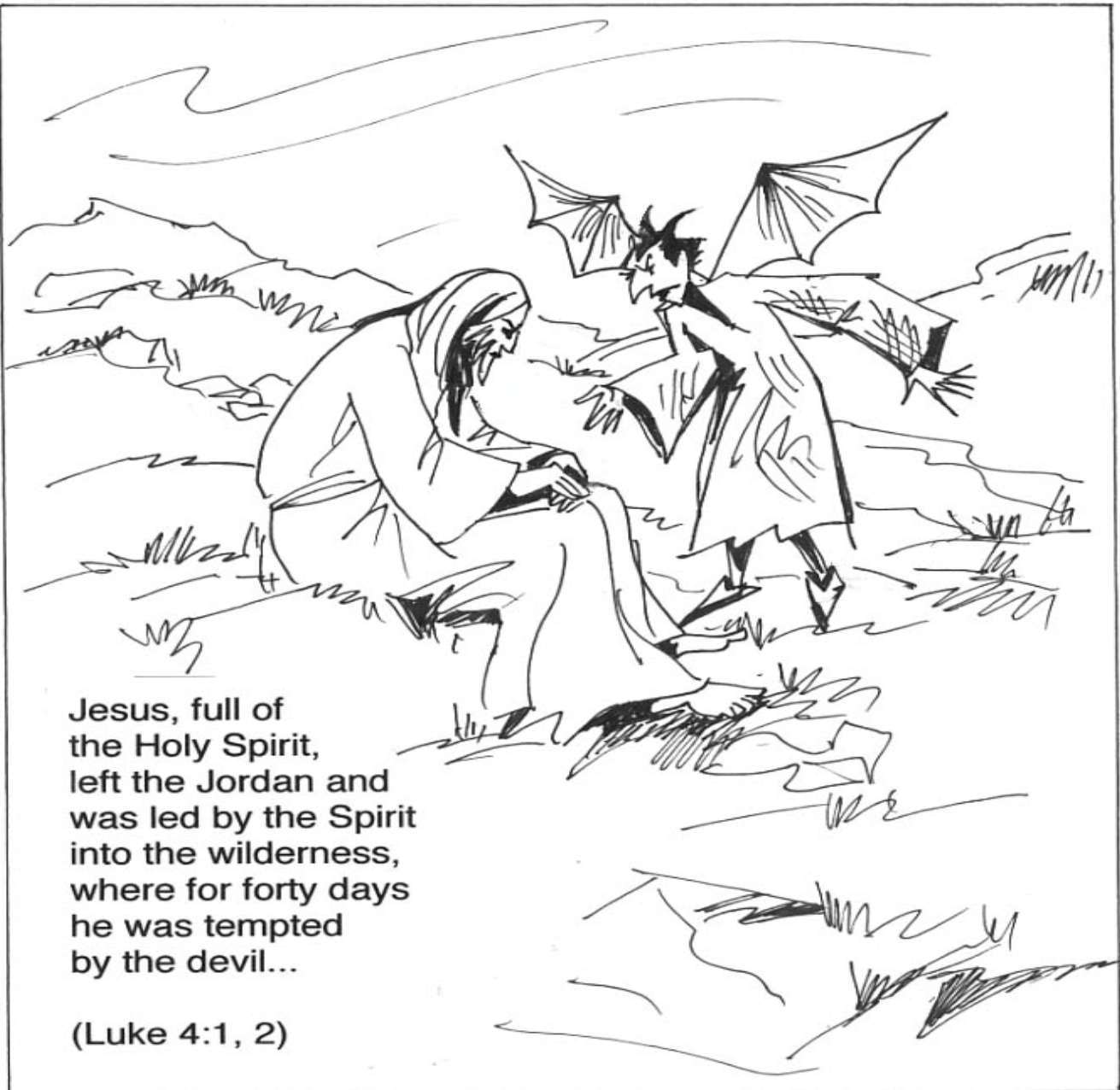


THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

March



2014



Jesus, full of
the Holy Spirit,
left the Jordan and
was led by the Spirit
into the wilderness,
where for forty days
he was tempted
by the devil...

(Luke 4:1, 2)

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Magazine Subscriptions

These are now due for 2014. Details of how to pay on page 29.

Diary Dates

Saturday 1st March Men's Breakfast 8.45-9.45am at Aroma Café, Irby	Saturday 5th April Attic Sale 10am-12noon at St Chad's
Sunday 2nd March St Chad's Day	Saturday 29th March Dads 'n' Kids Craft Morning 10am-12 Noon at St Chad's
Wednesday 12th March Afternoon Tea & Entertainment 2.00pm at St Chad's	Good Friday 18th April Easter Journey Experience 10.00-11.30am at St Chad's
Thursday 20th March Lenten Lunch 12noon at the Rectory	

From the Registers

<i>Baptisms</i>	<i>Funerals</i>	<i>Funerals</i>
<i>We welcome into the Lord's family</i>	<i>We commend to God's eternal care</i>	<i>We commend to God's eternal care</i>
26th January	29th January	21st February
Daniel & Thomas	Elsie Davis	Nora Davis
Keegan	6th February	
	Revd. Ian Morris	

Life on a spin

Many years ago, at the Pleasure Beach at Blackpool, there was a certain 'ride' or amusement that was strictly for the physically fit. It consisted of a flat wooden disc about 20 feet in diameter and set at an angle of 45 degrees in the floor. When it began to rotate, the aim was to get to the centre where there was a pole. As the disc rotated faster and faster, everyone who failed to get to the pole got flung off. Nowadays there's probably a European Community regulation banning it as far too dangerous!

The principle of the game was a basic law of physics. When any wheel rotates, the outer rim moves fastest of all. Half way to the centre and you are moving a lot more slowly. And, at least theoretically, at the absolute centre will be a point which is totally still. That's why anyone who reached that pole could stand there quite comfortably.

Ash Wednesday (5th March this year) is the beginning of the Church's season of Lent. It's generally thought of as being a time for giving up chocolate, wine, whatever. But it's really a time to remind us that in our own rapidly spinning world, God is the still centre.

All around God is motion, sound, change and decay - galaxies circling, seasons and years rotating, life developing and decaying. And at the still centre, where there is no variableness, is God, the same yesterday, today and forever.

Only a couple of months ago Christians worldwide were thinking of God getting involved in a special way in the ever moving and changing life of the world. And one great characteristic of Jesus' life was his stillness. Busy, harassed, injured people found someone with neither clever chat nor idle gossip, neither vulgar boasting nor loud opinion. His life always seemed to rotate round a still central point, which gave him balance and authority.

"Be still then and know that I am God" wrote the Psalmist. Lent is a time for us to try and get a feel of what that still centre in our own lives may be like.

Being still doesn't mean being silent. We're all of us very much in the world and live our lives in all of its busyness. But it may do none of us any harm to be a little more silent than we often are - quick to listen and slow to speak. And the more silent spaces we give ourselves, the more we'll give that still, small voice within each one of us the chance to be heard.

Of course, being still doesn't mean that we should become passive spectators, doing nothing. God's stillness is full of energy. That still centre of the spinning disc is also the point which drives the rest of the rotating circle. Equally, when we're in touch with that still centre, we'll be able to give strength and support to those who feel they're spinning at the edges.

Being still does mean that we need to take time to pause, to take stock, to take a critical look at our lives. That's what Lent is about. On the spinning discs of our own lives, we need to remember that there is a still centre, calm and yet full of energy - which is where God is.

Yours in Christ,

Rerd Jane



St Chad's Day - 2nd March

Join us to celebrate St Chad's Day:-

10.30am Family Service at St Chad's

Followed by Family Games/Crafts

11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

12.30pm Bring and Share Lunch at St Chad's

EVERYONE WELCOME (you don't have to have been to a service!)



Please bring enough food for you (your family) and this will be placed on a communal table. Everyone will then share together in the feast that evolves.

Women Bishops?

Following the decision by General Synod to refer the legislation regarding "the consecration of women to the episcopate" to the dioceses for a shortened period of consultation, with a response required by 22nd May, there have been three open meetings arranged around our diocese when folk of all persuasions might meet together with Bp Peter and Libby Lane (Dean for women in ministry), and some of our General Synod Representatives, to discuss the legislation and its potential operation. These will be as follows, in each case at 7.30pm, with refreshments from 7.00pm (please car share if possible):

Wed 30th April Foxhill

Thurs 1st May Parish Centre, St Peter's, Heswall

Tues 6th May St Andrew's, Cheadle Hulme

All are welcome to attend.

12noon Thurs 20th Mar
at the Rectory
(77 Thingwall Rd)
Donations please
profit to
"REACH for Rwanda"

12noon Thurs 27th Mar
At Irby Methodist Church
Donations please
profit to
"Christian Aid"



A Lenten Prayer Resource

Visit www.chester.anglican.org from Ash Wednesday (5th March). You will find there "Lent 2014: Following Jesus" – a daily-changing meditation on Matthew's gospel, written by Loveday Alexander, Canon Theologian at Chester Cathedral. Read it daily – you'll see the link to it on the right hand side of the home page.

Dads 'n' Kids Craft Morning Saturday 29th March St Chad's 10.00am-12noon

Leave Mum at home for some peace

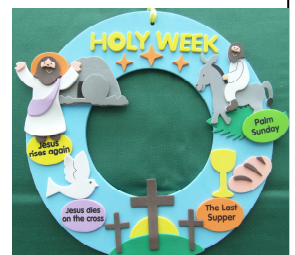


Come and Make things
For Mothering Sunday.

Mothering Sunday – 30th March
For details of Services
see the Back Cover of the Magazine

Easter Journey Experience Good Friday 18th April 10.00-11.30am St Chad's

Lots of fun things
to do and make



Everyone will travel together on a journey around the building with crafts, activities and stories taking us on a journey from Palm Sunday through to Easter Day.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Annual Church Meetings will be held on Sunday 6 April 2014 at 6:30 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 2013
- 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.

Current Members of the PCC

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 (Mrs H Boothman, Mr C Smale, Mr M Studholme, and Dr C Turnbull), all as *ex-officio* members, and the following elected representatives of the congregation:

- Mrs B Appleyard, Mr G Barley and Mr C Vickers, elected until 2014, with two vacancies.
- Mr J Oliver, Mrs J DeBoorder, Dr E Norton-Jones, Dr M James and Mr R Denison, elected until 2015.
- Mrs J Abbott, Mrs E Jones, Mrs S Lang, Mr C Eden and Mr A Harford, elected until 2016.

Election of five PCC Members

Mr Barley reaches the end of his term of office this year but may be re-elected for a further three years. Mrs Appleyard and Mr Vickers do not wish to be re-elected. There are two further vacancies for election until 2017.

Election of three Deanery Synod Representatives

This year we must also elect representatives to the Deanery Synod. They will also be members of the PCC. At present we have four representatives, all eligible for re-election, but only three places to fill.

Summary

If all those available for re-election are elected for three years, there will still be a further three vacancies. It is important that the PCC represents all parts of the congregation. Ideally, some of the vacancies would be filled by new members who might provide a different view of the church organisation and different insights into our activities.

There are certain eligibility requirements, but anyone who has any interest in becoming more involved in how the church arranges its activities should speak as soon as possible to the Rector, the Honorary Secretary or to any PCC member. Everyone can offer something – do not be put off just because you think you don't know enough about it.

Election of Churchwardens

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.

Forms for nominations of Wardens, Sidespersons and members of the Council will be available at the two churches.

G.J. Barley (Hon. Secretary)

St Bartholomew's, Thurstaston and St Chad's, Irby

Annual Meetings 2013

14th April 2013 at 6.00 pm

Welcome

Thirty people were present, and the Rector welcomed everyone, thanked them for coming and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Appleyard, Mrs L Barley, Mrs J Bentham, Mr G Burns, Mrs R Eden, Mr C Eden, Mr A Harford, Mrs K Robson, Mr M Rostock, Mrs S Smale, Mrs R Switch, Mrs S Turnbull, Dr C Turnbull and Mrs B Withy.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mrs J Ratcliffe, seconded by Dr P Robson, proposed acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting on 22nd April 2012 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 Dr P Robson and Mr C Smale and by Mr A Wallis and Mr G Burns respectively. They had signed to say they agreed to the nomination, were eligible and were not disqualified. As no further nominations had been received prior to the meeting, Mr Jackson and Mr Roberts were declared elected and the Meeting of Parishioners closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mrs M McKie seconded by Mrs J Ratcliffe proposed acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting on 22nd April 2012 and published in the April edition of the Church magazine. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Cont....

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 B Appleyard, proposed acceptance of the following reports:

- The Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of St Bartholomew's
- The Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of St Chad's
- The Business of the Church Council during 2011
- The Electoral Roll
- The Junior Church
- The St Chad's Seniors

The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Approval of Reports on Parish Organisations

Dr P Robson, seconded by Mrs B Appleyard, 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.

Report on the Financial Affairs of the Parish during 2012

The Rector referred to the narrative financial report included in the Annual Report and to the report of the Church Accounts for 2012 published separately for the meeting. She asked if there were any questions about the financial arrangements and the accounts.

Mrs P Hulme asked if those attending baptisms at St Bartholomew's could be persuaded to give more towards the work of the church. Mr C Smale stated that at a recent christening that he had attended in Berkshire, the vicar had been very forthright in explaining the financial position of the church and had asked everyone to donate at least £10 in a gift-aid envelope. Mr R Dennison said that the problem was not explained often enough and suggested monthly reports in the weekly news sheet (pewleaf).

Mrs Bibby commented that cleaning at St Bartholomew's would be an issue in the future, and Mrs L Worrall asked about Parish Share and the consequences if it were not paid. The Rector explained the issues, the costs that Parish Share covered and said that if it were unpaid, the provision of ministry within the parish might be reduced to, for example, a half-time rector.

There were no further questions. Mr G Burns thanked Mr Eden, who had been unable to attend, for the clarity of his written report. Mr J Oliver, seconded by Mr R Dennison, proposed acceptance of the financial reports for 2012 and that was agreed unanimously.

Approval of the Independently Inspected Annual Accounts for 2012

Dr P Robson, seconded by Mrs J Abbott, proposed approval and acceptance of the independently inspected Church accounts for 2012 and the proposal was agreed unanimously. The Rector explained that Mr Eden was retiring as treasurer owing to

ill health, and as nobody had come forward to volunteer for that role, new arrangements for monitoring and managing the finances of the Parish had been devised and would be used until a treasurer was found.

Appointment of an Independent Examiner of the Accounts for 2013

Mr R Turner had carried out this role for several years but wished to retire. The meeting recorded grateful thanks for his considerable involvement and support for the church in that role and as the previous treasurer. Mrs J DeBoorder, seconded by Mr J Oliver, proposed the appointment of Mrs P Brady as Independent examiner for 2013 and that 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. Mr Smale noted from the Deanery Synod report that the collection rate for Parish Share was 93-95%, and also the information in the report about the size of the Parish.

Election of Members of the Parochial Church Council

One member had retired, creating a casual vacancy until 2014. Five members had come to the ends of their terms of office. Two vacancies were unfilled last year. Seven of the eight vacancies were filled by the members of the congregations listed below, all of whom had previously confirmed their willingness to stand:

Mrs J Abbott, proposed by Mr E Bezant and seconded by Mr A Wallis

Mr R Dennison, proposed by Mrs J Abbott and seconded by Mr G Burns

Mr C Eden, proposed by Mr J Roberts and seconded by Mrs L Roberts

Dr M James, proposed by Mrs V Jamieson and seconded by Mrs E Randall

Mrs E Jones, proposed by Mrs J Bibby and seconded by Mrs L Ormsby

Mr A Harford, proposed by Mr G Barley and seconded by Mrs J Ratcliffe

Mrs S Lang, proposed by Mrs P Hulme and seconded by Mrs J Abbott

One vacancy was unfilled.

Appointment of Sidespersons

The Rector read out the list of current sidespersons and the names of others who had volunteered for that role: others then came forward. All those named were approved unanimously.

Other Business

Mrs P Hulme asked about progress with the Open Door Project at St Bartholomew's. Mr J Roberts replied that the local Conservation Officer had made several positive suggestions including raising the level of the approach path to improve accessibility, glass doors on the outside of the porch to reduce draughts in the church and a wooden building at the end of the church to house toilet facilities. There was no other business.

Rector's Closing Remarks

The Rector said that she hoped people could join her for an evening later in the month to celebrate the fifth anniversary of her induction. She thanked all those who had supported her in any way. She said the Church involved everyone working together as the body of Christ.

Closing Remarks by Mr R Jackson

Mr Jackson thanked everyone for coming and thanked the Rector for her enthusiasm and efficiency. He also thanked all those who organised or helped with the Junior Church.

The meeting closed at 7.05 pm and was followed by a service of Compline.

St Bartholomew and St Chad

Afternoon Tea & Entertainment

Wednesday 12th March 2.00 p.m.

St Chad's Church Hall, Roslin Road.

Admission £4.00
(Includes free entry into the raffle)

Tickets may be purchased from Alan Jones,
Leslie Worrall, June Dean or the Church Office.
For further details or transport requests please contact
0151 648 1400



This Christian ecumenical initiative in partnership with the Police, Council, Local Authority and Local Government. In 2011 in Birkenhead a consortium of five Wirral based churches and Christian organisations came together to form a management group. The result was Wirral Street Pastors,

which sees a team of at least four volunteers patrolling every Friday from 11pm until 4am the streets of Birkenhead town centre during the night time economy, providing 'in the moment' help and assistance to all they meet with a fully inclusive and non judgmental approach that encourages building relationships with door staff, fast food outlets and the many people they meet during their patrol. As we approach our second birthday, this initiative is currently represented by over nine local churches on the streets of central Birkenhead every Friday, as the teams seek to care, listen and help within the night time economy, witnessing in tangible ways to the presence of God's Kingdom and love.

Please contact us if you would:

- like to know more Wirral Street Pastors
- be interested in joining Wirral Street Pastors for a *taster* session on the streets
- like to talk about joining us either as a Prayer Partner or as a volunteer on the streets

If you are over 18 and can make yourself available late night to care, listen, support and help vulnerable people.

If so then IT COULD BE **YOU?**



Interested in becoming a Street Pastor?

*Supported by:
Home Office*

Email: recruitment@wirralstreetpastors.co.uk

CARING · LISTENING · HELPING



PARISHIONERS AT WAR!

Part 5

Introduction

This is the fifth of a series of articles about the wartime experiences of members of our parish. The subjects of this month's article are Doreen and Cecil Jones who have long been regular worshippers at St Bartholomew's. Cecil's father used to be the vergier and sexton at St Bartholomew's, while Doreen and Cecil's son, Michael, served there, for many years, as organist and choirmaster. This year, Cecil and Doreen will be celebrating their 62nd Wedding Anniversary, after having, initially, met at a tennis club in the 1950s.

The wartime memories of Doreen Jones

Doreen was eleven years old at the outbreak of the war. She recalls the family listening to Chamberlain's announcement on the radio, but says, at that young age, she was not fully aware of the gravity of the occasion. She was due to start Wirral Grammar School the day after the announcement, but the new term was delayed for three weeks, while air aid shelters were built. While Doreen was attending Wirral Grammar School, a land mine hit the playing field, damaging many classrooms and causing a great deal of disruption to the daily routine in terms of available teaching spaces.

Doreen lived in Bebington, and has a twin sister, Eileen. Her father had served as a Special Constable during the 1st World War and served as an Air Raid Warden during the 2nd World War. Doreen recalls the air raid sirens signalling the blitz and sleeping in the pantry, which the family used as their home made air raid shelter. She recalls that, eventually, she just got used to the air raids as they became part of everyday life. Doreen remembers her father returning home from warden duty visibly upset after a particularly heavy air raid over Liverpool, during which the bombs were scattered over a wide area and not just on the dock installations.

As part of her own war effort, Doreen knitted balaclavas and mittens for the troops. She vividly remembers food rationing and the fact that the family had to exist on 1 shilling and two pence worth of meat per week, together with two pence worth of corned beef. On one occasion, the latter was, totally, consumed by the family dog during an unguarded moment! Each family member was allowed one egg per week.

By the end of the war, Doreen was 16 years old and working for the Royal Insurance in North John Street. She recalls they were all given an extra week's holiday in celebration of the end of the war!

The Wartime Memories of Cecil Jones

At the outbreak of the war, Cecil was 14 years old and living in Prenton. During the 1st World War, his father had worked at Cammel Lairds building submarines, after having served an apprenticeship as a pipe fitter in the motor industry. He had one sister, Irene, who was, eventually, to become a teacher at Coombe Road Primary School.

During what became known as the 'Phoney War,' Cecil was evacuated to Portmadog but he returned home from there by Christmas 1939. Cecil attended Rock Ferry High School and kept a fascinating diary, cataloguing the air raids during the Liverpool and Birkenhead Blitz. His entry for Wednesday 4th September 1940 reads:

Was going to school At 11.00 a.m. but there was an air raid from 10.45 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. so did not go. There were 4 small air raids in daylight today. No bombs were dropped but heard gunfire and machine guns. Went to bed at 9.30 p.m. Air raid at 10.00 p.m. to 4.30 a.m. (six and a half hours, the longest yet). I went to sleep but woke once or twice and heard aeroplanes. Some bombs. Father's getting jittery, mother cannot sleep. Irene and I are quite able to sleep.

Like Doreen's family, Cecil's family used the pantry as their air raid shelter, reinforcing the door with planks of timber. Before that, they had used the space under the stairs like many people. This was because blitzed homes were often seen to have their staircases intact, though the surrounding walls had all collapsed. Cecil recalls hearing incendiary bombs dropping in the surrounding streets.

Living with Cecil's family was his bachelor uncle who was a scoutmaster. Cecil joined the scout troop and, along with other senior scouts, served as a fire watcher on the roof of Birkenhead General Hospital in Conway Street. He also helped as a porter in the Accident and Emergency Department and acted as a messenger. It was while he was carrying out the latter role that he came across rows of dead people who had been victims of the bombing.

By 1943 Cecil was eighteen years old. Two of his scout group had already volunteered for the Fleet Air Arm and Cecil decided to do the same. His initial application was rejected on grounds of his eyesight but Cecil persisted and, somehow, eventually got himself accepted and was sent to Canada for training. There, he learned to fly American *Wildcat* Carrier based aircraft. On his return, as a qualified pilot and Sub Lieutenant, Cecil made a somewhat tortuous journey by air across the world to Ceylon to serve with the Pacific Fleet, fighting against the Japanese alongside the American and Australian Navies.

When he arrived, Cecil discovered that *Wildcat* pilots were not required and he had to quickly learn to fly another American Plane the *Corsair* – notable for its bent wings and known by the nickname, *The Whistling Death*. The *Corsair* was armed with 6 half inch machine guns, but could also carry two 500lb bombs.

Cont....

Cecil served on two aircraft carriers, the *Ruler* and the *Formidable*. The pilots' task was to patrol the fleet, particularly investigating any blips that appeared on the ships' radars. Pilots were on a cycle of 4 hours on and four hours off duty and spent considerable time sitting in their planes ready for take off. Cecil recalls bending a few undercarriages during his flying sorties and, on one occasion, was forced to bail out into the Pacific following engine failure! He was rescued from his dinghy by an Australian warship, HMAS Nepal, and still has photographs of his rescue.

At the end of the war, lots were drawn for the order of the service men's return home. Despite only having been on active service since 1943, Cecil was drawn in the first tranche and returned home by Christmas 1945. Of the three scouts who had gone to war, sadly, only two returned. Upon being demobbed, Cecil returned to training as a Quantity Surveyor which he had commenced in 1942, before joining up in 1943. He and Doreen were married in 1952.



A *Corsair* in storage mode with wings folded

Alan Jones, Lay Reader

The Great War: THE TRENCHES

By David Winter

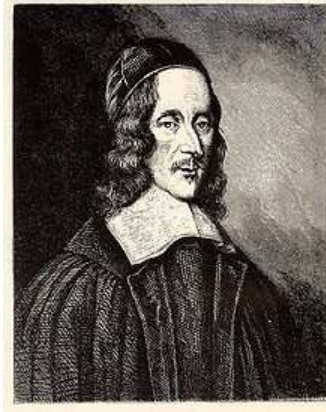
The trenches are the defining visual image of the Great War. Both sides created them when it became obvious that for all the 'pushes' and counter-attacks not much was happening geographically. A hilly ridge would be taken, at enormous human cost. A month later it would be recaptured. The trenches stretched for hundreds of miles across northern France, once the earlier ones in southern Belgium were abandoned, and they became 'home' to hundreds of thousands of soldiers.

The trench was a narrow but deep ditch, designed to shield the men who were on look-out duty from enemy fire. Behind the trenches were the living quarters - dug out of the earth, usually with roofs of corrugated iron, where there were bunks for sleeping and rudimentary facilities for washing and eating. Hot food came from the Company cook-house behind the lines. 'Too much bully beef', my father complained - corned beef, to us. Very nice as an occasional choice, but a bit unexciting as a regular diet. Surprisingly, perhaps, to those of us who only know of the War from films and books, in between major outbreaks of fighting the trench provided an adequate if modest degree of normality. Every day, my father told me, the newspaper seller would visit with copies of the *Daily Mail*. No escaping from the football results and news from home.

The trouble was that periodically the senior officers would decide that it was time for another desperate attempt to dislodge the enemy. Bayonets would be fixed, ashen faced young men would line up in the trenches awaiting the signal - usually a blast on a whistle - which would summon them to climb the steps out into the open, there to face, inevitably, the devastating fire of the German machine guns. It was some time into the War before the Allies were equipped with these deadly weapons, and it was the multiple, sustained rain of bullets that caused most of the casualties.

Above all this was the constant barrage of the big guns, firing from both sides but well behind the lines. Their thunderous roar could be heard at times far away across the Channel in Kent. Most of the shells simply exploded in the soft soil of Flanders or the Somme - they are still being ploughed up by farmers today, a century later. But some were what became known as 'direct hits', and those could be devastating.

In the midst of all this - the mud, the stench, the noise and the imminent possibility of death - were the soldiers themselves. Among them moved the medics, the nurses, the chaplains - agents of care and compassion in a world which seemed to have gone mad. Some soldiers simply couldn't stand it. 'Shell-shocked' was the diagnosis in those days. The wonder is that anybody could.



George Herbert

In the lectionary, February 27th is set aside for the commemoration of George Herbert, Priest and Poet, who died on that day in 1633. Although you may not know his name, you will have, certainly, sung some of the hymns he wrote and for which he became famous after his death – but more about them later!

George Herbert, one of ten children, was born on 3rd April 1593 in Montgomery, Mid Wales. He was the son of Richard Herbert, Lord of Cherbury and his wife Magdalen, the daughter of Sir Richard Newport. His father was an M.P., a Justice of the Peace and also, for some time, the High Sheriff. His mother was a patron of poets, writers and artists and included in her circle the artist, John Dunne.

At the age of about 12 yrs, George entered Westminster School, first as a day student and, later, as a boarder. From Westminster he was admitted on a scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1609 where he graduated, first with a Bachelor's degree and then with a Master's. He excelled in languages, rhetoric and music, to such an extent that he was elected as a major fellow of his college and was appointed reader in rhetoric.

In 1620, he was appointed to the post of the university's Public Orator – a role which was helped by his fluency in both Latin and Greek. His power of oratory was soon put to the test when some students upset the visiting King James 1st with some religious satire, an embarrassing situation which was only rescued by some clever oratory from George!

In 1624, George Herbert became a member of parliament for Montgomery and there seemed a good chance that he might well have been appointed Secretary of State to King James but James' death ended George's association with parliament.

In 1629, George decided to enter the priesthood, an almost unprecedented decision, given his high status in secular society. He took holy orders in the Church of England and spent the rest of his life as rector of the little rural parish of Fuglestone St Peter with Bremerton, near Salisbury, Wiltshire – about 75 miles from London.

By this time, George was an accomplished poet, writing in Latin and Greek as well as in English, and he continued his writing during his years as a country parish rector. However, this did not stop him entering, wholeheartedly, into the spirit of Parish life with his new wife and three orphaned nieces, to whom he had given a home.

He used his own money to rebuild the Bremerton Church and rectory. He was an outstanding priest, noted for his unfailing care of his parishioners, taking the sacraments to them when they were ill and providing food and clothing for them when they were in need.

There is a sense in which George became the role model for the traditional English Country Vicar and, indeed, he wrote a guide to rural ministry entitled, *The Country Parson, His Character and the Rule of Holy Life*. Twice a week, George made the short journey to Salisbury Cathedral to attend services there and, after each service, he would stay behind to make music with the cathedral musicians.

However, George Herbert's time at Bremerton was, tragically, short. Having suffered from poor health for most of his short life, he died in 1633 from Consumption, only three years after his ordination. Shortly before his death, George had sent copies of his poems to a friend, Nicholas Ferrar, who published them not long after George died.

All of George's poems were of a religious nature. They were characterised by a precision of language, a metrical versatility and an ingenious use of imagery, akin to the metaphysical school of poetry.

Some of George's poems endure to this day as popular hymns, including, *King of Glory*, *King of Peace*, *Let all the world in every corner sing*, and *Teach me my God and King*.

George Herbert's first biographer, Izaak Walton wrote of him,

He composed such hymns and anthems as he and the angels now sing in heaven.

Cont....

Although George Herbert lived in difficult political and religious times, he avoided controversy and, instead, lived a model life of piety, obedience and deeply held faith

The opening verse of the hymn, *Teach me my God and King*, perhaps best crystallises George's theological outlook, for he clearly saw the hand of God active in all of creation. He would have been truly at home today amongst those for whom conservation is one of the main challenges facing our world.

*Teach me my God and King,
In all things thee to see;
And what I do in anything
To do it as for thee.*



**St Andrew's Church, Bemerton,
where George Herbert served
as rector and in which he is buried**

Alan Jones, Lay Reader

ATTIC SALE

5th April

10.00am–12noon St Chad's Church Hall

Contact 07970030794

tables at £5 each.

Entrance 20p

Bacon batches

tea/coffee/juice



*In aid of Mothers' Union
Literacy Fund*

The next meeting of EMU will be on
Wednesday 19th March,
8.00pm at St Chads'.
'Imagination' by Revd. Jane.
Please come along, non members welcome.

**Advanced Notice of
Lent, Holy Week and Easter Special Services**

Ash Wednesday 5th March

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

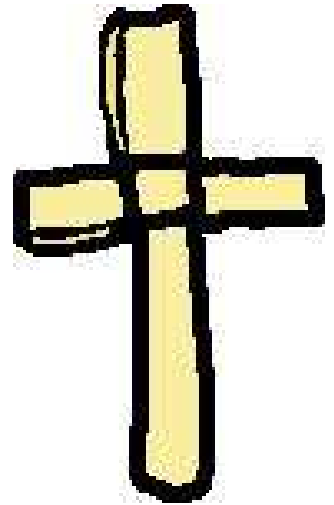
Palm Sunday 13th April

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 Taize Service at St Chad's



Maundy Thursday 17th April

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

There is also a service at 11.00am at Chester Cathedral

Good Friday 18th April

10.00-11.30am Easter Journey Experience at St Chad's

Lots of fun things to do and make: Everyone will travel together on a journey around the building with crafts, activities and stories taking us on a journey from Palm Sunday through to Easter Day

10.00am Short Morning Service in St Chad's Extension

2.00pm "Hour at the Cross"

Meditative Service at St. Bartholomew's

Easter Day 20th April

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

NO Evening Service

Sunday 27th April (Sunday After Easter)

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

9.30am Morning Worship at St Chad's

11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

NO Evening Service



**Parish Outing to
Lichfield Cathedral and
The National Memorial Arboretum
Tuesday 17th June 2014
EVERYONE WELCOME**



Cost £15.00

Includes Coach, Driver's Tip & a Donation to Lichfield Cathedral.

Does not include Lunch or any refreshments.

There is no charge for entry to the National Memorial Arboretum and as an individual you may wish to make a donation via the visitor centre on the day.

9.00am Meet on the Rectory Drive (77 Thingwall Rd)

Please park either in St Chad's Car Park or the Village Car Park and walk to the

Rectory. Please DO NOT park at the Rectory - the Coach will need access!

9.15am Depart from The Rectory

11.00am Arrive Lichfield (St Chad's) Cathedral

Explore the Cathedral at Leisure

Enjoy Lunch in the Cathedral Refectory or your own picnic in the grounds

1.45pm Depart Lichfield

2.00pm Arrive at The National Memorial Arboretum

Explore at your own Leisure. For those needing disabled facilities, their website says:-



*Visitors in **wheelchairs** and **electric scooters** are well catered for. There is level access to the Visitor Centre, where toilet facilities are available, and firm, level paths give good access to much of the site.*

4.30pm Depart The National Memorial Arboretum

Book your place ASAP

**Give your name and a non-refundable £5.00 deposit
to Leslie Worrall or Alan Jones,
or put it in an envelope and deliver to the Parish Office.**



Chester Diocesan Lay Conference 2014 -

Apprentice - You're Hired!

Following the Master - Exploring the Way - Led by the Spirit

The Lay Conference this year will be held at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick between the 16th and 18th May. Its aim is to explore the true meaning of discipleship and bookings may now be made using the downloadable booking form - see the Events page on the diocesan website for forms and further details or use the following URL for direct access - <http://bit.ly/1hvgThC> (please be aware, this link is case sensitive). The cost of the weekend, which includes accommodation for two nights and all meals, has been held at £145 per person (which is only £5 more than the cost in 2011 and offers amazing value).

Would you please make everyone in your parish aware of this event and encourage them to attend as we are hoping to have as many parishes from our diocese represented as possible. However, bookings will be treated on a first-come first-served basis and there will be no limit on the number of delegates who may attend from any individual parish so please ensure that your delegates book early.

This year, thanks to Bishop Peter's support for this event, we are able to offer a number of bursaries for attendees who are 25 and under years of age and a smaller number for older delegates who are financially disadvantaged and otherwise may not be able to attend - again, both of these offers are on a first-come first-served basis and the total number of bursaries we have available is strictly limited. Those who are 25 and under and are sponsored by their incumbent or priest-in-charge may obtain free access to the event and over 25s who qualify will be offered a £100 subsidy that will reduce the total cost of their attendance to £45 (a figure which will hopefully be met, at least in part, by a further donation from their PCC). To qualify for a bursary we ask the incumbent or priest-in-charge to send an e-mail to layconf@ashtonhayes.co.uk giving the person's name, age and, in the case of over 25s, the reason for requesting a bursary - any information provided in this way will be treated in strictly confidence - further specific joining instructions will be sent by return.

Finally we ask that your parish will support us in prayer. Please pray for the conference and those involved in its organisation; pray for the main speakers and workshop leaders; and pray for the delegates themselves that they may receive instruction, encouragement and refreshment.



Wellspring

Third Monday of each month
this month: **Monday March 17th**

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.

Chester Diocesan Lay Conference **16th – 18th May 2014**

A weekend residential conference at
the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire

Anyone is welcome to go on this Conference which happens every three years. Members of our congregation, who have attended in the past, have found this to be an excellent weekend.

If you are interested, please speak to Revd Jane.

Saturday July 12th at St Chad's Commemorating 100 years since the beginning of World War 1

There will be:-

- **Displays of artwork produced by primary school children**
- **Information about the men recorded on our War Memorial**
- **A family History Enquiry Table**
- **A display about “Animals in the War”**
- **Refreshments**

We would be especially interested to hear from anyone who is related to those on our War Memorial (Thomas Baker, Fred Carr (MM), Charles Fairbanks, Edwin Lester, Frank Lester (VC), William Lee Maddock). Also if anyone has any artefacts that they would be willing to bring to display on the day (you would be responsible for them at all times).

We would also invite anyone else who would like to produce a display on a specific area of the war to get in touch. Areas that people might have a special interest in could be Women in the War, Medicine, Life in the Trenches, War Poetry, Army, Navy, Air Force, The Merchant Service, The Home Front (e.g. Land Girls, Munitions, Transport, Train Drivers), Rationing – the effects on home life, The Civilian Services (Police, Ambulance, Fire), Individuals eg Woodbine Willy (Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy), Tubby Clayton (Reverend Philip Thomas Byard Clayton), etc...

Mr Roger Jackson (Tel: 648 0365)



P.S. If there are any church members who would like to offer to organise the refreshments, please also contact Roger

P.P.S. If there are any church members willing to organise a “mini” Summer Fair in the extension to run alongside this event, please also contact Roger.

March Recipe - Non-Gluten Victoria Sponge

Cuts into 8/10 slices.

INGREDIENTS

200g/7oz unsalted butter, softened
200g/7oz caster sugar
1tsp vanilla extract
4 medium eggs
140g/5oz gluten-free plain flour
85g/3oz ground almonds
2tsp xanthan gum

2tsp gluten-free baking powder
about 6tbsp raspberry jam
250ml/9floz double cream
1tbs icing sugar, sifted, plus extra
for dusting
1 or 2 tbs of milk depending how
thick mixture is

METHOD

Heat oven 190C/170Cfan/Gas Mark 5.

Grease two sandwich tins, 20cm, and line with greaseproof paper, or parchment.

Put the butter, sugar and vanilla extract into a bowl and beat to a creamy consistency. Slowly beat in the eggs one by one, then fold in the flour, ground almonds, xanthan gum and baking powder and mix well.

Divide between the two cake tins and put in the oven for about 20 minutes until risen and golden brown. The cakes should spring back when gently pushed in the middle. When ready, remove from the oven and cool for a further 5 mins. in the tin, before turning out on a wire rack and cool completely.

Spread the jam onto one cake. Whisk the cream and icing sugar until thick, then spread over the jam. Sandwich the cakes together and dust with icing sugar.

Betty Rimmer



March Recipe — Cinnamon Biscuits

INGREDIENTS

125g (4oz) butter or soft marg.
50g (2oz) caster sugar

125g (4oz) self-raising flour
1 rounded dessertspoon ground
cinnamon

METHOD

Beat together the butter and sugar, sieve in the flour and cinnamon gradually, until you have a stiff ball of dough. Take pieces about the size of a walnut and roll into balls between the palms of your hands. Put them on a baking tray. Flatten each ball slightly and press the back of a fork on top of each.

Bake in a moderate oven 350F/180C/Gas Mark 4 for 10-15 minutes until golden brown.

The biscuits will be softish but will firm up on cooling. Leave them on the baking tray for 2-3 mins., then transfer to a cooling rack.

Theses biscuits are nice served with fruit and cream, it adds a little extra.

Betty Rimmer



"Cross Talk Subscription for 2014 is £4"

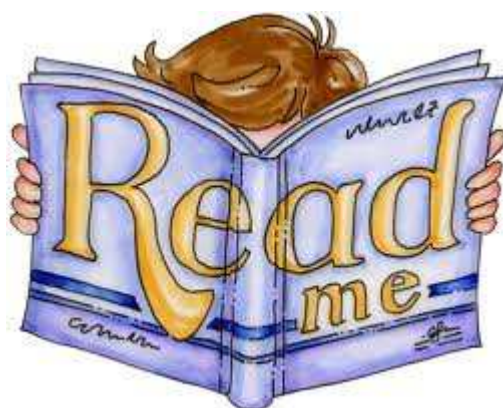
These are now due for 2014. If you see your deliverer please pay them. Alternatively either post a cheque for £4.00 payable to Thurstaston PCC, to St Chad's Church Office, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH or pay on-line at 40.52.40 00018674, putting your surname and mag subs as reference.

- ☐ I enclose £4 and would like to continue to have Cross Talk delivered to my house
- ☐ I no longer wish to have Cross Talk delivered to my house

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No. (optional) _____





The Bible according to children

Children's version of biblical stories and events have a charm all their own. The following efforts have not been retouched or corrected (i.e. bad spelling has been left in).

~ Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

~ Noah built an ark, which the animals came on to in pears.

~ Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.

~ The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up on

Mount Cyanide to get the ten ammendments.

~ Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

**

GO!

A teenager was always asking his father if he could borrow the family car. Pushed to the limit, the father asked his son why he thought that God had given him two feet. Without hesitation, the son replied, "That's easy, one for the clutch and one for the accelerator."

**



Present

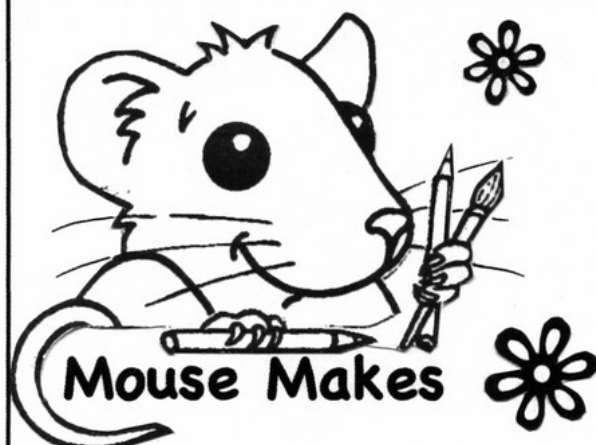
For Father Nicholas's 60th birthday, the congregation at St Mary's decided to give him a present of a new suit. Father Nicholas was so moved by the gift that the following Sunday he stood before everyone and began his homily with a tear in his eye, 'Today I am preaching to you in my birthday suit.'

**

Put it this way...

Some people have a keen sense of rumour.

Some people's vocabulary is small, but the turnover is terrific.



The 4th Sunday in Lent
is celebrated as
Mothering Sunday.
Originally families would
get together for a special
service at the 'mother'
church, often at the local
cathedral.

Today Mothering Sunday
is celebrated as a family
day, a time to say '**thank
you**' to our mothers and
to all who look after us.

There are many wonderful Mothers
in the Bible, look up the Bible verses
and find out who they are....

Matt 1:16 M _ _ _

Num 26:59 _ O _ _ _ _

Luke 1:57-60 _ _ _ _ _ T _

1 Sam 1:20 _ _ _ _ _ H

Genesis 4:1 _ _ E

Gen 25:21-26 R _ _ _ _

Gen 21:1-2 S _ _ _ _



Thank you Mum
for all you do,

For all your
love and care,

For helping me
as I grow up,

For all your
loving prayers.

For teaching me
about Jesus,
Of how he loves
me too.

Thank you Mum
for loving me,

I LOVE YOU!

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bookmark above, glue onto card and colour in.



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Wills and Legacies

If you are thinking of making a new Will, please remember the teaching on Christian stewardship.

Leaving a Legacy can make a vital difference for the general purposes of our parish's local mission and ministry.



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Email: keithledson@10doddreeserve.co.uk

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E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk

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on 0151 648 8169 or

E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk

Contacts

Churchwardens

Mr J Roberts	342 2149	Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's)	
23 Riverbank Road Lower Heswall CH60 4SQ		Mrs J Bibby	678 8124

Mr R Jackson	648 0365	Cleaning Guild (St Chad's)	
13 Norton Drive Irby CH61 4XP		Mrs L Worrall	648 5590

Reader

Mr Alan Jones	648 1400	Bellringers Tower Captain	
8 Edgemore Drive Irby CH61 4XT		Dr P Robson	648 6691

Retired Clergy

Rev'd J Edwardson	648 2661	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE	
38 Hazel Grove Irby CH61 4UZ			

Rev'd S Beckley	648 7767	Junior Church	
162 Heathbank Irby CH61 4YG		Mrs J Deboorder	648 6331

Rev'd I Morris	625 8474	Seniors/Youth (11-16)	
43 Abbotts Way West Kirby CH48 6EH		Mrs J Trigg	648 1245

PCC Secretary

Mr G Barley	648 1867	Rainbows/Brownies/Guides	
5 Sherwood Avenue Irby CH61 4XB		www.girlguiding.org.uk or	
		Freephone	0800 1 69 59 01

PCC Treasurer	648 8169
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CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Verger

Mrs J Ratcliffe	648 6171	Christian Aid Representative	
135 Thingwall Road Irby CH61 3UD		Vacant	

Organist

Mr C Vickers	648 7405	Children's Society Representative	
34 Townsend Avenue Irby CH61 2XW		Mrs J Heath	648 6015

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office	648 8169	Leprosy Mission Representative	
		Mrs P Hulme	648 1827

St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary

Mrs J Heath	648 6015	Adoption Society Representative	
		Mrs C Rostock	648 1112

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 - January

Sunday Services

St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm NO SERVICE

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 Evening Worship

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

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm NO SERVICE

2nd March
St Chad's Day

9th March
Lent 1

16th March
Lent 2

23rd March
Lent 3

30th March
Lent 4
Mothering Sunday

6th April
Lent 5

St Chad's

10.30am Family Service

9.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Communion

9.30am Baptism

9.30am Family Service
6.30pm APCM

Weekday Services

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

7.30pm Holy Communion

5th March
Ash Wednesday

10.15am Holy Communion

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
OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm (term time)

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