

# Crosstalk 40p

The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad  
[www.thurstaston.org.uk](http://www.thurstaston.org.uk)



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Chester



## February 2015



The views and opinions expressed in the  
articles in this magazine are those of the  
author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the  
views or opinions of the  
editor, the Rector or the PCC.

**"Your magazine needs you"**

Please send your contributions  
(eg. Poems. Prayers, interesting articles etc.,)  
to [office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)  
no later than Monday 23rd February 2015

## Contents

3	<i>Diary Dates</i>	21	<i>Rt Revd Libby Lane/ Men's Breakfast</i>
4/5	<i>From the Rector</i>	22	<i>Mothers' Union/Pastoral Visiting</i>
6	<i>Lent, Holy Week &amp; Easter Services</i>	23	<i>Cross Talk Subscription</i>
7-9	<i>Then I'll begin...</i>	24	<i>Bit &amp; Bobs!</i>
10-12	<i>Parish Weekend</i>	25	<i>Parish Outing</i>
13-15	<i>Parishioners at War!</i>	26	<i>Mouse Makes</i>
	<i>Addendum</i>	27	<i>LOL</i>
16	<i>Refurbishment of St Chad's kitchen</i>	28-30	<i>Advertisers</i>
17	<i>Thank you!</i>	31	<i>Contacts List: Who's Who</i>
18	<i>Bread &amp; Nails</i>	32	<i>Church Services—December</i>
19	<i>Wellspring</i>		
20	<i>The Beatitudes</i>		

### Magazine Subscriptions

**These are now due for 2015. Details of how to pay on page 23**

## Diary Dates

**Tuesday 10th & 24th  
February,**  
'SOSO' Community Choir  
8.00-9.30pm at St Chad's  
£4 per session.  
**Monday 16th February**  
Wellspring  
8pm at The Rectory

**Wednesday 25th February**  
EMU 'Felting'  
8pm at St Chad's  
**Saturday 7th March**  
Men's Breakfast  
8.45-9.45am  
at Aroma Café, Irby

## From the Registers

### Funerals

*We commend to  
God's eternal care*

*2nd January  
Stanley Helm  
15th January  
Donald Kendrick*

*21st January  
Norman Jones  
23rd January  
Octavia Deverill*

## From your rector

Dear Friends,

### Our Cross-Shaped Faith

When Lent begins this month, we will be turning our minds especially to the events leading to Calvary, to the arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus. Indeed, whenever we consider Jesus' ministry in Galilee two thousand years ago, or amongst us in Thurstaston and Irby in 2015, we cannot - and must not - ignore the central role in that of his crucifixion and resurrection.

But the cross impacts on our lives as Christians even more than as historical events. The cross is not only the shape of the means of execution that the Roman authorities adopted to kill our Lord. It is also, I believe fundamentally, the shape of our faith. Let me explain what I mean.

Those of us who call ourselves Christian, do so because we call Jesus Christ our Saviour and our Lord. In so doing, we profess that we want to follow Him. When we follow Jesus we may day-to-day consider Jesus' attitude to different activities and seek to do as he would have done - hence the acronym WWJD, 'What would Jesus do?' This is a good question to ask when faced with all sorts of dilemmas. For example, how do we respond to somebody we might have strong disagreements with, or when we are feeling irritated by somebody approaching us in the shopping centre to sell a copy of the 'Big Issue'?

Following Jesus though is not just about 'being nice'. It includes following Him on the Way to the cross. Jesus allowed himself to be mocked, publicly humiliated, physically and verbally abused. He did not open his mouth in defence of himself when being unjustly accused in an unlawful trial. He rebuked Peter for showing violent resistance to those arresting him. He allowed himself to be nailed to a cross to die. Following Jesus in such a path is not easy, and can involve suffering and pain.

And that is also not the only reason our faith is cross-shaped. Our faith involves both a 'vertical' relationship with God and a 'horizontal' relationship with those around us. Drawing a vertical and a horizontal line makes a cross. You cannot make a cross without both.

You cannot be a Christian unless you have both forms of relationship. It has often been said that Christianity is all about relationship: both types of relationship are inevitable. The closer we grow to God, the more inclined we are to draw close to those around us. And vice versa. You cannot disentangle the one from the other. A person who is totally focused on their personal relationship with God but shows no love to their neighbour, has an unbalanced faith. A person who is wonderful at showing love to neighbour but spends no time in prayer is unbalanced in the other way. If we are to grow as a church, we need to ensure our relationships grow in both directions.

*Rev'd Jane*

**i always  
thought love  
was shaped  
like a  
  
but  
it's  
act  
ually  
like a**



## Lent, Holy Week and Easter Services

### Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

### Palm Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> 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



### Maundy Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Chad's

*There is also a service at 11.00am at Chester Cathedral*

### Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

10.00am Family Service at St Chad's

2.00pm "Hour at the Cross"

Meditative Service at St. Bartholomew's



### Easter Day 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Easter Praise Service at Irby Methodist Church



## Then I'll begin....

I don't know about you but, when I am writing something, I find the most difficult part is always the beginning. Where *do* you start? Some story writers start by constructing a vivid opening scene - like the one when a young boy encounters a convict in a graveyard. Can you recall the writer and title of that book? Others construct a memorable opening sentence or line. I wonder if you can identify the sources of these famous opening words?

1. *If music be the food of love, play on...*
2. *It was a bright cold day in April and the clocks were striking thirteen.*
3. *It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.*

Sometimes the same introduction will serve for a whole series of stories. This next example will separate the more senior from the more junior amongst you! Can you finish off this opening question and do you know who, so gently, spoke these now famous words?

*Are you sitting comfortably?*



Where to begin, was a problem faced by the New Testament writers in relation to the gospel message. Paul, the earliest recorded writer in the New Testament, started with the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. His only experience of Jesus was of the risen Christ on the road to Damascus. Mark, the earliest of the four gospels, begins with Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist, while Matthew and Luke both start their gospels with stories, from differing traditions, about Jesus' birth. However, the writer of the Fourth Gospel beats them all because John, in his prologue, goes back beyond everything to do with Jesus' life, death and resurrection to the beginning of time itself! The introduction to the prologue parallels exactly the opening words of the book of Genesis, *In the beginning.....*

It is extremely likely that you will have heard the prologue to John's Gospel read over the Christmas period, for it is recognised as so important by the Church that there is an expectation that it should be read at sometime on Christmas Day. Its structure is beautifully poetic - even in our English translations - and it was possibly sung as a hymn in early Christian worship, even before John decided to use it as the opening to his gospel.

Its focus on the Word, the *Logos*, in the original Greek, perhaps seems strange to us today when words are so commonplace. We are bombarded with them - in everyday speech, in print, through the media even via cyber space - so what was so special about this Word, this *Logos*, we might well ask? Perhaps it was the way it spoke to *all* Christians at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century. At that time, Christianity was a melting pot of communities from different backgrounds. Some were formerly Jews, others Gentiles - and each community would have had its own religious and philosophical heritage.

The 'Jewish' Christians reading the prologue would recall that it was by the *Word* of God that creation took place. Every act of creation in Genesis begins with the words, *And God said...* They would also link it with the idea of Wisdom in the Old Testament. In Proverbs Chapter 8, Wisdom becomes personified and says, *the Lord possessed me at the beginning of his work, before his deeds of old. I was appointed from eternity before the world began. I was there when he set the heavens in place.*

In contrast, the Greek-influenced 'Gentile' Christians, distinguished between the *Word* that a person speaks from the *Word* that stays within a person - the person's reason, their rationality. As they looked at the universe, they saw a rational pattern to everything, so they thought of the *Logos* as running through the universe like a 'World Soul.' In their different ways, both Jewish and Gentile Christians would, therefore, see the *Logos* as the starting point of all things.

John's prologue climaxes with the incarnation of God in Jesus, *and the word became flesh and lived among us*. You will notice the writer doesn't say, *took a body or became man* but, instead, uses the most shocking word he can, *flesh* - the very opposite of God - to press home to the reader the extent of God's love in the sending of his son.

In his Gospel, following his prologue, John does not dwell on the circumstances of Jesus' birth but, like Mark, goes straight onto Jesus' meeting with John the Baptist. However, I suspect that, for most of us, at Christmas time, the stories of Jesus' birth are essential to *our* understanding of the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ and, perhaps, especially, to that of the young in our care - at home, in school or in Sunday School. To this end I'd like to reflect, briefly, upon what a helpless, tiny baby can bring to our understanding of God's rightful place in our lives?



The incarnation was the supreme example of God's love for us and babies generate love like no other generations can. You only have to take a baby out in a pram to experience the warmth that is engendered in nearly everyone you meet – friends, neighbours and even strangers! Such unequivocal love mirrors the love of God for us, as expressed in Jesus Christ. A tiny, new born baby also reminds us of the wonder of all of God's creation.

Unlike some creatures that can run from the moment of birth, a new born baby is helpless and needs total care from his or her parents. This reminds us, not only of God's care for us, but of His sacrifice in sending His son into the world and His trust in Mary and Joseph that they would, in obedience to His will, care and nurture His only begotten son.

The birth of a baby automatically generates hopes and fears. I was born during the Second World War and often wonder whether my parents agonised about whether or not to bring a child into the world in those difficult years. Your children may have been growing up during the height of the Cold War or during a more recent period of international tension and their futures and safety may, occasionally, have given you sleepless nights. Mary and Joseph may have worried about their child growing up in an occupied country but could Mary have ever envisaged that her journey through motherhood would bring her to the foot of his cross? What of their hopes? Could they have ever, in their wildest dreams have imagined that their tiny baby would overcome sin and death through his resurrection from the dead?

## **Conclusion**

It is part of the wonder of Christianity that we can come to an understanding of God's love for us in the sending of His son through either, the wonderful poetry of John's prologue to his gospel, or the story of a new born baby in a stable.

The language and nature of these testimonies may differ and they may appeal to different audiences but their message is the same. Over the Christmas period, we celebrate the wonder of God's incarnation through His son, Jesus Christ, whom we are pleased to call Lord.

## **Alan Jones**

(Did you answer the questions correctly?

*Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens was the novel which opened with the graveyard encounter.

The answers to the opening sentence questions were;

*Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare; *1984* by George Orwell;

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

*Are you sitting comfortably?* was followed by my chosen title, *Then I'll begin*, and the comforting words were spoken by Daphne Oxenford.)

# PARISH WEEKEND AWAY – EVERYONE WELCOME

11<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to be able to let you know that we are planning to hold a residential Parish Weekend and we hope that a significant number of you will want to attend. Those of you with long memories will remember that we last held one five years ago, at Cloverley Hall (<http://cloverleyhall.org/>), a beautiful country house which has been converted into a Christian conference centre, situated near Whitchurch in Shropshire. After carrying out research into several possible venues, we have once again decided that Cloverley offers the best combination of convenient location, comfortable accommodation and facilities, and value for money. It has the added advantage of provision for caravans (and even camping) within the extensive grounds.

We have made a provisional booking from the evening of Friday 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015, which should be an ideal time for everyone to relax and refresh themselves before the clocks go back, wintry weather sets in and all the preparations for Christmas get under way.

Our aim is to provide an interesting weekend for people of all ages, consisting of talks, workshops, worship, informal discussion and leisure time. One of the things we should love to see would be plenty of families joining us, as indeed was the case on some of our previous residential weekends. We certainly plan to lay on activities for our children and young people, whilst parents are able to enjoy a break and listen to talks, chat or enjoy the glorious countryside around Whitchurch. On previous occasions we have invited someone to come and lead the weekend, so that Reverend Jane does not feel under pressure to organise a lot of material. It is our intention to invite someone this time, although people should feel free to do whatever suits them.

Cloverley Hall has not yet finalised its 2015 prices, but I can assure you that they will hardly differ from this year's prices, given below:

Adults:	£101.50
Children (10 – 12)	£66.50
Children (5 – 9)	£46.50
Children under 5	Free

All rooms have central heating, and bedding and towels are provided. There are fifteen rooms with en-suite facilities, for which there is a modest additional charge. If you wish to bring a caravan, the cost is currently £12.00 per night for caravan club members or, for others, £10.00 per day for adults, with reduced prices for children. There is also scope for anyone who wishes to come and join the fun for just one of the days, with prices ranging from £30.00 (including lunch and supper) to £12.00 (no meals).

P.T.O

The programme for the weekend has not yet been decided, but it is likely to follow this kind of pattern:

Friday evening	Arrive in time for buffet supper at 7 pm 8.30 pm Introductory session and short evening worship
Saturday morning	8.30 am Breakfast 9.30 – 10.45 am Optional talk and discussion. (Activities will be laid on for children and young people) 10.45 – 11.15 am Coffee break 11.15 am – 12.30 pm Optional talk and discussion. (Activities will be laid on for children and young people)
Saturday afternoon	1 pm Lunch Free time. Those who so wish may explore the area or simply relax. (Activities will be laid on for children and young people) 6 pm Tea
Saturday evening	7.15 – 8.15 pm All age workshops (craft, music, drama, etc.) 8.30 pm Social gathering
Sunday morning	9 am Breakfast 10 – 11 am Workshop sessions 11.15 – 12.15 Family worship
Sunday afternoon	1.00 pm Lunch Depart after lunch

I would stress that, whilst we hope that you will want to participate as fully as possible in the talks and activities that are laid on, you will not be put under any pressure. Those of you who wish simply to relax during the weekend will certainly be free to do so.

If you would like an opportunity to re-charge your batteries and to get to know your neighbours in the parish better, do fill in the slip on the next page and return it to me as soon as possible. Don't hesitate to talk to me or anyone in church who has previously been on one of our Parish Week-ends, or you can ring me (648 4944), if you would like any further information. When you return the slip, we shall need a deposit of £20.00 per person, although I shall not send any money to Cloverley Hall until I know that we have enough people to make the weekend viable. The balance will need to be paid by Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2015, but if you prefer to spread the cost, it will be possible for you to pay in monthly instalments between now and next June.

I look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Yours sincerely, Chris Smale

## CLOVERLEY HALL PARISH WEEKEND 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2015

Name (please print) .....

I wish to reserve place(s) as indicated below on the Parish Weekend at Cloverley Hall, from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015 and enclose a cheque for..... (made payable to Thurstaston PCC) as a deposit.

### STAYING IN THE HOUSE FOR THE WEEKEND:

No. of Adults:

No. of Children (10 – 12):

No. of Children (5 – 9):

Children under 5:

### BRINGING A CARAVAN FOR THE WEEKEND:

No. of Adults:

No. of Children (10 – 12):

No. of Children (5 – 9):

Children under 5:

### PLANNING TO COME FOR A DAY VISIT:

No. of Adults:

No. of Children (10 – 12):

No. of Children (5 – 9):

Children under 5:

Signed .....



## **Parishioners at War? Addendum**

I sent a copy of my book, based on this series of articles in *Crosstalk* to my cousin, Elwy, who grew up in the village of Ffynnongroyw which, coincidentally, lies directly opposite Thurstaston parish, on the other side of the River Dee. In Elwy's own words, the recollections of our fellow parishioners, "*jogged my memory and I lost some sleep reminiscing and recalling the happenings of yesteryear,*" so I thought I might share these with you.



Elwy was 9 yrs old at the outbreak of the war and 15 yrs old by the time it was over. Before the actual start of the war, he recalls his father pointing out the wreck of the submarine, *Thetis*, with its tail sticking out of the water, while they were driving along the coast road towards Llandudno. You may remember Octavia took a photograph from her bedroom window in the Woodside Hotel of the *Thetis* on its tragic maiden voyage and was later approached by a newspaper for a copy of her picture.

*Cont. overleaf*



During the blitz, Elwy and his sister slept on a camp bed under the stairs in what was their pantry and he recalls his father often saying, "*Bootle is ablaze again,*" as he looked out across the Dee from their back bedroom window. The village itself miraculously escaped major damage despite eight bombs – each bomb amazingly landing in a field. A row of bombs fell parallel to the houses on Llinegr Hill - one either side of Llinegr Farm. Another fell in a field a few yards from the Crown Inn and another near Bickley's Farm, killing a couple of cows. Like Muriel, Elwy recalled school lessons on the wearing of gas masks. He remembers how uncomfortable they were. The children of the village had to carry them to school in their cardboard boxes and, as did other mothers, Elwy's mother made a waterproof cover for his.

After passing his 11+, Elwy went to the County School. He writes he did not appreciate an Education System which tried to teach him Latin, whilst banning his own language of Welsh! While he was at Secondary School, whenever he got the opportunity, Elwy would volunteer to go potato picking alongside the Italian prisoners of war. (You may recall Lil's memories also included encounters with Italian prisoners of war on the farms near where she lived in Netherton.) Like Muriel's brother, Reg, and Alfred and his brother, Roy, Elwy was a collector of shrapnel. However, he had access to much more abundant pickings! The sandhills between Talacre and Tyn-y-Morfa were firing ranges for Spitfire and Hurricane fighter planes and, along with his friends, he collected bullet cartridges, clips and, sometimes, spent bullets from the range and clipped them together to make shoulder sashes. Once, when they were in the vicinity, an aircraft dived towards them and they ran for cover. Fortunately, the pilot must have spotted them because they did not hear the rattle of his machine guns. This really was one of 'ours' – unlike the German fighter that strafed Lil and her mother!

During the school holidays, Elwy would spend time with his father in his livestock lorry. He would transport animals from various local markets to an abattoir in Liverpool. On a few occasions, they were caught up in air raids and would spend time in air raid shelters, alongside the local people. Time and again, Elwy's father would be asked if he would load his empty lorry with furniture etc and transport it all to Talacre. He never refused and the contents would be delivered to various holiday shacks, old double-decker buses and coaches into which the bombed-out families would move, sending their children to the village school. After the war, many returned to Talacre for their holidays and many of Elwy's friends, who were colliers at the Point of Ayr Colliery, married Liverpool girls. The Point of Ayr ships - the

*Bollam, Tanlan, Talacre and Point of Ayr* – carried coal to Ireland and each one was fitted with an anti-aircraft gun and carried a Royal Navy gunner. One of these gunners married a local girl - as did a German prisoner-of-war whose camp was at Penyffordd, alongside a searchlight and anti – aircraft gun emplacement. The former prisoner of war settled in the village with his new wife.

Like Thurstaston, Ffynnongroyw has its own war memorial, commemorating those men from the village and surrounding area who gave their lives during both World Wars. The memorial stands in a small square opposite the parish church of *All Saints* and was erected in 1994. Together, both war memorials reflect how every centre of population throughout the country, however small, was probably affected by the two conflicts. The Ffynnongroyw memorial lists the names of sixteen men who gave up their lives in World War 1 and fifteen who died in World War 11. Of the latter, three were killed in Liverpool Bay when their merchant vessel, *The Lady Mostyn*, was sunk by a mine.



### **The War Memorial at Ffynnongroyw**

If anyone would like a copy of the book based on this series of articles, please don't hesitate to contact me. I have a small number left and there is no charge. Alternatively, I can supply a copy of the book as a PDF or a Word Document if you contact me at [alanwjones648@hotmail.com](mailto:alanwjones648@hotmail.com).

# **REFURBISHMENT OF ST CHAD'S HALL KITCHEN**

Anyone who has used the kitchen at St Chad's recently will know that it is in urgent need of refurbishment. In particular many of the kitchen units are barely serviceable. The church has obtained a small grant from Wirral Council but this only covers about 12% of the estimated cost of full refurbishment. We just do not have sufficient general church funds to be able to contribute to the cost. We may only be able to partly do the work but even to cover the basic costs we need to raise a lot more money as soon as possible because the work needs to take place this August during the summer building closure.

The church would therefore be very grateful for any contributions to this project and any donation however small would be gratefully received and will be acknowledged. Please could you send any contributions clearly labelled for St Chad's kitchen refurbishment to the parish office indicating whether the contribution can be considered as gift aided. Cheques should be made payable to "Thurstaston PCC". The full address is: Parish Office, St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, Wirral CH61 3UH.

If you need any information about the project please contact Chris Turnbull on 01516250089 or email [sjturn@liv.ac.uk](mailto:sjturn@liv.ac.uk).



## **Thank You to those who helped with**

### **World War 1 Commemoration**

One hundred years ago there had just been a "Christmas Truce" along many parts of the "Western Front", Germans and British of all ranks and social classes were fraternising. The guns silent, peace reigned for a few hours. Many people must have realised that they would rather not shoot to kill other human beings, but strangely it was their duty to do this.

After that temporary lull in hostilities the bloody battle resumed on land, air and continued at sea for another nearly four years. In this year of 2015 we will remember that it will have been one hundred years since that notorious sinking of the R.M.V. Lusitanian.

To remember what happened a century ago was the right thing to do. I would like to thank Mrs Carr first of all for her initial phone call to encourage us to put on a commemoration event and secondly her and her husband for putting on such a wonderful display at the event. Then after an appeal to our parishioners, there was good support from them and from Dawpool Church of England aided Primary School. Thank you Year six whom under the guidance of Mr Greenop and Mrs Hall put on a formidable array of work on WW1.

Thanks are due too, to our parishioners who were able to put on or help with a display and they were Mr Richard Turner, Mr Archie Peat, Colonel Martin Amlot, Mrs Muriel McKie, Mr Cecil Jones, Mrs Julie DeBoorder, Mr Alan Jones, Mrs Beverley Appleyard and Mrs Sally Jackson. There may have been others who I have inadvertently missed out, but not to have been forgotten are the Girl Guides who did very well at providing refreshments.

Thank you Esther McVey for coming and showing an interest in our commemoration and all others who attended and so making the occasion successful.

Best Wishes to all our parishioners,  
Roger Jackson  
Churchwarden.



THE GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918

## **Bread and Nails**

St Chad's Church 9.30am 1st March 2015

Everyone of every age, from every congregation (or none) is welcome to join us for this special service.



This act of worship has been devised by Christian Aid Staff and Volunteers in the North West.

A team of staff and volunteers will come and lead this thought-provoking multi-media, multi-sensory act of worship for us.

Through hymns, readings, reflections and the address this act of worship highlights the work of Christian Aid and how it is rooted in the gospel.

The concept of Ubuntu (I am what I am because of who we all are) is introduced - and bread is mixed and kneaded by representatives of the congregation and then baked during the service. At the end of the worship the bread is shared in an agape.

The concept of Bamblela (never give up) is then also introduced and a power reflection shared as each member of the congregation holds a nail in their hand.

The service is designed to engage and inspire people to pray, act and give for a different world – a world more akin to God's Kingdom.



# Wellspring

2015

Third Monday of each month

8.00pm –9.00pm 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.*  
Isaiah 55v3

**This is an important meeting in the life of our church.**

**You do not have to be able to pray out loud.**

**You do not have to feel that you are any good at praying!**

**Please just come and spend 1 hour each month with others as we commit the work of our church to God.**

February 16th

March 16th

April 20th

May 18th

June 22nd  
(week later  
than normal!)

July + Aug  
no meeting

Sep 21st

Oct 19th

Nov 16th

Dec - No meeting



"Next Sunday I think I'll do a new take  
on the Parable of the Virgins and the Oil."



The Beatitudes (Matt 5:1-10)  
 Take a closer look during Lent  
 Thursdays  
 Afternoon 1.15-2.45pm  
 Evening 8.00-9.30pm  
 St Chad's

**Session One: February 19th**  
**Living with openness to God**

In this session we are looking at what it means to live with openness to God and with openness to the world.

**Session Two: February 26th**  
**Thirsting for what is right**

In this session we are looking at what it means to live with obedience to God and with desire to put things right in the world as God intends

**Session Three: March 5th**  
**Living transparently**

In this session we are looking at what it means to show others the mercy God freely gives to us and striving to be transparent in all we do and are.

**Session Four: March 12th**  
**Peacemaking**

In this session we are looking at what it means to be a peacemaker after the example of Christ and recognising the cost of this witness.

**Session Five: March 19th**  
**Living as citizens of God's kingdom**

In this session we are looking at what Jesus meant by the kingdom and how we can live as its citizens.

**Session Six: March 26th**  
**Foundations**

In this session we are looking at what it means to build your whole life on the teaching and example of Jesus as we have seen this in the Beatitudes

## Installation of Rt Revd Libby Lane

The Dean and Chapter of Chester Cathedral invite you to the Installation of The Rt Revd Libby Lane as the Bishop of Stockport on Sunday 8 March at 3.30pm at the Cathedral. The service will take the form of Choral Evensong with a liturgy of welcome and thanksgiving for Libby's Episcopal Ministry in the Diocese.

There has already been considerable interest from parishes and people wishing to attend; it is therefore been decided that this service will be ticketed to ensure the Cathedral may safely accommodate as many people as possible.

If you would like to attend, please let Revd Jane know by SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY (the diocese need to know by Monday 16<sup>th</sup>!) - with the number of seats that you would like. Tickets will be issued by the end of the month.



## Men's Breakfast



7th March 2015

8.45 – 9.45am

Aroma Cafe, Irby Village

Eat, chat and share in fellowship.

Contact Matthew James on 07817625122 or  
[mjames@doctors.org.uk](mailto: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 2015 are:

9th May, 4th July, 5th September, 7th November

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families



## EMU (Evening Mothers' Union) meets:-

One Wednesday in each month, 8.00pm at St Chad's  
for more information contact Chris Rostock (648 1112)



The next meeting is on  
Wednesday 25th February,  
8pm at St Chad's  
'Felting'



Please note the Mothers' Union Fellowship branch meetings which were held  
on the first Thursday of the month have finished  
and the afternoon branch has closed.

Everyone is welcome to come along to Evening Mothers Union (EMU)

## Pastoral Visiting

If you are unable to attend church (long term or short term for any reason) and would like someone to visit you in your home, please contact Chris Turnbull (0151 625 0089) if you are or were a member of St Chad's congregation and Alan Jones (0151 648 1400) if you are or were a member of St Bartholomew's congregation.

Similarly, if you are aware of someone who would benefit from a pastoral visit because of illness or other circumstances, please contact either of the above.

If you feel you would like to join the list of pastoral visitors in the parish, please also contact one of the above or the Rector.

Alan Jones (Reader) and Chris Turnbull (Licensed by the Bishop for visiting)

## **"Cross Talk Subscription for 2015 is £4.00"**

These are now due for 2015. If you see your deliverer please pay them.

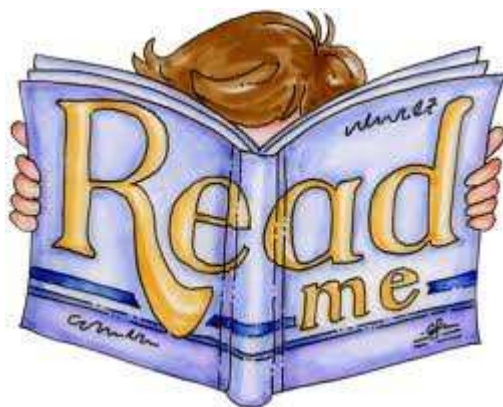
Alternatively either post a cheque for £4.00 payable to Thurstaston PCC,  
to St Chad's Church Office, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH or pay on-line at  
40.52.40 00018674, putting your surname and mag subs as reference.

- ☐ 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

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### Raise Money for Church by Enjoying a Night at the Theatre!

The Carlton Players have Charity Performances of their plays at The Little Theatre in Birkenhead. The plays for this season are:-

- Tuesday 3 – Saturday 7 February 2015 – “The Hollow” by Agatha Christie
- Tuesday 17 – Saturday 21 March 2015 – “The Diary of Anne Frank” by Goodrich and Hackett

For every ticket purchased for the **TUESDAY** performance they will give us 50% of the proceeds. Tickets are £8.00 and students are £6.00, so we receive £4.00 and £3.00 respectively.

When you book your ticket, **you MUST quote “St Bartholomew’s Thurstaston”** in order for us to receive this money.

More information about the plays and the theatre can be found at [www.carltonlittletheatre.co.uk](http://www.carltonlittletheatre.co.uk) and tickets can be purchased either on line or by e-mailing [boxoffice@carltonlittletheatre.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@carltonlittletheatre.co.uk) or phoning 647 6593.



**The Children's Society**

*making childhood better*

This year In place of the Envelope Collection, it is our intention to hold a

Coffee Morning on 21 March 2015 at

‘Barnstables’ 233 Irby Road and sell tickets.

We hope to have several tables for bring and buy, cakes, cards, etc. and if anyone has a craft they would like to display, please contact me. Although we can’t hope to match the amount raised through the envelope collection, we do think the event will enable people to come together and enjoy socialising whilst raising money for a worthwhile cause.



Riding for the Disabled Association



### Riding for the Disabled (RDA)

Thank you to anyone who has donated their used Postage Stamps over the Christmas period and a reminder that they are still welcome all through the year for RDA (Riding for the Disabled).

Box in St Chad's foyer and envelope at the back of St Bart's.

### Tots and Tinies need your help - Are you available on a

Thursday morning? Could you come and help to prepare children's snacks and cups of tea for parents/carers?

Could you come and welcome people as they arrive and record them on the weekly register and then sign them out again as they leave? Revd Jane or Kate Preston can give you more details. Please ask if you think you could help support this valuable community outreach.



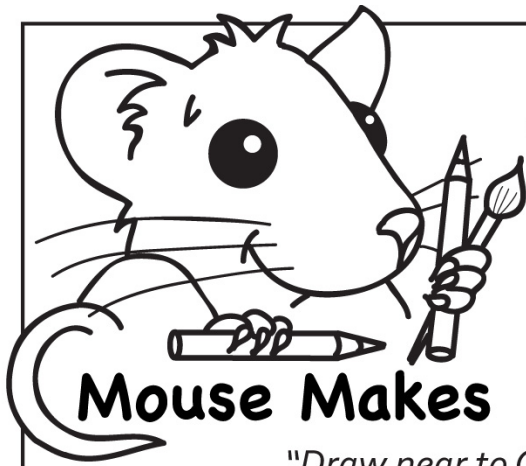
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**Give your name and a non-refundable £5.00 deposit  
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or put it in an envelope and deliver to the Parish Office.**

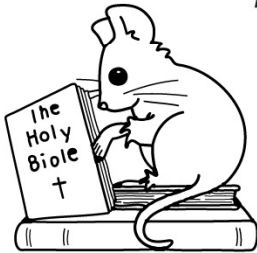


The 40 days before Easter are called **LENT**. Lent is a time for Christians to pray, read the bible and turn to God.



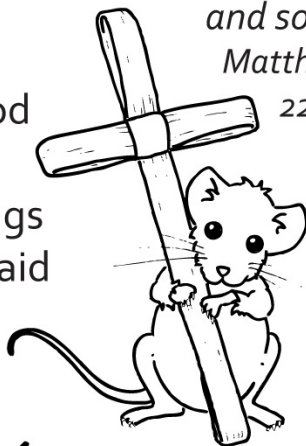
*"Draw near to God"*  
*James 4:8*

*During Lent read Matthew's Gospel*



The first day of Lent is **ASH WEDNESDAY**. It is a day of **repentance**, a day for saying **sorry** to God for any wrong things you have said or thought or done.

*"Love God with all your heart, mind and soul"*  
*Matthew 22:37*



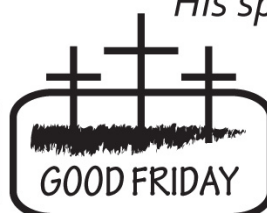
**LENT CALENDAR**  
Colour in a square each day to Easter



**ALLELUIA!**

During Lent **pray** for someone, **encourage** someone and **tell** someone about Jesus

*The Lord is here,  
His spirit is with us*



1  
ASH WEDNESDAY

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37

38

Tuesday

Monday

40  
PALM SUNDAY

39

Wednesday

Thursday

Saturday



## Valentine Dreams

A young woman woke up one morning and told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for Valentine's Day. What do you think it means?"

"You'll know tonight," he replied with a smile. Sure enough, that evening the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it, only to find a book entitled 'The Meaning of Dreams'.



\*\*

## How do you define love?

*A group of 4 to 8 year-olds was once asked: 'What does love mean?' The answers they gave were surprising for their depth of insight...*

~ "When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love." Rebecca - age 8

~ "When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy - age 4

~ "Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." Karl - age 5

~ "Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your chips, without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy - age 6

~ "Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

~ "Love is when mum makes coffee for my dad and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK." Danny - age 7

~ "Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mum and Dad are like that. They look gross when they kiss." Emily - age 8

~ "If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate." Nikka - age 6 (We need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)







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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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Advertising space is sold in good faith.

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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

### PCC Secretary

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

### PCC Treasurer

**648 8169**

### 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**

### 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

Dr P Robson **648 6691**

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### Junior Church

Mrs J Deboorder **648 6331**

### Seniors/Youth (11-16)

Mrs J Trigg **648 1245**

### Rainbows/Brownies/Guides

www.girlguiding.org.uk or  
Freephone **0800 1 69 59 01**

## CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

### Christian Aid Representative

Vacant

### Children's Society Representative

Mrs J Heath **648 6015**

### Leprosy Mission Representative

Mrs P Hulme **538 1953**

### Adoption Society Representative

Mrs C Rostock **648 1112**

## Church Services - February

### Sunday Services

#### St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.15am Holy Communion

**1st February**

**Candlemas & Education Sunday**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.15am Morning Worship

**8th February**

**2nd Sunday before Lent**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.15am Holy Communion

**15th February**

**Sunday before Lent**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.15am Holy Communion

**22nd February**

**Lent 1**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.15am Holy Communion

**1st March**

**Lent 2**

#### St Chad's

9.30am Family Service

9.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Communion

9.30am Family Service

### Weekday Services

7.30pm Holy Communion

**18th February**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**

10.15am Holy Communion

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](mailto:rector@thurstaston.org.uk)

### CHURCH OFFICE: Mrs C Rostock St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH

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