

**The Churches of
St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
Sunday 13th December – Advent 3**



Welcome to Church today.

We hope that you enjoy the service and gain a sense of God's presence with us.

Children are Welcome at our Services

In St Chad's, we have activity bags available and there is also a box of toys and cushions in the foyer, in case you feel your child would be happier playing there.

In St Bartholomew's, there are some colouring sheets and toys at the back of church.

Children from age 2½ can attend Junior Church (term time) at St Chad's

Collect for today

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to
prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for
these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his
face;
who is alive and reigns now and for
ever.

Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For the World: Please pray for peace around the World.

For the sick: Please continue to pray for Frank Rimmer and Mike Bennett.
Please pray for those in hospital.

For our schools: Please pray for the Christmas message to shine through the
end of term plays and services.

Services TODAY – Advent 3

8:00 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Nativity	St Chad's
11.15am	Morning Worship	St Bartholomew's

Services next week

Wednesday 16th December (Mid-week service)

10.15am Holy Communion St Chad's

Sunday 20th December – Advent 4

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
6.30pm	Carol Service	St Bartholomew's

Notices and Announcement

- **Thank you to all Children's Society Boxholders.** The total this year was £791.72. Although this is slightly up on last year, we have lost a number of boxholders for various reasons and would dearly like to increase the number. If any individuals or families are interested in having a box to collect small change (or larger!), would they please get in touch with me, (Jean Heath) Barbara Kozer or Elaine Kavanagh.
- **Crosstalk** The Dec/Jan magazine is available at the back of church for 50p.

- **Dawpool Primary School – Foundation 2 (Reception) entry September 2016 –** Anyone requiring Revd Jane to sign the Church Attendance part of the application form will need to give it to Revd Jane before Christmas.
- **Riding for the Disabled Association** On behalf of the Foresters' Horn Group, many thanks to all those who have provided used stamps for the RDA collection this year. We are still collecting and, with Christmas approaching, we should be grateful if everyone could remember to save their stamps and put them in the box in St Chad's foyer and envelope at the back of St Bart's. Jean Heath.

• **Wirral Foodbank Volunteers needed:**

Occasional volunteers to give perhaps a couple of hours every few months to assist with collections of food at their local supermarket. Greeters give out “shopping lists” of food that the warehouse is short of, whilst other colleagues receive and pack the food in one of the Foodbank vans.

Regular Volunteers who can give a couple of hours regularly either weekly or monthly to assist with the warehouse and distribution teams. Drivers are in very short supply and we would welcome drivers with clean driving licences to assist not only with the supermarket collections but also to deliver the collected food to the 15 Distribution Centres across the Wirral.

How to Volunteer: Download a Volunteer Application form and a Confidentiality agreement from our website www.wirral.foodbank.com.

Regular volunteers will need to supply 2 references, though those who wish to help with supermarket collections need not. Return the completed forms to Wirral Foodbank.

• **SOSO** Tuesday 15th December, 8pm at St Chad's.

• **Felting Group - Spirituality through Textiles** at St Chads Church Irby on Tuesday afternoon 1pm - 3pm on December 8th.

There will be a charge of £4 per Session.

• **Room at the inn?** Charity **HOST** is seeking friendly people who could volunteer to offer an invitation to adult international students for a day, weekend, or four days at Christmas. Learn about other cultures, welcome a guest far from home, and make the world a little friendlier!

Visit www.hostuk.org or call 020 7739 6292.

• **Sun Dec 20th 6.30pm Carol Service at St Bartholomew's.**
8.00am, 11.15am HC as normal.

• **Thursday Dec 24th CHRISTMAS EVE**
4.00pm Crib Service at St. Bartholomew's (Children up to and including reception)
5.00pm Crib Service at St. Bartholomew's (Older Children)
11.15pm First Communion of Christmas at St Bartholomew's.

• **Friday Dec 25th CHRISTMAS DAY**
8.00am BCP Communion at St Barts
10.00am Family Communion at St Bartholomew's
You are invited to bring one of your presents to show to everybody else.

• **Sun Dec 27th 8.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**
10.00am Family Communion at St Chad's 9.30am and 11.15am combined together

Would you like to receive this notice sheet every week direct to your email in-box? If so, please send an email request to the parish office (office@thurstaston.org.uk)

GOSPEL READING: Luke 3:7-18

All: Glory to you, O Lord

7John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 9Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

10And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' 11In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' 12Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' 13He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' 14Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' 15As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

18So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Advent Candle Lighting - Third Sunday of Advent (Proclaim)

The Advent of our Lord is near, as we make God's love known in our world.

As we light the third candle, we are encouraged to proclaim the good news of God's gift of salvation.

(Isaiah 12:2-6)

God's proclamation of joy is for all people; together we anticipate the day of his coming. Holy One, you are the only true source of our strength and salvation. As we proclaim the good news of the coming birth of Christ, may we dare to worship you with joy – and may we invite others to experience the joy of your salvation. Amen.

Readings for Today	Readings for 20 th December
Zeph 3:14-20	Micah 5:2-5a
Phil 4:4-7	Heb 10:5-10
Luke 3:7-18	Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

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

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9.30am-12.30pm (term time)

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Revd Jane Turner 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday). E-Mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk