

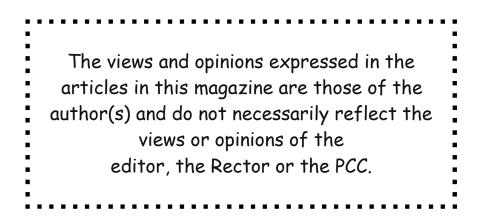
The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad www.thurstaston.org.uk



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Chester

February 2018

The His compassion steadfast love of the LORD never fails amentations 3:22 never ceases,



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Magazine S These are now due for 2018. D Diary	•	of how to pay on page 14				
Wednesday 14th February Holy Communion 10.15 am St Chad's		Thursday 22nd February Approaches to Prayer 7.30 pm St Chad's				
Friday 16th February Board Game Night 7.00—9.00 pm St Chad's Extension		Wednesday 28th February Focussing the Telescope 7.30pm St Chad's				
Saturday 17th February Lent Crafts 2.00—3.00 pm St Chad's	Wome	Friday 2nd March en's World Day of prayer service 7.30pm St Chad's				
Wednesday 21st January		Saturday 3rd March				

EMU—Speaker from Operation Mobilisation 8.00pm St Chad's Saturday 3rd March Men's Breakfast 8.45 am Aroma Café, Irby

From the Registers

Weddingss We ask for Gods Blessing upon the marriage of 2nd December James Roberts and Francesca Patterson Funerals

We commend to God'seternal care 13th December John Mason 3rd January Sylvia Crofton 26th January Audrey Lightfoot 30th January Marjorie Mitchell

From Your Rector

Dear Friends

Ash Wednesday* and Valentines Day

This is the first time since 1945 that Ash Wednesday and St Valentine's Day have fallen on the same day.

It seems an odd mix, yet there is an obvious link: Love!



Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, is about learning how to love God more, as we give Him space in our lives. Lent teaches us how to live out the love of God in practice, as we follow Jesus in the way of the cross.

Some thoughts for how you might prepare for these days falling on the same day:-

1. Celebrate Early

If you are going to splash out and give a gift to the one you love or take them out for a special meal, think about the fact that they may have chosen to fast for Lent. So celebrate early - enjoy the chocolates, order the bottle of wine and the prime rib. The contrast will make the solemnity of Lent even more meaningful.

2. Keep It Simple

Valentine's doesn't have to be an elaborate affair. Celebrate your relationship with a sincere note of affection and appreciation. Begin a daily Lenten devotion as a couple, and give thanks for human love as you reflect together on the way of Christ.

3. Do For Others

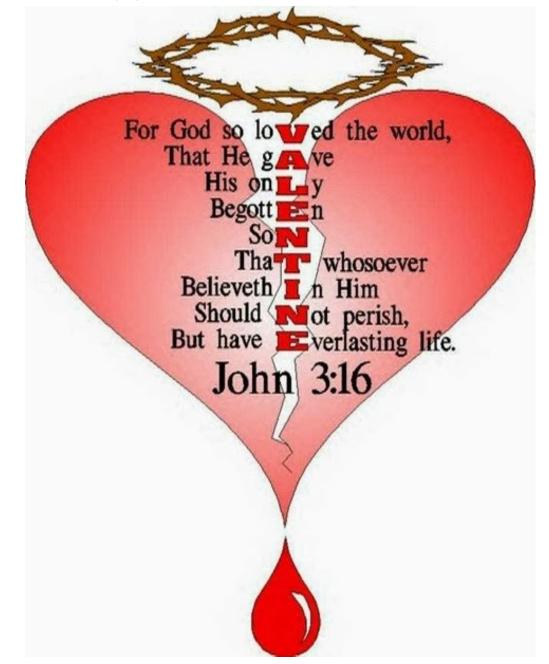
If the purpose of a Valentine's date is to spend time together, why not go together to show love for others by serving dinner in a homeless shelter, or spend what you would have on a fancy dinner on groceries for a local foodbank. Take flowers to your doctor's office, kids' teachers, school s ecretary, nursing home residents, and other people who

* The actual day of Easter, unlike Christmas, is not a set date. Always on a Sunday, Easter can vary in date by country depending on whether the Gregorian or Julian calendar is being used. The UK, which follows the Gregorian calendar, celebrates Easter on the Sunday following the first full moon that occurs after the first day of spring. Using this timeline, Easter can vary in date from as early as the 22nd of March to as far into spring as the 25th of April. The date for Easter in turn affects the date for

- Ash Wednesday which is the first day of Lent. Its official name is "Day of Ashes," so called because of the practice of rubbing ashes on one's forehead in the sign of a cross. Since it is exactly 40 days (excluding Sundays) before Easter Sunday, it will always fall on a Wednesday
- Mothering Sunday (4th Sunday of Lent)
- Holy Week Maundy Thursdy and Good Friday)

might go unappreciated.

Especially for people who tend to "hate" Valentine's Day because it reminds them of a relationship they don't have, remind them they are special and loved nonetheless. Think of single people you know (especially young women and teen girls), recently divorced or widowed persons, and others who might need cheering up. Send them a simple valentine to say "you're special, beautiful, and loved."



Coincidences of the calendar are no cause for despair. Love is a blessing year-round, both the human love we enjoy and the divine love we receive and share with the world.

May you discover more of the love of God for you throughout this season of Lent.

Revid Jane

World Leprosy Sunday - 28th January 2018 There will be a collection during our services to Help break the chains of leprosy

Leprosy has ruined a grandmother's life and blighted her daughter's. Please pray that a young granddaughter can escape its grasp!

The Leprosy Mission has asked Christians to pray for people affected by leprosy in Niger, one of Africa's poorest nations. Please pray that dedicated Leprosy Mission staff

can find and treat their leprosy and that they receive the fullness of life Jesus speaks of – 'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.' John 10: 10 (*NIV*)

Saoude (the little girl pictured next to her mum and granny) is a bright and vivacious eight-year-old with high hopes of training to be a nurse when she grows up. She says she can then make people like her granny better.

Her grandmother, Habsou, came from



a poor family who moved around daily to find food. In Niger, the sun-scorched earth lacks nutrients, rainfall can be very scarce and few crops can grow. Habsou was just five years old when the first signs of leprosy appeared on her body. It was recommended that her parents take her to Danja Hospital where The Leprosy Mission has provided services for decades. Her parents, however, did not want her to go because of the shame surrounding the disease. The fear of their whole family being rejected from their community was just too great.

Instead little Habsou was given traditional medicine and hidden away in a hut for many years. Her freedom to play outside with the other children was taken from her, and leprosy worsened. The chains of leprosy began to wrap their way around her.

Habsou finally came to Danja Hospital aged 13. By then she had already lost her fingers and toes and her sight was fading. Leprosy had savagely attacked her body. Over the coming years, her leprosy was treated and her wounds were tended.

As an adult, Habsou was only able to feed her family by begging, she was simply too disabled to work. Her leprosy-affected husband died when she was pregnant with their youngest child Mariama. When Mariama was 15, Habsou told her to marry a leprosy -affected man much older than her as she could no longer afford to keep her.

Mariama was considered tainted and 'dirty' even though she had never had leprosy herself. No boy from a respectable family would ever consider marrying her.

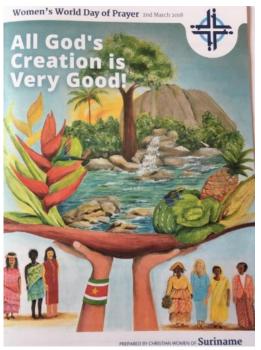
It was against Mariama's will to marry this older man but she had no choice. She soon became pregnant with Saoude. The chains of leprosy had wrapped themselves around 15-year-old Mariama.

Today, little Saoude goes to primary school in Danja village and her world seems full of possibility.

Saoude does not yet wear the heavy chains of leprosy but the threat of them is not far away. If she cannot get a good education, she too will be forced to marry young as her parents won't be able to afford to look after her. She will have to marry someone from the leprosy community and not of her choosing. She will undoubtedly be sentenced to a life of poverty, barely surviving because of the chains of leprosy. An education and a job can save her from all of this. Saoude will be able to look after her parents and grandmother with the money she earns. There is a possibility of freedom for little Saoude!

In the Gospels, we hear how Jesus brought healing and acceptance to people with leprosy. Two thousand years later, will you join The Leprosy Mission to continue His ministry to these people so desperately in need? To donate please bring a gift to church on Sunday 28th January or visit <u>leprosymission.org.uk</u> or ring 01733 370505. If you would like a leprosy mission box to donate throughout the year e.g. for small change from your pockets etc. then please ask Pat Hulme (Telephone 538 1953)





Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 2nd March 7.30pm St. Chad's

The interdenominational movement of the Women's World Day of Prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services being held on Friday 2nd March with the title 'All God's Creation is Very Good!' We will join an estimated 3 million people around the world that day in a service which has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America.

Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it.



For further information and resources, please visit the WWDP website: www.wwdp.org.uk

Chester Mystery Plays

A rare and treasured part of Britain's cultural heritage, the Chester Mystery Plays are returning to the diocese this summer to be performed by a community cast of hundreds of actors, singers, musicians and children.

Produced once every five years, the tales of ambition, intrigue, betrayal and passion, drawn from iconic Bible stories, are guaranteed to enrapture, astound and delight.

Originally written by Benedictine monks at the Abbey of St Werburgh (now Chester Cathedral), a new script has been commissioned for 2018 from awardwinning writer Deborah McAndrew, whose recent play Dirty Laundry for Claybody Theatre was given national acclaim.

Director Peter Leslie Wild, who directed the previous cycle in 2013 said: "The

Chester Mystery Plays are such an important part of the city's heritage and being part of them, whether as an actor, a musician, a props maker or helping out front of house, is an experience not to be missed."

The Chester Mystery Plays will be performed in the nave of Chester Cathedral from June 27 July 14 2018. Usually performed in and around the cathedral this is only the second time that they have been produced in the nave, following the success of 2013.

Performances are every evening at 7.30pm with a matinee at 1pm on each Saturday.

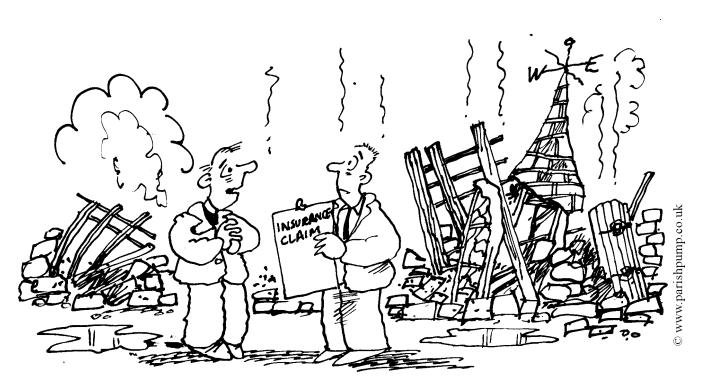
Ticket are available from £18. Visit chestermysteryplays.com or telephone 01244 500959. For every 10 tickets booked, the cheapest is free.



Don't read the Bible, listen to it

Fancy listening to the Bible?

Try the new audio Bible app from SPCK, called the NRSV Audio Bible for Everyone, costing 99p. The basic app provides the text and audio of the NRSV, while the option to upgrade offers a version that includes commentaries and guides from the For Everyone series by Tom Wright and John Goldinggay. Visit <u>www.SPCKapps.com</u>.



...er... apart from this little hiccup... it was an excellent church pancake supper...

During Lent some people take time to meditate on a passage of scripture. Here is a favourite Psalm, looked at with modern Christian eyes....

What Psalm 23 is really all about



The Lord is my Shepherd --- THAT'S RELATIONSHIP! I shall not want --- THAT'S SUPPLY! He maketh me to lie down in green pastures -- THAT'S REST! He leadeth me beside still waters --- THAT'S REFRESHMENT! He restoreth my soul --- THAT'S HEALING! He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness THAT'S GUIDANCE! For his name sake --- THAT'S PURPOSE! Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death ---THAT'S TESTING! I will fear no evil --- THAT'S PROTECTION! For thou art with me --- THAT'S FAITHFULNESS! Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me - THAT'S DISCIPLINE! Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies THAT'S HOPE! Thou anointest my head with oil --- THAT'S CONSECRATION! My cup runneth over --- THAT'S ABUNDANCE! Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life -THAT'S BLESSING! And I will dwell in the house of the Lord --- THAT'S SECURITY! Forever --- THAT'S ETERNITY!

Friday 16th February & Friday 16th March 7.00-9.00pm St. Chad's Extension Everyone Welcome Drop in for half an hour or come for the whole time

Tea and Coffee provided



Do something different during Lent. Give up technology for a couple of hours Develop your mind and keep your brain active Spend time getting to know other people Come and have some fun!

Connect 4, Ingenious, Frustration, Sorry, Shut the box, Mancala, Jenga, Uno, Mapominoes, Scrabble Dash, Fluxx Plus any games you bring with you!

Sat 17th Feb 2.00-3.30pm St Chad's

Drop in and do some Lent Crafts



Sat 10th Mar 2.00-3.30pm St Chad's

Dads and Kids

Drop in and make card/gifts for Mum







During Lent 2018 we will be looking at Prayer. There will be 4 sermons and 4 evening sessions. Each will stand on it's own, so you can pick and choose what you come to:-

Sunday 18th February (9.30am and 11.15am, Wed10.15) Approaches to Prayer Thursday 22nd February 7.30pm St Chad's

Sunday 25th February (9.30am and 11.15am, Wed 10.15) Focussing the Telescope Wednesday 28th February 7.30pm St Chad's

Sunday 4th March (9.30am and 11.15am, Wed 10.15) The Word made Prayer Thursday 8th March 7.30pm St Chad's

Sunday 18th March (9.30am and 11.15am, Wed 10.15) Stumbling Blocks and Stepping Stones Wednesday 21st March 7.30pm St Chad's



9.00-10.00am Sat 17th March

Starting and finishing at St Chad's with option to remain at St Chad's for those unable to walk far

We will set out in ones and twos to walk and pray for our parish. Never done prayer this way before. Come and give it a go!



Ticket Prices

Chester Diocese have again secured a BIG discount from the Big Church Day Out team for this fabulous event:-

Full Weekend tickets £28 per adult and £22 for 5-16 year olds. Under 4's are £4 each.

One day tickets for either Friday or Saturday are £23 per adult and £17 for 5-16 year olds. Under 4's are £4 each.

Camping tickets are in **addition** to the above at £20 per adult and £10 for 5-16 year olds. Under 4's are £4 each.

Please be aware there is a 10% service charge that will be added to the above. How to Book

To book your discounted tickets please go to:-

http://www.chester.anglican.org/mission/the-big-church-day-out/big-church-dayout.php

Tickets booked directly on the Big Church Day Out web site will not be added to our group therefore will be full price.

Your event ticket is not included and will need to be purchased separately. **Disabled** Carers.

Camping Ticket per person, regardless of whether you choose to camp for 1, 2 nights. Everyone camping will need a camping ticket, including Under 5s

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The Big Church Day Out is back in the Diocese of Chester in June 2018!! Tens of thousands of Christians gather to worship and celebrate in Cheshire 1st and 2nd June 2018 at Capesthorne Hall, Cheshire

We hope you can join us in June at this exciting event which is coming to our Diocese again this year.

The Big Church Day Out draws together tens of thousands of Christians from all over the UK and Europe to worship and celebrate all that is good. It's a one-of-a-kind expression of church unity that's as vibrant and varied as its wonderful guests. Whatever your age, denomination or musical taste, you are welcome to join us for two days of discovery and enjoyment you'll never forget. We will be camping together in a Diocese 'space' especially allocated for us.

The Big Church Day Out is like one huge playground, bursting with activities and fun for all ages. From the Big Church Kids tent and fun-filled fête to the relaxing Tea Tent nestled in the beautiful gardens, you're sure to find your favourite spot and make memories that will last a lifetime.

What can you expect?

The Big Church Day Out is a chance to discover world-class music, mouth-watering food, relaxing cafes, family activities, and dancing crowds. Here is what to expect...

Five Music Stages

The Main Stage brings together the most popular line up of Christian worship and artists from world-renowned choirs and urban acts to worship leaders and bands from all over the globe. The Illuminate Stage is a more intimate venue. It's a great place for youth groups and those who crave the dance-till-you-drop festival experience. The Airstream Stage is a chance to perch on a hay bale and listen to breath-taking live music performed from inside a converted Airstream Caravelle. This chilled-out venue is brimming with character and talent, making it the perfect place to relax on your journey of discovery across the Big Church Day Out site.

Late Night Events

At the Campfire area you can worship under the stars in the cool night air, warmed by a roaring campfire. The Comedy Tent is a late-night-only comedy venue, mixed with acoustic sets from incredible bands who have got just a few more songs to treat you to before they head off to bed. The Kingdom Come tent, with artists from the Main Stage line up leading worship into the wee hours. Here you'll find the space and time to sing, pray, dance and relax in God's presence.

The Big Church Bazaar

This buzzing venue brings together an incredible selection of Christian ministries and traders, so whether you're looking for ideas for your church, clothing with a Christian message, new campaigns to support, books, artwork, jewellery or a summer holiday location, you're sure to find it in the Big Church Bazaar!

Kids

There's a farm for little animal lovers, rock climbing for little dare-devils, face-painting for big imaginations and much more dotted all around the site. Be sure to make your way to the dedicated Big Church Kids Tent, exploding with worship, dancing, fun and games.

Cafés and Bars

In the Tea Tent Café you can sip a steaming latte or a cool glass of Pimms as you enjoy the incredible entertainment in this family-favourite area of the Big Church Day Out. A delicious Tea Tent cream tea is the perfect sweet-tooth satisfier as you sit back and relax in this beautiful setting. The Stage Cafés serving your favourite specialty hot drinks and delicious snacks to fuel you through the next incredible Big Church Day Out artist!

"Cross Talk Subscription for 2018 is £6"

These are now due for 2018. If you see your deliverer please pay them. Alternatively either post a cheque for £6.00 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.

 $\hfill \square$ I enclose £6 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)_

Gardening for Wildlife-

Mulantan Walnu

Making a Community Garden

Spring is on its way, and now is the time to think about the possibility of restoring and improving the raised beds behind St Chad's Hall (as previously mentioned in December's magazine) Here we have the beginnings of a wildlife garden which could attract butterflies and bees, and become a resource for all ages to enjoy.

I have had a few offers of help but would need some firm commitment for the work to begin . If you are interested , I invite you to speak to me after the morning service at St Chad's on **Sunday 11th February**, if not coming to the service please arrive at approx. 10.45 am when we could take a look at the project over a cup of coffee

Our garden could become a wonderful resource for young and old to enjoy, maybe a sort of Eco-Messy Church or an addition to Saturdays together.

Watch out for more details in church newsletters.

Margaret Fletcher-0151 648 1025





Men's Breakfast

3rd March 2018 8.45 - 9.45am

Aroma Cafe, Irby Village

Eat, chat and share in fellowship.

Contact Matthew James on 07817625122 or mp_james@btinternet.com for further details.

2018 Dates for your diary: Saturday 12th May, Saturday 7th July, Saturday 8th September and Saturday 3rd November





EMU (Evening Mothers' Union) meets:-One Wednesday in each month, 8.00pm at St Chad's for more information contact Chris Rostock (648 1112)

Next Meeting:

21st February—Speaker from Operation Mobilisation , an International Christian missions movement. Please come along open , open to members and non-members alike.

Future Dates

28th March—Jane Youngs Jewellery
18th April—Guide Dogs with Peter Fearnhead, featuring a young dog
23rd May—Water Aid (to be confirmed)
20th June—RSPCA

All Welcome



Please collect your Postage Stamps

throughout the year for RDA (Riding for the Disabled). There is a box in St Chad's foyer and envelope at the back of St Bart's.

Thankyou to everyone who donated and supported the RDA fundraising morning. The event raised £403 ! This almost covers the cost of three riding sessions.



Wirral age UK are launching a new initiative called Joining Forces. This is a veterans project aimed at older veterans aged 65 plus. They will be based in Meadowcroft in Bromborough and are able to offer help and support in a number of areas including, Information and Advice, Health and Wellbeing and Reminiscence work also.

Leaflets are available at both churches.

Community Choir



Now meets every Tuesday 8.00 - 9.30pm at St Chad's, Roslin Rd, Irby.

Come along to this relaxed, fun evening singing a great variety of songs £5 per session

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and follow the simple steps to sign up.

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The Parochial Church Council and/or Editor can take no responsibility for the quality of goods or services offered.

Contacts

.			
Churchwarden		Evening Mothers' Union (EMU) Mrs Chris Rostock (Secretary)	6481112
Mr Chris Perry	648 6958		
49 Heywood Boulevard Thingwall C		Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's Mrs Elaine Jones) 648 1400
Mrs Liz Whitehead	6069083		
36 Chippenham Avenue, Greasby C	H49 3QW	Flower Guild (St Chad's) Mrs Dawn Rudd	648 0209
Reader			040 0200
Mr Alan Jones	648 1400	Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew	/'S)
8 Edgemore Drive Irby CH61 4XT		Mrs June Bibby	678 8124
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5,			
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Revd Ray Dent	792 2022		
32 Proctor Rd Hoylake CH47 4BB			
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pcc-treasurer@thurstastc	<u>on.org.uk</u>		
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c/o Church Office	648 8169	Leprosy Mission Representative)
		Mrs Pat Hulme	538 1953
St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary			
NALE LESS 11. 11			
Mrs Jean Heath	648 6015	Adoption Society Representativ Mrs Chris Rostock	648 1112

Church Services - February 2018 Sunday Services						
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Holy Communion	4th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	9.30am Family Service				
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Morning Worship	11th February Sunday next before Lent	9.30 am Holy Communion				
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15am Holy Communion	18th February Lent 1	9.30am Morning Worship				
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15 am Holy Communion 3.00pm Baptism	25th February Lent 2	9.30am Holy Communion				
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.15 am Holy Communion	4th March Lent 3	9.30 am Holy Communion				
	Weekday Services					
Holy Communion	celebrated at St Chad's eacl ALL WELCOME	h Wed 10.15am				
Remembe	er Ash Wednesday 14th Fe	bruary				
Pontiama and Waddings						
please telephone the	arrange a baptism or wedding e Rector, Revd Jane Turner o Church office on 0151 648 8	on 0151 648 1816				
PLEASE NOTE: Rector's day off -		100.				
RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner The Rectory, 77 Thing Telephone: 0151 648 1816 (wall Road, Irby, Wirral, CH Day off Tuesday) E-mail: re					
•	3169. E-mail: office@thur					