

**The Churches of  
St Bartholomew and St Chad  
Thurstaston and Irby  
16<sup>th</sup> 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**

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:** Continue to pray for all those in Government as negotiations and discussions continue over the Brexit deal.

**For the Parish:** Pray for the joint carol service this evening that it is well attended and enjoyable for all.

**For the Bereaved:** Family and friends of Ruth Dann,(Funeral 11.30am Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December at St Bartholomew's)

**For the Sick:** Please pray for Mark Dennison, Reverend Jane, Pam Ward (Daughter of Dorothy Joyce) and for all those in hospital.

**From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle:** Pray for all attending "Called to Serve" in January and for everyone working to discern God's call on their lives.

**From the Anglican Prayer Cycle** Bishop Augustin Ahimana, Kivu (Rwanda)

## Services TODAY Advent 3

8:00 am	Holy Communion	St. Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Nativity	St Chads
11.15 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
6.30pm	Joint Carol Service	Irby Methodist Church

## Services next week

### Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

10.15 am	Holy Communion	St Chads
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### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Advent 4

8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
11.15 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's

## Notices and Announcements

### ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO BE OUR CHURCHWARDEN NEXT YEAR?

Please can you start to think **now** about whether you could serve the church in this important role? If you wish to have an informal conversation with someone who has done the job in the past, please speak to Chris Perry, Chris Smale or Roger Jackson, or with our present warden Liz Whitehead. Liz is doing a fabulous job, but we should have two wardens and Liz would be delighted to welcome someone to work alongside her. If you would like more information about what is involved Revd Jane can give you an introductory booklet.

### MORE PEOPLE NEEDED TO HELP ON SUNDAY MORNINGS:-

The current rotas run until the end of January 2019. We will be doing the rotas for Feb-Apr 2019 early in January. So please take a few moments between now and the end of the year to think about the following questions:-  
Could you read a lesson?

Could you lead the intercessions (trainings and books to help are available)?

Could you act as a Sidesperson?

Could you act as a Welcomer?

Could you help with tea and coffee at St Chad's?

Could you be a Server at St Bartholomew's?

Could you help with Sacristan duties at St Bartholomew's?

There is a leaflet at the back of church which explains all of these jobs. We would love to have as many people as possible involved in some way on our rotas, please speak to Revd Jane if you would like to be included.

**Wirral Foodbank** urgently need packet soup, fruit squash, sponge puddings, soap powder tablets, deodorants , sugar, instant mash, coffee (small), rice pudding, custard and UHT Milk they have plenty of beans and Cereal. Donations can be dropped off at Sainsbury's Upton, Asda Woodchurch, the library and most Co-op Stores

**Can you help?** St Bart's are looking for volunteers to go on their cleaning rota, they are desperate. If you can help please contact June Bibby on 678 8124.

**Dawpool Admissions – Supplementary forms.** If you require Revd Jane to sign one of these forms please deliver it to the Rectory. They will be processed as usual and delivered to school (by hand) on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

**A BIG thank you** to all those who donated a gift bag to Forum Housing. I delivered 13 bags on Tuesday. An extra thank you to Elizabeth and her friends, who donated an extra 9 filled gift boxes and also some blankets and coats. There is a thankyou email on the notice board and a card to follow. Chris R.

**THANK YOU** to everybody who took part in any way with the Christmas Fair and to all who came or made donations in their absence, I know it was a lot of hard work but it was fabulous afternoon and we raised £1038. We also had a visit from MP Margaret Greenwood who promised to put our fair on her facebook page, so we are famous too!

## Christmas Services

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December:**

St Chads: 9.30 am Nativity Service led by Junior Church

Irby Methodist Church: 6.30 pm Joint Carol Service

St Bartholomew's: 8.00am and 11.15am as normal

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – all services as normal**

### **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve:**

St Bartholomew's :

4.00 pm Crib Service

5.00 pm Crib Service

11.15pm First Communion of Christmas

### **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day**

St Bartholomew's:: 8.00 am Holy Communion

St Chads : 10.30 am Family Communion

**NO OTHER SERVICES TODAY**

**Christmas Trees** Once again our Christmas trees (one in each church) have been kindly donated by Church Farm in Thurstaston. Church farm, as many of you know, is an award-winning farm and farm shop just up the road from St Bartholomew's. There's a lot going on over Christmas- do try and find time for a visit

**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](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk))**

## GOSPEL READING: Luke 3:7-18

### All: Glory to you, O Lord

<sup>7</sup> John 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? <sup>8</sup> Bear 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. <sup>9</sup> Even now the ax 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."

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup> Soldiers 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."

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John 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. <sup>17</sup> His 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."

<sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

### All: Praise to you, O Christ

Readings for Today	Readings for 23 <sup>rd</sup> December
Zeph 3:14-20	Micah 5:2-5a
Phil 4:4-7	Heb10:5-10
Luke 3:7-18	Luke 1:39-45

Church Office: Mrs K Butler, 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](mailto:rector@thurstaston.org.uk)