

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
23rd February 2020 – Sunday next before Lent**



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

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your
goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Holy God,
we see your glory in the face of Jesus
Christ: may we who are partakers at his
table reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to
change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For the World: Please pray for everyone impacted by the coronavirus and that it can be contained.

For the Parish: Please pray for those being called to serve as PCC and church warden to recognise and respond to the call

For the Sick: Please pray for Samuel Williams (extended family of Linda and Graham Barley), Karen Fox, Anna Drysdale, Lynne Rose, Audrey Fernyhough and for all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

For the Bereaved: Family and Friends of Norma Kingsbury (Funeral 3pm Wednesday 26th February at Landican) and Alfred Wallis (Service of Thanksgiving 12 noon Thursday 27th February at St. Bartholomew's).

From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us

From the Anglican Prayer Cycle: Bishop Achille Mutshindu, Kinshasa (Congo). Bishop Joseph Kibichwa, Kirinyaga (Kenya).

Services Today – Sunday next before Lent

8:00 am	Holy Communion	St. Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St. Chad's
11.15 am	Holy Communion	St. Bartholomew's

Services next week

Wednesday 26th February – **Ash Wednesday**

10.15 am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
8.00pm	Holy Communion	St Chad's

Sunday 1st March – Lent 1

8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Family Service with Dawpool	St Chad's
11.15 am	Holy Communion	St. Bartholomew's

A Prayer for our Diocese

**Almighty God,
who sent Jesus Christ
to be the cornerstone of your Kingdom
and calls us to follow him:
guide your Church, by the Holy Spirit,
to show love and mercy as we build your Kingdom.
We pray for the person you are calling
to be the next Bishop of Chester;
bless, guide and strengthen them to answer your call;
in the name of Jesus Christ
and in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Notices and Announcements

The Bishop of Birkenhead has written to me to outline details of a new past cases review, known national as PCR2. All parishes are required to respond by checking records and reporting to the review all known cases of concern about the behaviour of clergy and church officers towards children and vulnerable adults.

This an important task and part of the Church's ongoing scrutiny of its handling of safeguarding files. It is being carried out to ensure our churches are safer places for everyone.

Individuals who wish to make representations to PCR2, or who need to come forward with information or make any disclosures regarding church-related abuse, are encouraged to make direct contact with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Pauline Butterfield, on 07703 800031, or call the dedicated telephone helpline - 0800 80 20 20 - operated independently from the Church, by the NSPCC.

Crosstalk - Diary dates error - Mothering Sunday Evensong will be on 22nd March (not 5th March)

Worship in the Wilderness is a Lent series, journeying with Jesus through the desert. Explore this rich biblical theme which touches on subjects such as simplicity, silence, sorrow, truth-speaking and being led by the spirit. A Small group will meet on Thursdays 8-9pm St Chads: 5th March – A Secret Journey and A Spirit-led Journey.

12th March – A Simple Journey

19th March – A Sorrowful Journey

26th March – A Sacrificial Journey

2nd April – A truth-speaking Journey

You will need a copy of the book which is £6, Let Jane know if you want one.

Walking in the Footsteps of Giants at Foxhill, Tues 26th - Thurs 28th May. Time to reflect on some of the prayer methods used and encouraged by Saints of the Christian Tradition. It will focus on different ways of praying, offering the opportunity to experience alternatives when the "usual" ways of praying seem less helpful. More information on flyers at the back of church, including reflections from Pat, Julie and Beverley who attended a retreat at Foxhill last year. Revd Jane is booked in already so you would not be on your own! If you are interested, contact Foxhill to book a place

<https://www.foxhillchester.co.uk/whats-on/residential-retreats/walking-in-the-footsteps/>

World Day of Prayer: Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this years' service that will take place on **Friday 6th March** ,1.45pm at Heswall Methodist Church and 7.30pm at Emmanuel Church, Pensby.

"It takes two - building a marriage to last" - 7.30pm 4th June - Aintree Racecourse Liverpool. Whether you've been together for fifty days or fifty years, have never had a cross word, or are struggling to keep love alive, every couple can benefit from It Takes Two . We know that even with the best intentions, marriages can get a little rusty. So, this is a rare opportunity to hit pause, shift the focus back to your relationship, and leave the event with a healthy dose of clarity. This event will remind you why you fell in love in the first place, and give a few simple ways of keeping the flame alive, whether it's burning bright or quietly flickering in the background.

Flyers at the back of church or go to <https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/events/it-takes-two>

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: Matthew 17:1-9

All: Glory to you, O Lord

17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Readings for 23rd February Ex 24:12-18 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matt 17:1-9	Readings for 1st March Joel 2:1-2,12-16 Matt 6:1-6, 16-18
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Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9.30am-12.30pm

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