

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad  
Thurstaston and Irby  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 – Lent 4 - Mothering Sunday**



**Collect**

God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

Loving God,  
as a mother feeds her children at the  
breast you feed us in this sacrament with  
the food and drink of eternal life:  
help us who have tasted your goodness  
to grow in grace within the household of  
faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen*

**FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**For the World:** Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**For the Parish:** Please pray for all who are struggling with self isolation and social distancing. Please pray for wedding couples and baptism families needing to postpone/change their plans due to social distancing measures.

**For our Community:** Please pray for all work in the NHS and other key roles in these challenging weeks.

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

**For the Bereaved:** Family and friends of Frances Harrison – see below

**For the Newly Baptised:** Olivia and Ella Williams being baptised today - following social distancing measures with only parents and godparents in attendance

**From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle:** For Bishop Keith, Archdeacons Mike and Ian

**From the Anglican Prayer Cycle:** Bishop Luke Ken-ichi Muto, Kyushu (Japan). Bishop Godwin A Robinson, Lafa (Nigeria)

**Frances Harrison** died on Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March. Her funeral will be at 9am on Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March and due to current restrictions will be attended by family only – please do not come, as we will have to ask you to leave. Instead, we would ask that you remember Frances at home during this time and write down your personal memories and send them to Revd Jane. These will then be collated and used as part of a “celebration of life” at a later date.

## Coronavirus

### ***YOU ARE NOT ON YOUR OWN***



If you **feel in need of a chat**,  
because you haven't spoken to anyone else today  
or you are in need of reassurance, or for any other reason  
then please call any of the following people  
who will be more than happy to speak to you.

Revd Jane Turner: 648 1816

Revd Margaret Fletcher: 648 1025

Revd Ray Dent: 792 2022

Revd David Trollope: 342 2648

Mrs Liz Whitehead: 606 9083

Mr Alan Jones: 648 1400

Mrs Pat Neil: 345 5232

Mrs Jean Heath: 648 6015



Our church buildings are closed to prevent infection spread. But the church (which is the people) remains ready to serve our community. If you need help in some way with self-isolating give us a call and we will endeavour to put you in touch with a neighbour who can help. If you have a specific prayer need, then again, please give us a call and we will circulate that (anonymously if you wish) to our church members who will pray.

*As a church, we have a mission in the community. We should all try to keep more in touch with our neighbours and support efforts to protect the most vulnerable.*

### **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.**

**Dear Friends**

**It is my aim to send the notice sheet to your inbox each Sunday until we are allowed to once again hold services in our church buildings.**

**During Lent we have been using a resource called "Worship in the Wilderness" and who could have known just how appropriate this theme was going to be for the current situation which we face in our world. I will therefore alongside the notice sheet, be sending you some of the resources that we would have been using during church services, and hope that they will be helpful reflection tools for you.**

**I am very aware that today is Mothering Sunday and that many of us, as a result of social distancing and self-isolation, for the first time in our lives will not be able spend quality time with our Mum's on this special day in the church calendar. So below I have put a prayer that I hope will help us all as we make this sacrifice in order to protect the most vulnerable in our society and to support the NHS by reducing the number of people at risk of being infected.**

**Please stay safe and know that I am here if you wish to chat or pray by phone!**

**God Bless**

**Revd Jane**

### **A Prayer for Mothering Sunday**

Loving God,  
Thank you for mums and children  
and for all the joy of family life.  
Be with those who are grieving because they have no mother;  
Be close to those who are struggling because they have no children;  
Be near to those who are sad because they are far apart from those they love.  
Let your love be present in every home,  
And help your church to have eyes to see and ears to hear the needs of all.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



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