

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
24th December - Advent 4**



Collect

Almighty God,
as we prepare with joy
to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child,
embrace the earth with your glory
and be for us a living hope
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal God, for whom we wait,
you have fed us with the bread of eternal life:
keep us ever watchful,
that we may be ready to stand before the Son of
man,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For our Community:

Please pray for all who serve us in our local community and for local businesses and community groups
Please pray for Foodbanks and those who will support the Homeless this Christmas
For those whom Christmas will not be a joyous time, through loneliness, abuse, separation,

For our Church:

Please pray for Bishops Mark; Julie and Sam, & Archdeacon Mike
Please pray for Revd Ailsa Whorton and her ministry to 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards
Please pray for Revd Malcolm Cowan and others who serve in the Chaplaincy department of the hospital

For the world:

Please pray for all countries of the world where people suffer from war, natural disasters and the effects of climate change

For the Sick: Please pray for Amanda Fletcher, Robin Blythe (Yasmin Whitehead's father), Margaret and Roy Fordham, Jane Fellows (Dot Turner's daughter), John Reynolds, Sally Edmondson (Mollies Cousin), Matthew (Elizabeth Barton's son), Elaine Kavanagh, Baby Isabelle Vickers, Joyce Kenworthy and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

For the Bereaved:

Forthcoming Services

Morning Prayer St Chad's Prayer Room 9.00am MOST Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
(check with Revd Jane for cancellations due to other meetings or commitments)

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads

Sun 24th December

9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am All Age Nativity at St Chad's
11.15pm First Communion at St Barts

Mon 25th December

10.00am Christmas Day Communion at Barts - All Welcome

Sun 31st December

9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Chads

Sun 7th January
VISION SUNDAY

9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

Church Office: Mrs K Butler, St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH Tel 648 8169.

Website: www.thurstaston.org.uk E-Mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk

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

Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-11, 16

7 Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' ³ Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.'

⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵ Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in?

⁸ Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹ and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

New Testament Reading: Acts 13:16-26

¹⁶ So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

'You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. ¹⁷ The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. ¹⁸ For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. ¹⁹ After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance ²⁰ for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. ²¹ Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. ²² When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, "I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes." ²³ Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; ²⁴ before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. ²⁵ And as John was finishing his work, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet."

²⁶ 'My brothers, you descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 1: 67-79

All: Glory to you, O Lord

⁶⁷ Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

⁶⁸ 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.

⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty saviour for us
in the house of his servant David,

⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

⁷¹ that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

⁷² Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,

⁷³ the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁷⁸ By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,

⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

All: Praise to you, O Christ



THANK YOU TO
CHURCH FARM
FOR DONATING
OUR BEAUTIFUL
CHRISTMAS TREES



Thank You!

The total raised for the Childrens Society this year was **£943.33** .



Vision Sunday

7th Jan 9am & 10.30am at St Bart's
14th Jan 10.30am at St Chad's (All- Age)
See Separate Flyer for full details

**Irby Methodist Church
Covenant Service**

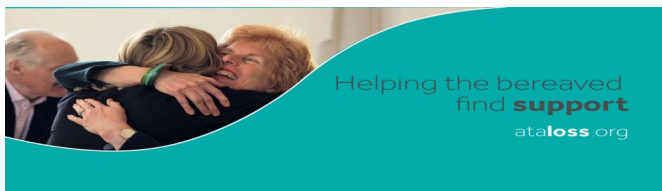
10.30am Sunday 7th January

The congregation of Irby Methodist Church would be delighted to welcome any members of our church to join them at Irby Methodist Church for this very special annual service.

Please continue to collect and bring your used stamps to Church.



RNIB request that, if possible, you leave 1cm of envelope around the stamp. Thank you for your continued support . Jean Heath



Are you Experiencing Domestic Abuse?

Freephone
24 hr Helpline
0808 2000 247
Irby Pharmacy is a **safe space**

A warm welcome
for all
at the
Warm Hub



Open to everyone, so please drop in!
St. Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH
0151 648 8169

Tuesdays 9.30a.m. — 12.30p.m.

Guest speaker
on 4th Tuesday of the month
Talks start at 10.30a.m.
(No speaker December)

Tuesday 23rd January 2024
Warm Hub Guest Speaker

Steve Jeffrey
A Life at sea!

everyone welcome for what promises to be a really interesting and entertaining session!



Refreshments, free WIFI, disabled access and a chance to chat with friends.



The Warm Hub now belongs to a growing national network of Places of Welcome



Visit www.placesofwelcome.org.uk for more information



Wirral Foodbank are running short of the items on the Shopping list. Please bring any donations to St Chad's Office and Kate will deliver them to the Foodbank.

SHOPPING LIST

- TINNED MEAT
- TINNED FISH
- TINNED VEGETABLES (PEAS, CARROTS, SWEETCORN)
- TINNED CUSTARD
- TINNED FRUIT
- JAM
- SHAMPOO
- FEMALE HYGIENE
- TOOTHBRUSHES/PASTE
- DEODORANT

St Bartholomew and St Chad takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding



**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**