

The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad

Thurstaston and Irby

14th December - Advent 3



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 our Community:

Please pray for all who serve us in our local community and for local businesses and community groups.

For our Church:

Please pray for Rt Revd Sarah Mullally - Archbishop of Canterbury designate

Please pray for victims and survivors of abuse and safeguarding teams across the diocese.

Please pray for Bishops Mark; Julie & Sam, Archdeacons Mike & Jane

Please pray for Revd Ailsa Whorton and The Army Foundation College, Harrogate

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 Paul Checkland (Leslie Worrall's cousin), Anna Kydd (daughter of Revd Gaynor), Phil Hales, John Reynolds, Robin Blythe, June Dean, Joyce Dennison, Muriel McKie, Caroline Cranny, Revd Anne Samuels, Isabelle Vickers and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

For baptism families: Archer (January)

For the bereaved: Family and friends of Janet Tracey and Sally Felix

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

Sunday 14th Dec 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am 10.30 am Communion with Junior church at St Chad's

Sunday 21st Dec 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bart's
10.30am Morning Worship at St Chad's **WITH NATIVITY**
6.00pm Carol Service at St Bartholomew's

**** Please see inside page for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services ****

Sunday 28th Dec 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Chad'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: Isaiah 35:1-10

³⁵ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus

² it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2-11

All: Glory to you O Lord

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' ⁴ Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

All: Praise to you, O Christ

New Testament Reading: James 5:7-10

⁷ Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Could you help with making Gift Aid Claims on behalf of the Church Council

Please see Page 5 of the December edition of Crosstalk for more details.

Could you volunteer to be a Foundation Governor at Dawpool Primary School

Please see the letter from Mrs Helen Griffiths, Headteacher, on Page 11 of the December edition of Crosstalk.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sun 21st December

9.00am BCP Communion at St Bart's

**10.30am Morning Worship
at St Chad's WITH NATIVITY**

6.00pm Carol Service at St Bart's

Wed 24th Dec - CHRISTMAS EVE

**10.30am HC at St Chads
(with children's activity tables)**

4.00pm Crib Service at St Bart's

**11.15pm Holy Communion
at St Bart's**

Thurs 25th Dec - CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00 am HC at St Bartholomew's

Advent Angels

An invitation to come and relax
together in the busyness of Advent.
7.30 – 9.00pm St Chad's Extension
EVERYONE WELCOME

We will start with a cup of tea/coffee and
an invitation to make a simple angel, we
will spend some time together looking at
what the Bible teaches about angels, and
we will finish each evening with an
invitation to share prayer requests.

Wed 3rd Dec: Angels in the Bible

Wed 10th Dec: Angels among us

Wed 17th Dec: Mary and Joseph
encounters with Angels



PARISH GIVING SCHEME

**SUPPORTING
ST BARTHOLOMEW'S
AND ST CHAD'S CHURCHES**

Donations to the churches are essential for us to maintain the buildings and contents, and continue our mission in Irby and Thurstaston.

One off donations can be made by putting cash on the plate, or by using this QR code with your mobile phone to access The Parish Giving Scheme.



We also welcome new regular givers through the same QR Code. You can make monthly donations which are backed by the direct debit guarantee and can be inflation linked if you so wish.

If you prefer to set up your donations using a paper form or via the website, please ask the minister or the sidespeople, who will be able to give you a pack containing all the information you need including "Frequently Asked Questions".

Donations of Flowers for Church: You can make a donation "in memory of", "in celebration of" or just because! Please sign up at the back of church. You do not have to arrange the flowers - the flower team can do that for you.

Money for your donation (with your contact details and the date for your flowers) should be given to the parish office in a clearly marked envelope, or by BACS indicating that it is Flower Fund, followed by email to the office.



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

RNIB request that, if possible, See differently 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
at the
Warm Hub**

Every Tuesday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Open to everyone, so please drop in!

St. Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH

December 2nd : Christmas Quiz

December 9th: Christmas Craft

December 16th: Carols and festive refreshments

All free of charge

**The warm hub will be closed on
December 23rd & 30th**



Member of Places of Welcome

Member of Warm welcome Spaces



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**