

The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad

Thurstaston and Irby

28th December - Christmas 1



Collect

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly
home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through 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.

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 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 28th Dec **9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**
 10.30am Holy Communion at St Chad's

Sunday 4th Jan **9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**
 10.30am 10.30 am Communion at St Bartholomew's

Sunday 11th Jan **9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's**
 10.30am All Age 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 63:7-9

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us,
and the great favour to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸ For he said, 'Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely';
and he became their saviour

⁹ in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;]
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying,

'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

¹³ And again,

'I will put my trust in him.'

And again,

'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.'

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:13-23

All: Glory to you O Lord

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ 'A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

All: Praise to you, O Christ

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.

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.



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!

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

**The first session of 2026 will be
on
Tuesday 6th January**

**Guest Speaker
27th January 2026
RSPB Burton**



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**