

# The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad

## Thurstaston and Irby

### 26th April - Easter 4



#### Collect

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into  
one flock, to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen

#### Post-Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be  
the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise  
again: keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
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 victims and survivors of abuse and safeguarding teams across the diocese.

Please pray for Archbishops Sarah and Stephen, 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 Joseph Dacosta, Margaret Fordham, Alan Jones (Brother of Dot Turner) and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

**For baptism families:** Hettie Davies (26th April)

**For Wedding Couples:** Abbie and Oli (2nd May), Sam and Jo (29th Aug)

**For the bereaved:** Family and friends of Jenny Tougher

### 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 26th April** 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's  
10.30am Holy Communion with Junior Church at St Chad's  
6.00pm APCM at St Chads

**Sunday 3rd May** 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's  
10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

**Sunday 10th May** 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's  
10.30am All Age Service 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](http://www.thurstaston.org.uk) E-Mail: [office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)

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

### **First Reading: Acts 2:42-47**

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

### **Second New Testament Reading:**

#### **1 Peter 2:19-25**

<sup>19</sup> For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup> 'He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

<sup>23</sup> When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

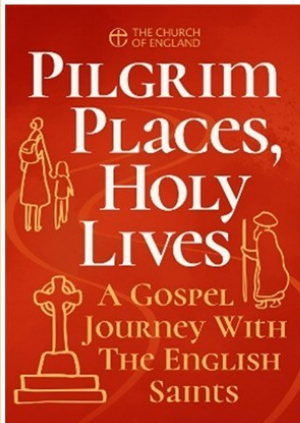
### **GOSPEL READING: John 10:1-10**

#### **All: Glory to you O Lord**

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

#### **All: Praise to you, O Christ**



**Wednesdays 7.30-9.00pm at St Chad's  
EVERYONE WELCOME**

You will need a booklet (cost £4),  
please ask Revd Jane to reserve you a copy.

This summer, the Church of England offers a new reflection campaign centred around pilgrimage – places and stories that help us feel part of something bigger on our journey towards God.

Each of us has our own story, but we are also part of bigger stories. The greatest story ever told is that of God becoming human in Jesus to offer us a transforming relationship with him. Through these reflections, we will see how this amazing story took root in Anglo-Saxon England, and how those who responded to it became signposts to God. They not only changed the world around them but can still challenge, inspire, and encourage us today.

**13th May - Welcoming the Gospel**

The Venerable Bede and St Bertha of Kent

**20th May - Living for the Gospel**

St Cedd of Lastingham and St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne

**27th May - Trusting the Gospel**

St Frideswide of Oxford and St Etheldreda of Ely

**3rd June - Light of the Gospel**

St Alcuin of York and St Hild of Whitby

Cheryl thanks all who joined her to celebrate her birthday. It was a joy to share the day with you. Thank you for your gifts and contributions towards the parish Home Communion set.

**6.30pm Sunday May 10th Jacqui Parkinson - St Mary's Upton - Sundays @ 7**

*Sundays@7 is a series of informal evenings, interviewing people with a story to tell. Join us for a relaxed and informal evening of dialogue with our special guest. Refreshments will be served from 6:30pm until 7:00pm when we will move on to the main event: a conversation with a person who has an extraordinary story to tell.*

Jacqui's background is in performance arts: teaching drama and then setting up the Lantern Arts Centre in South West London. She now works as a textile artist, delighting in the powerful overarching story of the Bible, using fabric and stitch to produce spectacular panels.

Her principle interest is in bringing the message of God's love to everyone: providing inspiring scriptures, affirmations, questions, encouragement and pleasure - and sometimes bringing a little bit of fun as well as serious theology. She has now completed a trilogy of exhibitions under the heading "Threads through the Bible".

Join us - come and hear all about Jacqui's incredible work.



**THREADS THROUGH THE BIBLE  
AT CHESTER CATHEDRAL**

**A group of church members visited this exhibition in Liverpool in Feb 2025. It was truly magnificent. Would you like to experience this with a group from church this time?**

**Sat 9th May** - Make your own way to the Cathedral for **10am**, Meet outside the main entrance. Please let Rev Jane know (**by Sunday 26th April**) if you would like to stay for lunch at the Refectory and she will try to book a table for 12noon. If 10am is too early for you, why not join us for lunch and then enjoy the exhibition at leisure during the afternoon.

Can't make this date - if you would like to go on your own the Exhibition runs from May 8th-June 28th.

