

The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad

Thurstaston and Irby

3rd May - Easter 5



Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
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.
Please pray for all children and young people preparing for and taking tests/exams.

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:

For Wedding Couples: Sam and Jo (29th Aug)

For the bereaved: Family and friends of Family and friends of Vivienne Gilman (funeral 1.00pm Wed 6th May at St Bartholomew's)

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.

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 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

THURSDAY 14th May - ASCENSION DAY - Invitation to join with people from Birkenhead Deanery for Service of Communion at 6.45am on Bidston Hill (meeting by the Windmill)
Refreshments served at St Oswald's Bidston after the service

Sunday 17th May 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Morning Worship 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

Second New Testament Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’

⁷ To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner’,

⁸ and

‘A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.’

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

GOSPEL READING: John 14:1-14

All: Glory to you O Lord

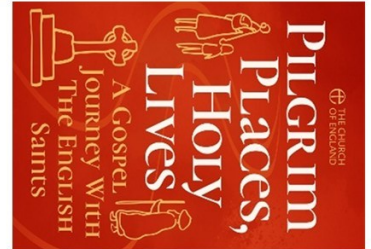
‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ ⁵ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ ⁶ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

⁸ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ ⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.’

All: Praise to you, O Christ

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.



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

School of Theology 2026

Want to grow in your faith? Want to be equipped to engage with some of the biggest questions facing Christians today? Want to journey alongside a welcoming, lively, worshipping community?

CHRISTIAN LIVING IN THE 21st CENTURY - (6.30-9.15pm) at Christ Church Chester

Sun 7 June **Purpose & the Christian Life**

Sun 14 June **Identity, Authenticity & Gender**

Sun 21 June **Christian Ethics at the Beginning & End of Life**

Sun 28 June **Christianity & Politics**

Teaching will be delivered by Rev Canon Dr Michael Leyden, Dean of Emmanuel Theological College and very soon to be Bishop of Penrith. He is an experienced teacher, pastor and theologian.

Tickets and more info can be found here: <https://schooloftheology2026.eventbrite.com>

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" which is on display at Chester Cathedral from May 8th - June 28th**



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, 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
 0151 648 8169

There are a range of activities including
 quizzes, Games, jigsaws,
 Crosswords etc

Guest Speaker
26th May 2026
Jenny Schwarz: The Challenge -
Ending Polio Worldwide

All free of charge

PLACES OF WELCOME Member of Places of Welcome
 Member of Warm welcome Spaces

Warm Welcome Spaces

WIRRAL
foodbank

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

safe spaces
 Supporting survivors of church-related abuse