

# Crosstalk 60p

The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad  
[www.thurstaston.org.uk](http://www.thurstaston.org.uk)



 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Chester

June 2025



Holy Spirit,  
sent by the Father,  
ignite in us your holy fire;  
strengthen your children  
with the gift of faith,  
revive your Church with  
the breath of love, and  
renew the face of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

*Paul Judson*

## Faith

When your prayers at times appear to go unanswered,  
And the words of your worse doubters seem so true,  
When it seems the whole wide world is all against you,  
Just put your faith in God and you'll pull through.

When your life is like a maze with no known exit,  
And your future appears to be as black as night,  
When it seems that all your efforts end in failure,  
Just put your faith in God, he'll see you right.

For those who put their faith in God have reason,  
For confidence to face each trial and test,  
and know better times are just around the corner,  
For faith is the soft pillow that gives rest.

*By Colin Hammacott*

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](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding)

**Safeguarding is  
Everyone's  
Responsibility**

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* "Your magazine needs you" \*  
\* Please send your contributions \*  
\* (eg. Poems. Prayers, interesting \*  
\* articles etc.,) \*  
\* to office@thurstaston.org.uk \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

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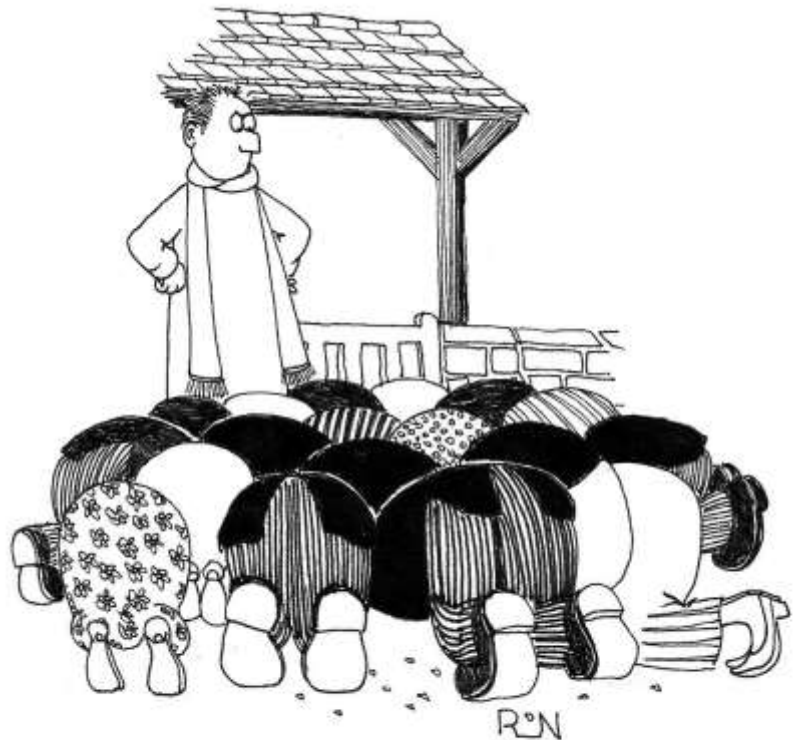
### **Baptisms**

25th May

Rosalie Grace Rainford

### **Weddings**

### **Funerals**



Keith was very strict about confetti in the churchyard

## From Your Rector

This month we remember St Barnabas, whose real name was Joseph, a wealthy Levite from Cyprus. However, he was better known by his nickname which means ‘*Son of Encouragement*’ (Acts 4:36). Throughout Acts we see him encouraging others in different ways.

Barnabas was an example of *generous giving* (Acts 4:36-7), when he sold property and offered the money to the church for those in need. In the midst of an already caring and sharing community, he was singled out as a symbol of generosity. Are we known as somebody who is generous to those in need around us?

Barnabas later *encouraged a new Christian* in the person of Paul (Acts 9:27). After Paul’s conversion and knowing his reputation, Barnabas came alongside him and brought him into the fellowship of the church. Are we ready to help those who are new in the faith to find a place in our church?

Finally, Barnabas was sent to the church in Antioch where he ‘*saw the evidence of the grace of God*’ (Acts 11:23). It was a church which brought Jewish and Gentile believers together for the first time. Like Barnabas, do we rejoice when we see God doing new things in people’s lives? Are we also willing to embrace these things and facilitate change?

Encouragement is one of the spiritual gifts in the New Testament (Romans 12:8). It can be greatly undervalued but still is crucial in growing the church. Like Barnabas, will we nurture gifting; strengthen the doubters and those tempted to give up; show generosity to God’s people and beyond the church; alongside strengthening people to move beyond their own comfort zones to help those in need?

Let’s be prepared to ask the following questions: ‘*Are there people alongside us who will encourage us?*’ and ‘*How can we be encouragers to others?*’

*Rev'd Jane*

Dear Lord,

June is the loveliest month, with long days and the beauty of summer all around us. Thank you **that, in the church’s year this month, we remember one of the loveliest of your followers** – Barnabas, known as the Son of Encouragement.

He encouraged the believers in Antioch to *remain true to the Lord* with all their hearts. Through his ministry of encouragement, a great number of people were brought to know you. Lord, we all thrive when we are encouraged. And we, your people, so need to be encouraged today in this world which can seem so confusing and discouraging.

So, thank you for those who have encouraged us in the past, and for those who encourage us now. Help us to read your living unchanging Word and to remain true to you with all our hearts. Help us to be a *Barnabas* to those we know who might be struggling. May we bear fruit in our discipleship.

**In Jesus’ name.** Amen.



## A message from Ailsa



Greetings in Christ!

**"Come to me all who are weary and I will give you rest"**

As I write, I have literally just returned from being in Scotland on Exercise with 9 other British Army Chaplains from across the country. As part of this I co-delivered a retreat and thought I might share a brief reflection on our experiences held amidst the breathtaking beauty of Glenshee in the Scottish Highlands.

**Under the theme of "Rest" we were blessed to lead our fellow** Army chaplains through a series of contemplative exercises, guided prayers, and times of silent reflection. The majestic surroundings—mountains towering and streams whispering—reminded us of God's beauty in creation and His invitation to find true rest in Him.

**But it's not always easy it? Not only as an Army Chaplain, but anybody!** There are so many seemingly never ending demands on our time these days and it often seems to me that sometime **we wear our "busyness" as a badge of honour.**

But we should not feel guilty about stopping, or slowing down. Indeed God gives us permission to rest. He himself rested and **Jesus is known to have taken himself off to rest, pray and to "be"** with his Father.

Our retreat was a powerful reminder of the importance of spiritual renewal amidst demanding service. As chaplains, re-centering ourselves in God's presence enables us to better serve others with compassion and clarity.

So, this month, I encourage you to simply stop. Take some time out for you, and rest.

**And don't feel guilty!**

**"Be still and know that I am God"**

Yours,

Ailsa





## Like Father, Like Son

'Dead Ringer' is the odd phrase we use when referring to someone who looks like somebody else. Sometimes, instead, we say 'spitting image' when we see a likeness or similarity between one person and another.

This month includes Fathers' Day (15th June) and is an occasion when dads are particularly remembered by their children. As far as the boys are concerned, how many have heard someone say 'Oh, you really look like your father'?

One day, Jesus was talking to His disciples and said, "Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father" (Jn 14:9) What an amazing statement! Jesus was saying that He was the dead ringer or spitting image of God! At another time Jesus said, "I am in the Father and the Father is in Me." (Jn 14:10) These words must have shocked His hearers, for He was saying that He was equal with God. No one had said anything like this before, but certainly His miracles were proof that He was different. No-one else could do what He was doing. Some people wondered—could He really be who He said He was?

So Jesus attempted to make His position clear and said, "If you knew Me you would know the Father also." (Jn 8:19) The people were being urged to know Jesus more. They had to look, listen and believe. Were His deeds of God or not? They had to decide!

Today, we all stand in a similar position. Who is Jesus? Do we look at Him and say 'Yes, this is God in the flesh' or 'No, He was just a good person — but also perhaps, deluded or crazy?'

Thomas, the disciple with the nickname 'doubter', exclaimed: "My Lord and *my God*" (Jn 20:28). Thomas was convinced that he was in the presence of God, in human form. And when the Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Colossae he said clearly: 'It was by God's own decision that the Son has in Himself the full nature of God' (*Colossians 1:19*). Like Father, like Son!

### Father's Day - what we most value in our fathers



**Father's Day is 15<sup>th</sup>** June - a day to honour and appreciate our fathers and father figures, such as grandfathers and fathers-in-law. Many of us will make a special effort to see them on the day.

No two fathers are alike, of course, but various polls across the internet reveal some interesting similarities of what people have most valued in their dad.

These traits include: being dependable, approachable, protective, patient, affectionate, honest, willing to listen, compassionate, and having spent time with them when they were young.

**That's quite a list!** People whose fathers had even some of those strengths have a lot to be thankful for.

Thankfully, our Father in Heaven certainly has all those traits. Jesus said the Father is totally dependable and protective of us, longs for us to turn to Him, and is **full of compassion and love**. And we are to call Him '**Abba**' – Daddy!

# ARTY PARTY

BY REBECCA LE BROcq

Friday 7pm

13 June

St Chad's Hall

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\* Places limited book early

St Chad's Roslin Road, Irby CH61 3UH

## The Nicene Creed: Who is God?

*'We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.'*

2025 sees the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. We use it at Communion services, but how much notice do we take of the words? In this new series we are looking at what it means to believe in God as Trinity.

**We believe:** In Greek, the Creed begins *'we believe'* (in Latin, *'I believe.'*). It was formulated at the time of Arius, who declared that Jesus was the first and greatest of God's creatures, but not the same as God the Father. His teaching proved so damaging that the Emperor Constantine called an ecumenical council in Nicaea (AD 325) to clarify the core beliefs for all Christians.

**in one God:** We believe in a God who is both one and Trinity: *'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one'* (Deuteronomy 6:4). He is the Old Testament God, who we know through the life and work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We are to worship Him alone and not people or things.

**the Father, the Almighty:** God is both the almighty Creator and loving Father: *'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name'* (Matt 6:9). Although the Father of all that exists, He is specifically Father to those who His children through their faith in Jesus.

**maker of heaven and earth:** God comes before anything that was created, and Creation is His alone: *'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty'* (Genesis 1:1,2). The implication is that He created *'ex nihilo'* ie out of nothing. He is one God who is unchangeable, lacking in nothing and the source of all that exists.

**of all that is, seen and unseen:** God did not just create the physical universe, but also the spiritual powers: *'For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him.'* (Colossians 1:16). Reality is more than what we can see, smell, taste, touch or measure.

The Creed establishes the 'big picture' of who God is and challenges our commitment to Him. *How do these opening words of the Nicene Creed speak to us today?*



## Ruth's Reflections

Hello everyone.. I cannot believe that I have been writing these articles for just over 5 years! It all started in Lockdown, I was standing on the kitchen worktop, painting the walls when the Rev Jane rang to ask if I would write something to help fill the Parish Magazine. Little did I think that I would still be doing it in 2025! I must also say a heartfelt Thankyou for all the positive feedback and lovely comments I have had from many of you.

The roses that we planted at St Bartholomew's are doing well, a lot are in bud so there should be a lovely colourful display this summer. We Ringers have been watering them frequently during this glorious weather, it hasn't really rained since we planted them.

We rang the Bells for the V.E. Day Service, which was lovely and as a lot of Towers countrywide were ringing at the same time it did feel special.

My garden is looking lovely and I have been watering it frequently unfortunately my water butt is now empty! I have also bought another tree, an eating apple, and there are quite a few tiny apples forming on it. I must admit I have been taking advantage of the sunshine and sitting in the garden and reading, thinking, housework, what housework!

The V.E. Day Display by The W.I. is now firmly in place at the entrance to the drive to Irby Village Hall. We had some much needed help from 2 men in the construction and placing of the display. grateful thanks to them both. I hope that you have all had a chance to see it, but if not there is still plenty of time as it will remain in place for the summer.



The W.I. outings continue, yesterday we went to Premier Plants at Lesham. I think we probably boosted their profits judging by the trolley loads of plants that were bought by quite a lot of us, I didn't buy much, just 6 cosmos plants. We also had lunch there and very nice it was. I do enjoy someone else doing the cooking!

My 2 friends and I go on holiday in 3 weeks, I really need to get myself organised, money, passport, to say nothing about which clothes I want to take.

I am going to stop now and have some lunch - in the garden.

Take care and stay safe everyone.

Ruth.

## Fill me with Your Spirit, Lord

Fill me with your Spirit, Lord,  
Fill me with your love.  
Fill this empty heart of mine,  
Come down gentle dove.

You see all my self-concern,  
Lovelessness and pride.  
Help me to open up my heart,  
Place your love inside.

Fill me with your Spirit, Lord,  
Fill me with your power.  
Give to me your source of strength,  
From this very hour.

You have seen me trying hard,  
Failing every time,  
Show me how to let you now,  
Live Your life in mine.

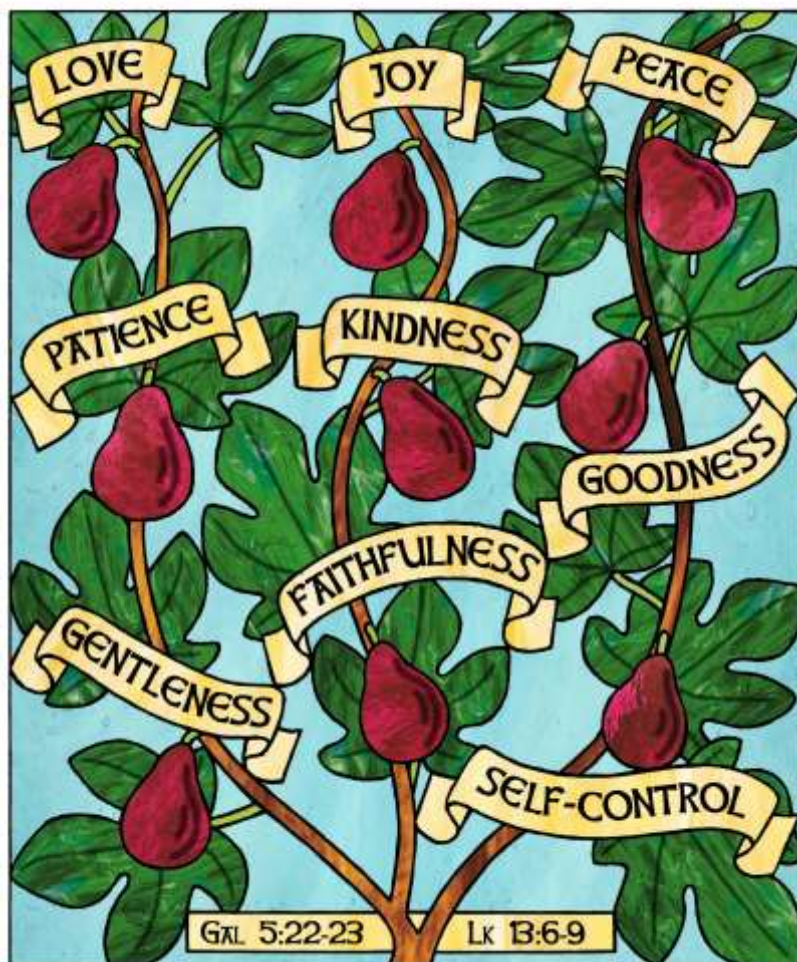
Fill me with your Spirit, Lord,  
Fill me with your joy.  
Give to me that happiness  
Nothing can destroy.

Even when my sufferings  
Point me to despair,  
May I know that joy inside  
Just because You're there.

Fill me with Your Spirit, Lord,  
Fill me with Your peace,  
Quieten all the turbulence,  
Bid my struggles cease.

Often my anxieties,  
Fill my life with stress,  
Show me how to let them go,  
Give to me Your rest.

*By Howard Webber*





## Reflecting Faith: An Offer You Do Not Want to Refuse

For the last couple of months, we've been thinking about baptism, and last time we finished by saying that, even as late as the tenth century, only baptised people could stay in the church to watch, never mind actually consume, the celebration of the Eucharist.

This tells me how highly regarded the consecration of the bread and wine actually were, and still are, within the Church. Even today this is still the 'highlight' of the main Sunday service.

Everything we do within the service leads up to this special moment, when the priest offers the bread and wine to the people.

Prior to this, we've said prayers of penitence and have been absolved. We have heard stories from the Bible and had them expanded upon in a sermon.

We have stated our faith in response to this, and recognised God's awesome power by saying prayers of intercession for ourselves and others.

We have acknowledged God's amazing gifts of love and peace by sharing this with those around us, and we responded by offering to Him our gifts as token of our whole lives.

And then – finally we get to the Eucharistic Prayer.

As soon as this is concluded and the priest invites the congregation to come forward to receive the consecrated bread and wine, we are 'so overwhelmed' by the enormity of what is being offered to each of us that we 'fall on our knees' with the Prodigal Son and say, "Lord I am not worthy'.

**This month:** When you next go to a Communion Service, take note of the pattern of it as a whole and then 'think' about how you feel as you are invited to take the bread and wine.





## God in the Sciences : Help, my kids just asked me a science question!

### *Why aren't dinosaurs in the Bible?*

The Bible wasn't written to list all the animals on earth or tell us about science. It was written a long time before people started to use science to learn about the world.

When the Bible was written, people didn't even have a word for dinosaurs yet! But it's not just dinosaurs that aren't mentioned in the Bible, it doesn't talk about armadillos, kangaroos, sabre-toothed cats or penguins either!

That doesn't mean that the Bible is out of date or wrong, or that these animals aren't important. Rather than teaching us science, many Christians believe that the Bible was written to tell people about God, how much He loves them, and all the amazing things He has done.

The Bible says that God made everything, and loves everything He made, so that includes dinosaurs. It also encourages people to explore and find out all about the wonderful things it says God has made. Science is a part of this exploration.

### *Did God make the dinosaurs?*

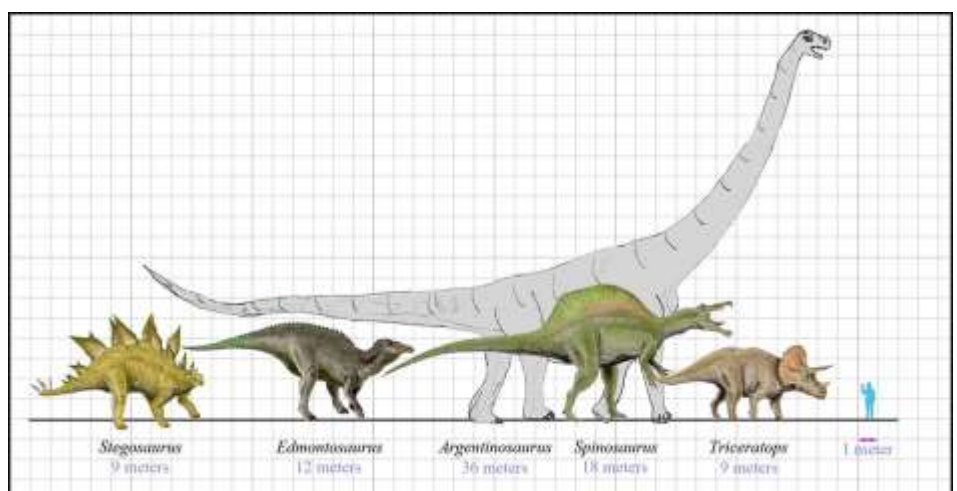
The Bible (the holy book that Christians read) says that God made everything. All the stars, the Earth and all the amazing plants and animals that have ever lived here. So yes, most Christians believe that God made the dinosaurs!

The Bible also teaches that God loves it when people explore His creation, and science is a great way of doing that. So, for many Christians, science is one of the fun things we can use to learn all about **how** God made everything, including all of the dinosaurs!

### *Were humans and dinosaurs ever living on earth at the same time?*

Yes! But probably not the kind of dinosaur you're thinking of! Most of the dinosaurs died out a very, very long time ago, way before humans first lived. But some of the smaller, feathery dinosaurs survived and over a long time they have evolved into the animals we call birds.

So, from chickens and robins to penguins and ostriches, there are dinosaurs living all over our world today!



## God in the Arts: : El Greco's 'The Tears of St Peter'

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century John Bowes, the 10<sup>th</sup> Earl of Strathmore, built a museum in the French style, with landscaped gardens, at Barnard Castle in Teesdale. He bequeathed it 800 paintings, including a previously unknown Van Dyck.

But visitors to the Bowes Museum often make a beeline for its amazing 18<sup>th</sup> century silver swan automaton. As the music plays, there is the illusion of flowing water: the swan preens itself, bends down and catches a fish in the water. It is a thrill and a joy to watch. At the other extreme and striking a different mood and emotion is El Greco's painting of 1580: 'The Tears of St Peter.' It was reluctantly purchased in 1869 for a price less than that paid for the monkey puzzle tree in the grounds outside.



The gospels tell us that St Peter wept bitterly when he heard the cock crow, as he had denied knowing Jesus three times. El Greco shows the saint, his eyes welling with those tears of betrayal, kneeling and turning to heaven for forgiveness. The sky is overcast, reflecting the sad scene below, and we can see ivy growing as a sign of the constancy so lacking in Peter's life.

At the Last Supper he had been the opposite: ready to follow, brave and generous with his words. But Peter leaves Jesus to drink the cup of sorrow alone in Gethsemane. In the courtyard of the high priest, warming himself by the fire, he utters that threefold denial. This was the lowest moment in his life, when instead of being solid rock, he showed that he was merely shifting sand.

And then the wonder and glory of Easter. We glimpse it in the background of the painting with the angel and Mary Magdalene at the tomb. And we know that everything changes for Peter by the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Like the silver swan in the Bowes Museum looking for fish, the disciples have returned to their old way of life.

But it is the risen Lord who directs them to a marvellous catch, and the charcoal fire of betrayal in the courtyard is now the charcoal fire of breakfast, a new day, and a new way of life for Peter. No denial now – he answers the three questions of our Lord positively and realises that he is loved by Jesus in his failure and weakness. It might have seemed the end for Peter in the courtyard, but the risen Lord comes to tell him 'I make all things new' and that includes you.

Peter is often known as the stumbling saint. Here, in El Greco's painting, he has stumbled and fallen to his knees in prayer. We celebrate St Peter at the end of this month. As we look at him, we know ourselves to be as weak and fearful. But the Lord comes to us as He comes to Peter. He lifts us up and puts us back on our feet again. With Peter, we know Him as our crucified and risen Lord.





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LTDEBMAEEKM  
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have  
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was first  
Hebrew,  
and

The crowd that were listening were amazed as they heard about God in their own language.

How many people heard, believed and were baptised that day?

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Bible or parts of the Bible have now been translated into over 3,000 different languages since it was first written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.



## Wordsearch for June 2025

The story of Pentecost is found in Acts 2. After the Ascension of Jesus, the disciples had obeyed His command to stay in Jerusalem and to 'wait for the promise from the Father'. Jesus said this would be the 'baptism of the Holy Spirit', but the disciples had no idea what that meant. They soon found out! Acts tells us that at about 9 o'clock one morning, a sound like a rushing wind from heaven suddenly filled the house, and divided tongues as if of fire rested on each one of them. The Holy Spirit had come down and filled them with His divine power! Praise, preaching and witnessing followed that morning – and the Church was born.

Pentecost  
Trinity  
Jerusalem  
Disciples  
Praying

Tongues  
Power  
High  
Fires  
Flames

Languages  
Praise  
Drunk  
Wine  
Nine

Morning  
Glory  
Waiting  
Place  
Wind

Father  
Son  
Holy  
Spirit  
Eternal



## Donations of Flowers for Church

You can make a donation  
“in memory of”, “in celebration of”  
or just because you like seeing flowers in church!



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.

## St. Chad's Tots and Tinies

St Chad's Church (Roslin Road, Irby)

Every Thursday 9.30-11.30am  
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£1.50 for one Adult and one child - All Welcome

Additional children £1.00  
Additional Adults £0.50



Parents/Carers will be  
responsible for their child(ren)  
during the sessions

For further information  
please contact **Allison**  
via the Parish Office 648 8169

# 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 24th May***

**Laura Baker  
"Nuclear Energy"**



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



## **Jigsaw Library**

Over the time that Warm Hub has been operating, we have been gifted many jigsaws. While we always have a jigsaw in progress at Warm Hub, there are many waiting for us to use in the future. Rather than these jigsaws just piling up, with the winter nights ahead we would like to make these jigsaws available for individuals to borrow and then return to us. We can't vouch that all the jigsaws are complete as they are donated to us but if you would like to borrow one then we can make them available on a Tuesday morning when the Warm Hub is open - 9.30 to 12.30 at St Chad's

Susan Smale



You can make donations to Foodbank by placing items (non perishable food and toiletries) in the box by the office door at St Chad's.



# Need a Meeting Room?

At St Chad's we have a large hall  
and some smaller rooms.

Booking Enquiries should be made by emailing  
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For more information and prices please go to the website  
<https://www.thurstaston.org.uk/hall-and-room-hire/>



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on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stchadsstbarts/>

If you are already on Facebook it is easy to find and "like" the page. Just search for "stchadsstbarts" or "St. Bartholomew's Thurstaston, with St. Chad's, Irby" and you will find us.

If you "like" the page you will receive notifications when we add events and other informative posts.

From our page you can also share individual posts and events with others you may think would like to hear about us and our events.

Please do share this page with your friends.

You do not have to be on Facebook to view our posts.

We also have a Twitter Feed:-

**@StBartsStChads**



*Did you know.....*

*.....back in the year 1976, a committee based at St Chad's Church was trying to raise funds for the RNLI.*

*They decided to hold an exhibition of paintings by local Irby residents. The exhibition was so successful that the artists decided to join together to form an "Irby Artists Association".*

*....and the rest, as they say, is history!*

*The Irby Artists are proud to have had such a long association with St Chad's.*

*We welcome new members and actively provide support to those wishing to try their hand at painting & drawing, with weekly Monday afternoon sessions, indoors during the winter, and outdoors in the summer months, and two exhibitions of members works per year.*

*For more information, contact the Chair:*

*Alan McMahon, Text:07889 404917*

*Or Email: [almac48@virginmedia.com](mailto:almac48@virginmedia.com)*



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Got to

**[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby)** and follow the simple steps to sign up.

## 2. Hit the shops

When you shop online, visit easyfundraising first, click through to the retailer and shop as normal. Everything costs exactly the same

## 3. Earn donations

With every purchase you make you'll raise a donation from the retailer. Your donations are then transferred to **St Bartholomew Thurstaston and St Chad Irby**

**easyfundraising**  
.org.uk



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## Contacts

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<b>CHURCH OFFICE:</b> Mrs K Butler St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH Telephone: 0151 648 8169. E-mail: <a href="mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk">office@thurstaston.org.uk</a> OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm (term time)	
<b>PARISH WEBSITE:</b> <a href="http://www.thurstaston.org.uk">www.thurstaston.org.uk</a>	

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<b>Associate Minister</b> Revd Ailsa Whorton CF (Chaplain to the Forces, Army). <a href="mailto:revdailsa@thurstaston.org.uk">revdailsa@thurstaston.org.uk</a> Ailsa works full time and will reply to emails when she is able around her work commitments 678 4733 (Evenings only and messages will be passed on to Ailsa via her husband Derek)	<b>Bellringing - Tower Captain</b> Dr Peter Robson 648 6691
<b>Reader Emeritus</b> Mr Alan Jones 648 1400	<b>Flowers for both Churches</b> <b>Team Co-ordinator</b> Dawn Rudd 648 0209
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<b>PCC Treasurer</b> Vacant <a href="mailto:pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk">pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk</a>	<b>Rainbows/Brownies/Guides</b> <a href="http://www.girlguiding.org.uk">www.girlguiding.org.uk</a> or Freephone 0800 1 69 59 01
<b>Parish Safeguarding Officer</b> Mr Chris Williams 07956621731 <a href="mailto:safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk">safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk</a>	<b>CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES</b> <b>Christian Aid Representative</b> Vacant
<b>Electoral Roll</b> c/o Church Office 648 8169	<b>Children's Society Representative</b> Mrs Jean Heath 648 6015
<b>St Chad's Hall Booking</b> <a href="mailto:hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk">hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk</a>	<b>Leprosy Mission Representative</b> Julie DeBoorder 648 6331
	<b>Adoption Society Representative</b> Mrs Chris Rostock 648 1112

### Baptisms and Weddings

To arrange a baptism or wedding, please telephone the Rector,  
 Revd Jane Turner on 0151 648 1816  
 or the Church office on 0151 648 8169.



# June 2025 Services

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads

Sun 1st June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Communion at St Bartholomew's
Sun 8th June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am All Age Service at St Chad's
Sun 15th June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's
Sun 22nd June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Chad's with Junior Church
Sun 29th June	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Communion at St Bartholomew's
Sun 1st July	9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's 10.30am Communion at St Bartholomew's

## Thank God for farmers!

*Open Farm Sunday is this year on 8<sup>th</sup> June, when Christians are being asked to remember farmers. This prayer contemplates where our food comes from, and then celebrates the work of the farmers who produce it. The Arthur Rank Centre (ARC) is a charity which supports the rural community and its churches through a programme of community and social projects, resourcing and training.*

Cabbages come in polythene bags, devoid of hidden insects and other creepy crawlies. Potatoes are mud free and ready for the oven. Meat is presented in sterile packs whilst milk is pasteurised and semi skimmed in conveniently shaped containers that fit in the fridge.

It's all a million miles from where the story began, and the world of those who should tell it. Those who prepare the land, plough it and cultivate it; sow it and plant it, weed it and spray it, irrigate it and harvest it, and sort and transport the crop that's produced.

Those who calve the cow, stay with it and tend it; feed it and milk it, help with the birth and watch the calf grow. Who tag it and protect it, nurture it and feed it, until it's ready for market as a strong healthy beast. So many hours and so much skill.

Generations of experience, tending the land and caring for stock. So much effort, so many risks, the weather, disease, the whim of the market all to put food on my plate.

Lord, I thank you for those who produce the food that I eat, for their commitment and effort, their knowledge, their skills. And forgive me, I pray, that I take them for granted, forget what they do and ignore what I owe.

May I value their work and all it produces, May I give them the respect and the appreciation they deserve. And may I give You the glory, as Creator Provider, the giver of all that I now thank You for. Amen