

# Crosstalk

60p



*The Parish Magazine of  
St Bartholomew with St Chad*

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Chester

May 2026



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**Baptisms**  
26th April  
Hettie Davies

**Weddings**

**Funerals**

## From Your Rector

The celebration of Pentecost this month could be described as a birthday party for the church, when we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first disciples (Acts 2:1-13). What are we celebrating?

### *God's Promise:*

The disciples obeyed Jesus' instructions as they gathered in the Upper Room: *'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised'* (1:4). They met expectantly in prayer for God's promised gift. Just as we look forward to birthday presents, how eager are we to receive more of the Spirit in our lives?

### *God's Power:*

*'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit'* (4). The disciples needed the power of the Spirit to be different: not fearfully gathered behind locked doors, but energised to make Christ known. The Spirit can transform our lives into the likeness of Jesus and give gifts to equip our witness. Although the disciples' experience of this power was overwhelming, it was essentially an encounter with God's love. For us, this can be equally emotional or quiet, but *all* are included and nobody is excluded from this experience.

### *God's Purpose:*

The disciples *'began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.'* (4). The Spirit empowered their witness, so that everyone heard them speaking in their own *'native language'* (lit: *dialect*, v8). We all have a story to tell of God's activity in our lives, and the Spirit will translate our words and actions into a language that those around can understand! At Pentecost, 3000 people were added to the Church in one day! What do we expect of the Spirit in our day?

*'Let the church return to Pentecost, and Pentecost will return to her. The Spirit of God cannot take possession of believers beyond their capacity of receiving Him'* (Andrew Murray).

Revd Jane



## Seize the day

Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.

\*\*

## I know

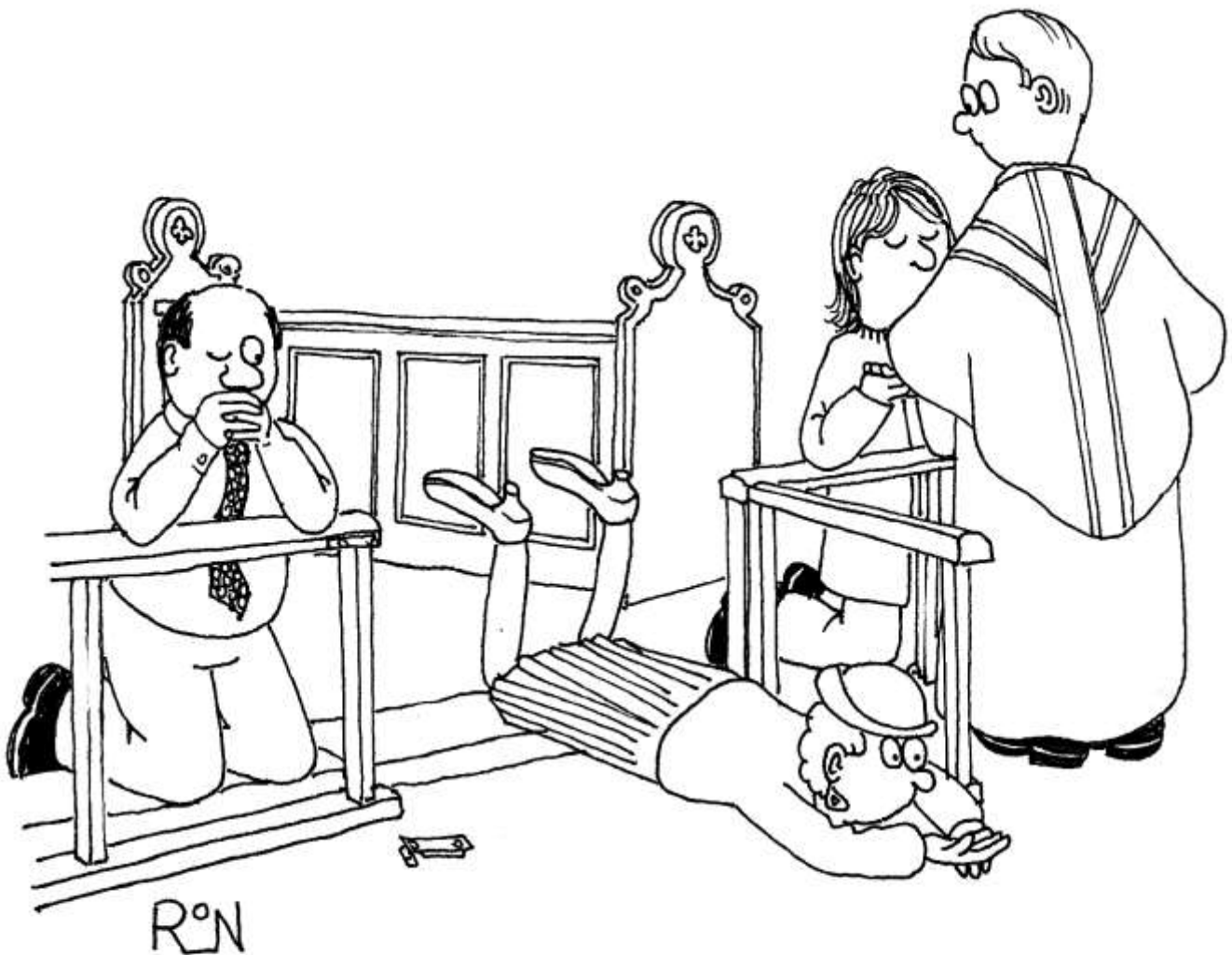
I'm not bossy. I just know what you should be doing.

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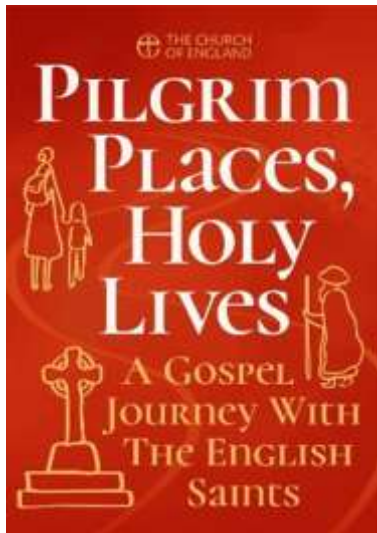
## Windy

Three elderly ministers, all hard of hearing, were playing golf one sunny spring morning.

The Methodist minister observed, "Windy, isn't it?" "No", the Baptist pastor said, "It's Thursday." The Anglican vicar agreed: "So am I! Let's go and get a pint."



*Terry made a note to fix the bolt*



## 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

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

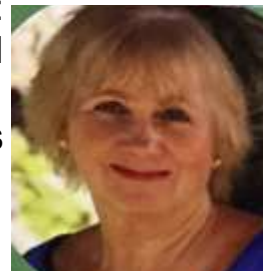
*Sundays@7 is a series of informal evenings, interviewing people with a story to tell. Join us for a relaxed and informal evening of dialogue with our special guest. Refreshments will be served from 6:30pm until 7:00pm when we will move on to the main event: a conversation with a person who has an extraordinary 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 - May 8th-June 28th.

**Celebration Days and Weekends May - December 2026**

**Ascension Quiet Day** Saturday 16th May 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

An opportunity to spend some time in quietness reflecting on the glory and significance of Christ's Ascension. The Sisters will share some thoughts on scripture to lead into quiet, and the day will close with a time of worship. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided.



**Summer Quiet Day** Saturday 25th July 10:00 am – 4:00 pm



Take a pause in the midst of life's hustle and bustle, and draw close to the Lord. Led by the Sisters & Brother, with some reflections on scripture, times of quietness and closing worship. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

**Summer Barbecue** Saturday 22nd August 1:00 pm – 3:00

pm

Come and enjoy our garden and spend some time with us in informal praise and worship. Food provided.



**Advent Weekend** Friday 27th November – Sunday 29th November

Begins with tea at 5:30 pm on Friday and ends after the 5:00 pm buffet meal on Sunday. An opportunity to reflect on the first and second coming of Jesus through scripture and song.

**New Year Celebration** Thursday 31st December – Monday 4th January

This is always a popular event. There will be a Covenant Service when we yield ourselves afresh to the Lord for the coming year, some Bible reflection, carols, a celebration meal and time for relaxation.

Those who live locally are welcome to book in just for the evening on **New Year's Eve:**

**8:00 pm Thanksgiving for the Past Year**

**11:15 pm Watchnight Service with Renewing of the Covenant**

*For any of the items in this programme, please book in with us beforehand as space is limited; this applies to day events as well as weekends.*

Sisters of Jesus Way, Redacre, 24 Abbey Road, West Kirby, Wirral CH48 7EP

Tel: 0151 625 8775

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

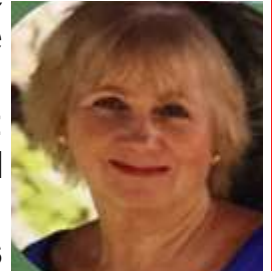
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THREADS THROUGH THE BIBLE  
AT CHESTER CATHEDRAL

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.

## Advanced Notice Social Events

**Saturday 27th June Cream tea and plant sale**  
Cream tea 2pm at St Chads church



**Saturday 11th July New Ferry Butterfly park**  
2-3.30pm Family outing to the Butterfly park



## Ruths Reflections

Hello again. I must admit I have been wracking my brains for something to write about, so this might be a very short article. Life has been quiet lately and I had a very nasty cold which kept me out of action over most of Easter. I did manage to ring a little bit on Easter Sunday, but I was very tired afterwards.

As I have mentioned before, the Bellringers have been looking after the Remembrance Garden in St Bartholomew's Churchyard. It had become overgrown with weeds, so we had a mass weeding and rose pruning session prior to ringing for a wedding. It looks a lot better now and I am looking forward to the roses blooming this summer.

I have at last managed to do some gardening, weeding and cutting back, feeding the plants and the lawn, hoping for luxurious growth this summer. I treated myself to a new small patio set, a small table and two chairs which will replace a much larger old set which is very shabby and rusty.

Several of us from the W.I. went to Gordale Garden centre last month to a talk about spring planting by one of their staff. Karen's talks are always excellent, but as she is retiring this might have been her last talk. We have several more outings to look forward to as well as the holiday to Italy later this year.

Well I think that is all I have to say this time, I did warn you it would be a very short piece!

Take care and stay safe everyone.

Ruth.



## How a dying bishop said farewell to his diocese

The Bishop of Guildford, the Rt Revd Andrew Watson, was diagnosed with aggressive and untreatable cancer of the pancreas on 10<sup>th</sup> February this year.

After he was told that he had less than a month to live, Bishop Andrew wrote a letter to his diocese, to say goodbye and to reassure them. He wrote:

**“Only our good Lord knows exactly how long I have left, of course. But the conversation with my doctor – together with a sense that I am getting a little weaker by the day - means that my main focus now is on 'cheerfully persisting towards a good death.'**

Yesterday I signed a deed of delegation, handing over the interim leadership of the diocese to our **dear Bishop Paul. I'm sorry that that means I will no longer be honouring my existing commitments...**

I don't fear the prospect of dying, and find to my relief that my faith in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting' has only grown stronger over the past few weeks. I've sometimes had private worries that, when faced with the starkness of a terminal diagnosis, my faith in the Risen Christ might falter. Well, it hasn't. Or better still, God hasn't faltered. Quite the reverse.

Nor do I feel short-changed by what's happening. Of course, I have grumpy patches when I'm in pain, **or not sleeping properly. (I'm only a saint in St Paul's most generous definition of the term!)** But I still consider myself as deeply blessed to have been born into such a loving family, to have met with Christ as a teenager, to have spent nearly 40 years of my life so joyfully married to the 'wife of my youth', to have raised four remarkable children (all equally remarkably partnered), and to have been entrusted with a series of fulfilling ministries within my beloved Church of England.

Of all the closing words to St Paul's various letters to individuals and to church communities, perhaps the one I value most comes right at the end of his first letter to the Church at Thessalonica. We sense that the apostle is running out of parchment, and wanting to cram as much as he can into the last few inches; and he does a great job from my perspective, beautifully articulating so much of what I would want to say in what may well prove to be my last message to the Diocese of Guildford.

Could I encourage you to read these words quietly and prayerfully - so that each one of us, lay and ordained, might be freshly inspired to embrace God's call on our lives with renewed vigour and gratitude:

***‘We appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, brothers and sisters, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.***

***May the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and He will do this. Brothers and sisters, pray for us. Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.’***

Bishop Andrew died, aged 64, on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

## Reflected Faith Series: The Creed (Part 1)

There are various sections that make up a Communion service. While different denominations, and different styles of churches even within the same denomination, may do things differently, generally speaking they all include the same foundational elements.

So, after the Bible readings, and then sermon, what follows next?

In Common Worship (CW) we 'immediately' jump to our feet and proclaim our faith!

If you follow the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the Creed comes between the Gospel reading and the sermon – which is my excuse for forgetting to say it more than once when I've conducted the latter service first (if you get what I mean) on a Sunday morning.

The question is, 'Why is it placed here?' Wouldn't it make more sense to have it at or close to the beginning of a service; so that we can be sure everyone in the congregation is on the same page, so to speak.

Or why not at the end, just before we go out into the world taking our faith with us?  
Why here?

When (BCP) it follows directly after the Gospel reading, it's as though having heard the words of Jesus we rush to say 'I believe that. I believe in who said it. And I believe in ... etc etc.' Rather like after your favourite team has scored a goal!

Where we've had the sermon first (CW), it's as though the 'explanation and contextualisation' by the preacher makes it so plain that we can do nothing less than join together and reaffirm our baptismal faith.

*This month*

Pause for a moment before you say the Creed next time and consider where in your service it is placed. What has encouraged you to be able to say it from your heart? Was there a word, phrase or sentence that particularly gripped you and prompted you to your feet? Or was it just words written on the service sheet with a direction to stand?



## **Christian Aid Week - 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May**



It's that time of year again – when Christians across the country raise funds for Christian Aid's programmes, which help those suffering poverty and injustice worldwide.

Since 1957, Christian Aid Week has brought faith and action together to help families survive poverty and violence, and communities rebuild after crisis.

It says: "This is all thanks to the amazing support of churches, communities and individuals who choose to walk, run, bake, dance, make, and do whatever it takes to help make lasting change.

"Through our locally led work with partners around the world who are rooted in their communities to lead change, your valuable support will help communities ravaged by poverty and the effects of the climate crisis.

Christian Aid welcomes anyone who would like to be involved this year in raising support. And there are various ways to take part:

Give online or through collections.

Fundraise with friends, family, colleagues or your community.

Take part through your church with worship, prayer and events.

Volunteer locally to support Christian Aid Week activities.

## Helping people caught in crisis in the Middle East

At Pentecost, we think back to that morning in Jerusalem when the Church was born. So this month, as we celebrate Pentecost, it is good to know that many Christian agencies are working hard out there in the Middle East now, to help the suffering people of Gaza, Lebanon, Israel, the West Bank.... Not to mention all the other countries where bombs are falling and people are running for their lives.

Many of the Christian agencies work through local partners to provide essential supplies like food, water, and hygiene kits, alongside psychosocial support. If you would like to help to support this work, you could send funds through various key organisations:

Caritas Jerusalem; Christian Aid; Embrace the Middle East; Friends of the Holy Land; Help the Persecuted; Medair; Mosaic Middle East; Samaritan's Purse; and Tearfund

## Not forgetting Ukraine...

The crisis in the Middle East has distracted world attention from Ukraine. But the country is still at war, and its people are still needing help.

Numerous Christian relief agencies are active now in Ukraine and its neighbouring countries, providing emergency aid to those affected by the ongoing conflict.

If you would like to send some support, you might choose to send it through key organisations who mostly work through partners on the ground, channelling humanitarian assistance and long-term care to displaced families, the elderly, and children. These are:

Blythswood Care; CAFOD; Christian Aid; Mission Without Borders; Operation Mobilisation; Salvation Army; and Ukraine Christian Ministries

These organizations work directly with local churches to ensure aid reaches those in the most need, often providing both physical relief and spiritual support.



## God in the Sciences: Humility

A few years ago, I visited the Smithsonian Museum's Hall of Human Origins. Our guide, the curator of anthropology, was keen to help Christians understand his research. Whatever you make of the evidence for human evolution, the fact remains that other species a bit like us were around before we came on the scene – or in the case of Neanderthals, at the same time.

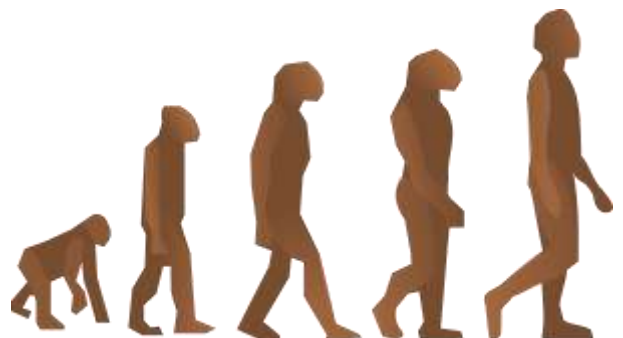
Part of the exhibit included lifelike reconstructions of the face and hair of several different hominins, displayed on pillars at the right height for each species. So, I could crouch down to 'meet' *Homo floresiensis* or stand tall to look into the eyes of *Homo heidelbergensis*. Most of these – beings? creatures? – were on other branches of the evolutionary tree to us, and we share a common ancestor much further back. I did, however, feel as if I was meeting my forebears.

As I walked between the statues I asked myself, "Why us?" There's evidence that Neanderthals used symbolism as we do, and also buried their dead. Did they have the potential to evolve to a point where they could do similar things to us? The curator explained how, as the ice ages came and went, human beings moved around but other species appear to have stayed put and suffered the consequences – they just weren't ready yet for that big change. As I took in the displays about how we began to gather socially around a fire, make music or write, I felt humbled. We managed to adapt, but we could so easily have disappeared with the rest.

In his book *The Message of Creation*, theologian David Wilkinson shares his view that being made in the image of God has nothing to do with our own cleverness or abilities, but instead it is a gift. God created us on purpose (I believe through the long slow process of evolution) and chose to enter into a relationship with us, making us His representatives on earth.

Thankfully I don't have to figure out how to interact with other human-like hominins today. I do, however, have an equal share in humankind's God-given commission to tend and keep creation. Am I ready to go further than ensuring my own species' survival - not necessarily because we have evolved further than our ice-age ancestors, but because I have one of the 'new hearts' promised in Ezekiel 11:19? Can I work together, in a true spirit of humility, with people from all over the world to ensure the full diversity of life can flourish?

\*For resources on this question, try the [Faraday Institute](#), [BioLogos](#), and [Christians in Science](#).



## God in the Arts :Stained Glass windows



You may know the story of the little girl with her family during a guided tour around a cathedral. As the bright sun streamed through one of the windows, she asked the guide who were the people depicted there. **“Those are the saints,”** he replied. Later that evening the girl told her mummy, **“I know who the saints are.”** **“Do you, dear? Who are they?”** the mother asked. The little girl replied: **“They are the people who let the light shine through.”**

When the summer sun rises, its light catches the east window of a church I look after. It shines through the figures and colours of the Annunciation scene to bathe the chancel in a warm glow. Later as the sun sets, it shines once again through the west window showing Christ surrounded by angels, with the same wonderful effect. They are two stained glass windows by the Victorian designer, **Kempe. But in St Mary’s Church, Fairford in Gloucestershire, there are an incredible 28 windows of medieval glass that have survived the centuries and continue to astonish the visitor.**

As the sun catches this array of windows, the colours take on a new, vibrant life. We see scenes in the life of our Lord and our Lady, Old Testament prophets, New Testament apostles and the communion of saints. The eye moves round and we reach the west window portraying Christ in majesty and the day of judgement. This great work has been attributed to the royal glazier, Barnard Flower, who was influenced by the late medieval illuminated prayer books. The windows are a living witness to his skill and faith.

George Herbert has a poem that calls us to shine out like the church windows. It is easy, he says, to **be “brittle crazy glass”, but in God’s good grace we can become like a window where colours and light, belief and life can combine and mingle to radiate out into the world.**

# What's the Big Idea? May

## An Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament : Ezekiel

Ezekiel was a prophet who proclaimed judgment to God's people in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC. He was among the group of Jews exiled in Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar. Ezekiel received his call when he was 30 years old through a vision of the glory of God. His ministry finished 22 years later with a vision of the restored Temple in Jerusalem.



Ezekiel spoke to a community forced from its home, who had broken faith with God. He presents a God who rules over all people and history. He is a God who desires to be known and acknowledged (*'then they will know that I am the Lord'*). As a priest, Ezekiel was deeply concerned with the holiness of God. This call to holy living includes an emphasis on individual responsibility (chapter 18), which is a significant milestone in biblical thought.

Ezekiel offers a vision of true hope for those who have undergone judgment. He promises a restored Temple as a sign of God's presence among his people. He also promises a future *'prince'* who will rule with justice and restore God's relationship with his people (34:23-4).

In restoring them morally and spiritually, God promises to use them to bring light to the Gentiles. They will demonstrate the holiness of God's name, because they will know him from the heart. This is the promise that is fulfilled in Jesus and made possible for us:

*'I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.'* (36: 26-27).



## The Seven Deadly Sins: Lust

*"Lust is the craving for salt by a man who is dying of thirst" (Frederick Beucher).*

This month's Deadly Sin is *lust*. It is usually understood as an intense desire for sexual pleasure, but can include other things eg food, success or fame. Objectifying a person for our own selfish pleasure can leave us feeling guilty, ashamed or disappointed. Our relationship with God is spoilt, as we create an area of life which is not under God's authority. As Jesus says: *"You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery."*

*But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.'* (Matthew 5:27,28).

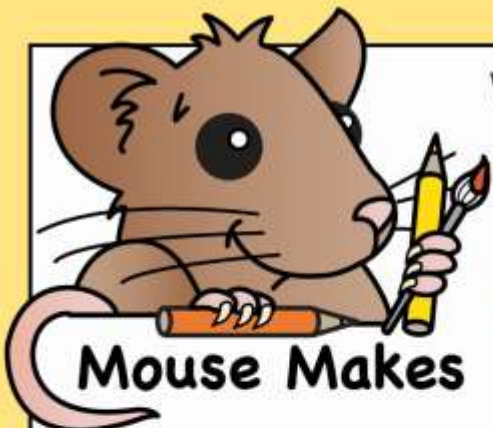
How can we deal with lust in our lives?

*Confess it to God: 'If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.'* (1 John 1:9). Lust feeds on secrecy, yet God already knows our thoughts and desires. Focus on Jesus, who loves and accepts us for who we are. Confess our desires to Him, knowing that He wants to cleanse us of our sin.

*Renew your Mind: 'Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will.'* (Romans 12:2). Overcoming lust requires an understanding of our thinking. We need to acknowledge when lust affects us, understand the triggers for our thoughts (circumstances, time) and address them by asking for God's strength to overcome them.

*'Lust is a poor, weak, whispering thing compared with that richness and energy of desire which will arise when lust has been killed.'* (CS Lewis).





# Mouse Makes

## WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Spirit of  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Genesis 1:2

The  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 of the Father.  
 Acts 1:4

The Spirit of  
 A \_\_\_\_\_  
 Romans 8:15

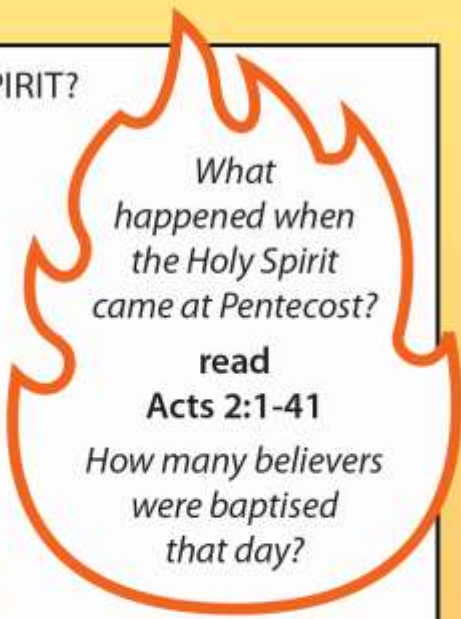
H \_\_\_\_\_  
 John 14:26

The Spirit of  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 John 16:13

The Spirit of  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Acts 16:7

The Fruit of the Spirit  
 Galatians 5:22-23

\_\_\_ O \_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ Y \_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ C \_\_\_  
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D G C O M F O R T E R L C  
 K E O N P P E A C E G O D  
 I N U F A K J D H J R R F  
 N T N A T L O V E O A D H  
 D L S I I O H O L Y C D L  
 N E E T E A I C P L E E G  
 E N L H N D E A E D E B L  
 S E L F C O N T R O L J O  
 S N O P E P T E A C H E R  
 J S R J O T R U T H F S Y  
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 K P P R O M I S E R S R  
 I D W I N D D O V E W

Look up the Bible verses and fill in the missing words. Look for them in the word search then look for these words below.

- HOLY • SPIRIT • COUNSELLOR • COMFORTER
- ADVOCATE • TEACHER • LORD • PROMISE
- GLORY • GRACE • FAITH • DOVE • FIRE • WIND

## Wordsearch for May 2026

Lord, we pray for the conflict in the Middle East, and how it is damaging the lives of so many millions of people. You, Lord, make wars cease to the end of the earth; You break bows, shatter spears, and burn shields with fire [Psalm 46:9]. Through Your Holy Spirit, move upon the leaders of the nations to de-escalate this crisis. We hear of wars and rumours of wars (Matt. 24:6), but You Lord are our rock, our fortress and our deliverer. Our hope is in You. Let Your name be exalted among the nations; may You be exalted in the earth [Psalm 46:10]. *Kyrie eleison – Lord have mercy.*

Middle  
East  
Conflict  
Pray  
Damage

War  
Cease  
Earth  
Break

Bows  
Shatter  
Spears  
Burn  
Shields

Fire  
crisis  
many  
Lives  
millions

Lord  
Our  
Rock  
Fortress  
Deliverer

Hope  
Kyrie  
in  
You  
mercy



## 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  
(Term Time Only)



£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  
26th May 2026**

**Jenny Schwarz  
"The Challenge :  
Ending Polio Worldwide"**



**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  
**hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk**

For more information and prices please go to the website  
<https://www.thurstaston.org.uk/hall-and-room-hire/>



facebook



St Bartholomew's and St Chad's  
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](https://twitter.com/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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# Help St Bartholomew Thurstaston and St Chad Irby raise FREE funds when you shop online!



Every time you shop, you'll raise a donation for us and **it won't cost you a penny extra!**

## 1. Sign up to easyfundraising

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**

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you

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**easyfundraising**  
.org.uk



*Visit:* [easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby)



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A Big Thankyou for all the stamps  
 that have been collected this year,  
 there has been a huge response

If you would like to purchase advertising space  
 in this magazine please telephone

St Chad's Church Office on 0151 648 8169 or  
**E-mail: [office@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:office@thurstaston.org.uk)**

Advertising space is sold in good faith.  
 The Parochial Church Council and/or Editor can take no responsibility for the quality  
 of goods or services offered.

## Contacts

**RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner** PLEASE NOTE: Rector's Rest Day - Tuesday  
The Rectory, 77 Thingwall Road, Irby, Wirral, CH61 3UB  
Telephone: 0151 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday) E-mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk

**CHURCH OFFICE: Mrs K Butler St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH**  
Telephone: 0151 648 8169. E-mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk  
OPEN TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9.30am - 12.30pm (term time)

**PARISH WEBSITE: [www.thurstaston.org.uk](http://www.thurstaston.org.uk)**

### Churchwardens

Vacant

[churchwarden@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden@thurstaston.org.uk)

### Associate Minister

Revd Ailsa Whorton CF  
(Chaplain to the Forces, Army).

[revdailsa@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:revdailsa@thurstaston.org.uk)

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)

### PCC Secretary

Cheryl Goddard

[pcc-secretary@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:pcc-secretary@thurstaston.org.uk)

### PCC Treasurer

Vacant

[pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk)

### Parish Safeguarding Team

Peter & Karen Robson and Janet Trigg

[safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk)

**648 6691**

### Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office

**648 8169**

### St Chad's Hall Booking

[hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:hallbookings@thurstaston.org.uk)

### Verger

Mr Jon Oliver

**648 1754**

### Organist

Mr Craig Vickers

**648 7405**

### Bellringing - Tower Captain

Dr Peter Robson

**648 6691**

### Flowers for both Churches

**Team Co-ordinator Dawn Rudd 648 0209**

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### Junior Church (3-10) and Seniors (11-16)

Mrs Julie Deboorder

**07599286893**

### Rainbows/Brownies/Guides

[www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) or

Freephone

**0800 1 69 59 01**

## CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

### Children's Society Representative

Mrs Jean Heath

**648 6015**

### Leprosy Mission Representative

Julie DeBoorder

**648 6331**

### Adoption Society Representative

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.

# May 2026 Services

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chads

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday 3rd May</b>  | <b>9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's</b><br><b>10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's</b>                       |
| <b>Sunday 10th May</b> | <b>9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's</b><br><b>10.30am All Age at St Chad's</b>                                     |
| <b>Sunday 17th May</b> | <b>9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's</b><br><b>10.30am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's</b>                      |
| <b>Sunday 24th May</b> | <b>9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's</b><br><b>10.30am Holy Communion at St Chad's</b><br><b>with Junior Church</b> |
| <b>Sunday 31st May</b> | <b>9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's</b><br><b>10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's</b>                       |
| <b>Sunday 7th June</b> | <b>9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's</b><br><b>10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's</b>                       |

Loving Father and giver of all gifts,

This month we thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit which You promise to all who call on Your name, turn away from self-centred living and put their trust in Jesus.

Help us to do that, Lord.

Then, when events in the world and the circumstances of our own lives are difficult to understand, we have Your Holy Spirit who brings life and power. He is faithful and constant. He will lead us into all truth and give us the words and thoughts we need to experience Your peace in the midst of turmoil. At this time when we remember the birth of Your church, may we open our hearts to receive Your Spirit afresh and move into each new day confident that we are yours and that in You is our true security.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*