

Crosstalk 60p



The Parish Magazine of
St Bartholomew with St Chad

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

September 2026



Taste and see that the Lord is good.
The Lord's words are sweeter to me than honey.

Ps 34:8, Ps 119:103



...I take it our local supermarket has a rather good offer on tinned peas at the moment!

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.

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**

You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

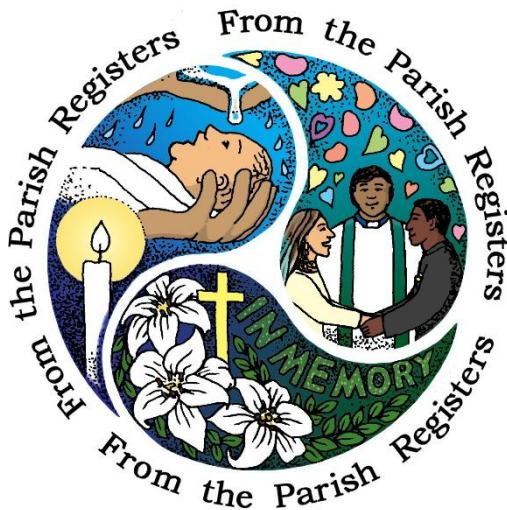
"Your magazine needs you"

Please send your contributions (eg. Poems. Prayers, interesting articles etc.,) to office@thurstaston.org.uk

The views and opinions expressed in the articles in this magazine are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the editor, the Rector or the PCC.

Contents

4	<i>From your Rector</i>	17	<i>Organ Donation Week</i>
5	<i>A message from Ailsa</i>	18	<i>What's the Big Idea – Daniel</i>
6	<i>Walking through Trees of the Bible</i>	19	<i>Reflected Faith – The Peace</i>
7	<i>Christianity Explored course</i>	20	<i>God in the Arts</i>
8-9	<i>Give thanks with a grateful heart</i>	21	<i>God in the Sciences</i>
10	<i>Ruth's Reflections</i>	22	<i>Mouse Makes</i>
11	<i>Support for Styal Prison</i>	23	<i>Wordsearch</i>
12	<i>Harvest Festival Services</i>	24	<i>Tot and Tinies / Flowers in Church</i>
	<i>Harvest – Wirral food bank Appeal</i>	25	<i>Warm Hub</i>
13	<i>Harvest – Christian Aid Appeal</i>	26	<i>Hall Hire / Facebook</i>
14	<i>Harvest Lunch</i>	27	<i>Irby Artists</i>
15	<i>Pop Up Church</i>	28-30	<i>Advertisers</i>
16	<i>New Pilgrimage Route: Conwy Valley</i>	31	<i>Contacts List: Who's Who</i>
		32	<i>Sept Services</i>



Baptisms

Weddings

29th August

Sam Mils & Joanna Dimelow

Funerals

10th August: Juliet Dunn



Smile Lines



Crafts

A class of schoolchildren were asked, "Are there any crafts in the Bible?" to which one lad put his hand up and said, "The parable of the sewer?"

Typeface

I'm working on a new typeface to be used for church bulletins. I call it Baptismal Font.

From Your Rector

On Wednesday 12 August, I had the privilege of being on retreat at Llangasty, surrounded by fellow retreatants, when the Moon passed between the Earth and the Sun. We gathered together to witness the partial solar eclipse, and it proved to be a memorable and deeply reflective experience.

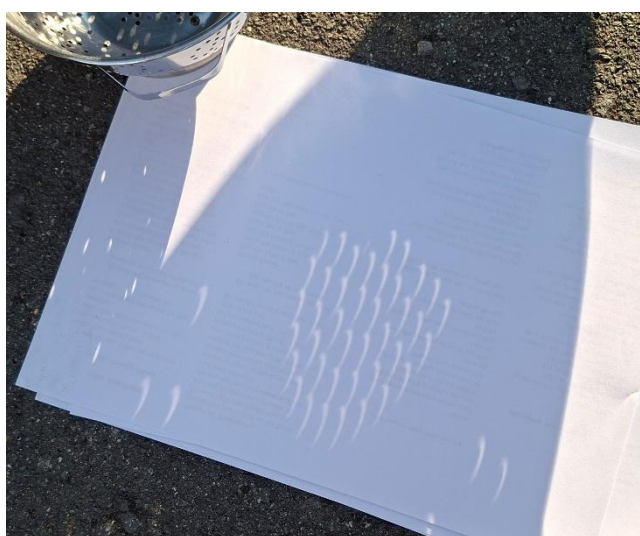
There was something particularly appropriate about experiencing an eclipse while on retreat. A retreat is a time to step away from the busyness and distractions of everyday life; a time to become still, to listen and to pay attention to God's presence. As the light changed around us, the eclipse seemed to provide a natural invitation to stop and simply wonder at the beauty of God's creation.

The psalmist writes: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1). Standing at Llangasty with the other retreatants, watching the Sun gradually become obscured, I was struck by the extraordinary precision and beauty of what we were witnessing. We may understand the science behind an eclipse and be able to predict exactly when it will happen, but that knowledge does not diminish the sense of wonder.

The experience also led me to reflect on the importance of light in our Christian faith. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). As the daylight faded and the Sun became a crescent, we were reminded how much we depend upon light. Yet the symbolism went deeper: even when the physical light was diminished, God's light remained. His presence is not extinguished by the shadows that sometimes surround us.

For me, sharing the eclipse with fellow retreatants made the experience even more special. We stood together in silence and wonder, experiencing something that was both extraordinary and fleeting. It became more than an astronomical event; it became a moment of prayer, gratitude and shared awe.

Looking back now, I am grateful that the eclipse happened while I was on retreat. For those few moments at Llangasty, we looked upwards together — and, perhaps, in doing so, were reminded to look beyond ourselves towards the Creator, whose light continues to shine.



Rerd Jane



A message from Ailsa



A massive thank you for the Baptism Cards for the Junior Soldiers. They were much appreciated and we had a joy filled service.



Thank you for your ongoing support of my ministry. It was a pleasure to have Revd Jane and Cheryl as my VIP guests for the end of year Graduation Parade.



Walking *through the* *Trees* of the Bible

Wednesdays at St Chad's
7.30–9.00pm

-  **Sept 2nd** | Olive Leaf, Fig, Oak
-  **Sept 16th** | Acacia, Almond, Ebony
-  **Sept 30th** | Palm, Frankincense, Pine
-  **Oct 14th** | Balsam, Myrtle, Bay
-  **Oct 21st** | Cedar, Wild Olive, Willow
-  **Oct 28th** | Myrrh, Apple, Poplar
-  **Nov 4th** | Pomegranate, Broom, Sycamore
-  **Nov 11th** | Terebinth, Carob
-  **Nov 25th** | Good and Evil, Life

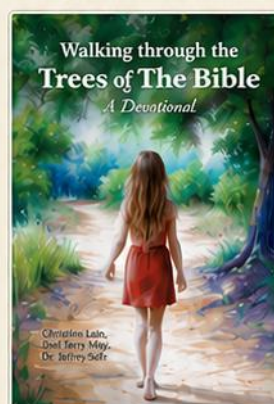
*The trees of the Lord are well watered,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.*

– PSALM 104:16 –

**YOU WILL NEED TO
PURCHASE YOUR OWN COPY
OF THE BOOK**

(THERE ARE TWO VERSIONS)

Both books have the same content,
so you can purchase either one.



Walking
through the
Trees of
the Bible:
A Devotional

ISBN-13:
979-8761818675



Walking
through the
Trees of
the Bible

ISBN-13:
979-8778541818

A time to grow in faith as we explore God's Word through His creation.

WHAT IF



THERE REALLY WAS GOOD NEWS?

Christianity
Explored

Christianity Explored St Chad's Extension 7.30pm Sunday Evenings

27th September
11th October
25th October
1st November
8th November
22nd November
29th November

Please let Revd Jane know if you would
like to join this group – this will ensure
enough resources for everyone.
rector@thurstaston.org.uk
Tel: 0151 648 1816

Over seven conversations,
Christianity Explored offers
an introduction to Jesus
through the Gospel of Mark.

Combining a short film with guided discussion,
Christianity Explored helps you engage directly
with what Jesus said and did. Explore his identity,
his mission, and the invitation he offers in a way
that's clear, grounded, and open to everyone.

Give thanks with a grateful heart!

September is the month when many churches and church members give thanks for God's generosity. We should, of course, be grateful all year round, but September is traditionally the month for holding harvest festivals, where we express our gratitude for God's provision of food and all that is necessary for our physical well-being. The fact that this year most of the harvest will have already been gathered in before we reach September does not matter. The farmers work in partnership with God to provide the good things that we enjoy.

So the question I want to pose is: how can we express our gratitude for all this generosity? Historically, harvest festival

has been one of the best attended services in the church calendar, with flowers, fruit and provisions used to decorate the church and promote a sense of well-being, especially as the provisions would subsequently be given to those living in less fortunate circumstances.

Many members of our congregation express their thanks for God's infinite bounty in a range of different ways: acting as sidespeople, making teas and coffees, cleaning the church, doing readings, carrying out pastoral visits and lending a hand to neighbours, not to mention giving generously to a range of charities. The list is far more extensive than this and forms part of our mission to serve Christ in Irby and Thurstaston.

In spite of all this, though, our parish could – indeed will - face a crisis at some point in the future. The stark truth is that for quite a long time now we have not been paying our way as a parish. You could be forgiven for not noticing, because we've managed to function from week to week and month to month, doing the things that we have traditionally done. We even have some reserves in a bank account, in case we suddenly have to spend money repairing one of our buildings. But what we have not



been doing is paying our full Parish Share to the Diocese. In fact, for some time we have not managed to pay more than 45% of our annual Parish Share.

This is not the place to try to give a detailed explanation of Parish Share (if you are interested, this link gives a clear explanation of Chester Diocese's income and expenditure: [Parish Share - 2026 | Chester Diocese](#)), but it is important to know that it is used to pay clergy stipends (salaries), pensions and for clergy housing, as well as for ministry and outreach within the diocese.

In other words, Reverend Jane's salary and, at some point in the future, her pension, as well as the rectory, are paid for out of Parish Share. Fortunately, the Diocese is not so heartless as to say that they'll only pay 45% of the stipend or future pension that she is entitled to, but it almost certainly means that, when she chooses to retire or to leave, the Diocese will refuse to let us have a full time rector – or they could decide that we will have to merge with another parish.

I do not wish to sound alarmist, but it is important that we understand the gravity of our situation. Please may I ask you all to pray about this, however uncomfortable you feel thinking and praying about money? I am very grateful for all the financial contributions made by our parishioners and am also well aware that people's personal circumstances vary considerably. It may be, however, that, until now, you simply haven't considered how our churches and rector are paid for.

If, after prayer, you want any more information about the Parish Giving Scheme or other ways in which you can make a financial contribution (it can be as small or large as you like and does not have to be the same every month), please have a chat with one of the sidespeople or with me.

We have invited the Reverend John Hellewell, the Diocesan Mission Adviser, to preach at our Harvest Festival on Sunday, 27th September as we celebrate God's overwhelming generosity, so I hope as many as possible will come to hear that. There will be a chance to ask him questions about the Parish Share after the service.

Chris Smale



Ruths Reflections

Hello again, I have very little to write about this month, most of my usual activities have stopped for the summer, and I have come to realise how much they mean to me and I miss them. Roll on September when everything starts up again. Thankfully the W.I. has continued as usual. I haven't been able to go on all the outings, once because I had to stay in for an engineer coming to service my alarm system, needless to say they didn't turn up! I was very annoyed as this was the third time it had happened. they gave me another date in September, I refused this and demanded a sooner date, I won and someone came the next day! Unfortunately, I haven't been able to get to church as often, again due to my health.

One outing I did manage to go on was to a taster evening of Croquet in Upton. It was great fun and we all enjoyed ourselves, after the croquet we had a delicious supper at the club. I am very tempted to take up croquet; it is just a question of fitting it in. We are also booked to go to Southport Flower Show this week, but this depends on my health, again!

Ringin' has also been interrupted, partly due to the hot weather and partly due to holidays. We went down to the Church on Wednesday evening for practise as usual but delayed the start so that we could watch the Eclipse. Unfortunately, it was cloudy so some of it was obscured, but we did see enough and it was fascinating. There were so many people down there that cars were having great difficulty finding somewhere to park. I also stayed up late and sat in the garden hoping to see something of the meteor shower, I didn't see much but I did see a bit, and it was magnificent.

I don't think I have anything else to say, I have stayed at home due to the heat, thank goodness it's cooler now. So, until next time, take care and stay safe everyone.

Ruth.



Support for Styal Prison

Matthew 25v36

*I was without clothes, and you gave me something to wear.
I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'*

During our weekend away at Scargill, we began a conversation over a meal about the possibility of supporting prisoners. We have now spoken to a member of the Chaplaincy team at Styal prison, and they would be delighted to receive: -

Baby clothes - birth to 18 months (this is the age that they can stay with their mothers in Styal)

Clothing for the women for interviews or going to work in preparation for their release from prison.

Journals/notebooks (non-wired) to help the women record things and help them work out issues / emotions etc

Fleece blankets - these are used in Chaplaincy sessions when women are dealing with difficult emotions. They can offer a level of comfort when things are tough (particularly for those women going through medical issues such as cancer treatment etc).

Ladies, could you use the Summer months to sort through your wardrobe? Do you have work clothes that you no longer need or no longer fit you? Parents, do you have good as new baby clothes (birth to 18 months) that you could donate? Everyone – have you been got a journal/notebook (non-wired) or a fleece blanket that is just sitting around in your home surplus to requirements?

Please be careful when selecting your donations, as for the safety of the women they cannot receive anything which contains wires, pins or other sharp things.

We will collect any donations at St Chad's and arrange to deliver them to Styal during prison's week in October.

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.
We pray for those in prison.
Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.
Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends,
prison staff and all who care.
Heal those who have been wounded by the activities
of others, especially the victims of crime.
Help us to forgive one another.
To act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ
in His strength and in His Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

HARVEST Festival

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

 **9.00am** BCP Holy Communion
at St Bartholomew's

 **10.30am** Holy Communion
at St Chad's

Guest Speaker: **Revd John Hellewell**

Donations will be received for
Wirral Foodbank and Christian Aid.



Donations from Foodbank Shopping List or Monetary donations for Christian Aid can be brought to either service on Sunday 27th September. Thank You



Harvest appeal

Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide up to 800 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food

Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.



Donate money

Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.



enquiries@wirralfoodbank.org.uk

wirral.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales 1167967



Donate to us using QR code

Shopping list

TINNED MEAT
TINNED POTATOES
TINNED FRUIT
TOOTHPASTE
SHOWER GEL
SIZE 6 NAPPIES
COFFEE
PASTA SAUCE
TINNED CUSTARD
TINNED RICE PUDDING
TINNED VEG (PEAS / CARROTS / SWEETCORN)



Harvest of hope

Anok, outside her home in South Sudan.

In South Sudan, as floods destroy harvests, farmer Anok is pushing back to provide for her family. With Christian Aid's support, her community built a dyke and she learned new ways to grow food. She says: 'This dyke has shown resilience and hope for the future.'

Share your hope and your harvest with people living in poverty.



Scan to donate or visit
caid.org.uk/HarvestOfHope
to get involved.

**christian
aid**

Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Alliance. England and Wales charity no. 1155851. Scot charity no. SC039150. Company no. 5171525. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. Printed exclusively on material sourced from responsibly managed forests © Christian Aid May 2020. Photos: Christian Aid/David MacKenzie J553668



**Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

HARVEST LUNCH

Sunday 27 September 2026 • 12:30pm

St Chad's Church
Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UB

MENU

MAIN COURSE

Irish Stew (already GF)
with bread roll

Served with:

- Beetroot
- Red Cabbage

Vegetarian Irish Stew and/or
Gluten Free Bread Roll
available on request when
purchasing your ticket.

DESSERT

Selection of Cakes
(all GF)

CHILDREN'S BUFFET

- Sausage Rolls
- Pizza
- Chicken Goujons
- Selection of Sandwiches



DRINKS



Tea, Coffee
and squash
provided.

Please bring any other
drinks you may wish to enjoy
(e.g. alcohol).

FUN FOR EVERYONE!



RAFFLE



QUIZ



COLOURING
COMPETITION



CHILDREN'S
TABLE WITH
GAMES & CRAFTS

TICKETS

ADULTS: £8.00
CHILDREN: £6.00

BOOK YOUR TICKETS

For more information and bookings:

✉ office@thurstaston.org.uk

☎ 0151 648 8169

Everyone Welcome!



POP UP Church

You are invited!

A fun, welcoming place for the whole family!
Come along for an hour full of iSingPOP songs, crafts,
games and simple ways to explore faith together.

Where?

St Chad's Church
Roslin Road
CH61 3UH

When?

Sunday
20th September
4:00PM

Sunday
18th October
4:00PM

Sunday
15th November
4:00PM

Find out more...

office@thurstaston.org.uk

SUPPORTED BY 

New pilgrimage route for Conwy Valley

A new 22-mile pilgrimage route linking five churches in the Bro Celynnin Ministry Area has opened, as interest in walking spiritual paths continues to grow.

Llwybr Celynnin is a figure-of-eight trail that follows existing footpaths between Conwy and Llangelynnin, where it joins the North Wales Pilgrim's Way.

Walkers can collect a stamp at each church in a specially designed pilgrim passport, creating a record of their journey through the valley.

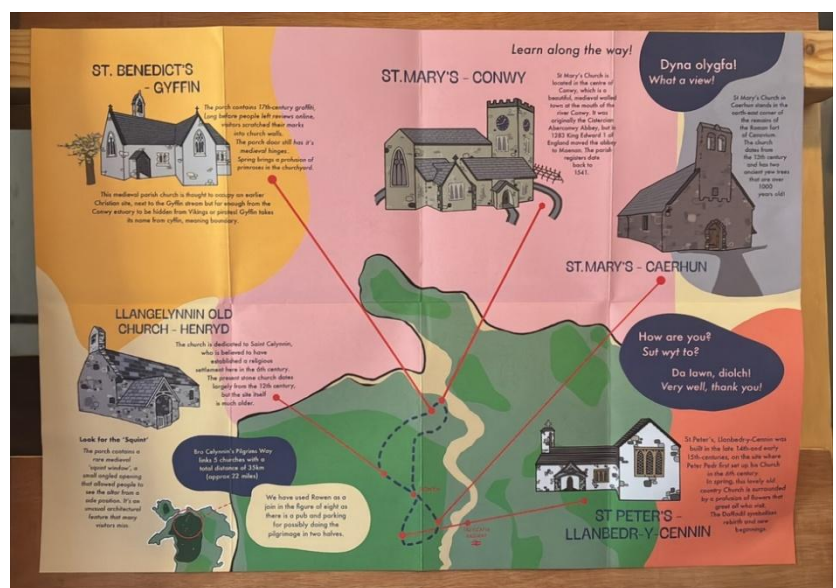
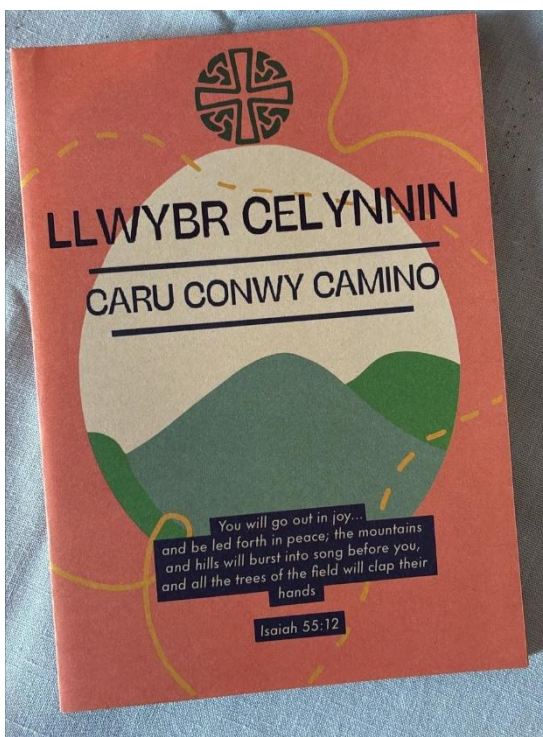
The route has been developed amid renewed interest in pilgrimage, including the BBC series Pilgrimage: The Road to Wild Wales, which followed seven celebrities along the North Wales Pilgrim's Way.

The route begins or ends at St Mary's Church in the centre of Conwy, which contains surviving parts of Aberconwy Abbey, a Cistercian monastery founded in the 12th Century.

It continues through the Conwy Valley to Llangelynnin Church, an ancient church overlooking the valley and already visited by walkers following the longer North Wales route.

Churches included in the route are St Mary's Conwy, St Mary's Caerhun, St Benedict's Gyffin, St Peter's Llanbedr-y-Cennin, and Llandelynnin Old Church above Henryd.

<https://bangor.eglwysyngnghymru.org.uk>



Organ Donation Week – 22nd to 27th September



More than 8,000 people in the UK are hoping for a life-saving organ transplant.

The primary organs that can be donated for transplant include the kidneys, liver, heart, lungs, pancreas, and small bowel (intestines).

This month's annual Organ Donation Week will once again raise awareness of the need for transplants, and buildings and landmarks across the UK will light up pink in support. The hope is to inspire people to sign-up on the NHS Organ Donor Register, and to encourage families to talk about their donation choices.

The NHS says that "Everyone has a choice as to whether or not they want to become an organ donor after they die. And if you choose to donate, you can choose to donate either some or all of your organs.

"By registering to become an organ donor you have the option to donate organs such as your heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small bowel. All of these forms of donation can greatly enhance or even save the life of someone in need." The NHS stresses that families are always consulted, making clear wishes vital despite opt-out laws.

Each year in the UK nearly 4,000 organ transplants are performed, using organs from around 2,300 actual organ donors (including both deceased and living donors.)

For more info, or to register your own decision, visit the NHS Organ Donation website at: <https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk>

What's the Big Idea? September

An Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament : Daniel

This month we return to looking at Old Testament books. The book of Daniel describes his life in Babylon during the sixth century B.C., when he served both Babylonian and Persian rulers.

As a teenager, Daniel and his three friends were deported in 605 B.C. to Babylon, where he lived for over 70 years. They were trained as officials in King Nebuchadnezzar's court for three years. Their names and diets were changed to reflect Babylonian culture and take away their Jewish identity. However, Daniel and his friends showed the superiority of their Jewish diet and gained the favour of the king.

Chapters 1-6 are largely narrative, with Daniel and his friends (renamed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego) demonstrating that God is in control. The three friends refused to worship the pagan Babylonian gods and were thrown into a fiery furnace. However, they emerged unharmed because of God's miraculous protection. He also delivered Daniel from a den of lions when he refused to worship the Persian king Darius. Daniel also interpreted several visions and dreams for King Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar. The second half of the book (chaps. 7-12) consists of a series of visions, which show that God is in control of history.

The book affirms that God is the sovereign ruler of the world and rewards His faithful servants, as expressed by Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego: *'If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and He will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if He does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.'* (Daniel 3: 17,18)



Reflected Faith Series: The Peace

In a Common Worship Communion service, the 'Peace' comes straight after the Intercessions. There is no such thing with a Book of Common Prayer (BCP) service.

A time of sharing 'The Peace' is not restricted to Communion services but may take place in other services also.

It does not have to follow the Intercessions but instead could also be held towards the start or end of the service.

Where you place 'the Peace' is significant: having it at the beginning emphasises the community coming together, whilst towards the end of the service might be to emphasise the importance of being together that encourages and enables us to take God with us into our everyday lives.

But why have it at all? Haven't we all come together to this service to worship the same God? To be together with others who think and believe as we do?

Hopefully yes, but sometimes we just need a visible sign of that very unity and a reminder that we are a part of this community where we are, as well as a part of the wider church across the world.

It is so easy to forget this. To just go on repeat and not be conscious of this enormous honour that we have to 'meet together in His presence'.

'Sharing the peace'- however we do that – with one another is a demonstrative act of community. Everyone is included.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you – And also with you.

This month

Where is 'The Peace' placed within your service and what do you think is the reason for that? Does making a physical connection – however you do that – with those around you make a difference to your thinking about 'community'?



God in the Arts: 'He gave us eyes to see them' – the church bells

'Summoned by Bells' is the title of John Betjeman's poetic autobiography, where he describes how bells summoned him to school and to church. Bells announcing the joy of weddings and Sunday services; and also marking out times of sadness and the death of loved ones.

One of the strangest bell-towers is at St Augustine's Church, Brookland in Kent, north-east of Rye. It was originally built in the medieval period, and now stands as a triple coned, wooden, octagonal tower detached from the church, and clad with shingles in 1936.

The story is that the tower looked down at a beautiful bride about to marry an unpleasant groom: it was such a surprise that the tower jumped off the church in shock. The truth is that the church was built on marshy ground, and a stronger foundation was needed for the bells. And so the tower was built north of the church.

Like all belfries and steeples, it is an impressive witness to the place of bells in human life and work: as time-keepers, announcing both festive occasions and emergencies, and calling people away from more worldly pursuits to worship. That is why bells have always been blessed at their installation for their true function is to ring out the harmony of heaven.

The tenor bell at Warburton Church in Cheshire is inscribed with the words, 'I bid you to the house of prayer. St Werburgh's hallowed name I bear. Good folk draw near and humbly pray, as prayed that saint in olden day.' As a little boy, John Betjeman would listen to the bells with his teddy bear, Archibald. 'I heard the church bells hollowing out the sky, deep beyond deep, like never-ending stars.' For him, for the people of Brookland, and for all of us, the bells were like stars lighting up the sky with faith and joy and praise.



God in the Sciences: How can a Christian be a scientist?

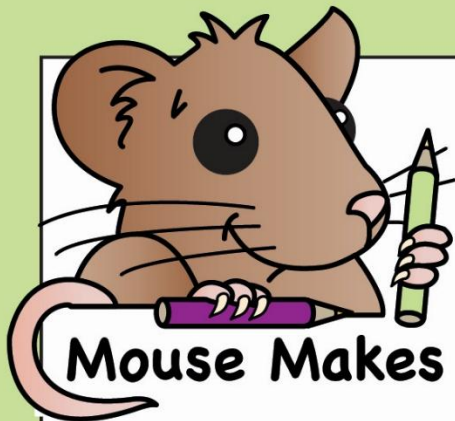
I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered what it was like to have a career in science, and how being a Christian might make a difference. Eventually I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, and I learned that science and faith are a great combination. Dr Francis Collins, former Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA, wrote that it is “possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation.” So, what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges of a life in science?

Although our beliefs may affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they don’t affect the outcome of the experiments themselves. If a Muslim and a Christian drop the same ball from the same height under identical conditions, it will fall at the same speed. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of her worldview.

Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things, and coming up with general principles about the way things are. The world has been declared by God to be ‘very good’ (see chapter one and two of Genesis), and exploring it is a way to express our gratitude to Him. Scientific discoveries can also bring a sense of awe and wonder that feeds into our worship.

Some people don’t want to get involved in certain lines of research because of ethical concerns. On the other hand, there are many issues that make Christians want to get stuck into new research that will help care for people and the rest of creation, such as medical research, ecology or developing appropriate technologies.

Organisations such as Christians in Science and the Faraday Institute gather together scientists who are also people of faith, and others who are interested in the subject. They come from a wide range of backgrounds, and express their beliefs in a variety of different ways. What they have in common is the conviction that you don’t have to choose between science and God. As the young people in our churches prepare to return to their studies, online if not in person, let’s encourage them that science (along with many other fields) is a great way to serve God.



Mouse Makes

THE TRUE VINE

Who is the vine?

— — — — —
John 15:1

What does Jesus ask us to do?

"Go and bear

— — — — —"
John 15:16

What happens to the branches that do not remain in the vine?

Thrown into the

— — — — —
and

— — — — —
John 15:6



READ
John 15:1-17

How many times does Jesus use the word **FRUIT**?

What does Jesus command?

To — — — — —
one another.

John 15:12,17

How many times does Jesus command us to **LOVE** one another?

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

JESUS • I AM • TRUE • VINE • FATHER
GARDENER • FRUIT • FRUITFUL
BRANCH • PRUNES • CUT • WITHERS
CLEAN • THROWN AWAY • FIRE • BURNS
REMAIN • ABIDE • DISCIPLES • JOY

Wordsearch – The Parable of the Weeds (Matthew 13.24-30)

Ever wonder why there is both good and evil allowed in this world? Jesus told a parable that touched on this subject – it is called the Parable of the Weeds. It runs like this: Consider the world as if it were a field where a Farmer has sown good seed. But then an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat. So, when the wheat came up, so did the weeds. What to do? Instead of destroying the weeds, and thereby risking the wheat, the Farmer tells his reapers to wait and let both wheat and weeds grow together until the harvest. At the harvest he will instruct the reapers to gather up the wheat, but to discard the weeds. So do not despair when evil seems to thrive in this world – there is a reckoning still to come, and justice will be done.

Kingdom

Heaven

Good

Seed

Field

Sleeping

Grain

Weeds

Enemy

Servants

Master

Sow

Gather

Reap

Root

Let

Grow

Together

Harvest

Bundles

Barn

Burned



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 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**

22nd September

Dr. Judi Wolf

'The History of Bidston Observatory and Ocean Science'.



Member of Places of Welcome

Member of Warm welcome Spaces



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/>



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.
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

billy hill curtains ltd.

**Still going strong in
BIRKENHEAD MARKET
after 75 years!**



**Nets • Roller Blinds
Wooden Venetian Blinds
Curtains • Curtain Poles & Tracks
Pelmets • Roman Blinds**

**Visit us in
BIRKENHEAD MARKET
- Open 6 Days A Week -**

Please **call 0151 647 8604** or
Mike on 07792 009505

*Free Measuring &
Expert Fitting Service Available
1000's of **Clearance Fabrics**
Starting from £1mtr.*

**If you can't
come to us,
we will come to you!**

Home visits available

billyhillcurtains@yahoo.com
www.billyhillcurtains.co.uk



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!**

**OVER 2,700
RETAILERS TO
CHOOSE FROM...**

TESCO



Argos

amazon.co.uk

John Lewis
johnlewis.com

M&S

Viking

ASDA

Expedia.co.uk

1. Sign up to easyfundraising

Got to

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



Visit: easyfundraising.org.uk/stbartholomewthurstastonandstchadirby



Gary Furlong
Tree and Hedge Services
07759284091

ACCOUNTS UN LIMITED

PATRICIA BRADY ACMA

**PERSONAL TAX RETURNS .
 COMPANY ACCOUNTS . VAT RETURNS**

**HOME VISITS . FRIENDLY &
 CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE
 648 4379 OR 07968 908779**

BIRKENHEAD MONUMENTAL LTD

QUALITY MEMORIALS, RENOVATIONS,
 ADDITIONAL INSCRIPTIONS ETC.

CALL FOR FULL COLOUR BROCHURE,
 PERSONAL ATTENTION OFFERED.

Telephone: 0151 608 2578

IRBY MOTOR COMPANY

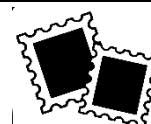
CARS BOUGHT AND SOLD
 SERVICE & REPAIR - FREE LOAN CAR

SERVICE: 0151 648 0200

SALES: 0151 648 5488

R N I B

See differently



Please collect your Postage Stamps

throughout the year for RNIB
 (Royal National Institute Blind).

**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

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

Churchwardens

Vacant

churchwarden@thurstaston.org.uk

Associate Minister

Revd Ailsa Whorton CF

(Chaplain to the Forces, Army)

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 her messages will be passed on to Ailsa via her husband Derek)

PCC Secretary

Cheryl Goddard

pcc-secretary@thurstaston.org.uk

PCC Treasurer

Vacant

pcc-treasurer@thurstaston.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Team

Peter & Karen Robson and Janet Trigg

safeguarding.thurstaston.org.uk

648 6691

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office

648 8169

St Chad's Hall Booking

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 or

Freephone

0800 169 5901

CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Children's Society Representative

Mrs Jean Heath

648 6015

Leprosy Mission Representative

Mrs 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

September 2026 Service

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am HC at St Chad's

- Sunday 6th September 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's
- Sunday 13th September 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30 All Age at St Chad's
- Sunday 20th September 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Morning Worship at St Bartholomew's
4.00pm Pop Up Church at St Chad's – see page 15
- Sunday 27th September **HARVEST FESTIVAL**
9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30 Holy Communion at St Chad's
with Junior Church



- Sunday 4th October 9.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's
10.30am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

Prayer for September 2026

Dear Lord, September – the month of new starts!
New terms, new groups, new friends, new hopes, every year.
Lord, be with us!

Lord, thank you for the new start you offer us when we put our trust in Jesus. A new start that we make once – and then can renew every day. Every time we falter, you pick us up. Every time we come back to you, you forgive us and accept us.

Thank you, Lord, for never letting us down, for never leaving or forsaking us, that new starts with you are always possible, not just in September.
In Jesus' name, Amen.