

Crosstalk

The Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew with St Chad

www.thurstaston.org.uk



40p

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 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

November

2011



Diary Dates

Saturday 22nd October

The Children's Society

'Thank You'

Coffee Morning and 'Bring & Buy'

10.00-11.30am at St Chad's

Thursday 3rd November

M.U. Mr. Colin Ratcliffe

'Flower Miscellany'

St. Chads 2.15pm

Wednesday 16th November

EMU - Make your own jewellery &

Big Jewellery sale by Jane Young

8.00pm at St Chad's

Thursday 17th November

Wellspring

8.00pm at the Rectory

Saturday 26th November

Men's Breakfast

9-10am

at Aroma Café (Maluca) Irby

Saturday 26th November

Christmas Fair at St Chad's

12noon -4.00pm

Santa's Big Red Bus Grotto

(open until 3pm)

Thursday 1st December

M.U. Christmas Meeting

St. Chads 2.15pm

Notices



Clocks Go Back

Sunday 30th October

From The Registers

Baptisms

We welcome into the Lord's family

16th October

Isabelle and

Natasha Marchant

Funerals

We commend to God's eternal care

26th September

Trudi Purcell

10th October

Harold (Hal) McMullen

From your rector

Dear Friends,

**The excitement of the Last Sunday of the Year
- in November!**



Are you looking forward to Christmas? To nativity plays and Christmas cards showing angels, the Virgin Mary, the shepherds, wise men, a sheep or two, and the baby Jesus?

Before you plunge into another Advent and Christmas season, there is something important to do: don't forget to celebrate Sunday 20 November.

20 November is the last Sunday in the church year, and in some ways the most important. Why? Because everything else in the Christian year looks BACK on what happened 2000 years ago. The Sunday of Christ the King looks FORWARD to what we can expect next.... the return one day of Jesus Christ to this earth, as King of Kings.

Does the idea of Jesus of Nazareth literally returning to earth seem a bit quaint to accept, in our computerized world of e-mails and the internet? Well, that is what the Bible says will happen - it is promised more than 250 times!

The Bible is quite clear: the return of the Lord Jesus Christ as King of Kings will take place personally, powerfully, bodily, visibly, publicly - and INSTANTLY. Read Matthew 24:30,31, or I Thessalonians 4:13 - 5:3. It will be quicker than email. Here are words of Jesus himself:

For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. Luke 17:24

This will be no local story for a BBC TV reporter to cover if he gets time. That day he won't be interviewing the Carpenter of Nazareth, wearing Galilean homespun. Jesus will be in his incandescent brilliance as the 'Son of Man' - a bit of a challenge even for TV reporters! Certainly when Peter, James and John were witness to

their familiar Master 'transfigured', as the same irradiated Person - in a dramatic preview of Christ's triumphant final rule (Luke 9:28-36), they did not feel very confident.

The martyred Stephen, about to die, had a similar glimpse: "Behold I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God' (Acts 7:56). The exiled apostle John on the island of Patmos saw the same figure: '...his face was like the sun shining in full strength' (Revelation 1:16.) The whole world will finally witness this same spectacle (Revelation 1:7). The return of Christ will mark the end of history, as we know it. It will inaugurate the final Judgment. It will re-unite the Lord with his church on earth.

Jesus' return to us will bring about the new heaven and the new earth. Pain, death, persecution, privation and sorrow will all be banished. The entire edifice of evil that has raised itself against the rule of God will be dismantled in a moment.

We have been warned all along not to place a date or a time upon the Second Coming of Christ. (Matthew 24:42-44) Many people ignore this warning and waste endless time in calculations. The way in which we should be spending our days before the end is to work, watch and witness to our Lord Jesus - whether or not ours is a world of computers, e-mail and all the rest!

In the meantime, where is Jesus now? The Bible writers tells us that Jesus has returned to the place of privilege and power, and is 'seated at the right hand' of the Father (Ephesians 1:20-21; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 1:3), and is waiting for the Father's timing for him to return to earth in glory (Mark 13:26-27,32), to raise the dead (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), and give them their resurrection bodies (1 Corinthians 15:35-44).

Jesus will never be a baby again. He is now Christ the King - today, tomorrow, forever.

Rexd Jane Turner

Mothers' Union



It was lovely to welcome Sheila Melton as our speaker in October. Sheila's talk ' Faith in Action' or it's alternative title 'What in God's Name are we doing?' brought us up-to-date with MU activities country wide. The wide and varied work undertaken by MU members is truly wonderful and all in 'God's Name'.

Apart from our branch activities and helping our local Churches there is prison visiting and running crèches in the prisons, knitting and providing goods for the Women's Refuges, wedding fairs, baptism preparation and parenting sessions. The Virtual Baby projects in secondary schools - for boys as well as girls- showing how hard and demanding a new baby can be! Some of the youngsters have a stress-ful weekend with the programmed dolls! Also holidays for needy families, home visiting, Drop-in Centres and any where we can be of help - to name just a few.

Sheila makes it all sound very interesting and worthwhile and she is speaking from first hand experience.

With an ageing membership we do need new members! If any lady- or gentleman- is interested we do have our Evening Mothers Union as well as the afternoon meeting. Please do feel free to come to a meeting and see what it's all about, and we do assure you of a warm welcome.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for our Church and for our part as members of the Mothers Union.

As we see your hand at work and rejoice in your mighty power may we know your strength and peace.

We ask you to bless all that we do, all the people we meet, ourselves our homes, and all members of the Mothers Union in our country and world wide.

Amen

Diary Dates:

3rd Nov. St.Chads 2.15pm Mr. Colin Ratcliffe 'Flower Miscellany'

1st Dec. St. Chads 2.15pm Christmas Meeting

God Bless

Sue Burns

Telling the journey – of YOUR faith

Parishpump.co.uk is partnering with the Association of Christian Writers in a competition for the best article about a faith journey. Do YOU have an experience you would like to share? The article should be up to 800 words and can be either an interview or a first person account, suitable for inclusion in a church or parish newsletter or magazine.

The competition, open from October 1, will close on February 29, 2012, and is open to all. Entries should be previously unpublished.

Prizes of £50, £30 and £20 are offered for the first three places. There will be an entry fee of £5 for one entry; £8 for two. No entrant may submit more than two entries.

The first round of judging will be done by members of the ACW committee, to produce a shortlist of the best 6 to 10 entries, all of which will be put onto the parishpump.co.uk website and available for anyone to use in their publications, with due acknowledgements.

The shortlisted entries will be judged by Anne Coomes of parishpump.co.uk together with an experienced journalist to be appointed by ACW. All those shortlisted will receive a year's free subscription to ACW and to parishpump.co.uk. The winning entry will also be published in the Christian Writer, ACW's members' magazine, and on the ACW website.

TO ENTER: send your entry as an attachment via email to admin@christianwriters.org.uk and send a cheque (either £5 for one entry, or £8 for two entries) payable to Association of Christian Writers to PO Box 551, Hounslow, TW3 9NX. IMPORTANT: Please don't forget to include details of your full name and address with both the email and the cheque. Acknowledgement of receipts of entry plus cheque will be sent by email.

The well known writer and broadcaster David Winter has joined Parish Pump as a regular columnist. He is a former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC.

The Way I See It – remembering the War

Those of us who can remember the Second World War are now a shrinking minority. Anyone who actually fought in it would now have to be in their mid-eighties. Of course, that makes ‘remembrance’ on a public scale difficult. The youth organisations line up at the war memorial each year, but with the best will in the world the exhortation ‘we will remember them’ is asking a lot of boys and girls whose grandparents were probably not born until years after the war ended.

So perhaps those of us who *can* remember, however distantly, what that war was like have some kind of duty to share those memories. In my case, the most vivid is leaving London on a bright morning in early September 1939 in a red double-decker bus and heading for an unknown address in rural England. In the case of my brother and me it was a village in Essex, right in the path of an invading army from the Continent. By Christmas that year my parents had decided that there were safer places for us to be, and we spent the rest of the war - blissfully, I’m ashamed to say - in the mid-Wales hills with my Welsh grandparents. We played in the fields, learnt to speak Welsh, made lifelong friendships - and were almost entirely sheltered from the reality of war-time life in London and the other great cities of our land.

Mind you, the nightly news broadcast on the wet battery wireless was a reminder that our parents were much less fortunate. Like millions of others, they endured the blackout, the shortages of food, the terrors of the blitz with nightly air raids and the anxiety of my older brother eventually being ‘called up’ and landing on the Normandy beaches under enemy gunfire. The bombs missed the family home - on one occasion only just - but the trauma inevitably took its toll.

At the end of the war there were the usual speeches promising that the sacrifices made should not be in vain - we would ensure that nothing like this would ever happen again. But it did, and has - over and over again. Korea, Vietnam, the Falklands, Iraq, Afghanistan - the roll-call seems endless; evidence, if we needed it, of the strange addiction of human beings to violence, conflict and war. It is one thing to remember - and a duty, in view of the sacrifices of so many. But it is no good remembering and then forgetting.

War, says the New Testament, flows from ordinary human sins - greed, envy, bad choices (see James 4:1-4). To expunge from our race the hideous horrors of war and armed conflict would mean eliminating each of these manifestations of our fallen nature. Difficult? Impossible, it seems, without help from beyond ourselves. Prayer, commitment, repentance, example - even a private peaceful life-style - are steps towards that goal: small things, some would think, but history has been changed by less.

The Poppy Day is 90 years old this year....

A once-in-a-century Remembrance Day – 11-11-11-11

At 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month of 2011, the nation will pause to remember those who have given their lives in fighting for this country.

This year is doubly special: 2011 is The Royal British Legion's 90th anniversary, and also this is a once-in-a-century Remembrance Day.

At 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month in 2011 -**11-11-11-11** - we will be remembering those who were willing to lay down their lives for their country.

The British Legion is inviting people to be a special part of this unique occasion, by leaving a message to go on a poppy to be planted at Wootton Bassett. That is the town where thousands of people have paid their respects during repatriations in recent years - you may have seen this on TV.

The British Legion explains: “Many people associate Remembrance Day with heroes of D-Day or the Battle of Britain's Spitfire pilots. Some people think of the deeds of the SAS during the Falklands conflict or, of course, Flanders Fields from World War I, carpeted in poppies growing where so many men lost their lives. But in the last few years it's also been about the nation showing its support for the soldiers returning injured and traumatised from current conflicts.” So if you would like to put your name to a poppy, please visit: <https://donations.britishlegion.org.uk/RBLDonation/>

**Evening of Remembrance and Thanksgiving
on Sunday 30th October 2011 at 6.30pm
at St.Bartholomew's, Thurstaston**

I come into contact with a lot of families who are going through the sad and difficult circumstances of bereavement. Sometimes the loss of a loved one helps people to come to faith and there are many people in church today who came back to God as a result of bereavement.

I will be writing personally to all whom I am aware have experienced a bereavement in the last 12 months. If you have experienced a recent bereavement of which I am unaware, then please accept this invitation to join us at the service. If your bereavement was further back in time but you would find this service helpful, then you too are also welcome.

This will be a quiet, reflective service in which we will remember our loved ones by name and say thank you to God for the good times we shared with them throughout their lives. In this service we will be reading out a list of names of those you would like us to remember, and so **if you are planning to come to this service** and would like your loved one to be mentioned by name please fill in the form below and return it to me.

Please feel free to extend this invitation to other members of your family.

Rev'd Jane Turner

"-----"

An Evening of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Name of the deceased: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Please return to:- Rev'd Jane Turner, 77 Thingwall Rd, Irby, CH61 3UB

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Stricken Pakistanis need help as the waters rise

One year after the lives of many Pakistanis were devastated by surging floods, once more they find themselves in distress, as large swathes of the country are again under deep water.

Up to six million people, mainly in the province of Sindh, have been caught up in the disastrous floods. Hundreds of thousands of homes and millions of acres of crops have been swept away beyond recall.

Thousands of people are still in emergency camps, where facilities are often desperately inadequate; many more are camped in appalling conditions by roadsides. They are in acute danger from diseases such as malaria, dysentery, dengue fever, and diarrhoea.

Amid all this chaos and anguish, says the Barnabas Fund, "our Christian brothers and sisters suffer all the more. Already very poor, the loss of their homes and livelihoods leaves them with no means of support or survival. And they are all too often shamefully overlooked in the distribution of aid."

Barnabas Fund has sent grants for its partners in some of the worst-affected areas to provide immediate aid to 886 Christian families with food packages and health and hygiene kits. But many more Christian families are in need of this emergency help. Each parcel costs £32 and supplies the food and hygiene needs of a family for up to a month. If you would like to help, please visit: www.barnabasfund.org/uk

Famine in East Africa

In July South Sudan became independent from the north. Not long after, the UN officially declared a famine in parts of Somalia. Across the whole region of East Africa, drought and hunger have escalated to such a scale that millions are starving and in need of aid in what is the worst drought in 60 years.

MAF has been responding to the growing needs across East Africa since 1950, and continues to fly to support the new nation of South Sudan as well as the growing crisis in East Africa.

Every day, thousands of refugees are pouring into Dadaab refugee camp on the Kenyan/Somali border. Aid agencies are struggling to cope as the camp numbers reach 400,000 and people set up makeshift tents on any available land.

The MAF team has been flying in support of aid agencies, missions and government officials travelling to and from the camp, seeking to help the people in desperate need. Flights have also been taking people and food from aid organisations to parts of northern Kenya where drought has caused crops to fail. Would you like to help keep MAF airborne? Visit: www.maf-uk.org/

International Day of Prayer for the persecuted Church: 6 November 2011

More than 25 pastors are killed in Colombia every year, simply because they lead churches. Currently there are over 2,000 Christians in prison in Eritrea, just because they're Christians. And in Iran there's a stifling climate of fear among Christians, as they're routinely arrested for no reason other than their faith.

For these and millions of other Christians in the Persecuted Church, Christians across the UK are being invited to unite in prayer on the 6th November. An International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) will be held in churches across the country. For more details, please visit: www.csw.org.uk/pray.htm

Billy Graham reflects on the end of life

Billy Graham, the world's most famous evangelist, has written a book on finishing life well.

In 'Nearing Home: Life, Faith and Finishing Well' , Mr Graham, now 92, shares his personal experiences of growing older. "The best way to meet the challenges of old age is to prepare for them now, before they arrive. I invite you to explore with me not only the realities of life as we grow older but also the hope and fulfillment – and even joy – that can be ours once we learn to look at these years from God's point of view and discover his strength to sustain us every day." The Bible, he believes, tells us that God has a specific reason for keeping us here.

Billy Graham's publisher, Matt Baugher, vice president and publisher at Thomas Nelson, calls 'Nearing Home' one of the most important works Graham has ever written and one of his most vulnerable. "Time catches up to all of us," Baugher says. "At his age, with all that has come before, he is in a unique position to guide all of us on what it means to finish well in this life. God bless Billy Graham."

Mr Graham has preached the Gospel in person to more people than any other person in history. According to his staff, as of 1993 more than 2.5 million people have stepped forward at his crusades to accept Christ as their personal Saviour. As of 2008, Mr Graham's lifetime audience, including radio and television broadcasts, topped 2.2 billion.

Thank You

Thank you to all who contributed to the Leprosy Mission. I was able to send a cheque for £220.36, which I can assure you will be gratefully received.

Pat Hulme



Men's Breakfast



Saturday 26th November

9 – 10am

Aroma Cafe, Irby Village

Eat, chat and share in fellowship.

Contact Matthew James on 07817625122 or mjames@doctors.org.uk for further details.

Wellspring

Third Thursday of each month
17th November

8.00pm Meeting at the Rectory

An opportunity to Listen to God and to Pray.

All are Welcome

FLORIDA COURT SETS ATHEIST HOLY DAY

In Florida, an atheist created a case against Easter and Passover Holy Days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians and Jews and observances of their holy days.

The argument was that it was unfair that Atheists had no such recognised days.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring “Case dismissed!”

The lawyer immediately stood objecting to the ruling saying, “Your Honor, How can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Pass-over, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays...”

The judge leaned forward in his chair and said, “But you do. Your client, counsel is woefully ignorant.”

The lawyer said, “Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists.

The judge said “The calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, ‘The fool says in his heart, there is no God.’ Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned...”

November Recipe - Minestrone Soup

INGREDIENTS (serves 4)

2 tablespoons sunflower oil

1 onion, peeled and chopped

4 rashers of bacon, cut into

1 inch bits

1 clove garlic (optional) peeled and finely chopped

175g (6oz) white cabbage cut into thin strips

1 fairly large carrot, peeled and diced

1 potato, peeled and diced

2 sticks celery, thinly sliced

125ml ($\frac{1}{4}$) pint red wine

425g (15oz) tin tomatoes

500ml (1 pint) chicken stock

Salt and freshly ground pepper

$\frac{1}{2}$ rounded teaspoon sugar

$\frac{1}{2}$ rounded teaspoon dried basil

200g (7oz) baked beans

grated parmesan cheese

Method

In a large saucepan heat the oil. Add chopped onion and bacon and cook gently for several minutes until the onion is soft and transparent, stirring from time to time, then add garlic, shredded cabbage, diced carrots and potatoes and celery and cook for a further few minutes stirring occasionally. Add the red wine, tomatoes, stock, seasoning, sugar and basil. Bring to a gentle simmer, cover with a tightly fitting lid and cook on a low heat for a bout 1 hour.

At this point you can remove the pan from the heat, cool thoroughly, add the contents of the tin of beans and freeze. If you are not freezing the soup, reheat it when you need it and serve with cheese to sprinkle on the top of each helping.

This is a firm family favourite and makes a really substantial meal with some crusty bread.

Betty Rimmer



November Recipe - Ham, Cheese & Chive Bread

INGREDIENTS

425g S.R. flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

4 slices honey roast ham, rolled
up and cut into ½ inch slices

small handful chives, chopped
finely

150g strong flavoured cheese
salt and freshly ground black
pepper

1 teaspoon paprika

1 teaspoon mustard powder

200ml cold water

Method

Mix the dry ingredients with the water and shape into a ball.

Knead well, then make three slashes on the top of the loaf.

At this stage I usually divide the mixture into two loaves and

place on a lined baking tray. Sprinkle with more grated cheese

and bake for 35/45 minutes at 200C/180fan/400F/GasMk6 until
golden and crisp.

This loaf can be made the day before it is needed, it has a really
good flavour and texture.

Betty Rimmer





Christmas Fair at St Chad's

Sat 26th Nov 12noon-4pm

Santa's Big Red Bus Grotto

(grotto open until 3pm)

and Christmas Stalls



We need Donations of:-

Teddies and Soft Toys* - "Good as New"

Please make sure that they are clean and suitable for a child to love.

Cakes and Groceries - on the day

These are for the Cake stall only.

Toys - "Good as New"

Second Hand Books CDs and DVDs*

Clean and in good condition, paperbacks or hardbacks.

Collectables and Recycled Presents* (NO bric a brac)

Brand New Items received as a gift for which you have no need.

Raffle prizes

Any items which are unsold at the fair will be taken to a charity shop

Volunteers to help on the day (men or ladies)

Please phone **Julie DeBoorder (648 6331- evenings)**

or **Chris Rostock in office hours (648 8169)**

if you can help on a stall or can help with setting up
or clearing away.

Please bring donations to St Chads on Sunday mornings or

Tues, Wed, Thurs mornings (term time) 9.30-12.30

Many hands make light work. Thank you for your help.

Advent, Christmas and New Year Special Services:-

Sun Nov 27th 6.30pm Advent Service at Irby Methodist

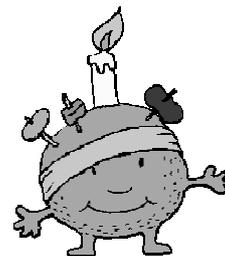
8.00am, 9.30am 11.15am as normal.

Sun Dec 4th 9.30am Holy Communion

4.00pm Christingle Family Service at St Chads

(Please bring items for 'Helplink' Christmas appeal to this service or drop at the office beforehand. See page 18 for more information).

8.00am, 11.15am as normal. NO 6.30pm service.



Sun Dec 11th All Services as Normal

Sun Dec 18th 9.30am Nativity Service led by Junior Church

6.30pm Joint Carol Service at St Bartholomew's

8.00am, 11.15am as normal

Dec 24th 4.00pm Crib Service at St. Bartholomew's

5.00pm Crib Service at St. Bartholomew's

As in previous years, we will run two services exactly the same one after the other. We suggest that the 4pm service is for younger (up to and including Reception) children and that the 5pm service is for older children. If you have children in both age brackets - you choose!

If coming to the 5pm service, please don't arrive until 4.45pm in order for the 4pm service to have cleared church and car parking spaces!



11.30pm First Communion of Christmas

Sunday December 25th - Christmas Day

8.00am BCP Communion at St Bartholomew's

- subject to Clergy availability

9.30am Family Communion at St Chad's

You are invited to bring one of your presents to show to everybody else.

11.15am Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's

NO OTHER SERVICES TODAY

Sunday January 1st 10.30am Communion Service at St. Bartholomew's

12noon "Drinks and Nibbles" at St Chad's

NO OTHER SERVICES TODAY

Sunday January 8th 10.30am Covenant Service at Irby Methodist

8.00am and 6.30pm as normal. NO 9.30am or 11.15am service.



7a, Thingwall Road
Irby
Wirral
CH61 3UA

Tel: 0151 648 3322

Fax: 0151 648 4598

Email: info@helplink.org.uk

Web: www.helplink.org.uk

CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Helplink offers support & practical assistance to the elderly,
Housebound & disabled on the Wirral.

At Christmas time we like to bring a little festive cheer by providing Christmas
Parcels to disadvantaged families in the local area.

We're aiming to help as many families as possible, which includes hundreds of
children. Lots of families can't provide treats for their children, never mind
presents.

THE ITEMS WE NEED ARE (for example):

- Selection Boxes
- Chocolate, Sweets, Biscuits
- Mince Pies, Christmas Cake

Basically anything which would make Christmas special for the children.

(PLEASE NOTE: this does not affect our appeal for the Christmas Parcels for the
elderly, housebound & disabled - that is a separate appeal)

Work IN Faith

A seminar exploring our ministry in the workplace

Whatever the work you do, then we hope that you will find something in this seminar to encourage and inspire you.

The event will provide biblical teaching about work as well as practical guide-lines for handling the challenges and issues which arise in the workplace.

The interactive workshops, each with a specific focus on a particular sector of employment (please see booking form for more details) will present delegates with an opportunity to share challenges and generate solutions together. Please note that the viability of each seminar will be determined by the level of bookings received. Pre-booking is essential.

Saturday 19th November 2011 9.20am to 1.30pm (Registration from 9.00am)

At Warrington Collegiate, Warrington WA2 8QA

Please note that **advance booking is essential**; the deadline is Monday 7th November.

Booking Form

Name:	Email:
-------	--------

Please select the Workshop which most closely matches your sector of employment	
1. Education (all aspects)	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Health/NHS & Public Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Retail & Service	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Finance, lawyer and banker	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Manufacturing & Rural/Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Media & Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please send your completed booking form and cheque (payable to Chester DBF) to:

Victoria Day at Church House, Lower Lane, Aldford Chester CH3 6HP

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Sing for your Heart **8-15 Dec**

with Heart Research UK

Calling all choirs, bands, groups,

Help raise money for Heart Research UK and hit a high note
by singing or volunteering at:

Liverpool Central Station — 6th December

Manchester Trafford Centre — 11th December



OR you could hold your own **Sing for your Heart** event at a time and venue
that is best for you.

Contact us now for your FREE fundraising pack .

If you wish to take part, please call or e-mail:

0113 234 7474 / fundraising@heartresearch.org.uk

Or check out our website: www.heartresearch.org.uk/singforyourheart



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Children of Israel

In Sunday School one morning young Joseph raised his hand and proceeded to ask a question that had perplexed him for some time. "There's something I can't figure out. According to the Bible, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?" "Right," said his teacher.

"And the Children of Israel beat up the Philistines, right?" "Er, right."

"And the Children of Israel built the Temple, right?" "Again you're right."

"And the Children of Israel fought the Egyptians and the Children of Israel were always doing something important, right?" "All that is right, too," agreed the teacher. "So what's your question, Joseph?"

"Well what were all the grown-ups doing?"

**

Which man won?

Little Charlotte was at her first wedding and was enthralled by the entire ceremony. When it was over, she asked her mother, "Why did the lady change her mind?"

Her mother asked, "What do you mean?"

"Well, she went down the aisle with one man, and came back with another one."

**

Praying for a brother

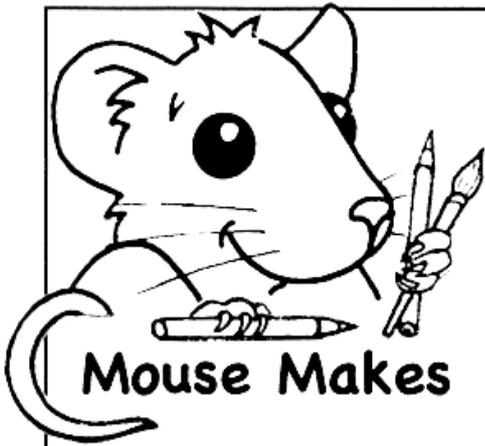
A small boy badly wanted a baby brother, so his dad suggested he pray every night for one. The boy prayed earnestly, night after night, but his prayers seemingly weren't answered. After a few weeks, he didn't bother to ask anymore.

Some months later, his dad said they were going to see Mum in the hospital and he was going to get a big surprise. When they got to the room, the little boy saw his mother holding two babies. "Well, what do you think about having twin brothers?" his dad asked.

The little boy thought for a moment and replied, "It's a good thing I stopped praying when I did."

**





REMEMBERING

How do you remember things?

In bible times God's people sometimes built a large pile of stones as a monument to remember what God had done for them and held festivals and celebrations to give thanks to God.

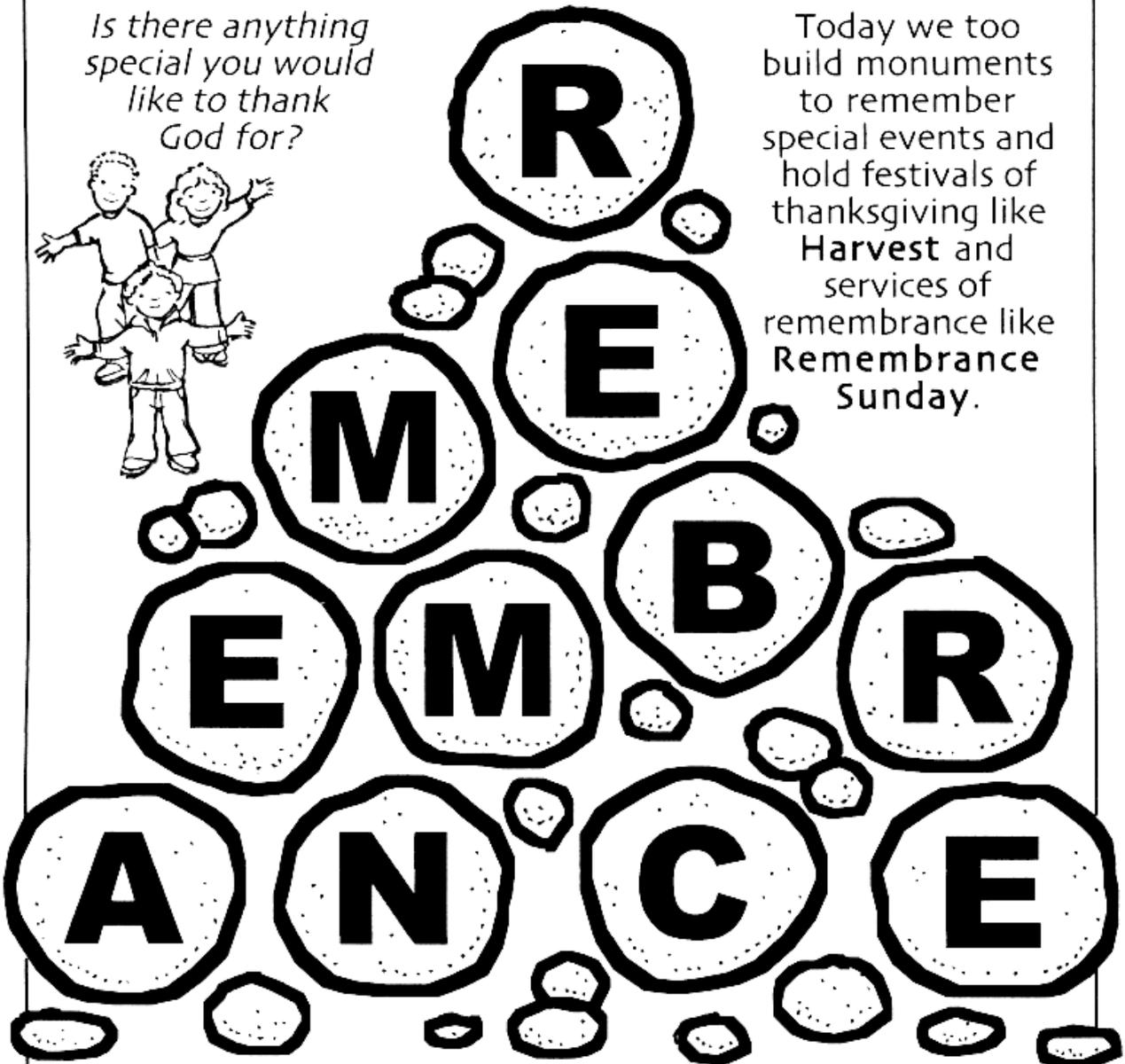


Read Joshua 4:1-9 and Exodus 12:1-14

Is there anything special you would like to thank God for?



Today we too build monuments to remember special events and hold festivals of thanksgiving like **Harvest** and services of remembrance like **Remembrance Sunday**.



Cut out each letter stone and move around to spell the word **REMEMBRANCE** then see how many other words you can make...

...here's one to start you off:



Nov11

Charity to celebrate Olympics by sending a million sporty gifts to children in need overseas

The UK's largest children's Christmas appeal – *Operation Christmas Child* - has launched a drive to send over a million sporty gifts to underprivileged children around the world as a celebration of sport in the run-up to the 2012 London Olympics.

For millions of children around the world, Christmas will come and go without them receiving a single present and the Olympics will happen without them ever having experienced the excitement of sport for themselves. And so this initiative - part of a partnership between Samaritan's Purse and More Than Gold - is aimed at encouraging underprivileged children in places like Liberia, West Africa, to get involved in sport as a way of improving physical health, developing self-esteem, and learning the value of teamwork. In places like Liberia, sport also forms an important part of bringing people together and rebuilding communities suffering from years of civil war and unrest.

In addition to the educational, hygiene and play items that children love to receive, anyone taking part in this year's *Operation Christmas Child* campaign is being encouraged to include sporty gifts such as tennis balls, skipping ropes, baseball hats, small footballs, inflatable beach balls, stop watches or sweat bands.

Since launching in 1990, *Operation Christmas Child* has sent over 80 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children worldwide. Last year, around 1.12 million gift-filled shoeboxes were sent from the UK to children in 13 different countries around the world, including children affected by the earthquake in Haiti. Over 6,000 local churches across the UK and Ireland got involved in the shoebox appeal last year.

Thousands of churches, schools, workplaces and community groups from across the UK will be taking part in this year's campaign by filling shoeboxes with gifts and taking them to designated drop off points between November 1st and November 18th.

www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk

Operation Christmas Child currently sends shoeboxes to countries across Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



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Contacts

Churchwardens

Mr J Roberts **342 2149**
23 Riverbank Road Lower Heswall CH60 4SQ

Mr R Jackson **648 0365**
13 Norton Drive Irby CH61 4XP

Reader

Mr Alan Jones **648 1400**
8 Edgemore Drive Irby CH61 4XT

Retired Clergy

Rev'd J Edwardson **648 2661**
38 Hazel Grove Irby CH61 4UZ

Rev'd S Beckley **648 7767**
162 Heathbank Irby CH61 4YG

Rev'd I Morris **625 8474**
43 Abbots Way West Kirby CH48 6EH

PCC Secretary

Mr G Barley **648 1867**
5 Sherwood Avenue Irby CH61 4XB

PCC Treasurer

Mr C Eden **648 9517**
8a Woodlands Road, Irby, CH61 2XD

Verger

Mrs J Ratcliffe **648 6171**
135 Thingwall Road Irby CH61 3UD

Organist

Mr C Vickers **648 7405**
34 Townsend Avenue Irby CH61 2XW

Electoral Roll

c/o Church Office **648 8169**

St Chad's Hall Booking Secretary

Mrs J Heath **648 6015**

Mothers' Union, Branch Leader

Mrs S Burns **648 1022**

Evening Mothers' Union (EMU)

Mrs C Rostock (Secretary) **6481112**

Flower Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs E Jones **648 1400**

Flower Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs J Ratcliffe **648 6171**

Cleaning Guild (St Bartholomew's)

Mrs J Bibby **678 8124**

Cleaning Guild (St Chad's)

Mrs M Reid **648 1766**

Bellringers Tower Captain

Mr R Turner **648 1742**

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Junior Church

Mrs J Deboorder **648 6331**

St Chad's Seniors (11-14) & Youth Group

Mrs K Robson **648 6691**

St Chad's Playgroup

Church Office **648 8169**
(during playgroup hours) 0783 5096171

Rainbows

Karen Fearn **648 9833**

Brownies (Brown Owl)

Mrs Linda Churchill **07860239422**

Guides

Revd J Turner **648 1816**

CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Christian Aid Representative

Mrs W Wolstencroft **929 5778**

Children's Society Representative

Mrs J Heath **648 6015**

Leprosy Mission Representative

Mrs P Hulme **648 1827**

Adoption Society Representative

Mrs C Rostock **648 1112**

Church Services

Sunday Services

St Bartholomew's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Worship

6th November
Third Sunday before Advent

St Chad's

9.30am Family Service

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Holy Communion

14th November
Remembrance Sunday

9.30am **NO SERVICE**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Worship

20th November
Christ the King

9.30am Morning Worship

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Baptism
6.30pm Advent Service at Irby Methodist Church

27th November
Advent Sunday

9.30am Family Communion

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm **NO SERVICE**

5th December
Advent 2

9.30am Holy Communion
4.00pm Christingle Family Service

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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.

PLEASE NOTE: Rector's day off - **Tuesday**

RECTOR: Revd Jane Turner

The Rectory, 77 Thingwall Road, Irby, Wirral, CH61 3UB
Telephone: 0151 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday) E-mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk

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