

**The Churches of
St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
Sunday 11th December – Advent 3**



Welcome to Church today.
We hope that you enjoy the service and gain a sense of God's presence with us.

Children are Welcome at our Services

In St Chad's, we have activity bags available and there is also a box of toys and cushions in the foyer, in case you feel your child would be happier playing there.

In St Bartholomew's, there are some colouring sheets and toys at the back of church.

Children from age 2½ can attend Junior Church (term time) at St Chad's

Collect for today

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the
way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of
darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in
great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious
majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For the World: Please pray for the homeless and poor in this cold weather.

For the sick: Please continue to pray for Ruth Dann, Hilary Bradshaw and Joel Murray. Please pray for those in hospital.

For the parish: Please pray for Grace Geary to be baptised at 3pm next Sunday at St Bartholomew's.

From the Anglican Prayer Cycle:

Bishop Jackson Ole Sapit, Kericho, Kenya.

From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle:

May the Holy Child,
unrecognised, yet a gift to all;
poor, yet bringing the riches of grace;
excluded, yet offering love without limit;
tiny, yet holding the whole world in his heart;
be born among us.

Wonder of wonders, may we welcome you
as your birth welcomes us. Amen

Services TODAY – Advent 3

8:00 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
11.15am	Morning Worship	St Bartholomew's

Services next week

Wednesday 14th December (Mid-week service)

10.15am Holy Communion St Chad's

Sunday 18th December – Advent 4

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30am	Nativity	St Chad's
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
3.00pm	Baptism	St Bartholomew's

Notices and Announcement

•Banner for St Chad's 50th Anniversary:

Do you have any tiny buttons or beads in shades of green that you could donate to this project? Please hand in to parish office or speak to Beverley Appleyard or Revd Jane for more details. If you would like to help in the creation (sewing) of this banner, then again, please speak to Beverley or Revd Jane.

•**Christmas cards** for sale in both churches. £2.50 per pack. All profit to church funds. Please take a look.

•**Crosstalk the Dec/Jan magazine** is available at the back of church priced 50p. For subscribers, please note that 2017 subscriptions are due.

•**Advent's Angels.** Come and discover more at the Rectory at 8pm on Thursdays, 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd December. See magazine for more information and speak to Revd Jane if you are planning to attend.

•**Easy Fundraising With Christmas** approaching and on-line spending increasing, don't forget every penny makes a real difference so please remember to keep collecting free donations every time you shop and help us raise even more <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stbartholomewstchad>

•**Are you ready for Mission Possible?** Your chance to make a difference! Register your place on the 2017 diocesan lay conference. For a limited period of time one **free** place is being reserved for each parish (we will try to share this free place between however many people want to go). We would like as many parishes as possible to be part of the conference at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton DE55 1AU. We are looking to have delegates attending from all parts of the diocese. . Please put the dates in your diary now and let Revd Jane know that you are interested. Friday, 19 May to Sunday, 21 May 2017. For more information about this and the previous notice go to www.chester.anglican.org/ebulletin

- **Giving by Text.** We are now registered with Just Giving, so if you would like to make a donation to Church by text then all you need to do is text "BART16" and the amount you wish to give to 70070. e.g. text BART16£10 to give ten pounds.
- **Please collect your Postage Stamps** over the Christmas period and throughout the year for RDA (Riding for the Disabled). Box in St Chad's foyer and envelope at the back of St Bart
- **Mens' Breakfast** on Saturday 7th January 2017, 8.45-9.45am at Aroma Café Irby.
- **SOSO** Tuesday 10th January 2017, 8pm at St Chad's.
- **Wellspring** on Monday 16th January 2017, 8pm at The Rectory.
- **Mothers' Union (EMU) New Year's meal** out on Wednesday 25th January. Time & venue tba.
- **Dawpool (C of E) Primary School**
Anyone applying under Church criteria MUST fill in a Supplementary form which can be downloaded from the Admissions tab of the school website. If you require Revd Jane to sign your form then please hand it to her and she will return it to school on your behalf.

Would you like to receive this notice sheet every week direct to your email in-box? If so, please send an email request to the parish office (office@thurstaston.org.uk)

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2-11

All: Glory to you, O Lord

2When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples 3and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' 4Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

7As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? 8What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. 9What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

11Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Readings for Today	Readings for 18 th December
Is 35:1-10	Micah 5:2-5a
James 5:7-10	Rom 1:1-7
Matt 11:2-11	Luke 1:26-38

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Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9.30am-12.30pm (term time)

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