

The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad

Thurstaston and Irby

8th December – Advent 2



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

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes
again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to
redeem the world and will send him again
to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again, we may be
ready to greet him with joyful love and firm
faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For the World: A prayer for the General Election: God of grace and truth, send your Spirit to guide us as we discover your will for our country. Help us to discuss the issues before us with courtesy, truth and mutual respect, and grant that all who stand for parliament will seek to serve the common good, through him who came not to be served but to serve, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Parish: Please pray for a good Advent Journey together

For the Diocese: Almighty God, who sent Jesus Christ to be the cornerstone of your Kingdom and to call us to follow him; guide your Church, by the Holy Spirit, to show love and mercy as we build your Kingdom. We pray for the person you are calling to be the next Bishop of Chester; bless, guide and strengthen them to answer your call; in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

For the Sick: Please pray for Albert den Otter and Samuel Williams (extended family of Linda and Graham Barley), Audrey Percival (Aunt of Liz Whitehead) and for all those who are sick at home or in hospital.

For the Bereaved: Please pray for the family and friends of Valerie Elliott, Clive Ledsham, Dorothy Joyce and John Appleyard.

From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle Pray for those living with life-changing consequences as a result of a road traffic incident.

From the Anglican Prayer Cycle: Pray for the work of the Mothers' Union around the world. Sheran Harper Worldwide President Bev Jullien - Chief Executive

Services Today – Advent 2

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

Services next week

Wednesday 11th December

10.15 am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
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Sunday 15th December – Advent 3

8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Morning Worship	St Chad's
11.15 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's



The finale of Journey into Light.

The finale and thanksgiving service will be held at St George's Church, Stockport (SK2 6NU – access is via “the South Avenue” from Buxton Road), on Tuesday 17 December. Doors open at 6pm. Guests will have a chance to mingle, view the exhibition, and enjoy music, carols, and alcohol-free mulled wine. The service begins at 7.30pm and is due to finish no later than 8.30pm.

Everyone Welcome – but you will need to book a ticket, so that the right number of canapés and mulled wine can be ordered. To book your FREE tickets, go to the front page of the diocesan website (www.chester.anglican.org) and click the Journey into Light banner.

Journey into Light launched in October 2018 and features over 40 individual pieces of artwork produced by prisoners at HMP Styal and HMP Thorn Cross, Cheshire. The aim of the exhibition is to demonstrate to visitors that behind every prisoner's conviction and sentence is a personal story of love, hope and loss. Just under 40 parishes have hosted *Journey into Light* since it was launched at Chester Cathedral. Around the diocese, an estimated 6000 people have viewed it.

Notices and Announcements

Christmas Greetings from Simon and Joyce Beckley

We have received a Christmas Card which says: "To all of the fellowship of St B and St C, God Bless You at Christmas, Love in the Lord, Simon and Joyce"

Linda Barley is collecting second hand hat, scarves, gloves, ladies handbags and new toiletries to pass to a friend who is collecting for the **Charles Thompson Mission**, if you can help please pass the items to Linda.

NOTORIOUS: St Chad's Extension on Thursdays 8.00-9.15pm (9.30pm at the latest!) Everyone Welcome next session 12th December – more details in Parish Magazine. "The Bible is full of men and women who strayed from the path of good: the rogues, scoundrels and scallywags. But is there something good these bad people can teach us? Why not join us as we discover together

Thank you to all who donated to the Wirral Foodbank Advent appeal, we donated 70.72 kg of food, which will contribute towards helping them support people in crisis within our community.

Service Booklets: Could you help to repair some of our service booklets? It just needs some of your time and a roll of sell otape! If you can help, please take a box of books home (from the cupboard at St Chad's, or speak to Liz at St Barts), do the repair job and bring them back. We are currently using the purple Advent ones, so please don't take them. Thank you for your support.

Forum Housing warmly invite you, your family and friends to their Carol Concert, it is being held on Wednesday 11th December at The Salvation Army Community Church, 175 Old Chester Road, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, CH42 3TA arrive at 6pm for refreshments. Carols will start at 6.30pm

Huge Thank you to those who worked so hard to bring together the Christmas Bazaar. The event raised £884.67!

Children's Society boxes this year raised £971.90p, a big thank you to all the box holders. If you would like a collection box please contact Jean Heath

Readings for 8 th December	Readings for 15 th December
Is 11:1-10	Is 35:1-10
Rom 15:4-13	James 5:7-10
Matt 3:1-12	Matt 11:2-11

Church Office: Mrs K Butler, St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH

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

Tel 648 8169. Website: www.thurstaston.org.uk E-Mail: office@thurstaston.org.uk

Revd Jane Turner 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday). E-Mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3:1-12

All: Glory to you, O Lord

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ²and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'"

⁴John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

All: Praise to you, O Christ

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)