

**The Churches of St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
18th April 2021 - Third Sunday of Easter**



Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness
and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen
life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming
work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For our Community:

Please continue to pray for ALL key-workers
Please pray for all victims of abuse

For our Church:

Pray for our Annual Meeting (19th Apr) and for people to stand for election to PCC and as Church Wardens
Please pray for our worship and mission and we remain in online mode.

For the world:

Please continue to pray for countries world-wide struggling with the effects of Covid pandemic

For the Bereaved: Please pray for the Royal Family and the bereaved family and friends of Reginald Derrick Antrobus, William Edgar Cheater and Sue Maggs (Chris Rostock's friend)

For the Sick: Please pray for Molly (aged 2), Audrey Fernyhough, Julie Davies, and all those who are sick at home or in hospital.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

**A prayer for the discernment process
Appointment of new bishops**

Almighty God,
who sent Jesus Christ
to be the cornerstone of your Kingdom
and calls us to follow him.
Guide your Church, by the Holy Spirit,
to show humility, love and mercy as we seek your Kingdom.
We pray for those you are calling
to be the next bishops of Stockport and Birkenhead
and for those discerning that call.
Lead and strengthen them to answer your call;
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

READING from Acts 3:12-19

¹² When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?" ¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴ You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶ By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. ¹⁷ "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸ But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 John 3:1-7

³ See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. ⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. ⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

⁷ Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:36b - 48

All: Glory to you, O Lord

³⁶ Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things

All: Praise to you, O Christ

**Annual Parochial
Church Meetings**
Monday 19th April
7.30pm by Zoom

Please think about supporting our church by becoming involved as a PCC Member or Churchwarden.

Nomination forms for PCC members, deanery synod representatives and churchwardens are available on the parish website or from the parish office.

These forms need to be returned (in physical form with signatures) to Revd Jane Turner, 77 Thingwall Rd, Irby, Wirral, CH61 3UB.

Are you Experiencing Domestic Abuse?

Freephone 24 hour Helpline
0808 2000 247

Irby Pharmacy is a safe space

How to access a Safe Space

- Walk into any participating pharmacy in the UK.
- Ask at the healthcare counter to use their Safe Space.
- A pharmacist will show you to the Safe Space. Which will be the consultancy room.
- Once inside, you will find displayed specialist domestic abuse support information for you to access, to make that call or access Bright Sky safely.

Safe Spaces are open and ready for you to use.

Have you or your loved ones had your coronavirus vaccine?

Give thanks with a donation to Christian Aid to help protect the most vulnerable people across the world, while the vaccine is out of reach. Find out more:-
<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-donate/give-thanks-your-coronavirus-vaccine>



MASSIVE THANK YOU to JEAN HEATH

Jean has been our Hall Booking Secretary for many years and served our church (and wider) community in a wonderfully efficient and friendly way. Jean has now "retired" from this role.

If you can take on this role, or want more information about what is required, please speak to Revd Jane.

Ideally you will live locally; be available during the day time and be good with Admin.



PCC UPDATE RE CHURCH SERVICES
following PCC meeting on 1st March 2021

The PCC acknowledges the need to remain cautious and patient, and aware of the most vulnerable and still shielding in our congregations. We need to allow for vaccination program to have its fullest effect and for the science to back up the proposed government roadmap. It was therefore agreed that we will not restart Sunday services until, as a country, we are able to move into Step 3 (May 17th at the earliest). Services will restart as soon as is practical after that date.

We will continue to provide a sermon via facebook, the weekly emails (including notice sheet, sermon, family together at home resource and other bits and bobs), and Evening Prayer via Zoom. We will continue Wednesday morning Zoom - bring your coffee and chat meeting - 10.15-11.00am.

We would encourage you again to connect with each other and use the phone contact groups from Lock down number 1. If you were not in a phone contact group back then and would like to be in one now, just let Revd Jane know and she'll get you linked up with some other folk.

Revd Jane is always available to you and please don't hesitate to pick up a phone and have a chat - about anything - even if you are just bored and need someone else to speak to.

the prayer course

Meetings on Zoom (joining details from Revd Jane)

Wednesday Evenings 7.30-8.30pm

(or 9.00pm at the latest if people are really engaged with the discussion)

April 28th - Why Pray?

May 5th - Adoration

May 12th - Petition

May 19th - Intercession

May 26th - Unanswered Prayer

HALF TERM

June 9th - Contemplation

June 16th - Listening

June 23rd - Spiritual Warfare

Each week of the course is made up of:

- A video
- Discussion questions
- Practical prayer activities

We may choose to meet in person later in the term, depending upon numbers and Covid restrictions.

This will only be done with group agreement.

Can't make Wednesday Evenings? - Then you could do it **Individually but together**

The Sessions can be found here:- <https://prayercourse.org/sessions/>
So you can work through the session on a day and time that works for you.

Let Revd Jane know if you plan to do this,
as it may be possible to pair people up to discuss and share together.

how to pray pete greig

How to Pray by Pete Greig is a companion resource which follows the Prayer Course framework and contains insightful stories, recommended reading and resources, and full notation of all Scripture and resources.

The Companion Book is not a requirement for joining the sessions. But if you would find it helpful it is available from many book stores including:-

<https://www.eden.co.uk/how-to-pray-a-simple-guide-for-normal-people-pete-greig/>