



Dear Church Family,

As lent comes to a close and we prepare for Easter, I have been reflecting and preparing my heart for a wonderful weekend ahead. Easter is such a special time of year, as we let our hearts and heads engage deeply in the good news of what Jesus has done for us. As I have prayed this week, my heart is bursting with expectancy. That is not least because lent this year has felt rich and deep for us at St Chads. We have pressed into God in prayer and worship in the midst of challenging times both locally and internationally.

There has been a rich depth to our prayer life as a church, not least for those who have been sitting quietly in God's presence in church from 6-7pm. Taking that time to be still and dwell with God has been extraordinarily powerful. It has been enriching to deepen our faith together through reading Strahan Coleman's 'Thirsting' and the brilliant blogs alongside it. (A huge thanks to all our bloggers for such wonderful writing and for sharing your heart with us. If you've missed any of them, you can catch up here.) Our focus on dwelling in God's presence through our sermon series is, I believe, really helping us to deepen our times with God, alone and together. We were hugely blessed to have Sam Ward with us on Sunday, I know many of us were really impacted by his preaching.

Last Monday the Ministry Leadership Team met to reflect on what God has been doing and saying to us in recent months. We looked at a range of prophetic words God has given as well as the prayer events and Sundays. We discussed themes and brought our thoughts to God and asked the Holy Spirit to highlight key things for this season. We gathered what we sensed God saying and summarised in a simple list, each of us offering the two words God highlighted for us. Here is the list for you to reflect on:

*Ordinary, Peaceful, Deep, Waiting, Stay, Preparation, Natural (not man-made),
Renewal, Birthing, Newness, Freedom, Transformation, Go, Joy, Glory, Lasting*

There is a sense of progression in these words, we start by recognising our ordinariness and need for God and then through the Holy Spirit's work from preparation to renewal and into transformation, we are sent to go, just as Jesus sent his disciples. The result is God glorified and lasting fruit. My sense is that this lent has been a time of depth, of waiting and preparation and I'm praying that as we celebrate new life and freedom on Sunday, God will be stirring our hearts to 'Go' and to see transformation and God's glory. Our community needs joy, it needs to hear the good news which we are letting sink deeply into our hearts. The more we dwell in God's presence, the more fruitful our lives will be and the greater the impact we will have on our schools, workplaces, neighbourhoods and families.

With love,
Richard.

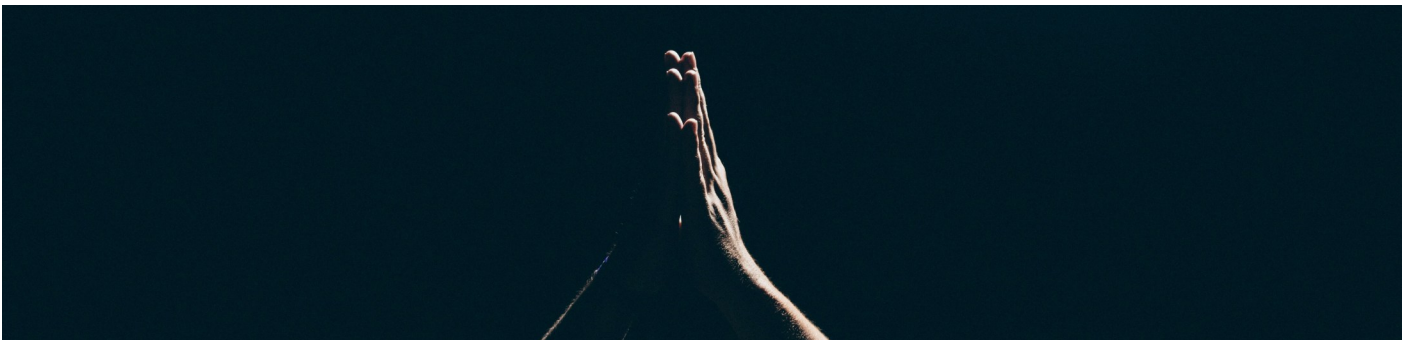


Mission of the Month

This month, we're focusing our prayers on **Danny and Flavia Lescano**, who are serving in Salta, Argentina.

A key part of their ministry is among the Wichí community, an indigenous people group in northern Argentina. They have asked for prayer regarding a serious land issue affecting this community. Although the Wichí people have historically owned their land, they are now facing exploitation and injustice. Please pray for protection, justice, and wise resolution in this situation.

Danny and Flavia have also been training local believers from the Wichí community, equipping them to lead Bible studies within their own communities. Pray for them as they continue to release and disciple others - that there would be lasting fruit, strong local leadership, and new churches planted.



One of the greatest joys at St Chads over the past year has been seeing our monthly prayer events steadily growing and very much established as a key part of the life of our church. Thank you to all who have come alone and joined in with this most essential part of our life together. We pray because we want to see More People, More like Jesus and we absolutely believe that this is only possible in God's power not our own.

Our prayer events are interactive and engaging, I believe they are becoming spiritually richer and deeper and this year we will continue to grow in dwelling in God's Presence. This call is for our whole church family, I would love you to think of attending a monthly prayer event as a core part of what it means to be part of St Chads.

April Prayer Events:

Weds 15th Apr - 1.30pm in the church lounge.

Weds 22nd Apr - 7.30pm in the LifeCentre



Easter at St Chads

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 2nd April

7.00pm - Communion

GOOD FRIDAY - 3rd April

1.00pm - Meditations on the Cross

Prayer Space

This Easter, we are also opening church for people to spend time in quiet reflection and prayer as we celebrate the hope of Easter. Journey through the Easter story as you walk around the prayer space, visiting simple stations with crafts, activities, and short reflections for **all ages**. This is a **relaxed, self-guided experience** - come and go at your own pace.

STILL HOPE - 4th April

7.30pm - Worship and reflection

EASTER SUNDAY - 5th April

9.15am - Easter Celebration

11.00am - Easter Celebration

GOOD FRIDAY

10am - 12pm & 3pm - 6pm

EASTER SATURDAY

10am - 4pm



Curious about faith?

This April we have two ways for people to engage with Alpha...

The **Alpha Launch Event** at Romiley LifeCentre (3 Stockport Rd, Romiley SK6 4BN) on **Tuesday 14th April at 7pm**.

The evening will be an **introduction to the Alpha Course**, where we'll explore the question: "Is there more to life than this?" It's a relaxed, friendly space to come along, share a meal, and see what you think.

The **full Alpha course** is for anyone who's curious - no judgement, no pressure.

Each session explores life's big questions about life, faith, and purpose, and is designed to spark open and honest conversation.

The full Alpha course runs over 10 weeks and includes a half-day event on Saturday 16th May.



Vision Sunday & APCM – Sunday 10th May 2026

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for **Vision Sunday** in a few weeks' time.

We'll begin at **10:00am** with a relaxed **church family breakfast**—pastries, coffee, tea, and juice. This will be a lovely opportunity for both congregations to spend time together.

At **10:30am**, we will gather for worship and share **communion together as one church family**. After communion, children will head to the church lounge to watch a film (and enjoy the remaining pastries!).

This Sunday also includes our **APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting)**, where we will be voting for church wardens, Deanery Synod reps & PCC members.

To stand or vote in these elections, you must be on the **electoral roll**. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Church Office.

If you'd like to find out more about serving on the PCC, please speak to one of our wardens (Andrew Goddard or Jan Ford), or chat with Jane or Katie at church, or contact the Church Office.

Everyone is welcome - young and old, newcomers and those who have been part of the church family for many years. There is something truly special about gathering all together.

Annual Report 2025

Each year we produce our Annual Report, offering a valuable opportunity to reflect on the past 12 months in the life of St Chad's. This year's report includes reflections from Richard, along with contributions from members of our incredible team, as we continue to seek to love not only our church family but also the wider community of Romiley.

Printed copies are available at the back of church, and a digital version can be found on our website under the "Following Jesus" ➡ "Resources" section.