

## **The Parish Weekend**

### **The Parish Church of St. Bartholomew, Thurstaston, with St. Chad's, Irby and Irby Methodist Church**

25<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to be able to let you know that we have decided to hold another Parish Weekend. It is just over twelve months since about thirty of us enjoyed a weekend at Rhos-on-Sea and we wondered whether to return to the same place. However, following discussion we have decided to book places at Cloverley Hall, a beautiful country house which has been converted into a Christian conference centre, situated near Whitchurch in Shropshire. Many of you will remember that it was the setting for our first two Parish Weekends in 2000 and 2001.

We have booked from the evening of Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, which should be an ideal time for everyone to relax and refresh themselves before all the preparations for Christmas get under way.

Our aim is to provide an interesting weekend for people of all ages, consisting of talks, workshops, worship, informal discussion and leisure time. Donald Allister, the Archdeacon of Chester, has kindly agreed to come and lead the weekend, but we have not yet settled on a theme, so if anyone has any suggestions or requests please let me know. One of the things we should love to see would be more families joining us, as indeed was the case on our previous visits to Cloverley. We are making arrangements to bring in one or two specialist youth workers, who will lay on activities for our children and young people, whilst parents are able to enjoy a break and listen to the talks. Saturday afternoon will be free time for people to

explore Whitchurch and its surroundings. Alternatively, you may prefer just to relax at Cloverley.

The cost of the weekend will be as follows:

Adults:	£85.50
Children (11 – 12)	£60.00
Children (7 – 10)	£40.00
Children (4 – 6)	£20.00
Children under 4	Free

All rooms have central heating, and bedding and towels are provided. There are twelve rooms with en-suite facilities, for which there is a modest additional charge.

The provisional programme for the weekend is as follows:

Friday evening	Arrive in time for buffet supper at 7 p.m.
	8.30 p.m. Introductory session and short evening worship.
Saturday morning	8.30 a.m. Breakfast.
	9.30 – 10.45 a.m. Session led by Donald Allister.
	10.45 – 11.15 a.m. Coffee break
	11.15 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Session led by Donald Allister.
Saturday afternoon	1 pm Lunch.
	Free time. Those who so wish may explore the area or simply relax. Activities will be laid on for the children.

6 p.m. Tea.

Saturday evening 7.15 – 8.15 p.m. All age workshops.  
8.30 p.m. Social gathering.

Sunday morning 9 a.m. Breakfast.  
10 – 11 a.m. Workshop sessions.  
11.15 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. Family worship.

Sunday afternoon 1.00 pm Lunch.  
Depart after lunch.

I would emphasise that none of the sessions is compulsory; those who wish simply to relax during the weekend will certainly be free to do so.

There is a deposit of £20.00 per person, to cover the cost of the deposit which the Parish has already paid to Cloverley, and the balance should be paid by Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2009. There should be no problem if it would be easier for you to pay in instalments between now and May – just have a word with me.

If you would like an opportunity to re-charge your batteries in those often gloomy November days and to get to know your neighbours in the parish better, do fill in the slip below and return it to me as soon as possible. Don't hesitate to talk to anyone who went last year or to ring me (648 4944), if you would like any further information.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Smale

**Please complete this slip and Return it to Mr Chris Smale as soon as possible c/o the Parish Office.**

Name (please print):

.....

Contact Telephone Number: .....

I wish to reserve ..... place(s) on the Parish Weekend at Cloverley Hall, from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2009 and enclose a cheque

for: ..... (made payable to Thurstaston PCC) as a deposit.

Signed: .....