

Sunday 3 April 2022 - The Fifth Sunday of Lent



Coming Up at St Thomas'

Worship

Sunday 3 April 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 10 April (Palm Sunday) 11.00 a.m. – Morning Worship – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig

Thursday 14 April (Maundy Thursday) 7.30 p.m. – Joint Service with St John's at St John's – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Friday 15 April (Good Friday) 10.00 a.m. – Joint service with St John's at St Thomas' - Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Saturday 16 April (Easter Eve Service) 8 p.m. – joint service with St John's at St John's – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 17 April (Easter Sunday) 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion - Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 24 April 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 1 May 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 8 May – 11.00 a.m. – Morning Worship – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig

Most of the 11.00 a.m. services listed above will also be taking place at St John's at 9.30 a.m. each Sunday. These services are accessible via Zoom for anyone who is not ready, or able, to attend services in person. Members of St Thomas' Church are very welcome to share in this worship. If you would like the **Zoom** link, please **ring 427453 or email lawrobinson@btinternet.com or stthomashenbury@aol.com**

If you would like to join the team of people who deliver the readings and/or intercessions at these services, please contact: Tony Dewdney **on 01625 439753 or tjdewdney@talktalk.net**

Other Events

Friday 1 April 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St John's

Saturday 2 April – 9.15 a.m. – Sponsored walk in support of Christian Aid at Tittesworth Reservoir (contact stthomashenbury@aol.com for more details)

Wednesday 20 April 7.30 p.m. – M.A.S.T. (Men at St Thomas') in the Bull's Head, Broken Cross

Friday 22 April 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas' Church Hall

Friday 6 May 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St John's

Friday 20 May 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas' Church Hall

Wednesday 25 May - 7.30 p.m. – M.A.S.T. (Men at St Thomas') in the Bull's Head, Broken Cross

St Thomas' Memories

Once again thank you to Jean Lysons for sharing another memory with us.

33 YEARS AS SECRETARY



This one, from April 1982, shows Emily Clayton stepping down as Sunday School secretary.

April, 1982.

Mrs. Emily Clayton retired as St. Thomas' Sunday School secretary after 33 years service, last week.

Mrs. Clayton was presented with an inscribed silver tray, a bouquet and an arrangement of silk flowers which was made by three teachers, Carol Aldridge, Jackie Aldridge and Fiona Cragg.

The vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Maureen Haldane, the new committee organiser of the Sunday School.

Mrs. Clayton is pictured with Carol Aldridge and members of the school.

If you have any photos of past events in Henbury, or Macclesfield, we would love to see them. Please contact stthomashenbury@aol.com or ring 424505.

St Thomas' Choir is Back!!
Message from Judith Dewdney

Happily, it has been decided that the choir can reconvene and sing starting from Easter Sunday! Please can as many members as possible attend choir practice starting at 7p.m. on Wednesday, 6th April. This will give us 2 practices to warm up the vocal cords again, in time to celebrate that special Sunday.

If there is anyone who feels they would like to join us and help lead the congregational singing, do have word with me (Judith) either in church on Sunday, by phone (4397453) or via my email (judith.torview@gmail.com)

Many thanks

Judith

Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21

New International Version

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says—

he who made a way through the sea,
a path through the mighty waters,

¹⁷ who drew out the chariots and horses,
the army and reinforcements together,
and they lay there, never to rise again,
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

¹⁸ “Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

²⁰ The wild animals honor me,
the jackals and the owls,
because I provide water in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland,

to give drink to my people, my chosen,

²¹ the people I formed for myself
that they may proclaim my praise.

Philippians 3:4b-14

New International Version

⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them

garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in^[a] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

John 12:1-8

New International Version

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

12 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint^[a] of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.^[b]" ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you,^[c] but you will not always have me."

Hymn of the Week

This week's hymn of the week is:

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Saviour's blood?

Tune

Sagina

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued ?
Amazing love, how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love, how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mystery all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds enquire no more.
'Tis mystery all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds enquire no more.

He left his father's throne above-
so free, so infinite his grace –
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mystery all immense and free
for, O my God, it found out me!
'Tis mystery all immense and free
for, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon filled with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth and followed thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ,
my own.
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ,
my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQelGbKqiw8>

The Collect

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Baptisms: We warmly welcome George William John Streets who was baptised at St Thomas' by Rev. Canon Simon Bessant on Sunday 20th February 2022.

For our Prayers: Amy Roberts, Pat Wain, Luke Pateman, Dylan Belt, John Louca, Anthony Westnedge, Anne Potts, Margaret Williams, Derek Barber, Lawrie Brown.

RIP: Stanley Edwards, Margaret Frain, Margaret Bowen

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. For which movie did Cher win the award for Best Actress at the 1985 Cannes Film Festival?
2. Which European country was called the Batavian Republic between 1795 and 1806?
3. What is the capital of Hawaii?
4. Born on the 22nd of December 2001, what name was given to the world's first cloned cat?
5. Animals that are classified as arboreal have adapted to life in which environment?
6. Which Premier League footballer holds the record for scoring goals in the most consecutive games?
7. The name of which famous automobile manufacturer means 'blacksmith' when translated?
8. Which 1972 film, a winner of eight Academy Awards, takes place in and around the Kit Kat Klub?
9. Who wrote Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs?
10. Who wrote the hit song 'You've Got A Friend In Me'?
11. What is Keir Starmer's constituency?

Answers to last fortnight's quiz:

1. Blair
2. Wilson
3. 4. Brown
5. Cameron
6. Palmerston
7. Major
8. Gladstone
9. Asquith
10. Balfour

A huge thank you to everyone who has sent in contributions to the newsletter over the last two years. Please continue to do so – all contributions are most welcome – memories of St Thomas' or Macclesfield, musical memories, poems, quizzes etc. Anything that you think might be of interest to our readers. Please email stthomashenbury@aol.com

Other News SilkLife FoodBank

A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to the FoodBank and helped to transport the donations left in church. Your support is greatly appreciated. The FoodBank provides a vital service to the people of Macclesfield throughout the year, so please, if you are able, continue to support them by leaving items in the box at the back of church.

Sponsored Walk in Support of Christian Aid

There will be a sponsored walk in support of Christian Aid at Tittesworth Water (3 miles north of Leek) on Saturday 2nd April at 10 a.m. (registration from 9.15 a.m.) Sponsorship forms are available from John Bamford 01782 516137 or by emailing mwillmot@talktalk.net.

Quiz in Aid of Ukraine

Jackie Hulme has very kindly compiled a quiz to raise money which will help the people of the Ukraine. Copies of the quiz are £2 each and can be obtained direct from Jackie (01625 429075). Many thanks to Jackie for coming up with this fundraising initiative. If anyone else has any fundraising ideas, please let us know either by ringing 01625 424505 or emailing stthomashenbury@aol.com.

St John's Plant Sale

St John's Church is currently holding its annual plant sale. If anyone would like an order form, please contact Carole Curzon 01625 611477 or Lawrence Robinson 01625 427453. The closing date for orders is 9 April.

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, we give you thanks for your great love towards us and the whole world, love revealed in our Lord, Jesus Christ, who by his death destroyed death, and who has for us opened the gate of glory.

We pray that, sharing in the fellowship of the suffering of our Lord, we may come to know the power of his resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

God bless,

Bob (07753583555), Carole (611477) and Linda (424505)

For Church bookings please contact: **Bob 07753583555**.

For Church Hall bookings please contact: **Lesley 07789 744473/lesley-brown@hotmail.co.uk**

Restrictions now Removed

There is no longer a strong recommendation to wear masks or social distance in Church. It is up to individual choice. If you are shielding or feel uncomfortable and wish to socially distance, please mention this to Bob, our churchwarden, or someone else on duty and they will arrange this for you.

If you would like to talk to someone, please don't hesitate to call one of us. The Hope Centre also offers a listening service.

Prayers

We are very willing to pray for anyone who wishes us to pray for them or for the people they are concerned about. It is not necessary to already be associated with the Church for you to request our prayers. We are also here to listen if you have a problem you wish to talk through. Please feel free to contact us via letter, email (stthomashenbury@aol.com) or by ringing 611477 or 424505.

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national telephone line, and reflections as well from the Church of the phone. initiative in partnership at Holy Trinity Claygate,

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been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind; to provide comfort and spiritual nourishment to the most isolated in our society.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

If you know anyone who would like to receive a weekly newsletter, please ask them to email stthomashenbury@aol.com or ring us on 424505

Volunteers Needed!

If you would like to become more involved in Church life, we have a number of areas in which we would welcome more volunteers:

Auditor - We are in desperate need of an auditor. Every year our Church accounts need approval from an independent auditor. Do you know of anyone who has some accounting experience, they don't need to be a fully qualified accountant, who could check our accounts. Please let us know by ringing 01625 424505 or emailing stthomashenbury@aol.com

Refreshments – Maybe you could help with the refreshments after the service each Sunday? The task involves setting out the table and chairs before Church starts and then leaving Church during the last hymn to switch the kettles on and brew the tea. If you think you might be able to help, please ring Carole on **01625 611477** or email stthomashenbury@aol.com. Thank you.

Hymnal Plus – Or maybe you might want to learn how to operate the Hymnal Plus, which provides the music at services when our organist, Judith, is away? It is very

simple to operate and doesn't require any computer skills. If you might be interested in helping with this please contact Tony or Judith on **01625 439753** or tjdewdney@talktalk.net or judith.torview@gmail.com. Thank you.

Churchwarden – At the end of April, we will be looking to elect new churchwardens. Bob has been our sole churchwarden for the last two years and it would be wonderful if someone else would come forward as a second churchwarden to share the responsibility. If you think that you might like to become a churchwarden, please contact Bob for details of what is involved. Thank you. **07753583555** or email stthomashenbury@aol.com

Church Hall Committee - it would be really helpful if we could organise a committee to help with the running of the Church Hall. If you might be interested, please ring 01625 424505 or email stthomashenbury@aol.com

Many thanks.

Fabric Committee – We are also looking to create a Fabric Committee to oversee the fabric of the Church and the Church Hall. This would entail being notified of repairs/maintenance work required, obtaining quotes and letting workmen in and out of the buildings. If you might be interested, please ring 01625 424505 or email stthomashenbury@aol.com

Thank You

We would like to thank all of you who have been contributing financially to the mission and ministry of the parish. It is much appreciated. If you'd like to make a donation, you can either post it to Mr Bob Toms at 48 Grasmere, Macclesfield SK11 8PL or, if you prefer online banking, our details are St Thomas' Parochial Church Council, sort code 20 53 77, account number 40775819. Many thanks for your support.

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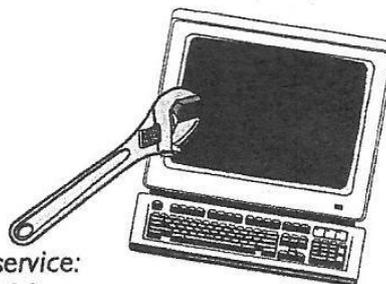


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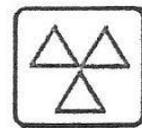
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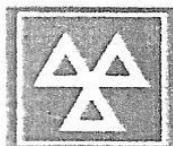
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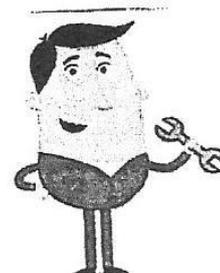
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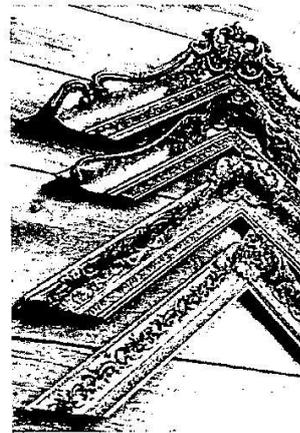
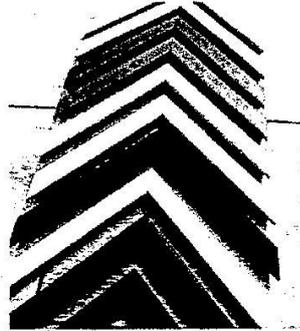
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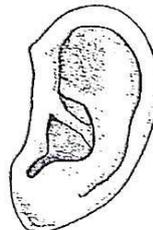
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