Sunday 1 May 2022 - The Third Sunday of Easter



Coming Up at St Thomas'

Worship

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 Sunday 15 May 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 22 May 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 29 May 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant Sunday 5 June 9.30 a.m. Joint service with St John's – Pentecost Holy Communion at St John's - Bishop Mark (Bishop of Chester) Sunday 12 June 11.00 a.m. – Morning Worship – Linda Craig Sunday 19 June 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant 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 online 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 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

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Just a reminder that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in the Church Hall at 7.15 p.m. on Thursday 5 May 2022.

If you would like to become a member of the Parochial Church Council, please email stthomashenbury@aol.com or ring 01625 424505.

We are also in need of a second churchwarden, as Bob is currently carrying out this role singlehandedly. If you would like to know more about what this job entails, please contact Bob for more details via stthomashenbury@aol.com or **07753583555**

St Thomas' Memories

Once again thank you to Jean Lysons for sharing another memory with us. This week's photograph is from the opening of the Church Hall in the early 1970s. 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.

Bracelet to mark 21 years



Mr Lawrence West, senior manager of Henbury School, presents a bracelet to headmistress Mrs Barbara Swindells, at the school on Friday, to mark the 21 years she has held the position.

Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-20

New International Version

Saul's Conversion

- **9** Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.
- "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."
- ⁷The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.
- ¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"
- "Yes, Lord," he answered.
- ¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."
- ¹³ "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."
- ¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."
- ¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰ At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

Revelation 5:11-14

New International Version

¹¹ Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹² In a loud voice they were saying:

- "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!"
- ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:
- "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!"
- ¹⁴ The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshipped.

John 21:1-19

New International Version

Jesus and the Miraculous Catch of Fish

- 21 Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. [a] It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus^[b]), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.
- ⁵ He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"
- "No," they answered.
- ⁶ He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.
- ⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.
- ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Jesus Reinstates Peter

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep, ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

Hymn of the Week

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Praise To His Name [2]

Jesus Is Lord Of All The Earth
He Is The King Of Creation
Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord
Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Praise To His Name

Spread The Good News All The Earth Jesus Has Died And Has Risen Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Praise To His Name

We Have Been Crucified With Christ Now We Shall Live Forever Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Praise To His Name

God Has Proclaimed The Just Reward Life For All Men, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Praise To His Name

Come Let Us Praise The Living God Joyfully Sing To Our Saviour Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Praise To His Name [2] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2U1MuOCHon4

The Collect

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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.

Baptisms: We warmly welcome Harley Rose Ruby Hockney who was baptised at St Thomas' by Bishop William on Sunday 24 April 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: Margaret Bowen

Interment of Ashes: Teresa Barber, Alan Corbishley.

Prayer for the Ukraine

Both Christians and Jews in the Ukraine have been praying Psalm 31 since the Russian invasion of their country. One Ukrainian rabbi recently asked that other countries might join them in praying this psalm, so we are including it in this fortnight's newsletter. These words were written around 3,000 years ago, yet they could easily be speaking about the anguish and suffering of the Ukrainian people today.

¹ In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

²Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue;

be my rock of refuge,

a strong fortress to save me.

- ³ Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.
- ⁴Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.
- ⁵ Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.
- ⁶ I hate those who cling to worthless idols; as for me, I trust in the LORD.

- ⁷I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul.
- ⁸ You have not given me into the hands of the enemy but have set my feet in a spacious place.
- ⁹ Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief.
- ¹⁰ My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning;

my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak.

¹¹ Because of all my enemies,

I am the utter contempt of my neighbours and an object of dread to my closest friends those who see me on the street flee from me.

¹² I am forgotten as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery.

¹³ For I hear many whispering,

"Terror on every side!"

They conspire against me and plot to take my life.

- ¹⁴ But I trust in you, LORD; I say, "You are my God."
- ¹⁵ My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.
- ¹⁶ Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.
- ¹⁷ Let me not be put to shame, LORD, for I have cried out to you;

but let the wicked be put to shame and be silent in the realm of the dead.

¹⁸ Let their lying lips be silenced, for with pride and contempt they speak arrogantly against the righteous.

19 How abundant are the good things that you have stored up for those who fear you, that you bestow in the sight of all, on those who take refuge in you.

²⁰ In the shelter of your presence you hide them from all human intrigues;

you keep them safe in your dwelling from accusing tongues.

²¹ Praise be to the LORD, for he showed me the wonders of his love

when I was in a city under siege.

²² In my alarm I said,

"I am cut off from your sight!"

Yet you heard my cry for mercy when I called to you for help.

²³ Love the LORD, all his faithful people!

The LORD preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays back in full.

²⁴ Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.



Answers to last fortnight's Dingbats Quiz:

1. Dead centre of town 2. High noon 3. We're in the soup 4. I understand 5. Nice to see you 6. Time to go 7. Puss in Boots 8. Abominable 9. In the middle of nowhere 10. Turned up nose 11. Maiden over 12. The last lap 13. Pullover 14. Right guard 15. Tea for two 16. A bunch of flowers 17. One foot in the grave 18. Cornerstone.

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.

Closing Prayer

Lord, you came down to lift us up,
you became human that we may share in the divine,
you died that we may rise to life immortal.
Help us to live as those who believe and trust in you,
and grant that we may live to your praise and glory,
Christ our Lord, who rose for us and now lives and reigns with the Father and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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/<u>lesley-brown@hotmail.co.uk</u>**

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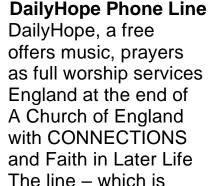
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been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind; to provide comfort and spiritual nourishment to the most isolated in our society.

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 - 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' Henbury Parochial Church Council, sort code 20 53 77, account number 40775819. Many thanks for your support.

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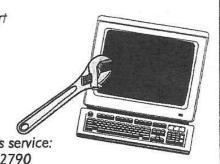
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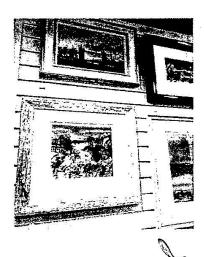
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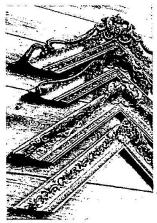
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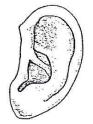
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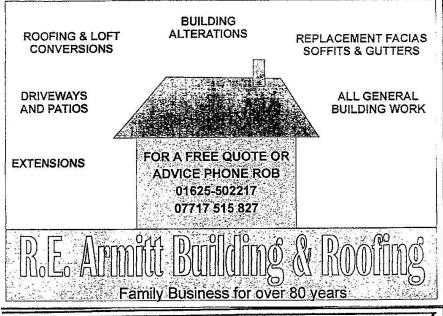
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