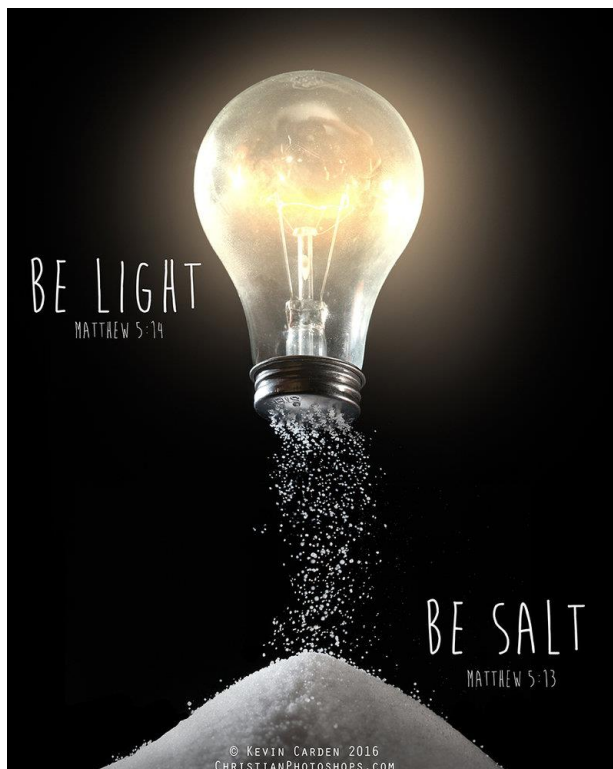


**St Thomas' Church Henbury and Broken Cross  
Sunday 5 February 2023**



**Coming Up at St Thomas'**

**Worship**

**Sunday 5 February - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. - Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 12 February – Morning Worship 11.00 a.m. – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 19 February - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. - Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Wednesday 22 February – Ash Wednesday Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig (at St Thomas')**

**Wednesday 22 February – Ash Wednesday Holy Communion 7.30 p.m. - Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig (at St John's)**

**Sunday 26 February - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. - Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 5 March - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. - Rev. Canon Simon Bessant**

**Sunday 12 March - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 19 March - Morning Worship Mothering Sunday 11.00 a.m. – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 26 March - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. - 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 3 February 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St John's**

**Wednesday 15 February 8 p.m. - M.A.S.T. (Men at St Thomas') in the Bull's Head, Broken Cross**

**Friday 17 February 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas'**

**Tuesday 28 February – Bible Study 10.00 a.m. – St John's Church Hall**

**Friday 3 March 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St John's**

**Tuesday 7 March – Bible Study 10.00 a.m. – St Thomas' Church Hall**

**Sunday 12 March – 12.15 p.m. – Lenten Lunch – St Thomas' Church Hall**

**Tuesday 14 March – Bible Study 10.00 a.m. – St John's Church Hall**

**Wednesday 15 March 8 p.m. - M.A.S.T. (Men at St Thomas') in the Bull's Head, Broken Cross**

**Friday 17 March 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas'**

**Tuesday 21 March – Bible Study 10.00 a.m. – St Thomas' Church Hall**

**Tuesday 28 March – Bible Study 10.00 a.m. – St John's Church Hall**

### **Catch Up with our Online Services**

If you've been unable to attend Church, you can catch up with our online services recorded at St John's. Here are the links to the last two weeks' services. Just click on the links to watch:

Candlemas 29 January

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9do\\_tU-3o0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9do_tU-3o0)

The Thirds Sunday of Epiphany 22 January

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nkwkyKwEd0>

### **Hymnal Plus**

Judith is having a well-earned break on Sundays 5 and 12 March. Is there anyone who would be willing to operate the Hymnal Plus machine on those days. It will already be programmed. Please contact Judith on: 01625 439753

### **Lent Bible Study**

There will be a series of five weekly Bible Study meetings during Lent. These will take place on Tuesday mornings, alternating between St John's Church Hall and St Thomas' Church Hall. You don't have to commit to all five meetings – just join us when you can. The first meeting will be on **Tuesday 28 February** at St John's and will begin at **10.00 a.m.** for coffee and a chat, with the Bible study, which will be based on the Lord's Prayer, starting at 10.30 a.m. and lasting for about an hour. Everyone welcome. For more details contact: Lawrence on **427453** or email

[lawrobinson@btinternet.com](mailto:lawrobinson@btinternet.com) or Linda 424505 or email [stthomashenbury@aol.com](mailto:stthomashenbury@aol.com).

### Lenten Lunch

Mothers' Union will be holding a Lenten Lunch at approx. 12.15 pm on **Sunday, 12th March** in St Thomas' Church Hall. Tickets are £5 each and any funds raised will go towards items for the local Refuge.

### Rota for Readers, Sidespeople and Intercessors

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Intercessors	Sidesperson
Sunday 5 February	Janet Tute Isaiah 58.1-9a	Roy Waller 1 Corinthians 2.1-12	Di Waller	Tony Dewdney
Sunday 12 February	Tbc Anne Brown	none	Hellen Watson	Janet Tute
Sunday 19 February	Exodus 24.12-18 Tony Dewdney	2 Peter 1.16-21 Janet Tute	Judith Dewdney	Christine Glynn
Sunday 26 February	Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 Jacky Toms	Romans 5.12-19 Bob Toms	Linda Craig	Colin Marlow

### Readings

#### Isaiah 58:1-9a

#### True fasting

**58** 'Shout it aloud, do not hold back.

Raise your voice like a trumpet.

Declare to my people their rebellion  
and to the descendants of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> For day after day they seek me out;  
they seem eager to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that does what is right  
and has not forsaken the commands of its God.

They ask me for just decisions  
and seem eager for God to come near them.

<sup>3</sup> "Why have we fasted," they say,  
"and you have not seen it?"

Why have we humbled ourselves,  
and you have not noticed?"

'Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please  
and exploit all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> Your fasting ends in quarrelling and strife,  
and in striking each other with wicked fists.

You cannot fast as you do today  
and expect your voice to be heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is this the kind of fast I have chosen,

#### New International Version - UK

only a day for people to humble themselves?  
Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed  
and for lying in sackcloth and ashes?  
Is that what you call a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?  
6 'Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:  
to loose the chains of injustice  
and untie the cords of the yoke,  
to set the oppressed free  
and break every yoke?  
7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry  
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter –  
when you see the naked, to clothe them,  
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?  
8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing will quickly appear;  
then your righteousness<sup>[a]</sup> will go before you,  
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.  
9 Then you will call, and the LORD will answer;  
you will cry for help, and he will say: here am I.

## **1 Corinthians 2.1-12**

## **New International Version - UK**

2 And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God.<sup>[a]</sup> 2 For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. 4 My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5 so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

### **God's wisdom revealed by the Spirit**

6 We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. 7 No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 However, as it is written: 'What no eye has seen,  
what no ear has heard,  
and what no human mind has conceived'<sup>[b]</sup> –  
the things God has prepared for those who love him –  
10 these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.  
The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.

**Salt and light**

<sup>13</sup> 'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup> 'You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

**The fulfilment of the law**

<sup>17</sup> 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practises and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

**The Collect**

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:

give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found;

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**

**For our Prayers:** Amy Roberts, Pat Wain, John Louca, Anthony Westnedge, Margaret Williams, Dylan Belt, Melissa, Jane Burghall, Glenys Crabtree, Christina Klatsia.

**R.I.P.** Edward Perry, Beryl Beresford, Phyllis Curzon.

**Hymn of the Week**

This week, Judith has chosen the beautiful hymn – 'Spirit of Holiness'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xkilo263GkI>

**Spirit of Holiness****Tune: Blow the wind southerly**

*Spirit of holiness, wisdom and faithfulness,  
wind of the Lord, blowing strongly and free:  
strength of our serving and joy of our worshipping  
Spirit of God, bring your fulness to me!*

You came to interpret and teach us effectively  
all that the Saviour has spoken and done;  
to glorify Jesus is all your activity  
promise and gift of the Father and Son:  
*Spirit of holiness...*

You came with your gifts to supply all our poverty,  
pouring your love on the church in her need;  
you came with your fruit for our growth to maturity,  
richly refreshing the souls that you feed:  
*Spirit of holiness...*

You came to the world in its pride and futility,  
warning of dangers, directing us home;  
now with us and in us, we welcome your company;  
Spirit of Christ, in his name you have come:  
*Spirit of holiness...*

### **February Quiz**

1. What star sign are you if you were born in early February?
2. February gets its name from the word 'februa', which comes from which language?
3. Valentine's Day is celebrated on which date in February?
4. The February Revolution was the first of two revolutions which took place in Russia in which year?
5. What happened in Britain on the 15th of February, 1971?
6. Februalia was the Roman festival of ritual what?
7. On 16th February, 1659, what was used for the first time in Britain as Mr Nicholas Vanacker settles a debt?
8. In leap years, February starts on the same day of the week as which other month?
9. Which violet variety of quartz, often used in jewellery, is the traditional birthstone for February?
10. In the DC Comics, on which date in February is Superman's birthday?

### **Answers to last fortnight's quiz:**

1. Aldi
2. Nando's
3. Premier Inn
4. Airfix
5. Ralph Lauren
6. Lacoste
7. Ferrari
8. Walls (ice cream)
9. Toyota
10. B&M
11. Specsavers
12. Monster Energy
13. Greggs
14. Levi's
15. DHL
16. Google Chrome
17. Toblerone
18. Waterford Crystal
19. Ikea
20. The North Face.

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](mailto:stthomashenbury@aol.com)

## Other News

### Flooding Between Henbury Rise and the Moss Cottages



Henbury Parish Council, supported by Cheshire East Ward Councillor Lesley Smetham, have for some considerable time been pursuing this issue with Cheshire East Council Flood Risk management and the relevant landowners.

It has been determined that damaged or blocked land drains running in an easterly direction from the site are the cause of the land between Henbury Rise and the Moss Cottages flooding in wet conditions. (See the right hand

bottom corner of this recent aerial photo! ).

At a recent meeting between the Cheshire East Flood Risk Officer and some of the landowners a new land drain was proposed which would allow the flow of water away from the flood site, eventually being discharged into the stream that flows under Chelford Road and down through Cock Wood.

This indicates some progress on the matter but it is likely to take some time to reach agreement between all interested parties before any work can proceed.

The Parish Council will continue to vigorously pursue this issue and keep residents informed of progress.

### Broken Cross Dementia Club

Broken Cross Methodist Church has started a club on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month (1.30 to 3.30 p.m.) for people with dementia and their carers. It includes singing, music, craft work, games, and armchair exercises, as well as refreshments.

Further info: John Morrell 07915 252535 or Jean Sillifant 01625 402446



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

### The Hope Centre – 16-18 Park Green

Sells cards, gifts and Christian resources. New opening times are Tues – Fri 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. There is also a café which sells drinks and snacks.

### SilkLife FoodBank

Your support for the SilkLife Foodbank is greatly appreciated. It provides a vital service to the people of Macclesfield throughout the year, so please, if you are able, please support them by leaving items in the box at the back of church.

## Closing Prayer

Lord God, thank you for your abundant love and care for us.

Thank you for forgiving our sins, even the sins we do not realise that we commit.

Lord, please fill us with your wisdom and your compassion for others.

May you bless us with your never-ending love. 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](mailto:lesley-brown@hotmail.co.uk)**

## COVID Restrictions

It's no longer necessary to wear masks or social distance in Church. It is up to individual choice. However, 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.

## 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](mailto:stthomashenbury@aol.com)) or by ringing 611477 or 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:

**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](mailto: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 [tjedwdney@talktalk.net](mailto:tjedwdney@talktalk.net) or [judith.torview@gmail.com](mailto:judith.torview@gmail.com). Thank you.

**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](mailto: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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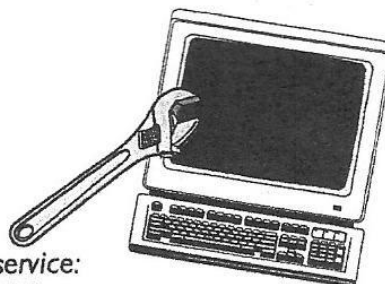
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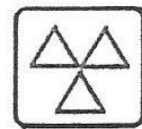
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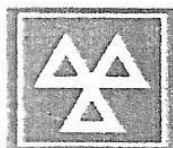
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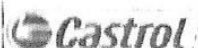
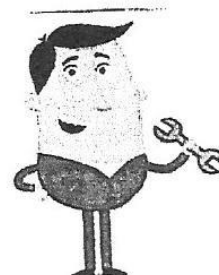
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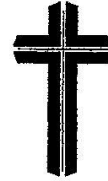


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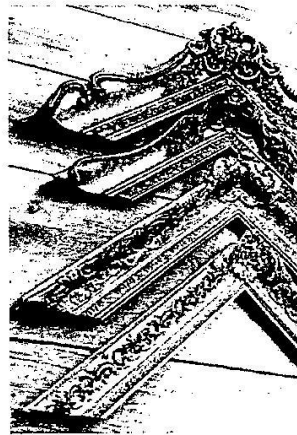
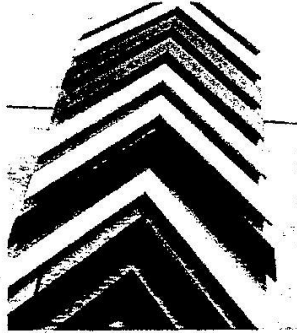
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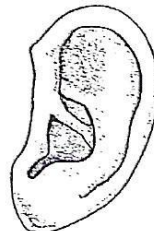
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