

**St Thomas' Church Henbury and Broken Cross  
Sunday 12 March 2023 – Third Sunday of Lent**



**Coming Up at St Thomas'**

**Worship**

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

**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. – Bishop William and Linda  
Craig**

**Sunday 2 April – Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant  
and Linda Craig**

**Thursday 6 April – Joint Maundy Thursday Service **at St John's** 7.30 p.m. -  
Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Friday 7 April – Joint Good Friday Service at St Thomas' 10.00 a.m. - Rev.  
Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Saturday 8 April – Joint Easter Saturday Service **at St John's** 8.00 p.m. - Rev.  
Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 9 April - Easter Day Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. - Rev. Canon Simon  
Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 16 April - Morning Worship 11.00 a.m. – Hellen Watson**

**Sunday 23 April - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant**

**Sunday 30 April - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Bishop William and Linda  
Craig**

**Sunday 7 May - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant**

**Sunday 14 May – Morning Worship – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 21 May - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Bishop William and Linda  
Craig**

**Sunday 28 May - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Bishop William**

**Sunday 5 June – 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**

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

**Tuesday 14 March – Joint Bible Study Week 3 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 Blacksmiths' Arms at Henbury**

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

**Saturday 18 March 3.30 p.m. – Messy Church – **at St John's****

**Tuesday 21 March – Joint Bible Study Week 4 10.00 a.m. – St Thomas' Church Hall**

**Tuesday 28 March – Joint Bible Study Week 5 10.00 a.m. – **St John's Church Hall****

**Tuesday 4 April – Joint Bible Study Week 6 10.00 a.m. – St Thomas' Church Hall**

**Friday 7 April 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. **at St John's****

**Wednesday 19 May 8 p.m. - M.A.S.T. (Men at St Thomas') in the Blacksmiths' Arms at Henbury**

**Friday 21 April 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas'**

**Friday 5 May 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. **at St John's****

**Friday 19 May 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas'**

**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 three weeks' services. Just click on the links to watch:

Sunday Next Before Lent 19 February – Holy Communion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzI1ik0vEhY>

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent 26 February – Holy Communion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HuA9xBiTLDw>

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent 5 March – Holy Communion

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfR\\_ToMsSVk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfR_ToMsSVk)

### Retiring Collection – Earthquake Disaster

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to our Retiring Collection for the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. We will let you know the final total in our next newsletter. If you still wish to donate please use the link below.

[https://shelterbox.org/turkey-earthquake-emergency-ad/?gclid=CjwKCAiA\\_6yfBhBNEiwAkmXy5\\_7YaLI30IQYQCDaGeK6S8JpGJZOgCb0bW7cs6-iDDGhfiv8jijyohoCiSsQAvD\\_BwE](https://shelterbox.org/turkey-earthquake-emergency-ad/?gclid=CjwKCAiA_6yfBhBNEiwAkmXy5_7YaLI30IQYQCDaGeK6S8JpGJZOgCb0bW7cs6-iDDGhfiv8jijyohoCiSsQAvD_BwE)

### Lent Bible Study



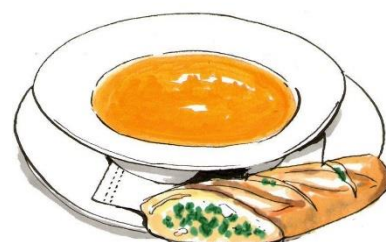
We are continuing our Lent Bible Study meetings. These will be taking place on the following Tuesday mornings at 10.00 a.m.:

14 March (St John's), 21 March (St Thomas'), 28 March (St John's) and 4 April (St Thomas'). We meet around **10.00 a.m.** for coffee/tea 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. We had a group of 14 last week and 21 this

morning. There is no need to attend all six sessions – just drop in and out as and when you are able. There is a course booklet if you wish to purchase one. 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. Contact Di (827763) or Lynne (610701) for tickets and further information.



### Rota for Readers, Intercessors and Sides People

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Intercessors	Sidesperson
Sunday 12 March	Exodus 17.1-7 Bob Toms	Romans 5.1-11 Jacky Toms	Simon Bessant	Harry Newton
Sunday 19 March Mothering Sunday	Exodus 2.1-10 Judith Dewdney	John 19.23-27 Hellen Watson	Hellen Watson	Tony Dewdney

Sunday 26 March	Ezekiel 37.1-14 Jackie Booth	Romans 8.6-11 Anne Brown	Tony Dewdney	Christine Glynn
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## Readings

### Exodus 17:1-7 New International Version

#### Water From the Rock

**17** The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> So they quarrelled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.”

Moses replied, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?”

<sup>3</sup> But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?”

<sup>4</sup> Then Moses cried out to the LORD, “What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.”

<sup>5</sup> The LORD answered Moses, “Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup> I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.” So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And he called the place Massah<sup>[a]</sup> and Meribah<sup>[b]</sup> because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the LORD saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

### Romans 5.1-11 NIV

#### Peace and Hope

**5** Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we<sup>[a]</sup> have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we<sup>[b]</sup> boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we<sup>[c]</sup> also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! <sup>10</sup> For if, while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**John 4:5-42****New International Version**

<sup>5</sup> So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.<sup>[a]</sup>)

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

<sup>11</sup> "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

<sup>13</sup> Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup> He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

<sup>17</sup> "I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. <sup>18</sup> The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

<sup>19</sup> "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

<sup>21</sup> "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

<sup>25</sup> The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

<sup>26</sup> Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

**The Disciples Rejoin Jesus**

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

<sup>28</sup> Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" <sup>30</sup> They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something."

<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."

<sup>33</sup> Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?"

<sup>34</sup> “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. <sup>35</sup> Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. <sup>36</sup> Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. <sup>37</sup> Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.”

### **Many Samaritans Believe**

<sup>39</sup> Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. <sup>41</sup> And because of his words many more became believers.

<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.”

### **The Collect**

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified:

mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace;

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.** Vera Blume

### **Hymn of the Week - How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds**

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer’s ear!  
It soothes his sorrow, heals his wounds,  
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
And calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the Rock on which we build;  
Our shield and hiding-place;  
Our never-failing treasury, filled  
With boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, our Saviour, Shepherd, Friend,  
Our Prophet, Priest, and King;  
Our Lord, our Life, our Way, our End,  
Accept the praise we bring.

Weak is the effort of our heart,  
And cold our warmest thought;  
But when we see Thee as Thou art,  
We'll praise Thee as we ought.

Till then we would Thy love proclaim  
With every fleeting breath;  
And triumph in that blessed Name  
Which quells the pow'r of death.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JXyHMMMy4YyY>

### Quiz

This week the answers are all anagrams of tourist attractions in the UK.

1. Talotsoewnr (5, 6)
2. Achhwrtstot (10)
3. Wdotnlrfeonoo (5, 2, 6)
4. Pgrweiain (5, 4)
5. Rocothesez (7, 3)
6. Ethsognnee (10)
7. Mrykertosin (4, 7)
8. Rcwesniatdlos (7, 6)
9. Dpjeotercne (4, 7)
10. Mnrtaeeod (10)

### Answers to last fortnight's quiz:

1. Fat Tuesday
2. Canada
3. Two
4. 15 metres
5. 349
6. 47
7. 52 million
8. True
9. To use up eggs and fat before Lent begins
10. Ash Wednesday

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

### A message from the Millennium Green Trustees – Thank You!



Every year the willow saplings that form the dome of the lovely play house on the Green grow furiously upwards and have to be woven downwards into the dome in late winter so when they they burst into leaf in the spring they make a lovely natural green canopy. So when the Millennium Green Trustees went on the Green to do some maintenance we fully expected to have to do that job. Imagine how surprised, amazed and delighted we were to find , as this photo shows,

someone had had **already done the job for us** in a very skilled and sympathetic way!!

We really, really don't know who has given their time to get the willow house ready for the spring but we are **hugely grateful to you** for expressing your respect and love of the Green in this way.

We would love to meet you to thank you in person and perhaps find out if you would like to help us in some way with maintaining and improving this unique green asset of Henbury in the future.

**So do please get in touch.** You can reach us via [editor@henbury.org](mailto:editor@henbury.org) or directly to any of the Trustees. [at this link](#). Your Henbury Millennium Green Trustees

### Henbury Potholes

Parish Council chairman David Nuttall has been working with the Cheshire East Highways Team to request that some action is taken to improve the road surface on Church Lane between Dark Lane and Pepper Street. This has deteriorated badly in recent months, possibly due to additional traffic as well as the weather.

Following an inspection, the area has now been scheduled for repairs, but due to financial constraints, this will fall into the budget for next year.

Remember – anyone can report potholes or other road issues directly to Cheshire East using [this link](#).

Cheshire East say "...we will assess the defect and take appropriate action. We post our response to every report online"



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



### **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

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

Sells cards, gifts and Christian resources. Easter cards are now available. 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, thank you for forgetting all those times when I have hurt you  
or made you feel sad.

Let me never forget your gift of love and happiness.

**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.

**Like our Facebook page**

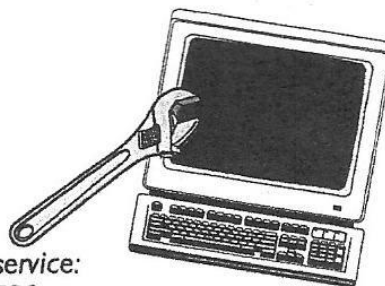


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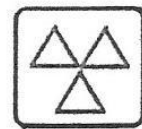
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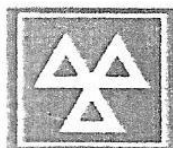
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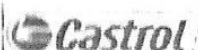
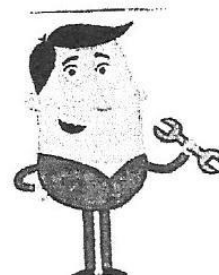
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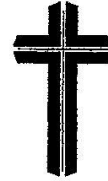


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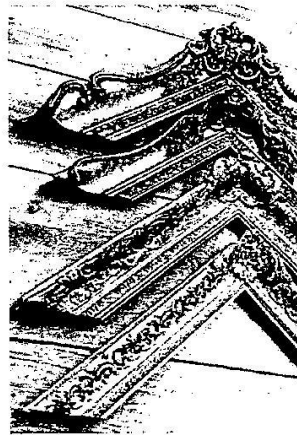
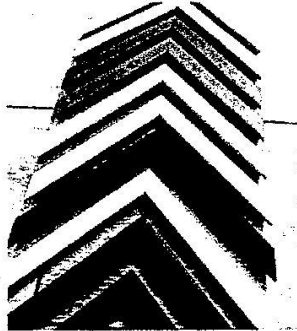
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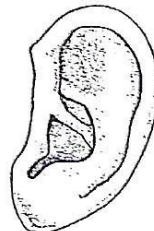
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