

**St Thomas' Church Henbury and Broken Cross  
Sunday 26 March 2023 – Fifth Sunday of Lent**



**Coming Up at St Thomas'**

**Worship**

**Sunday 26 March – Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Bishop William and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 2 April – Palm Sunday 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' 11.00 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**

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

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

Most of the 11.00 a.m. services listed above also take 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](mailto:lawrobinson@btinternet.com) or [stthomashenbury@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:tjdewdney@talktalk.net)**

### **Other Events**

**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 April 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**

**Wednesday 17 May- M.A.S.T. (Men at St Thomas') in the Blacksmiths' Arms at Henbury**

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent 12 March – Holy Communion  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S14n3AHykj4>

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent 19 March – Mothering Sunday  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OektT4tOSRY>

### **Donations for Refreshments**

A big thank you to all your donations for refreshments after the Church service. Last year, these totalled an amazing £500, which we have now donated to the East Cheshire Hospice.

Many, many thanks to all those people who volunteer each week to provide refreshments. New volunteers are always welcome. If you are interested into helping out, please contact Carole on 611477.

## Retiring Collection – Earthquake Disaster

Thank you for your support with this appeal. We raised a total of £205, which has been sent to the charity, ShelterBox. Many thanks to Janet Tute for organising this appeal. If you still wish to make a donation, 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 Study Group

Our Lent Study Group meetings continue to be popular. There are just two sessions left. These will take place on the following Tuesday mornings at 10.00 a.m.:

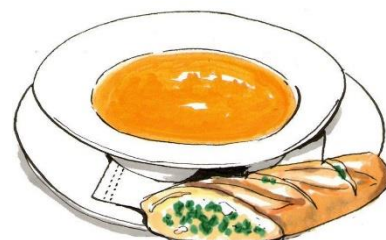
28 March (St John's) and 4 April (St Thomas'). The meetings are very informal and you don't need to have attended any of the previous sessions. We meet around **10.00 a.m.** for coffee/tea and a chat, with the Bible study, which is based on the Lord's Prayer, starting at 10.30 a.m. and lasting for about an hour. Everyone is 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

Henbury MU would like to thank everyone who supported our Lenten Lunch held on the 12 March by either attending, donating or helping set up and clear up afterwards.

It was good to be supported by so many Church members and if anyone would like to give MU a try, you are more than welcome to come to any of our meetings., held on the second Thursday of each month in the Church Hall at 7.30 p.m.

The Lenten Lunch raised £205. which will go in our Refuge Fund and enable us to purchase 30 Easter Eggs this Easter, many Christmas presents later in the year and perhaps some sleepwear, underwear, towels or bedding for the residents. Thank you all once again.



## Easter Lilies

If anyone would like to make a donation towards this year's Easter Lilies, please contact Lynne Hibbert (610701), Bob or Linda.

## Rota for Readers, Intercessors and Sides People

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Intercessors	Sidesperson
Sunday 26 March	Ezekiel 37.1-14 Jackie Booth	Romans 8.6-11 Anne Brown	Tony Dewdney	Christine Glynn
Sunday 2 April Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50.4-9a tbd	Philippians 2.5- 11 Tbd	tbd	tbd

Sunday 9 April Easter Day	Acts 10.34-43 <i>or</i> Jeremiah 31.1- 6 tbd	Colossians 3.1- 4 <i>or</i> Acts 10.34-43 tbd	tbd	tbd
Sunday 16 April	Acts 2.14a,22-32 tbd	1 Peter 1.3-9 tbd	tbd	tbd
Sunday 23 April	Acts 2.14a,36-41 tbd	1 Peter 1.17-23 tbd	tbd	tbd
Sunday 30 April	Acts 2.42-47 Tbd	1 Peter 2.19-25 tbd	tbd	tbd

### Readings

#### **Ezekiel 37:1-14 New International Version - UK**

##### **The valley of dry bones**

**37** The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me to and fro among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He asked me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’

I said, ‘Sovereign LORD, you alone know.’

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to these bones and say to them, “Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! <sup>5</sup> This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath<sup>[a]</sup> enter you, and you will come to life. <sup>6</sup> I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.”’

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.”’ <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet – a vast army.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me: ‘Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.”’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophecy and say to them: “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. <sup>14</sup> I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.”’

## **Romans 8:6-11**

## **New International Version - UK**

<sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life<sup>[a]</sup> because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of<sup>[b]</sup> his Spirit who lives in you.

## **John 11:1-45**

## **New International Version - UK**

### **The death of Lazarus**

**11** Now a man named Lazarus was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay ill, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent word to Jesus, 'Lord, the one you love is ill.'

<sup>4</sup> When he heard this, Jesus said, 'This illness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.' <sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was two more days, <sup>7</sup> and then he said to his disciples, 'Let us go back to Judea.'

<sup>8</sup> 'But Rabbi,' they said, 'a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?'

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the day-time will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. <sup>10</sup> It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.'

<sup>11</sup> After he had said this, he went on to tell them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.'

<sup>12</sup> His disciples replied, 'Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.' <sup>13</sup> Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

<sup>14</sup> So then he told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead, <sup>15</sup> and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.'

<sup>16</sup> Then Thomas (also known as Didymus<sup>[a]</sup>) said to the rest of the disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

### **Jesus comforts the sisters of Lazarus**

<sup>17</sup> On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was less than two miles<sup>[b]</sup> from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup> and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

<sup>21</sup> ‘Lord,’ Martha said to Jesus, ‘if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.’

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’

<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, ‘I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.’

<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup> and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?’

<sup>27</sup> ‘Yes, Lord,’ she replied, ‘I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.’

<sup>28</sup> After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. ‘The Teacher is here,’ she said, ‘and is asking for you.’ <sup>29</sup> When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

<sup>32</sup> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup> ‘Where have you laid him?’ he asked.

‘Come and see, Lord,’ they replied.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.

<sup>36</sup> Then the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’

<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

### **Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead**

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup> ‘Take away the stone,’ he said.

‘But, Lord,’ said Martha, the sister of the dead man, ‘by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.’

<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?’

<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, ‘Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.’

<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face.

Jesus said to them, ‘Take off the grave clothes and let him go.’

### **The plot to kill Jesus**

<sup>45</sup> Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

## 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**

**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, Shirley Martin, Jet Longridge

## Hymn of the Week

### The Spirit Lives to Set Us Free

The Spirit lives to set us free, walk, walk in the light;  
He binds us all in unity, walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light, Walk in the light,  
Walk in the light, Walk in the light of the Lord.*

Jesus promised life to all, walk, walk in the light;  
the dead were wakened by His call, walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light...*

He died in pain on Calvary, walk, walk in the light;  
to save the lost like you and me, walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light...*

We know His death was not the end, walk, walk in the light;  
He gave His Spirit to be our friend, walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light...*

By Jesus' love our wounds are healed, walk, walk in the light;  
the Father's kindness is revealed, walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light...*

The Spirit lives in you and me, walk, walk in the light;  
His light will shine for all to see, walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light...*

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDcbYk-9C-Y>

## March Quiz

1. March is named after Mars; what is Mars the Roman god of?
2. What's the zodiac signs for early March until March 20? And what about the sign for the latter part of March?
3. On the first Thursday in March every child in full-time education in the UK is given a voucher to spend on what?
4. The Ides of March is a day on the Roman calendar that corresponds to which date?
5. Complete the saying: 'March comes in like a lion and goes out like a ....'?
6. On the 5th of March 1946, what did Churchill warn was falling across Europe?
7. 'Dear March - Come in', was a poem by which reclusive 19th Century American poet?
8. On what date in March is Saint Patrick's Day?
9. In British tradition, which quarter day falls on March 25th?
10. St Piran's Day, held on 5 March every year, is the national day of where?

### Answers to last fortnight's quiz:

1. Alton Towers
2. Chatsworth
3. Tower of London
4. Wigan Pier
5. Chester Zoo
6. Stonehenge
7. York Minster
8. Windsor Castle
9. Eden project
10. Tate Modern

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

### Burglary in Henbury

Cheshire Constabulary are investigating a break-in at one property and evidence of intrusion into the gardens of two other properties in the Worthington Close / Hightree Drive area in the early hours of Sunday 12th March 2023.

If you have any information about suspicious activity in the local area on Saturday night / Sunday morning please call Cheshire Police on 101.

Please be vigilant and check the security of your property.

### 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**

O God, you are the unsearchable abyss of peace,  
the ineffable sea of love,  
and the fountain of blessings.  
Water us with plenteous streams  
from the riches of your grace;  
and from the most sweet springs of kindness,  
make us children of quietness and heirs of peace  
**Amen.**

Ashwin, A. *The Book of a Thousand Prayers*

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)**

## **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.

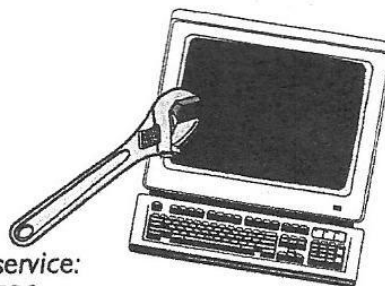
**Hymnal Plus** – Or maybe you might want to learn how to operate the Hymnal Plus, which provides the music at services when our organist, Judith, is away? It is very simple to operate and doesn't require any computer skills. If you might be interested in helping with this please contact Tony or Judith on **01625 439753** or [tjdewdney@talktalk.net](mailto:tjdewdney@talktalk.net) or [judith.torview@gmail.com](mailto:judith.torview@gmail.com). Thank you.

## **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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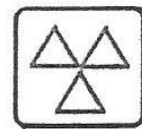
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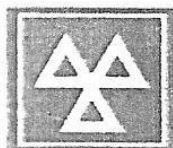
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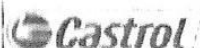
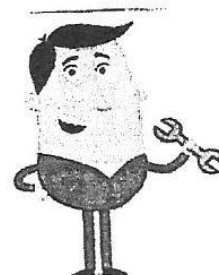
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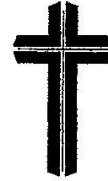


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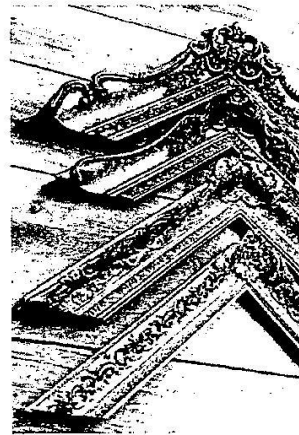
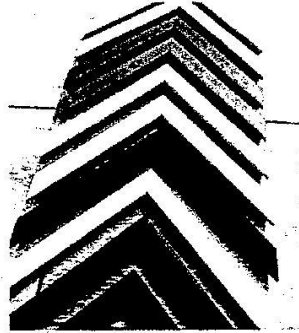
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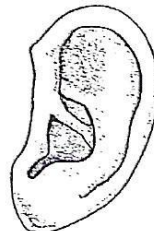
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