

St Thomas' Church Henbury and Broken Cross

Sunday 19 November 2023

Second Before Advent

Our Mission Statement: To provide a focal point within Henbury and Broken Cross for the community to engage in and develop Christian worship and fellowship



This beautiful cross of red carnations was created in memory of loved ones by the people who attended our recent service of Reflection and Remembering.

Coming Up

Worship

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

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

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

Sunday 3 December – Christingle Service 4.00 p.m. **at St John's**

Sunday 10 December – Family Service – Christingle 11.00 a.m. – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig

Sunday 17 December - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 17 December - Nine Lessons and Carols 6.30 p.m. followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Church Hall

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

Sunday 24 December – Crib Building Service 4 p.m. – Roy Waller and Linda Craig

Sunday 24 December 11 p.m. – Christmas Eve Holy Communion joint with St John's at St Thomas' – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Monday 25 December 10.00 a.m. – Christmas Holy Communion joint service – at St John's – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant

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 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 17 November 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – CAMEO at St Thomas'

Wednesday 22 November – Sunbeams Mums and Tots Group at St John's 10 a.m. – 11.30 one hour play, 15 mins snack time, 15 minutes circle time £2

Wednesday 29 November – Sunbeams Mums and Tots Group at St John's

Friday 1 December 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – CAMEO Christmas Party (Joint) at St John's

Saturday 2 December- 8.30 a.m. – Prayer Breakfast at St John's

Saturday 2 December 3.30 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Messy Church at St John's

Wednesday 6 December – Sunbeams Mums and Tots Group at St John's 10 a.m. – 11.30 One hour play, 15 mins snack time, 15 minutes circle time £2

Saturday 9 December 10.00 a.m. – Rum and Coffee Morning – St Thomas' 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 link below

Sunday 5 November – All Saints Holy Communion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-J-du6mym2k>

Sunday 12 November – Remembrance Sunday

On-line Archive of Newsletters

View back copies of our newsletters online by clicking here:

<https://www.stthomashenbury.org.uk/newsletter/>

Rota for Readers, Intercessors and Sides People

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Intercessor	Sidesperson
Nov 19 2 nd before Advent	Jacky Toms Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end	Bob Toms 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11	Linda Craig	Tony Dewdney
Nov 26 th Christ the King	Di Waller Ezekiel 34.11-16	Jackie Booth Ephesians 1.15-end	Di Waller	Christine Glynn

Readings

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

New International Version

⁷ Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near.

The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited.

¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The LORD will do nothing, either good or bad.'

¹³ Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished.

Though they build houses, they will not live in them; though they plant vineyards, they will not drink the wine."

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near— near and coming quickly.

The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry.

¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath— a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness— ¹⁶ a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers.

¹⁷ "I will bring such distress on all people that they will grope about like those who are blind, because they have sinned against the LORD.

Their blood will be poured out like dust and their entrails like dung.

¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath."

In the fire of his jealousy the whole earth will be consumed, for he will make a sudden end of all who live on the earth.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

New International Version

5 Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a

helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Matthew 25:14-30

New International Version - UK

¹⁴ 'Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,^[a] each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ 'After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. "Master," he said, "you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more."

²¹ 'His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

²² 'The man with two bags of gold also came. "Master," he said, "you entrusted me with two bags of gold: see, I have gained two more."

²³ 'His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

²⁴ 'Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. "Master," he said, "I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you."

²⁶ 'His master replied, "You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸ "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn of the Week

This week, we have selected the following as our hymn of the week:

Here I Am Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,
 all who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save
 I have made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright
 Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 Here I am, Lord Is it I, Lord?
 I have heard You calling in the night
 I will go, Lord If You lead me
 I will hold Your people in my heart

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame
 I will set a feast for them, my hand will save
 Finest bread I will provide, 'Til their hearts be satisfied
 I will give my life to them, Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night
 I will go, Lord If You lead me
 I will hold Your people in my heart
 I will hold Your people in my heart

Dan Schutte

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcXOkht8w7c>

Reverse Advent Calendar

SILKLIFE foodbank MACCLESFIELD

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Christmas is a great time to give. From the 1st November to 25th November 2023 Please 'Help us to Help Others' by creating a Christmas hamper for the Silklife Foodbank.

1st Nov Tea or Coffee	2nd Nov Tinned Sweetcorn	3rd Nov Rice Pudding	4th Nov Toilet Roll	5th Nov Instant Mash	6th Nov UHT Milk	7th Nov Festive Biscuits
8th Nov Festive Sweets	9th Nov Christmas Cake (Alcohol Free)	10th Nov Carton Custard	11th Nov Christmas Pudding (Alcohol Free)	12th Nov Cream Crackers	13th Nov Hot Chocolate	
14th Nov Wet Wipes	15th Nov Tinned Salmon	16th Nov Shampoo	17th Nov Tooth Brush	18th Nov Mince Pies	19th Nov Chocolate Coins	20th Nov Pringles
21st Nov Selection Box	22nd Nov Choc Fingers	23rd Nov Wrapping Paper	24th Nov Male or Female Toiletory Gift Set	25th Nov Drop Off Day		

Drop Off Point
 Tytherington Family Worship Car Park, Sandwich Drive, Tytherington SK10 2UD
 on Saturday 25th November 2023 (10:00am - 12:30pm)
 You can also deliver directly to the Silklife Foodbank, George Street, Macclesfield SK11 6HS
 Open to the Public on Tuesdays and Fridays 9:30am - 11:30am

Follow us on Bank the Food App and Facebook/Silklife Foodbank
 Registered Charity No: 1110560

** Please donate only what you can afford. All donations are equally appreciated **

Scan the QR Code to Donate Instantly

The Reverse Advent Calendar is back again. If you want to participate there are hard copies available in Church. The calendar begins on 1 November and ends on 25 November.

Donations can be dropped off at the Food Bank or at Tytherington Family Worship Car Park on Saturday 25 November between 10.00 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. or they can

be dropped off at St Thomas' in the box at the back of the Church. Please donate only what you can afford. All donations will be equally appreciated.

Rum and Coffee Morning

If anyone has any unwanted gifts and would like to donate them as tombola prizes for the rum and coffee morning on Saturday 9th December, they would be much appreciated. We also require someone to help Carole Curzon on the tombola stall. If you can help in any way, please contact Di Waller 01625 827763 or Lynne Hibbert 01625 610701. Many thanks.

Thank You

Many thanks for your donations for refreshments after church during October. We have raised £85.60 for the local charity, Ukrainian Aid.

Many thanks to Keith Littler for his donation towards the flowers for the service of Reflection and Remembering in memory of his late wife, Dorothy.

Home Communion

Are you, or anyone you know, unable to come to church. If so, and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact us and we will arrange to visit you. Contact: **Linda** on **01625 424505** or **Carole** **01625 611477** or email [**stthomashenbury@aol.com**](mailto:stthomashenbury@aol.com)

For our Prayers

Baptisms: We warmly welcome Jessica Irene Blundell into God's family. Jessica was baptised at St Thomas' Church by Bishop William on Saturday 4 November.

Weddings: Emma Gisby and Keiran Warburton who will be married at St Thomas' on 23 November 2023. We wish them every blessing in their future life together.

The Sick: Pat Wain, John Louca, Anthony Westnedge, Margaret Williams, Dylan Belt, Melissa, Jane Burghall, Glenys Crabtree, Christina Klatsia, Avril Arrowsmith, John Smyth. Michael Louca, David Harrison, Ida Walsh, Judith Dewdney.

November Quiz

Can you solve these anagrams of flower names – many thanks to Jackie Hulme for providing this week's quiz.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Aadgnnoprs | 6. Enopy |
| 2. Ceehklnsuy | 7. Eors |
| 3. Aceimlst | 8. Aadhil |
| 4. Adisy | 9. Elnorsuw |
| 5. Bceprtuu | 10. adgilmor |

Answers to last fortnight's quiz:

1. All Hallows 2. Tutankhamun 3. Armistice Day 4. Suez 5. Margaret Thatcher 6. Andrew 7. The Mayflower 8. Henry VI 9. Robert Louis Stevenson 10. Coventry.

A huge thank you to everyone who has sent in contributions to the newsletter over the last three 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 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

Picnic Area Needs Help Please!! – A plea from the Millennium Green Trustees



As you can see, the logs which encircle the Picnic Bench on the Green are rotting away, which is not surprising as they have been in place for more than 10 years!

So we're planning to replace them with a **home – made** low hedge of branches coppiced from hazel trees on the Green which will be woven around posts driven into the ground at half metre intervals around where the logs are now.

Removing the logs will be work for the able – bodied but weaving the coppiced hazel will be an ideal job for the children, giving them the opportunity to help create something natural that can see and be proud of each time they visit the Green.

But to get the job done as quickly as possible **we do need a bit of help please. So Mums, Dads and Children too , if you can spare a bit of time on Saturday 18th November from 09.30 a.m. at the Green you'll be very welcome.**

Just come at any time you can in the morning in old togs and wellies because it will be a bit muddy. We'll have some suitable tools for you to use but do bring a pair of gardening gloves please.

If you have any questions please contact any of these M G Trustees;

Susan Pegg: susan.hmgt@outlook.com

Roger Cousin; roger.cousin@icloud.com 07981 299 875

Chris Dafforn : chris.dafforn@btinternet.com 07713 010 977

Simon Browne : simonbrowne108@gmail.com 07990 542 516

Thanks in advance and please ask the weather man to be kind to us all.

A Dickensian Twelve Days of Christmas

With Macclesfield Methodist Community Choir and Wind Band on Saturday 2 December at 7 p.m. at Macclesfield Methodist Church. Tickets £10 adults, £5 children contact: 01625 433187 or 01625 615298 children contact: 01625 433187 or 01625 615298

The Hope Centre – 16-18 Park Green - Sells cards, gifts and Christian resources. 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.

A Prayer for the Middle East

God, we weep for the lives lost in this conflict.

We pray for all those who mourn their loved ones.

We bring to you our deep sorrows and our fears for the future.

God, we cry out for peace and for justice.

We pray for an end to this war, for an immediate ceasefire.

We pray that those in power would act to stop this violence now.

We ask this in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. Amen

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, we pray that we may be found ready at your coming; may we heed your call and do your will. Guide your church that it may show forth your light and love; through Christ our Lord. 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**

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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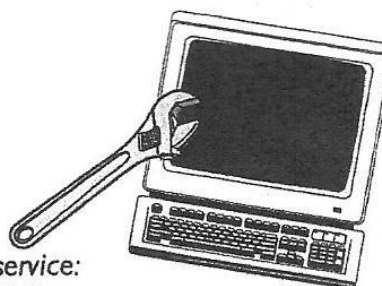


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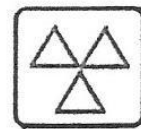
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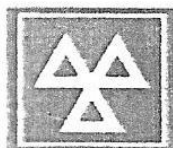
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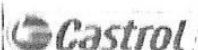
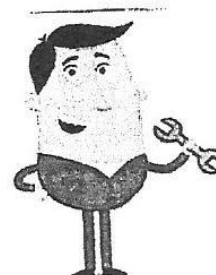
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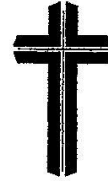


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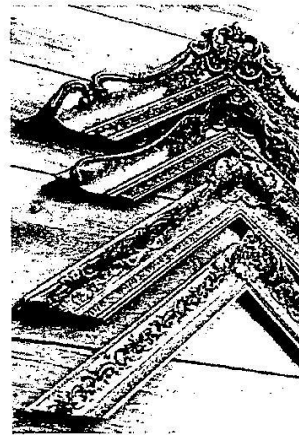
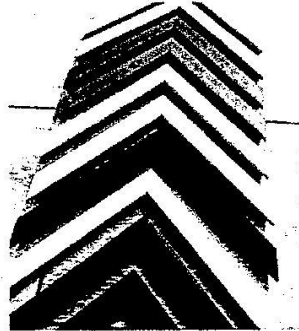
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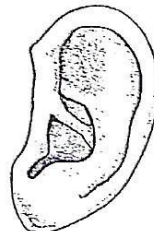
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