

Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered to serve refreshments after our Sunday services throughout the year. This has been greatly appreciated. New volunteers are welcomed, so if you are interested in becoming a member of the team, please contact **Carole on 01625 611477**.

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**

For our Prayers

Baptisms:

We warmly welcome Sam and Neelie Walker into God's family. Sam and Neelie were baptised at St Thomas' Church by the Rev. Canon Simon Bessant on Sunday 26 November.

Weddings: Emma Gisby and Keiran Warburton were married at St Thomas' on Thursday 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, Keith Littler

R.I.P: Robin West

Christmas Quiz

Can you answer these questions about Christmas?

1. Which country first started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
2. Which popular Christmas beverage is also called 'milk punch'?
3. How many ghosts show up in *A Christmas Carol*?
4. What do people traditionally put on top of their Christmas tree?
5. Where was baby Jesus born?
6. What Hollywood actor played six different roles in *The Polar Express*?
7. What colour are mistletoe berries?
8. Which fairytale was the first gingerbread house inspired by?
9. Who invented the Christmas wreath?
10. Where did the tradition of Christmas stockings come from?

Answers to last fortnight's quiz:

1. Franklin D. Roosevelt
2. Sagittarius and Capricorn
3. George Michael
4. Denmark
5. 10th
6. Black Friday, Mad Friday, Frantic Friday or Black Eye Friday
7. June
8. Esperanto Day
9. May to December
10. Four Seasons.

A great big 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

A Festive Meal Not Far from Home



The Cock Inn has been in touch to let us know they have very much re-opened and they are receiving great reviews about their food and friendly staff. They sent us these photos of the pub and their Christmas menu and they tell us they are about to start running quiz nights.



So why not head over there (it's not very far) to enjoy a meal and a drink, and keep your eyes open for the Quiz Nights restarting there after such a long time.

Bookings can be made [at this link](#) or by calling 01625 25659.



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. 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 of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all. **Amen.**

Rev. Said

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

Come, Holy Spirit of God, come upon us, that you may send us out in your power. Fill us with your grace and goodness, that we may be able to bring the Good News to the oppressed, to comfort the broken-hearted,

and to bring liberty and freedom to your people;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, for
ever and ever. Amen.

David Adams

God bless,
Rev. Canon Simon Bessant (07957211319), 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.

Like our Facebook page



<https://www.facebook.com/maccandhenburychurches>

If you are not on Facebook, why not ask your friends and family to have a look!