St Thomas' Church Henbury and Broken Cross Sunday 14 January 2024 – The Blessing of the Plough and the Lamb

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 https://www.stthomashenbury.org.uk/



Worship

Coming Up

Sunday 14 January 11.00 a.m. – The Blessing of the Plough and the Lamb – Hellen Watson, Linda Craig and Roy Waller

Sunday 21 January – Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 28 January – Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 4 February – Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 11 February – All-age Worship – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig Sunday 18 February – Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon

Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 25 February – Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

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

Sunday 10 March – All-age Worship – Hellen Watson 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

<u>lawrobinson@btinternet.com</u> or <u>stthomashenbury@aol.com</u>

Other Events

Wednesday 17 January – 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 Friday 19 January 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. - CAMEO at St Thomas' Hall (all welcome) Wednesday 24 January – 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 31 January - 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 Friday 2 February – C.A.M.E.O. at St John's 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Wednesday 7 February – 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 14 February – 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 Friday 16 February – C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas' 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

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:

Sunday 31 December – 1st Sunday of Christmas - Holy Communion https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rP_-l95S5EA

Sunday 7 December – The Epiphany – Holy Communion https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLgJw4oKQY4

.Rota for Readers, Intercessors and Sidepersons.

Date	First	Second	Intercessor	Sidesperson
	Reading	Reading		
The Blessing of the	Genesis 1.9-	none	Linda Craig	Christine
Plough and the	13			Glynn
Lamb	Jackie Booth			_
The Third Sunday	Genesis	Revelation 19.	Di Waller	Colin Marlow
of Epiphany	14.17-20	6-10		
	Tony	Roy Waller		
	Dewdney	-		
The Fourth Sunday	Deuteronomy	Revelation	Tony	Janet Tute
of Epiphany	18.15-20	12.1-5a	Dewdney	
_	Janet Tute	Bob Toms	_	

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 **tidewdney@talktalk.net**

Readings for 14 January New International Version

Genesis 1.9-13

⁹ And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. ¹² The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening, and there was mornin g—the third day.

Matthew 6:25-34 New International Version

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life^[a]? ²⁸ "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Hymn of the Week Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father There is no shadow of turning with Thee Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

Great is Thy faithfulness, Great is Thy faithfulness Morning by morning new mercies I see All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest Sun, moon and stars in their courses above Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness...

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow Blessings all mine with 10, 000 beside

Great is Thy faithfulness...

Source: Musixmatch

Songwriters: Thomas Chisholm / William Runyan / Joey Stamper / Chad Matthew Graham

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTKIqmdfHSk&t=2s

Looking to the Future

The Vicar and PCC at St Thomas' have been looking at what can be done to help share the word of God amongst our local community. We are looking to appoint an Eco-Families Worker for a period of three years with the aim of rebuilding ministry amongst local families, creating a more all-age community of faith. This person will also focus on how we might treasure and improve our environment. We will keep you posted on developments with this exciting project.

Weddings and Christenings

Are you celebrating a wedding or a christening in 2024? If so, you might like to look round our beautiful Victorian church. We would be delighted to show you round. To see some photos of past events, have a look on our website:

https://www.stthomashenbury.org.uk/life-events/

For more information please contact our vicar: **Rev. Canon Simon Bessant** on **07957211319** or email **stthomashenbury@aol.com**

Pause for Thought

As we leave the Christmas season behind here is a poem that reminds where we go from here. Many thanks to Maureen Burghall for bringing this beautiful poem to our attention.

The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

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

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, Keith Littler, Mike Moore.

Quiz

- 1. Into which sea does the Nile flow?
- 2. Three continents lie on the Tropic of Capricorn, South America is one, name any of the other two?
- 3. In American currency 10 cents make a what?
- 4. Afrikaans was developed from which European language?
- 5. An Ortanique is a cross between a tangerine and what other fruit?
- 6. What Italian word for 'Scratched Drawing' can be found on walls all over the world?
- 7. What musical features 'Some Enchanted Evening' and 'There Is Nothing Like A Dame'?
- 8. What was the name of the first manned lunar landing mission in 1969?
- 9. Which boxer was nicknamed 'The Dark Destroyer'?
- 10. What was the name of Ritchie Valens' girlfriend?

Answers to last fortnight's quiz:

1. Rosa Parks 2. Pearl Harbor 3. Benazir Butto 4. Jesse James 5. 6. Bosman Ruling 7. Oliver Cromwell 8. Henrik Ibsen 9. Thomas Becket 10. Harpers Ferry

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 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 c arers. 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.

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.

A Prayer for Resolving Conflict

Lord God, you have willed that we live in peace and harmony.

Grant us patience, understanding, and compassion as we strive to resolve conflicts in our families, communities, and the world.

May we become channels of your peace and love.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Prayer

God of wholeness, God of Grace, to you we bring our thanks and praise.

To a world that searches you are a lamp that shines,
to a world that is hungry you are food that sustains,
to a world that suffers you are hope of release,
to a world that's broken you are one who restores,
to a world full of hate you are love that forgives,
to a world that denies you are truth that endures.

To you we bring our thanks and praise, God of wholeness, God of Grace.

©John Birch

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.

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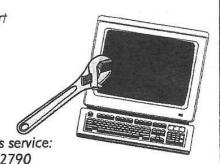
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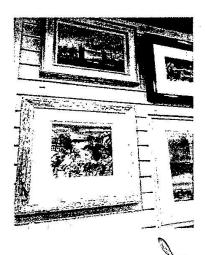
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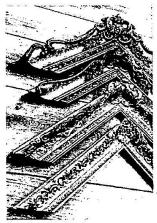
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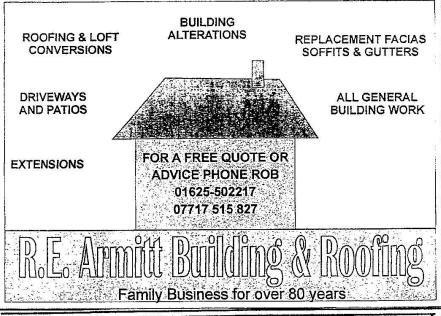
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