

St Thomas' Church Henbury and Broken Cross
Sunday 11 February 2024 – Sunday Next Before Lent
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 11 February – All-age Worship – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig**
Wednesday 14 February – Ash Wednesday – The Imposition of Ashes 11.00 a.m. at St Thomas'
Wednesday 14 February – Ash Wednesday – The Imposition of Ashes 7.30 p.m. at St John's
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 Mothering Sunday – Hellen Watson and Linda Craig
Sunday 17 March - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig
Sunday 24 March - Holy Communion Palm Sunday 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig
Sunday 31 March – Holy Communion Easter Sunday 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

Sunday 7 April - Holy Communion 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant
Sunday 14 April – Baptism of Ebony 11.00 a.m. – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig (this takes the place of our usual All-age Service but it is open to everyone. We hope you will be able to come along to this child-friendly service during which we will welcome Ebony into the Church)

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**

Other Events

Friday 16 February – C.A.M.E.O. at St Thomas' 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday 17 February 3.30 – 5p.m. – Messy Church at St John's

Wednesday 21 February 8 p.m. M.A.S.T (Men At St Thomas') – Blacksmith's Arms Henbury

Wednesday 28 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 1 March – C.A.M.E.O. at St John's 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Wednesday 6 March – 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 13 March – 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 15 March 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. - CAMEO at St Thomas' Hall (all welcome)

Sunday 17 March 12.15 p.m. – Lenten Lunch in St Thomas' Hall

Wednesday 20 March 8 p.m. M.A.S.T (Men At St Thomas') – Blacksmith's Arms Henbury

Wednesday 27 March – 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

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 28 January – Candlemas – Holy Communion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nV8g4t3lOxc>

Sunday 4 February – The Second Sunday Before Lent – Holy Communion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRg877xCWAg>

Rota for Readers, Intercessors and Sidepersons.

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)

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Intercessor	Sidesperson
11 February Sunday Next Before Lent	2 Corinthians 4.3-6 Jackie Booth	Matthew 17.1- 9 Hellen Watson	Hellen Watson	Tony Dewdney
18 February First Sunday of Lent	Genesis 9.8- 17 Judith Dewdney	1 Peter 3.18- end Bob Toms	Tony Dewdney	Christine Glynn
25 February Second Sunday of Lent	Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16 Jacky Toms	Romans 4.13- end Roy Waller	Di Waller	Colin Marlow

Readings for 11 February – Sunday Next Before Lent

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

New International Version

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"^[a] made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

Matthew 17:1-9

New International Version

The Transfiguration

17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. ⁴ Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Henbury Mothers' Union Lenten Lunch

We are holding our Lenten Lunch this year on Sunday, 17th March at approximately 12.15 p.m. in the Church Hall. This will consist of a choice of soups with French bread followed by cake and tea/coffee. Tickets are £6. each and available from Di Waller (07725 760491) or Lynne Hibbert (07578 355321).

Any proceeds raised will go towards supporting the Cheshire Without Abuse Refuge in Macclesfield. If anyone purchasing a ticket has any dietary needs can you please let Di or Lynne know, please.

Lent Course 2024

Our Lent course for 2024 will begin on **Tuesday 20 February 2024 at 10.30 a.m.** The theme is Unity and over five sessions, we will be exploring how Christians can live with love and unity, in a world full of anger. We are doing the same course as some of the other churches in Macclesfield, so if you cannot make our sessions, others are available. As before, the sessions are not based on preaching but on presentations, group chats and reflections. Each session will be a stand-alone unit, so you can drop in whenever it's convenient to you. All are welcome.

1. Thinking - Tuesday 20th February St Thomas'
2. Praying - Tuesday 27th February St John's
3. Worshipping - Tuesday 5th March St Thomas'
4. Writing & Speaking - Tuesday 12th March St John's
5. Unifying and Peace-making - Tuesday 19th March St Thomas'

If we can't make any of these sessions, the same material is being used in the following churches at different times, and you are welcome to join them.

Thursday evenings starting 22nd February

7.30-9.15pm St Michael's Church (Market Place, SK10 1DY)

Contact Church Office (01625 421 984) for further details

Monday afternoons starting 26th February

2.30-4pm St Paul's

Contact Church Office (01625 501 773) to confirm venue details

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

Hymn of the Week

Be still, for the Presence of the Lord.

Be still for the presence of the Lord,
The holy One, is here;
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear
In him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord

Is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour he is crowned:
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant king of light!

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord

Is moving in this place:
He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister his grace -
No work too hard for him.
In faith receive from him.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZugvUQ4m90U>

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**](mailto: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.

February Quiz Questions

1. What star sign are you if you were born in early February?
2. February gets its name from the word 'februa', which comes from which language?
3. Valentine's Day is celebrated on which date in February?
4. The February Revolution was the first of two revolutions which took place in Russia in which year?
5. What happened in Britain on the 15th of February, 1971?
6. Februalia was the Roman festival of ritual what?
7. On 16th February, 1659, what was used for the first time in Britain as Mr Nicholas Vanacker settles a debt?
8. In leap years, February starts on the same day of the week as which other month?
9. Which violet variety of quartz, often used in jewellery, is the traditional birthstone for February?
10. In the DC Comics, on which date in February is Superman's birthday?

Answers to last fortnight's quiz:

1. Mad Men
2. Aquarius
3. Janus
4. Elizabeth 1
5. Garnet
6. snowdrop
7. 6 January
8. March
9. Martin Luther King Jr Day
10. Falkland Islands

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 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.

Do You Have a Heart for our Community?

If so, the Hope Centre invites you to come along and regularly bring the needs of our community before Almighty God through Praise, Prayer and Testimony. These

events will take place on every third Sunday of each month 5.30-6.30 p.m. at 16-18 Park Green, Macclesfield SK11 7NA.

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.

Road Closure

Whirley Road from the junction of Birtles Road to the junction of Belmont Avenue will be closed on Sat 24th to Sun 25th February for United Utilities work. The alternative route will be via Whirley Road, Chelford Road, Church Lane, Whirley Lane.

A Prayer for Resolving Conflict

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son:
Look with compassion on the whole human family;
take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts;
break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love;
and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth;
that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your
heavenly throne;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for our King

Father of mercies,
grant to Charles our King,
comfort and sure confidence in you,
and keep him in perpetual peace and safety,
through Jesus Christ our Lord." Amen.

Closing Prayer

Loving Lord, let your light shine in our lives,
let its brightness fill our hearts and transfigure us;
that, seeing your glory, we may come to you in awe and wonder,
and gazing upon you may be changed into your likeness,
moving from glory to glory;
through Christ our Lord, who with the Father and the
Holy Spirit is in eternal glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

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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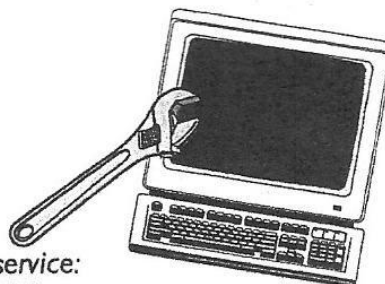


<https://www.facebook.com/maccandhenburychurches>

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

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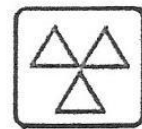
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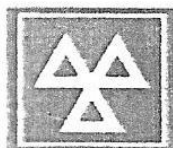
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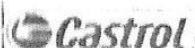
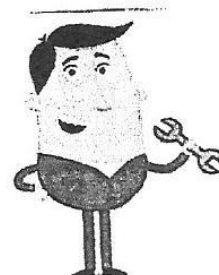
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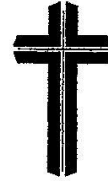


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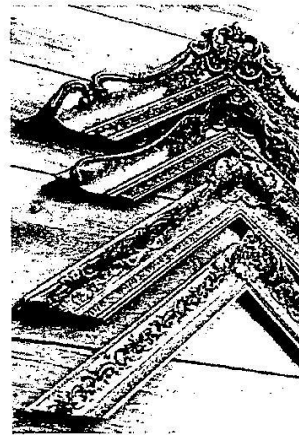
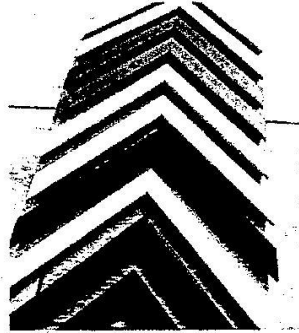
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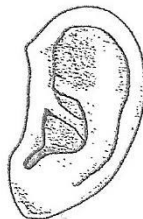
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