

**St Thomas' Church Henbury and Broken Cross**  
**Sunday 23 February 2025 – Second Sunday 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/>



## **Coming Up**

### **Worship**

**Sunday 23 February 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Canon  
Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 2 March 9.30 a.m. – Breakfast Church in St Thomas' Parish  
Hall – a relaxed family-oriented service – Rev. Canon Simon  
Bessant, Andrea Fitton and Linda Craig**

**Sunday 2 March 9.30 a.m. – Holy Communion – Rev. Chris Scargill  
at St John's**

**Sunday 2 March 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion – Sunday Next  
before Lent – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig**

**Wednesday 5 March 11.00 a.m. – Ash Wednesday – Holy  
Communion with Ashing at St Thomas'**

**Wednesday 5 March 7.30 p.m. – Ash Wednesday – Holy  
Communion with Ashing at St John's**

**Sunday 9 March 9.30 a.m. - Breakfast Church at St John's Church Hall** – a relaxed family-oriented service – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant, Andrea Fitton and Linda Craig

**Sunday 9 March 11.00 a.m. - Holy Communion – First Sunday of Lent** – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

**Sunday 16 March 9.30 a.m. – Celebration Baptism-** Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

**Sunday 16 March 11.00 a.m. – Celebration Baptism-** Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

**Sunday 23 March 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion – Third Sunday of Lent** – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

**Sunday 30 March 11.00 a.m. – Mothering Sunday –** Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Andrea Fitton

**Sunday 6 April 9.30 a.m. – Breakfast Church in St Thomas' Parish Hall** – a relaxed family-oriented service – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant, Andrea Fitton and Linda Craig

**Sunday 6 April 11.00 a.m. – Holy Communion — The Fifth Sunday of Lent -** Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

**Sunday 13 April 9.30 a.m. - Breakfast Church at St John's Church Hall** – a relaxed family-oriented service – Rev. Canon Simon Bessant, Andrea Fitton and Linda Craig

**Sunday 13 April 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion — Palm Sunday -** Rev. Canon Simon Bessant and Linda Craig

**Sunday 20 April 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion – Easter Sunday –** 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 (apart from the Second Sunday in each month, which is Breakfast Church at St John's at 9.30 a.m.). 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're unable to attend Church, you can catch up with our online services recorded at St John's. Here are the links to the last Sunday's service. Breakfast Church on 12 January was not recorded:

Sunday 9 February – Fourth Sunday before Lent (no recording – Breakfast Church)

Sunday 16 February – Third Sunday before Lent

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zlkaOqAXKI4&t=10s>

### **Other Events**

**Saturday 22 February – Messy Church – at St John’s – all children must be accompanied by an adult – 3.30 p.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Wednesday 26 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 26 February – Recharge – our relaxed, midweek service at St John’s Church 12.00 – 1.30 p.m.**

**Thursday 27 February– Little Angels Mums and Tots Group at St Thomas’ Parish Hall 9.30-11.00 a.m. £1 per child**

**Saturday 1 March 8.30 a.m. – Prayer Breakfast at St John’s – join us for prayers, discussion and a continental breakfast.**

**Wednesday 5 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**

**Thursday 6 March – Little Angels Mums and Tots Group at St Thomas’ Parish Hall 9.30-11.00 a.m. £1 per child**

**Friday 7 March – C.A.M.E.O. (Come And Meet Each Other) at St John’s  
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

**Tuesday 11 March - Mothers’ Union – St Thomas Parish Hall – 10 a.m.  
– 12 noon**

**Wednesday 12 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**

**Wednesday 12 March - Recharge – our relaxed, midweek service at St Thomas’ Parish Centre 12.00 – 1.30 p.m.  
£2**

**Thursday 13 March – Little Angels Mums and Tots Group at St Thomas’ Church Hall 9.30-11.00 a.m. £1 per child**

**Wednesday 19 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**

**Thursday 20 March - Little Angels Mums and Tots Group at St Thomas’ Parish Hall 9.30-11.00 a.m.**

**Friday 21 March - C.A.M.E.O. (Come And Meet Each Other) at St Thomas’ Church Hall 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

**Wednesday 26 March – Sunbeams Mums and Tots Group at St John’s  
10 a.m.–11.30. One hour play, 15 mins snack time, 15 mins circle time  
£2**

**Thursday 27 March – Little Angels Mums and Tots Group at St Thomas’ Parish Hall 9.30-11.00 a.m.**

**Tuesday 1 April - Mothers’ Union – St Thomas Church Hall –**

**10 a.m. – 12 noon**

**Wednesday 2 April – 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**

**Thursday 3 April – Little Angels Mums and Tots Group at St Thomas'**  
**Church Hall 9.30-11.00 a.m. £1 per child**

### **For our Prayers**

**The Sick:** John Louca, Anthony Westnedge, Dylan Belt, Melissa, Jane Burghall, Christina Klatsia, Michael Louca, Keith Littler, Mike Moore, Malcolm Clark, Jean Osborne, Ida Walsh, Carolyn Andrew and David Harrison.

**RIP:** Joan Aldridge

### **Readings for 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**

#### **Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-25**

<sup>4</sup> This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

<sup>5</sup> Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth<sup>[a]</sup> and no plant had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, <sup>6</sup> but streams<sup>[b]</sup> came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. <sup>7</sup> Then the Lord God formed a man<sup>[c]</sup> from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

<sup>8</sup> Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup> The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>15</sup> The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup> but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

<sup>18</sup> The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

<sup>19</sup> Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its



name. <sup>20</sup> So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam<sup>[a]</sup> no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup> So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs<sup>[b]</sup> and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib<sup>[c]</sup> he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

<sup>23</sup> The man said,

“This is now bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called ‘woman,’  
for she was taken out of man.”

<sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

<sup>25</sup> Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

## **Revelation 4**

**4** After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” <sup>2</sup> At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. <sup>3</sup> And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne. <sup>4</sup> Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. <sup>5</sup> From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. <sup>6</sup> Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal.

In the centre, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. <sup>7</sup> The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup> Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying:

“Holy, holy, holy

is the Lord God Almighty,'<sup>[b]</sup>

who was, and is, and is to come."

<sup>9</sup> Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, <sup>10</sup> the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

<sup>11</sup> "You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they were created  
and have their being."

### **Luke 8.22-25**

<sup>22</sup> One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. <sup>23</sup> As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

<sup>24</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!"

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. <sup>25</sup> "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples.

In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

### **The Collect for the Second Sunday Before Lent**

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Rota for Readers, Intercessors and Sidepersons**

If you would like to join the team of people who deliver the readings and/or lead the intercessions during services, please contact: Tony Dewdney on **01625 439753** or [tjdewdney@talktalk.net](mailto:tjdewdney@talktalk.net)

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Theme	Intercessor	Sidesperson
Sunday 23 February 2 Before Lent	Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-25 Read by Tony	Revelation 4 Read by Linda	The Unexpected God	Linda	Lawrie Brown
Sunday 2 March Sunday Next Before Lent	Exodus 34.29.35 Bob Toms	2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2 Jacky Toms	True Colours	Andrea	Tony Dewdney
Wednesday 5 March Ash Wednesday 11.00 a.m.	Isaiah 58.1-12 Janet Tute	Psalms 51.1-18 Anne Brown	Saint or Sinner	Linda	Lawrie Brown
Sunday 9 March First Sunday of Lent	Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Jackie Booth	Romans 10.8b-13 Monica Hough	Tough Times	Andrea	Christine Glynn
Sunday 16 March Celebration Christening	Luke 8.1-15 Read by Andrea	none	Baptism and Growth	Linda	Colin Marlow
Sunday 23 March Third Sunday of Lent	Isaiah 55.1-9 Laura Watson	1 Corinthians 10.1-13 Bo	The Challenge of Discipleship	Andrea	Christine
Sunday 30 March Mothering Sunday	Exodus 2.1-10 Judith	Colossians 3.12-17 Jackie Booth	Tbd	Tony	Lawrie

### **Hymn of the Week – Majesty, Worship His Majesty**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaRwD2Y7C0s>

Majesty, worship his majesty  
 Unto Jesus be all glory, honour, and praise  
 Majesty, kingdom authority  
 Flow from his throne, unto his own, his anthem raise

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus  
 Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King

Majesty, worship his majesty  
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings  
So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus  
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King

Majesty, worship his majesty  
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings  
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings

*Writer(s): Jack Hayford*

### **Weddings and Christenings**



Are you celebrating a wedding or a christening in 2025? 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](mailto:stthomashenbury@aol.com)

### **February Quiz**

1. Which spaceship disintegrated on re-entry killing all 7 crew members in 2003?
2. In 1709, which sailor, who provided the inspiration for Robinson Crusoe, was rescued after spending 4 years as a castaway on an uninhabited island?
3. In 1807 the United Kingdom captured Montevideo from the Spanish during which wars?
4. Which American heiress was kidnapped by the Simbionese Liberation Army in 1974?
5. President of Haiti, Jean-Claude Duvalier, fled the country after a popular uprising in 1986, ending 28 years of one-family rule in the nation. What was his nick name?
6. The Boeing 747 'Jumbo Jet' made its first test flight in February of which year? a) 1959 b) 1969 c) 1979



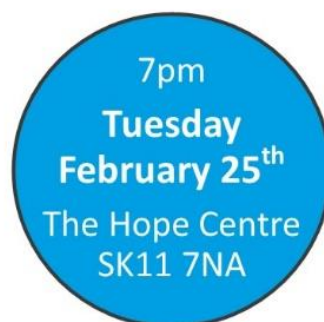
7. In 1858 a 14 year old peasant girl reported visions that led to her town becoming a major site for pilgrimages by Catholics. What was her name?
  8. Nelson Mandela was released in 1990 after how many years as a political prisoner? a) 27 b) 32 c) 37
  9. Chile declared its independence in 1818, from which country?
  10. What was the name of the first Space Shuttle that 'boldly' made its first flight on top of a Jumbo Jet in 1977
- Answers to our last quiz:**
1. Iris 2. jaw bone 3. deltoid 4. tonsils 5. Tennis court 6. Kidney 7. Inferior vena cava 8. Pituitary 9. 10 yards 10. thyroid

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](mailto:stthomashenbury@aol.com)

### 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)



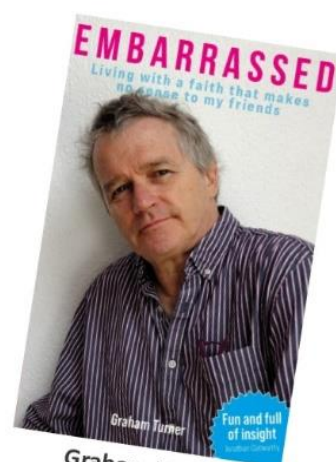
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the next morning:  
Wednesday 26th  
10.30am to 11.30am  
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which he will be able to sign

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## Other News

### Broken Cross Dementia Club

Broken Cross Methodist Church hosts 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 4024



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

### 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

God, you have created us out of your love and for your love.  
Christ, you have redeemed us by your love and for your love.  
Holy Spirit, you inspire us with your love and for your love.  
Give us grace to perceive your love and to reflect your love,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

God bless,

Rev. Canon Simon Bessant (07957211319), Bob (07753583555), Carole (611477), Andrea (07366561955) and Linda (424505)

For Church bookings, please contact: **Bob 07753583555.**

For Church Hall bookings, please contact: **Janet on 07709701732 or [janettute@googlemail.com](mailto:janettute@googlemail.com).** Many thanks to Janet for taking on this role.

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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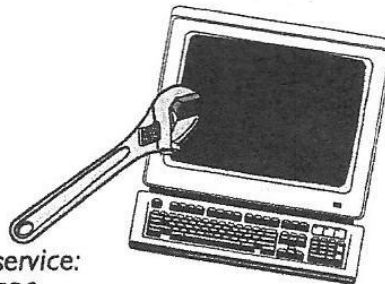
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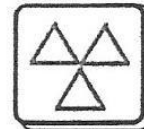
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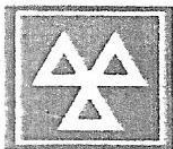
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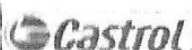
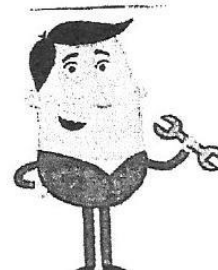
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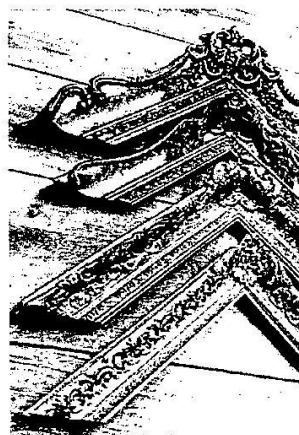
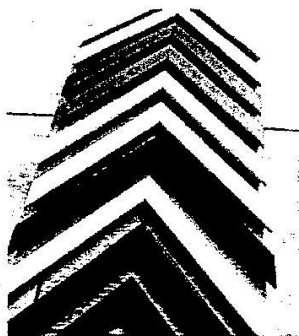
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