

# The st thomas' story



22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

---

St Thomas' will not be meeting in person in the near future for worship services or home groups. **All church-based activities will cease for the time being. All rotas are suspended until further notice.**

We continue to meet using online resources and conference calls. It is likely that this situation will last for several months, including over Easter. Our planned outreach events will not now take place.

**We will continue to offer worship at 10.30am every Sunday.** This will be online, initially using Facebook Live. A link to this from our webpage is available at [www.saintthomas.org.uk](http://www.saintthomas.org.uk).

**The church will be open Monday to Friday from 10.00am – 12 noon for individuals to come and pray.** You need to ring the doorbell and wait at the door for entry. Wash your hands before you leave home and also when you arrive. We ask that you keep two metres between you and other people you encounter. Please remember to protect our church staff by following this guideline stringently.

---

## staff and contacts

**Rector:** Rev. David McCarthy  
T: 0131 467 0660 M: 0741 123 6433  
E: david@saintthomas.org.uk

**Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:**  
Phil Taylor  
T: 0131 316 4292  
E: phil@saintthomas.org.uk

**Church Coordinators:**  
Monday & Tuesday: Rosemary Harvey  
Wednesday - Friday: Jane Ross  
Office Hours: Mon – Fri 9.30 – 12.30  
T: 0131 316 4292 (*Church Office*)  
E: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk  
W: saintthomas.org.uk  
@StThomasEdin  
St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh



---

St Thomas' Church is a registered Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC049045  
| 75 – 79 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8LJ | 0131 316 4292 | [www.saintthomas.org.uk](http://www.saintthomas.org.uk) |

**We will contact members with no family** support by phone on a weekly basis. We will contact you to ask for permission to do this. If you need help for shopping or other urgent things please contact the office and we will find a way to help. If you can volunteer to help contact the office.

**Today Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March is a day of National Prayer** - at 7pm you are invited to place a candle in a window and pray for our nation's healing - physically, economically and spiritually. Pray that many will turn to the Lord in this troubled time.

**We know that some people are not keen on using Facebook.** David McCarthy is posting links to his Facebook posts on his blog. Go to [www.gadgetvicar.org.uk](http://www.gadgetvicar.org.uk) to watch them. Help can be given to open up a Facebook account for use during this time. It can be deleted afterwards.

**Able Community Care Sunflower Competition:** Please consider entering our Sunflower competition for our forty year celebration. We are offering a tiny packet of free sunflower seeds to anyone wanting to enter our "Tallest Sunflower Competition." There are two categories: Adults and children 16 and under. Adult prize is a bouquet of flowers every month for six months, either for yourself or a loved one. Children's prize is a £100 Amazon Voucher. For free seeds and further details email [info@ablecommunitycare.com](mailto:info@ablecommunitycare.com).

# for our prayer

---

*"We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."*

*2 Chronicles 20:12b NIVUK*

Pray for all who serve us in the NHS: for stamina and resources. Remember those afflicted by Covid-19, praying for recovery and healing.

For teachers, pupils and parents following the closure of schools: pray especially for parents trying to organise childcare and young people concerned about exams not taking place and what that might mean for their future. Pray for provision, clarity and peace.

Pray for those who will find social distancing difficult: for the Lord's presence to be very real and for care to be experienced in other ways.

For our politicians as they try to give a lead in the face of the disruptions the world is experiencing - for united working, good information and planning.

Remember those who are fearful for their jobs or whose work has ended - pray that the government's announced package of assistance will be sufficient.

Pray for Jamie Hamilton, son of Amanda & Gavin who is working in Cameroon but who needs to come home. Air travel has been halted - pray that a way is provided for him to return to the UK. Pray also for Miller and Alison Bogie travelling in South Africa.

Pray for church leaders who are wrestling with how to do church in such changed circumstances - for creativity, emotional endurance and a vision of how the Lord can use present circumstances to His glory.

Remember constantly the words of Jesus, who says, "Do not be afraid".

Pray for David, our Trustees and Vestry as decisions for our future are made.

***"Trust in the Lord with all thy heart — Wholly and securely rely upon God's wisdom, power, and goodness, and upon his providence and promises, for direction and help in all thine affairs and dangers". Proverbs 5:3***

---