

The st thomas' story



18th October 2020

We will worship at 10.30am this Sunday at St Thomas' with limited numbers in Congregation. Please book by email or phone by Friday at 9.00am to attend. **You can continue to access the service using online resources.** Following the service there will be a Zoom meeting chat. Details to join Zoom meetings can be found in Pastoral letter. Click on the link in [blue writing](#).

Please check dates and times for **Midday and Night Prayers** for next week.

A short video '**Thought for the Day**' (recorded by David McCarthy) will be available on Facebook Monday to Thursday morning from the 'Rector Cave'

Please book through the office for Personal Prayer and Reflection time at St Thomas' during the week – mornings only.

staff and contacts

Rector: Rev. David McCarthy

W: 0131 374 3694 M: 0741 123 6433

e: david@sst.church

Day off: Friday

Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:

Phil Taylor

T: 0131 285 8782

e: phil@stt.church

Day off: Monday

Worship Coordinator: David Harvey

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

Church Coordinators:

Jane Ross & Rosemary Harvey

Office Hours: Closed Mon & Tue

Open Wed – Fri 9.30am – 12.30pm

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

 @StThomasEdin

 St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh

<https://saintthomas.org.uk>

Vestry Secretary: Kathleen Demircan

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

For items to be in next Sunday's the st thomas' story, please contact the office by 10 a.m. on Thursday.



St Thomas' Church is a registered Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC049045
| 75 – 79 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8LJ | 0131 285 8782 | www.saintthomas.org.uk |

We have had good numbers at our physical Sunday gatherings.

We are adhering to the government regulations regarding social distancing and hygiene during the service. Please be patient with us and be assured that the reopening team is working hard to enable us to regather in all of our buildings as soon and as safely as possible.

Please telephone or email the church office to tell us you are coming. You must do this by 9am on the Friday before. Our capacity is limited. Following the Scottish Government guidance it is mandatory to wear a face-covering in a place of worship. This means that you should wear a face covering throughout our time together, unless you have a medical condition, disability or other reason which exempts you from this restriction.

Contact us 0131 285 8782 if you are not on our email list but would like more information or a copy of the weekly Pastoral letter.

Church office is closed this week on Monday and Tuesday.

‘A Morning Thought’: Since April, in the early morning four or five times a week David has been putting together a ‘Thought for the Day’ on FaceBook. These have been made while Ali and David take a daily walk. With the darker mornings upon us, it is proving more difficult to produce them in that way so they will still be happening but a bit later on and from the comfort of the ‘Rector Cave’. If we are still doing them come the spring, we’ll return to the wild format!

We have decided to suspend opening the church at set times for prayer and reflection. Instead, if you would like to visit, please contact Jane or Rosemary in the office and they will arrange a suitable time for you to do so on a weekday morning.

Christmas Shoe box Appeal

Blythswood have asked us if we would once again contribute to the shoe box appeal. They have said that due to the pandemic these boxes are even more vital. Leaflets will be available to pick up from church on Sundays or during office hours. The leaflet gives all the information needed as well as providing the envelope for a donation towards cost of transport which is £3 or more. The filled boxes should be returned to the church office either on a Sunday or during office hours on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday morning. **Please return them by Sunday 1st Nov at the latest.** Thank you so much for helping us in this work.

Thank you from Sue Gordon. The Mission to Seafarers chaplain, Revd Tim Tunley, sends a BIG THANK YOU to the Beanie Hat Knitters at St Thomas' Church, for the amazing number of hats he has received this year.

With the coming winter months PLEASE continue knitting as more will now be needed for the crews who are from warmer Eastern climates. These are truly appreciated and are personally given out by the Chaplain when visiting the ships. Patterns are available from Jane in the Church office. Sue Gordon can collect from the Church office or from your house.

Quiz Night! - Friday 27 November 2020. We are planning a quiz to be held using 'Zoom'. Start gathering your team now. Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to defeat last year's winning team. I can't remember who was in it! More details to follow.

NEW RECTORY PHONE NUMBER: the internet supplier at the rectory has changed. As part of this, it has also meant getting a new landline number. The new number is: **0131 374 3694**

Harvest Collection for Local Foodbank

Duncan Whitty, pastor of Corstorphine Community Church writes, *'It would certainly be a blessing if St Thomas was able to collect long life items for our Basics Bank. Any long-life food ie tinned meat, veg or fruit, pasta, rice, pasta sauce or curry sauce also custard, biscuits, cereal, juice and long life milk would all certainly be used and would be gratefully received'.*

With that in mind, this Sunday and Sunday 25 October, we will express our gratitude to the Lord by making donations that our local Basics Bank can distribute. Please bring donations to the church on those Sundays or by arrangement with the office during the week. Alternatively, if you need a donation picked up from your home, let me know directly and I will do this.

St Thomas' Church website is live, please do visit

<https://www.saintthomas.org.uk>. On our new site within 'My Area', you can adjust your details, contact preferences and access your rota reminders. If you need help with this please contact the office and help can be arranged.

Top tip: to link easily to our Facebook page, YouTube channel and our Twitter account, just click on the social media icons at the top right of the website main page. Thank you to those who have given feedback on the new website. Please

do explore and let the Communication Team know what you think by emailing us stts.comms@gmail.com or contacting Angela Benzies.

St Thomas' Church Online

Week Beginning 18 October 2020

Please note that all 'Zoom' meetings now require participants to enter a passcode. This feature has been added to boost the security and safety of those taking part.

Online Worship & Gathering

All worship events are available online at:

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1r0Eq3PqBmxioDssYXCbGQ>

<https://www.pscp.tv/StThomasEdin>

Sunday 18 October

Online Worship @ 10.30am – Ezra 4 – Hitting the Buffers

Pre- & Post- Worship Chat: Zoom details on Pastoral letter

Monday 19 October

@12pm - Midday Prayer (Facebook)

Tuesday 20 October

@9.30pm - Night Prayer (Facebook)

Wednesday 21 October

@12pm - Midday Prayer (Facebook)

@2-3.30pm - Rooted Bible Study

Contact Kerstin Prill (kerstinprill67@gmail.com) to join this 'Zoom' meeting.

Thursday 22 October

@ 10am - 'Zoom' Coffee Online: Zoom details on Pastoral letter

@9.30pm - Night Prayer (Facebook)

for our prayer

Pray for David Harvey who is recovering from a shoulder surgery on Thursday. Pray for David and the family, a successful operation and for healing.

For Wilma Finlayson who got home on Friday with a full care package in place.

For Bill McGillivray as he tries new treatments.

For Anne Grant suffering with shingles. She has had great medical care and help from opticians so give thanks for that. Continue to pray for complete healing from the pain.

For Gavin Hamilton who arrived safely in Ghana; for a place to stay and safety.

Pray for all those struggling with illness, particularly degenerative illness – for support, understanding and provision.

Pray for the family and friends of the young man whose body was found in the Water of Leith this week – for care and help in their troubles.

Pray for the husband (Josh) and daughter of Zoe Powell who died alongside three of their children in a car crash in Oxfordshire earlier this week. The family were members of Christchurch Central in Sheffield (a church we are in partnership with under Bishop Andy Lines), before moving to Oxfordshire. Pray for healing and for all those grieving such a difficult loss – that they will know the peace and resurrection hope in Christ.

Please pray for the governments of the UK and nations which are part of it – they are having to make difficult decisions while seeking to balance health and economic needs.

Remember followers of Jesus in the Middle East as they navigate these uncertain times – for faithful witness, material provision and the Lord's protection.