

The st thomas' story



22nd November 2020

We will worship at 10.30am this Sunday; 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](#).

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

staff and contacts

Rector: Rev. David McCarthy

W: 0131 374 3694 M: 0741 123 6433

e: david@sst.church

Day off: Mon, Tues and Wed

Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:

Phil Taylor

T: 0131 285 8782

e: phil@stt.church

Day off: Off all week

Worship Coordinator: David Harvey

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

Church Coordinators:

Jane Ross & Rosemary Harvey

Office Hours: Open Mon – Fri

9.30am – 12.30pm

T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)

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 @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 meet at church and online at 10.30am.

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.

The four gospels are all about Jesus' life and what he has done. Join us for the **Rooted Bible Study** to discover what Jesus continued to do and is still doing today as we study the book of Acts together. **Starting time has changed to 4pm.** There will be 15 minutes of informal chatting. Bible study will be from 4.15 – 5.15pm.

David & Rosemary Harvey and family would like to thank everyone for all the prayer support following David's shoulder operation. David has started physio this week. Your prayers are very much appreciated. **Thank you.**

A huge "Thank You" from Mission to Seafarers HQ for the lovely and colourful Beanie hats which come from St Thomas' knitters on a regular basis. There is a quote from a Seafarer after 9 months at sea who said "One day someone (a chaplain) gets on board and gives you something, and honestly you feel like they give you a gold bar. It's like there is someone out there giving a care ... making seafarers feel cared about." The Church office also has patterns for balaclavas, fingerless mittens, and mufflers - so helpful for cold blustery sea conditions. Thank you all, Sue Gordon.

A Strange Unmaking, the book of Fiona Christie's Colombian blog, is now available to buy as an eBook from Amazon

Next Friday!!!!Quiz Night!!!!!!
@7.30pm on Friday 27 November 2020

You are warmly invited to participate in what should be a fun evening!

Sandy Benzies fills us in on the details:

To submit a team, please email the following details to me at sandy.benzies@btinternet.com. **Deadline: 26 November**

- Team name
- The name of each of your team members

Your team can be composed of members of your home group, friends, family, neighbours...whoever you like! The only restriction is a maximum of six people per team. If you want to take part but are not linked with a team then still register with me at the above e-mail and I will put you into a group with others, or into a team that doesn't have its full complement of six people.

There will be five rounds with varying themes. Once the questions for each round have been read out you will be put into a breakout room with your other team members to discuss and decide your answers before coming back to the main room for the correct answers. Nominate one team member to mark your answers and then write your team name followed by your score in the Zoom chat at the end of each round (it doesn't need to be the same person each time).

We will have a short comfort/leg-stretch/screen break after round three.

Dress code: Pyjamas, Costume, Fancy Dress, whatever you like...just make sure you're clothed!!

Refreshments: BYO (of course)

Prizes: None, just the glory! (Though I might be able to arrange some chocolate to be picked up at the church on Sunday 29 for the winning team!)

The Zoom link will be sent out to all who register a few days before.

Work with young people: Phil Taylor writes: *"As I am sure you are aware, when coronavirus hit our face to face work with young people stopped. Now, after getting the all clear that we are able to through the Scottish Government's guidelines, we are planning on starting up a new outreach group for young people in school years P4 to P7, focussing particularly on the South Gyle estate. The hope is to be launching properly in January, with taster sessions to happen in December to gauge interest and hopefully gain interest for us to gain a regular group attending.*

*Please pray for this group to succeed. Pray for me as I work through the guidance of the Scottish Government, so that I am able to ensure that we are able to run a safe and fun group. Pray for those who are considering being involved as volunteers. **More volunteers are needed. If you can help contact Phil as soon as possible.** Pray for those we seek to reach out to and invite, that*

their hearts would be receptive to the invitation and excited to be able to engage with other young people.

Care Van

David Fairhurst writes: *‘Thank you for all the items donated. At the moment we have enough clothing apart from SMALL men’s trousers/jeans (no bigger than 32” waist) and men’s jumpers/sweatshirts’* If you can help with any of these items, please leave them at church on a Sunday or weekday mornings.

‘The St T’s Advent Light Calendar’

The idea is to add some true Light to all the illuminated santas and snowmen we can expect to appear in gardens this Christmas!

1. We’d like 24 homes to set up a tableau using a verse on each day through 1 December until 24 December. The idea is to put this in the most public window of your home, light it up, and display it from your day of choice through the Christmas period. You can put up pictures, build a model, or whatever your creative mind can produce! We want the words and verse reference included please in as big a font as you can manage.
2. When your day goes ‘live’, please take a photograph and send it to me. We’ll then post it on social media and the church website.
3. Please fill in your day here, at the link below. If you intend on taking part, please let us know as soon as possible. If you cannot follow the link, please contact the church office and we will suggest a date and passage to use.

<https://1drv.ms/w/s!AjKSjpC9whwNgdBTpLe0W2mTRiRxuw?e=1Xn43l>

Advent & Christmas Idea

During Advent, we are seeking a few people to record a brief video testimony which would say, “Advent fills me with hope and joy because.....” We’d include one testimony every Sunday.

We’d also like lots of people to record a brief video which we would compile to be used for our Christmas Eve worship (details to be confirmed!). We simply want a few sentences on what Christmas means to you and why.

Please let David know if you are willing to share in t

St Thomas' Church Online

Week Beginning 22 November 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 22 November

Online Worship @ 10.30am – Ezra 10 – A Time For Action.

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

Monday 23 November

@12pm - Midday Prayer (Facebook)

Tuesday 24 November

@ 9.30pm – Night Prayer (Facebook)

Wednesday 25 November

@ 12pm – Midday Prayer (Facebook)

“Rooted” Bible Study @ 4.15 - 5.15pm - Rooted Bible Study

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

Thursday 26 November

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

@9.30pm - Night Prayer (Facebook)

for our prayer

This week, please keep in your prayers:

Jimmy and Shirley Sibbald: for peace in decision-making and good support

Amanda and Gavin Hamilton: Amanda has gone to care for her mother down south. Pray for wise decisions and good provision

Damian Stantchev's brother George in Varna, Bulgaria who is ill with Covid-19: for healing.

For all those now in Tier 4 areas, especially those work in retail and hospitality: for patience and help.

For our friends at St Silas', Glasgow as their curate, James Lapping is ordained this Sunday evening, following a long wait and with reduced numbers as a result of Tier 4 restrictions.

