

# The **st** thomas' **story**



7<sup>th</sup> March 2021

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**We will worship at 10.30am this Sunday using online resources only.** .  
Details at end of notice sheet for St Thomas' Online.

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.

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## staff and contacts

**Rector:** Rev. David McCarthy  
W: 0131 374 3694 M: 0741 123 6433  
e: [david@stt.church](mailto:david@stt.church)  
Day off: Friday

**Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:**  
Phil Taylor  
T: 0131 285 8782  
e: [phil@stt.church](mailto:phil@stt.church)  
Part furloughed

**Worship Coordinator:** David Harvey  
T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)  
e: [churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk)

**Church Coordinators:**  
Jane Ross & Rosemary Harvey  
Office Hours: Open Mon, Wed, Fri only  
9.30am – 12.30pm. Part furloughed  
T: 0131 285 8782 (*Church Office*)  
e: [churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.**

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## **Furlough of Staff**

Please note the church office will be staffed on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings only** until further notice.

**Bill McGillivray:** Bill is so grateful for the outpouring of cards, gifts, love, and care from people towards him and his family. Please keep his family members in prayer in these difficult days. If you would like regular updates, please ask to join the Facebook group set up by Joy, Bill's daughter.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/759438694712038/>

We will try to keep people who don't use Facebook updated by email when the office is open.

## **Announcement: Rooted Bible Study**

It fills us with joy to announce that with the beginning of the new programme (Acts 8 – 12: The Lord's Word Dispersed to Judea and Samaria) we will offer two Rooted meetings every week to accommodate the growing number of ladies – **starting this week: one on Mondays at 4pm and one on Wednesdays at 4pm.** Details are in the Pastoral letter to join the Zoom meeting or contact Kerstin Prill.

## **St Thomas' Church Annual General Meeting**

We must hold an AGM. This has several purposes: to accept the accounts and budget, to appoint an auditor, and to elect members to the vestry. As well as this, we look back at what the Lord has done and look forward to what He will do among us in the coming year. We hope that there will be a loosening of current restrictions on in-person meetings by then. If that happens, we'll also livestream from church for those who need that. Failing that, we will meet together by 'Zoom'.

The date set by the vestry and the trustees is **Sunday 28 March**. Please put it in your diary and plan to be present. More details to follow.

**Phil Taylor writes:**

For those who might be wondering, given Boris' big reveal on Monday, I now have a vague plan for getting married. I say vague because all of the government plans for opening up are dependent on the circumstances, but in theory Sue and I will be getting married on April 17th. To those of you holding us in your prayers, many thanks and please do continue to do so as we work towards this hopeful date.

P.S. Assuming it all goes ahead as planned it will be streamed and I will be sure to post a link here ahead of time.

**Seeking Accommodation**

Tiffany Butler, a prospective PhD student at Edinburgh University, is seeking accommodation. She is resident in Edmonds, Washington State and is a member of the council of the Diocese of Cascadia, Anglican Church in North America. If you can help, please let contact me.

**St Thomas' Church Online**  
**Week Beginning 7<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

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 7 March**

**Online Worship @ 10.30am.**

**Post- Worship Chat:** Zoom details on Pastoral letter

**@6.30pm Prayer Base:** Zoom details on Pastoral letter.

## **Monday 8 March**

**@12pm - Midday Prayer (Facebook)**

**@ 4.00 - 5.15pm - Rooted Bible Study**

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

## **Tuesday 9 March**

**@ 9.30pm – Night Prayer (Facebook)**

## **Wednesday 10 March**

**@ 12pm – Midday Prayer (Facebook)**

**@ 4.00 - 5.15pm - Rooted Bible Study**

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

## **Thursday 11 March**

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

**Sunday 12 March - Online Worship @10.30am**

# for our prayer

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*Prayer for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent*

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **Praise and Thanksgiving**

**Thank God** for His presence, for hearing our prayers, for sharing his heart with us.

**Thank God** for the work of the police and the courts for their dedication to peace and justice. Thank Him that they are willing to do a job that is often sacrificial and challenging.

**Ask** that even as you are praying, God will pour out his Spirit across our land.

**Pray for good governance** from political leaders both locally and nationally – that their words will be true and their actions have integrity.

**Give thanks and pray for** those who care for others as part of the NHS, care homes and in our own homes – pray for protection, provision of resources and respite from the pressures of this last year.

**Give thanks** for the rollout of vaccines – pray for continued progress and that there will be equitable distribution of vaccines around the world.

**Pray for** our friends at Westhill Community Church as they seek completion of their hopes to join with us in the Anglican Convocation in Europe – for Anne Dyer, Bishop of Aberdeen that she will speak and for the vestry of the ‘old’ congregation who are negotiating with the diocese: that all will speak and act with love and integrity and that an end will be in sight. Pray too for the ‘new’ vestry elected to serve the new leadership of the congregation: for renewed vision and energy.

**Pray for our own AGM** – for new members of vestry to be called, giving thanks for those who have served us so faithfully over the years. Give thanks for the Lord’s continuing resources for mission and ministry.

**Pray for** Jane and Gordon Ross as they plan a future in Hoylake – for a new home and good preparations. Give thanks for Jane’s faithful service to God’s people over many years and pray for fresh blessing in a new season.

**Remember in prayer** those who are sick and their loved ones:

Bill McGillivray

Helen Eberstein

Cathy Murray