

The st thomas' story



1st December 2019

today's story @ 10.30 Communion

Welcome to our communion service on this first Sunday of Advent. David McCarthy will preach and lead the service on “Bearing Christmas Hope: Rahab the Granny Speaks!” Joshua 2: 1 - 21.

Lighthouse (Sunday School) groups meet as follows: **Creche** (0-3yrs) The Creche Room downstairs is available throughout the service with a live audio and video feed; **Sparklers** (3yrs - P2) meet downstairs in the Crypt; **Spotlight** (P3-P6) meets in the lower Lennon Rooms; and, **Fusion** (P7-S3) will meet in Upper Lennon rooms.

Our **Prayer Team** is available, by the pulpit steps, at the end of the service. Please come forward for prayer, either for yourself or for others. Someone will be pleased to pray with you or for you.

PrayerBase is at 6.30pm in the Sanctuary.

staff and contacts

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

Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:
Phil Taylor
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Day off: Monday

Worship Coordinator: David Harvey c/o
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Church Coordinators:
Monday – Tuesday: Rosemary Harvey
Wednesday – Friday: Jane Ross
Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9.30 – 12.30
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 St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh

Vestry Secretary: Morag Bryce c/o
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For items to be in next Sunday's st thomas' story, please contact the office by 10 am Thursday



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| 75 – 79 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8LJ | 0131 316 4292 | www.saintthomas.org.uk |

events calendar

- TODAY** **Collect invitations from hall** after morning service to be delivered during the week.
- Sunday** **The finance figures for October 2019** are available from the table at the back of church. If you have any comments or queries, please discuss with Agnes Murray
- Monday** **Delivery of invitations** and placing of first angels around the area.
- Tuesday** **Mums and Tots:** meet this Tuesday in the Gyle Hall at 10.00am. New members are most welcome. Please speak to Hilary Robinson for further details.
- Wednesday** **Rooted** is a ladies bible reading group who meets 2.30pm – 3.30pm in Creche room. They are reading Mark's gospel and learning together. All ladies welcome to join. Contact Kerstin Prill 07849716265 or Alison Bogie 0771 957 0476.
- Thursday** **Coffee Plus:** meets in the Main Hall on **Thursday** morning at 10am.
- A BIG thank you** to everyone who donated a shoe box for Blythswood Care. They are much appreciated and will bring joy to those who have so little.
- Saturday** **Pop Up Choir for Christmas** meets in the Sanctuary 10.00am - 11.00am. Please contact David Harvey if interested.
- Further ahead** **The Thanksgiving service** for Joan Wright's husband Charlie will be at **11am on Wednesday 11th December** in Kirkliston Parish Church.
- Christmas Lunch:** This year the Christmas lunch will be held in the Main Hall on **Thursday 12th December 12 noon for 12.30pm**. Tickets, £5, will be available from Sheila Nicol today.
- The Thanksgiving service** for Joan Wright's husband Charlie will be at 11am on Wednesday 11th December in Kirkliston Parish Church.

An update from the Vestry on work done following the 7th September congregational meeting and separate insert on planned Church Weekend Away next year are available on the table at back of church.

other information

We are dropping invitations to local homes again this Christmas. These will include an opportunity to share prayer needs which we will pick up on a second visit. Also, this year, Fiona Campbell has been co-ordinating an angel “yarn-bombing” campaign, where small knitted angels will appear randomly around the area. Last time this was done it created something of a buzz in the area. It will be accompanied by a social media campaign and link for sharing -search for “Angels of Corstorphine” on Facebook! Would you please help?



Here's the plan:

Sunday 1st Dec after morning service: Envelopes containing invitations with a map and address to deliver to will be available in the Main Hall. Invitations should be delivered that week at a time that suits you.

Monday 2nd Dec 6-8pm: Delivery of invitations and placing of first angels.

Monday 9th Dec 6-8pm: Visiting homes, picking up prayer requests and offering gift of an “Angel of Corstorphine”. Placing of angels around area.

Additional evenings for possible visits:

6-7pm Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th December.

Please let us know if you will help by signing up at the back of church.

World Concern Christmas Project: This Advent our World Concern group is looking to support the work of the Vive Foundation in Colombia. Fiona Christie worked for Vive when she was with Latin Link. Vive trains churches to run a Children's Club and produces Bible-teaching materials for these Clubs, which run under the name of “Funky Frog Clubs”. Finances for this vital work are quite tight at present so we thought we would collect money during Advent to support the Funky Frog. An envelope is enclosed for any donation you might care to give ... just pop it in the offering bag during December. If you haven't met the wonderful Funky Frog before, Fiona will be introducing him during the service!



Thanks for today's flowers go to Douglas and Verity Macfarlane
who donated and arranged them



for our prayers

Please pray for:

The Nations – for the UK as we prepare for the General Election and for peace and fairness in the face of continuing protests in Hong Kong and Iraq.

For the sick and suffering – please pray for comfort for Joan Wright and her family following the passing of her husband Charlie on Monday.

For forthcoming events – Christmas Invitations to local homes and angel appearances “Angels of Corstorphine” round the village this week.

“Embrace” on 8th December at 4.45pm in the Sanctuary.

Christmas Lunch on 12th December. Please pray for cooks, helpers and all involved in the event for a problem free day of fun, friendship and celebration.

The “Vive” project working to help children in areas of Colombia affected by violence and poverty. That we will give generously this Christmas.

Dear Lord God,
awaken us,
that we may be ready
when your dear Son comes,
that we may receive him with joy
and serve you with pure hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



The **st thomas' story** and hymn-books are **available in large print**.
We also have a **hearing loop system** installed.



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