

The **st** thomas' **st**ory



17th May 2020

St Thomas' will continue to meet using online resources and conference calls.

We will worship at 10.30am every Sunday.

Please click on the links below (in blue writing) to access the services.

A short video '**Thought for the Day**' (recorded most days during David's early morning exercise) are available on the St Thomas' Facebook Page.

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

Please join 'Zoom' **Central Meeting** on Thursday.

staff and contacts

Rector: Rev. David McCarthy

W: 0131 467 0660 M: 0741 123 6433

e: david@saintthomas.org.uk

Day off: Friday

Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:

Phil Taylor

T: 0131 316 4292

e: phil@saintthomas.org.uk

Day off: Monday

Worship Coordinator: David Harvey

T: 0131 316 4292 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

Church Coordinator:

Monday & Friday: Rosemary Harvey

Office Hours: Mon & Fri 0930-1230

W: 0131 316 4292 (*Church Office*)

e: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

Jane Ross is presently on furlough.

 @StThomasEdin

 St Thomas' Church, Edinburgh

<https://saintthomas.org.uk>

Vestry Secretary: Kathleen Demircan

T: 0131 316 4292 (*Church Office*)

el: churchoffice@saintthomas.org.uk

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



We continue to use Facebook Live for much of our online presence. A reminder that you do not need a Facebook account to participate in our live worship times. You simply need to go to <https://www.facebook.com/stthomasedin> and look for a red symbol which says 'Live'. **This is only available when the site is running live at arranged times. See pastoral letter for details.**

Also available live on our YouTube Channel (please subscribe!) at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1r0Eq3PqBmxioDssYXCbGQ>
Also streaming to <https://www.pscp.tv/StThomasEdin>

We are also using an application called 'Zoom' to pray and meet together. If you need advice about this or anything about our online presence, we can help. Simply contact David McCarthy.

If you are interested in taking part in Online Worship on Sundays either with reading or praying, please let David know. You'll have to be able to make an audio recording of your reading or intercessions in advance and then send the file to him electronically.

Some serious work has been going on to enhance our website. Thanks to Angela Benzies and the team, please contact her if you wish to help build a bank of photographs to be used online.

The church office is open on Monday and Friday morning (9.30am – 12.30pm) this week BUT contact in person is not available. Please phone or email and leave a message and we will contact you. We have a team of volunteers who can help out if needed.

The **Care Van** need donations of toiletries, basics soap, toothbrush, toothpaste etc. Donations can be left outside the church on Monday or Friday from 9.30am – 12.30pm.



St Thomas' Church Online

Week Beginning 17th May 2020

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> and can also be viewed on the blog page

<https://www.gadgetvicar.org.uk>

Our Twitter account has also been reactivated. Search for @StThomasEdin.

Sunday 17 May

Online Worship @ 10.30am – When It Feels Like God Is Against Us,
Lamentations 2

YF - meet online 6pm – 8pm, please contact Phil Taylor for details.

Monday 18 May

@9.30pm – Night Prayer

Tuesday 19 May

@12pm Midday Prayer

YF – meet 7pm – 8.30pm for online Bible study, please contact Phil Taylor for details.

Wednesday 20 May

@2-3.30pm Rooted Bible Study - Join Zoom Meeting

@9.30pm Night Prayer

Thursday 21 May

@ 10am - 'Zoom' Coffee Online - Join Zoom Meeting

@ 12pm Midday Prayer

@ 7.30pm – 'Zoom' Central Meeting - Join Zoom Meeting

Our plans of what we will do to be of service in the coming weeks.

- 1. We have a closed (private) Facebook group (*Embrace*) for St Thomas' people** to share needs, resources and prayers. You need to be invited to be part of this group – please contact David if you want to join the group. If you have urgent prayer concerns or needs, please let David know by email, text or message.
- 2. We will offer regular prayer and worship online.** Details of this week's programme are above.
- 3. Some groups will meet using the 'Zoom' conference calling app.** If you need help setting this up, let us know and we can assist. We'll also have informal gatherings online for conversation, care and prayer. **CODES AND LINKS FOR ZOOM MEETINGS CAN BE FOUND IN PASTORAL LETTER SENT OUT ON FRIDAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS MEETINGS OR CONTACT DAVID BY EMAIL.**
- 4. Some serious work has been going on to enhance our website.** This is ongoing but please do visit <https://www.saintthomas.org.uk>
- 5. Our Facebook page is now an important resource for communication.** We encourage as many as possible to use it.
<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasedin/>
See message on previous page stating you do not need a Facebook account to access this.
- 6. Phil Taylor and our volunteers** are working hard to keep good communications with, and gathering of young people going. Contact Phil at phil@saintthomas.org.uk if he can be of help.
- 7. We will go on praying for all of you,** those on the front line helping people afflicted by Covid-19, our leaders and those who need Jesus Christ now more than ever.

for our prayer

For Thorsten Prill's father: for wise decisions and good care. Pray for peace for Thorsten and Kerstin.

For the Turner family, Diedra, Mike Mason & Malek as they prepare to move to Baton Rouge, Louisiana – for a new home, schooling, new job(s!) and new fellowship.

For Alex Cole Hamilton, MSP for Edinburgh Western and Christine Jardine, MP for Edinburgh West – for wisdom, positive influence and rest.

Give thanks for all we know who continue to serve us in the National Health Service, Education, Caring, Emergency Services & Retail. Pray for their protection and our helpful understanding.

A prayer for the sick and dying:

*God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

A prayer for those struggling with isolation:

*O God,
help me to trust you,
help me to know that you are with me,
help me to believe that nothing can separate me
from your love
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

We are not people of fear:

we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:

we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.

We are not people of greed:

we are people of generosity.

We are your people God,

giving and loving,

wherever we are,

whatever it costs

For as long as it takes

wherever you call us.

Amen.
