

The st thomas' story



13th September 2020

We will worship at 10.30am this Sunday at St Thomas' with limited numbers in Congregation. Please book by email or phone 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.

The church is open for Prayer and Reflection on Monday & Wednesday, 10am – 12noon.

staff and contacts

Rector: Rev. David McCarthy

W: 0131 467 0660 M: 0741 123 6433

e: david@sst.church

Day off: Friday

Young Persons' Pastoral Worker:

Phil Taylor

T: 0131 285 8782

e: phil@saintthomas.org.uk

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: Monday, Wednesday &

Friday 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 look forward to welcoming you back to our physical Sunday gatherings.

We need to adhere to the government regulations regarding social distancing and hygiene. There are a number of requirements we need to meet as we resume meeting together. We ask for your patience as we start back again, but please 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**. Initially our capacity is limited. Following the latest 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.

Details were emailed to church members on our email list. Contact us 0131 285 8782 if you are not on our email list but would like more information.

The **Corstorphine Community Centre Emergency Foodbank** are in need of cereal, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, soup mix, stock cubes, rice, tinned fruit, packets/tinned deserts. Sandy Benzie is collecting donations (0131 339 4838) or you can take them in person, to Corstorphine Community Hub, St. John's Road on Wednesday mornings between 10 a.m. and noon, please do not leave donations outside as they cannot be used. Thank you.

If you have been knitting **Beanie hats for Mission to Seafarers**, please can you let Sue Gordon know (01506 418 466) or they can be left at the church office during opening hours. If you would like to knit some, patterns are available from the office.

We have a closed (private) Facebook group (*Embrace*) for St Thomas' people to share needs, resources and prayers. This is a members group and you need to be invited to join the group so please contact David McCarthy for an invitation to be sent to you. If you have urgent prayer concerns or needs, please contact the office by email or leave a message and we will ring back. Contact details are on front page.

Phil Taylor and our volunteers are working hard to keep in contact with all our young people. Contact Phil at phil@saintthomas.org.uk if he can be of help.

NEW CHURCH PHONE NUMBER: 0131 285 8782

Please note this important change which comes as a result of installing a new fibre phone line for our improved internet service. We have been unable to port the old number to the new system.

On Thursday 17th we will be hosting an Edinburgh City Mission 'City Vision' prayer event. It will be at 7:30 pm on Zoom and will last for approximately an hour. Joining details are in this week's pastoral letter. Please join us in praying for the sharing of the gospel in Edinburgh.

Building

Scaffolding erection to repair brick work at front entrance and both ends of the building has been completed. Work will begin this coming week.

Hall refurbishment

Forth Flooring replaced all the toilet floors in the Main Hall this week. They have also re-done two of the welds in the kitchen floor near the cooker in order to make the surface hygienic. Painting work was completed in Main Hall this week - thanks to the painters who did a great job.

Our new church website is live, please do visit

<https://www.saintthomas.org.uk>. For more details, please see the 'Introduction to new St Thomas' website' document and an image of the 'My Area' section which have been sent with the pastoral letter. Within 'My Area', you can adjust your details, contact preferences and access your rota reminders.

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.

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.

St Thomas' Church Online

Week Beginning 13 September 2020

Online Worship & Gathering

All worship events are available online at:

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

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

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

Sunday 13 September

Online Worship @ 10.30am

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

Monday 14 September

@12pm – Midday Prayer (Facebook)

Tuesday 15 September

@9.30pm Night Prayer (Facebook)

Wednesday 16 September

@12pm Midday Prayer (Facebook)

@2-3.30pm Rooted Bible Study

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

Thursday 17 September

@ 10am - 'Zoom' Coffee Online

Zoom details on Pastoral letter

@7.30pm Edinburgh City Mission 'City Vision' Prayer Event

Zoom details on Pastoral letter

@9.30pm – Night Prayer (Facebook)

for our prayer

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Pray for young people – that the Holy Spirit will be at work drawing them to follow Jesus.

Pray for schools and universities – for those who learn and those who teach. Remember freshers as they begin studies in a very different environment to that which they hoped for. Pray that Christian Unions and Scripture Unions will be effective in witnessing the power of the Gospel.

Pray for our governments – that they will be wise in the choices they make, careful in their communication and attentive to the needs of the least in our nations.

Pray for those who are fearful for the present and the future – for practical help and spiritual comfort.

Pray for those who are unwell – remember Wilma Finlayson who is in the Western General Hospital, asking for renewed strength and the Lord's comfort.

Pray for those who serve in the justice system – that they will be resourced to meet the need as they work hard to deal with the backlog of cases.

Most holy God, you are the source of all goodness, wisdom, mercy, and life. If we never before knew how much we need those great goods – how much, rather, we need you – we know now. This isn't just about our private fears or personal concerns, nor only our church or community or nation. This is about every person on the face of this planet. How vulnerable we all are, gracious Lord! Father, bind us together by something even greater and stronger! Bind us together with "cords that cannot be broken," because they are forged by your Son as he hung on a bitter Cross for the sake of the whole world. Stay close to our families, our Church family and all who we know. Thank you for being our Saviour and Lord.

Amen